



Registered charity no 251394

It's another NEW YEAR! January 2023



Did you begin your New Year making Resolutions – promises to yourself to change something in your life such as being good at tidying your bedroom?



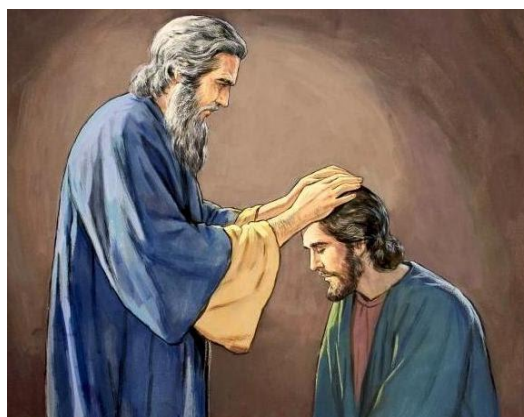
One man who definitely did change his life after an encounter with Christ was Saul.

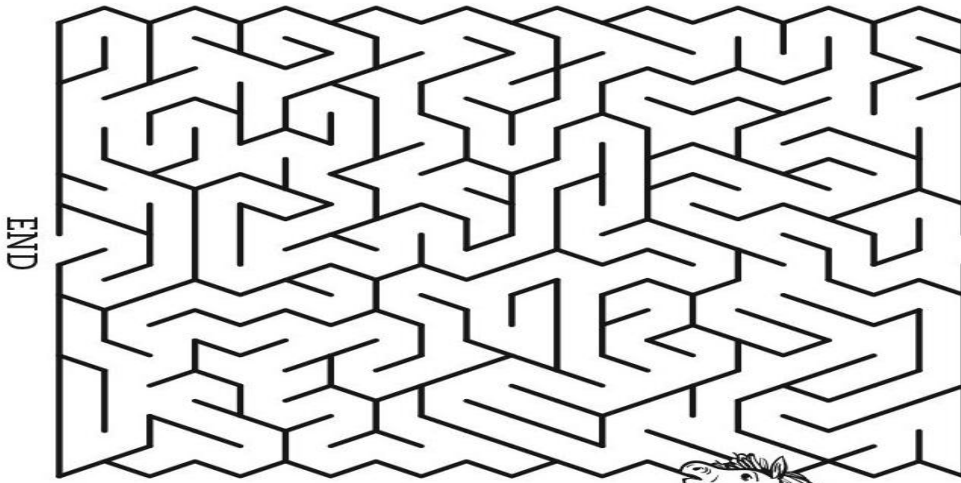
I am wondering if the three men in the picture made changes in their lives after the visit they made to Bethlehem. For many people a very important date in the Christmas calendar is January 6th. This is Epiphany, when the baby Jesus was visited by the Magi (also called the three Kings or the Wise Men). In some countries presents are not given out until this day and in some churches there will be processions of people, adults or children, dressed as the Magi. Children wear homemade crowns and carry stars to remember how the Magi found the stable with Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The men came from different countries with different religions. I wonder if their meeting with the infant Christ changed them. God had specially led them to Bethlehem so they were important. They showed Jesus is for everyone,

It was after the crucifixion and Saul had come to hate the followers of Jesus because he felt they were changing the religion he had grown up with. His hate led him to hunt down Jesus' followers and imprison them. He heard some had fled to a town called Damascus so he set off with soldiers to arrest them.

Suddenly, a bright light struck Saul and he fell from his horse. He heard a voice saying, "Saul, Why do you persecute me? Go on to Damascus and I will send someone to you." When the light faded Saul found he couldn't see and had to be led into the city.

After 3 days Ananias came to him and talked to him about the love of Jesus for all people, and at last Saul began to believe. Ananias prayed with Saul and his eyesight was restored. Saul was baptised and changed his name to Paul, and changed his life, becoming a great missionary taking the story of Jesus to many places. The church remembers him on January 25th.





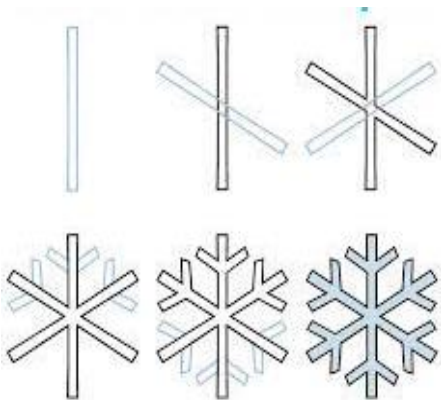
Help Paul on his journey to accepting Jesus.



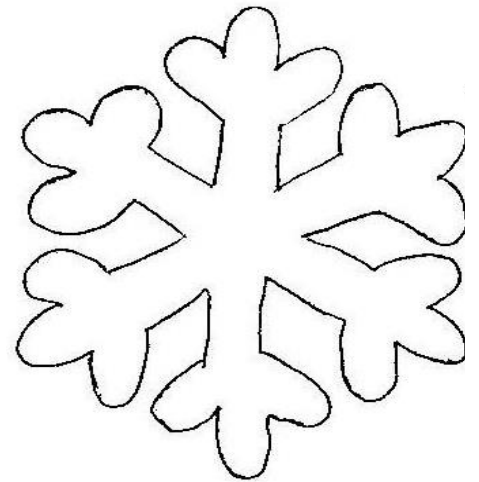
Some Winter Crafts

For most of us the snow came before Christmas this year, but there may be more before the end of winter. Often January and February are the coldest months. Did you know that no two snowflakes are ever the same?

How to draw a snowflake



Make some snowflake decorations. Follow the direction on the left to draw your own, or trace out the shape on the right. When you have the basic shape you can decorate the ends of the branches in different ways. Colour them silver or make them shiny in any way you can.



Make a wintery POLAR BEAR HANDPRINT picture.

Draw round your hand onto a piece of white paper. For the face draw a white oval shape with the two ears. See the illustration to see how to place the face and draw the features. Give him an arctic background with dark blue paper sea and lighter blue for the ice floes. Add some snowflakes.

