

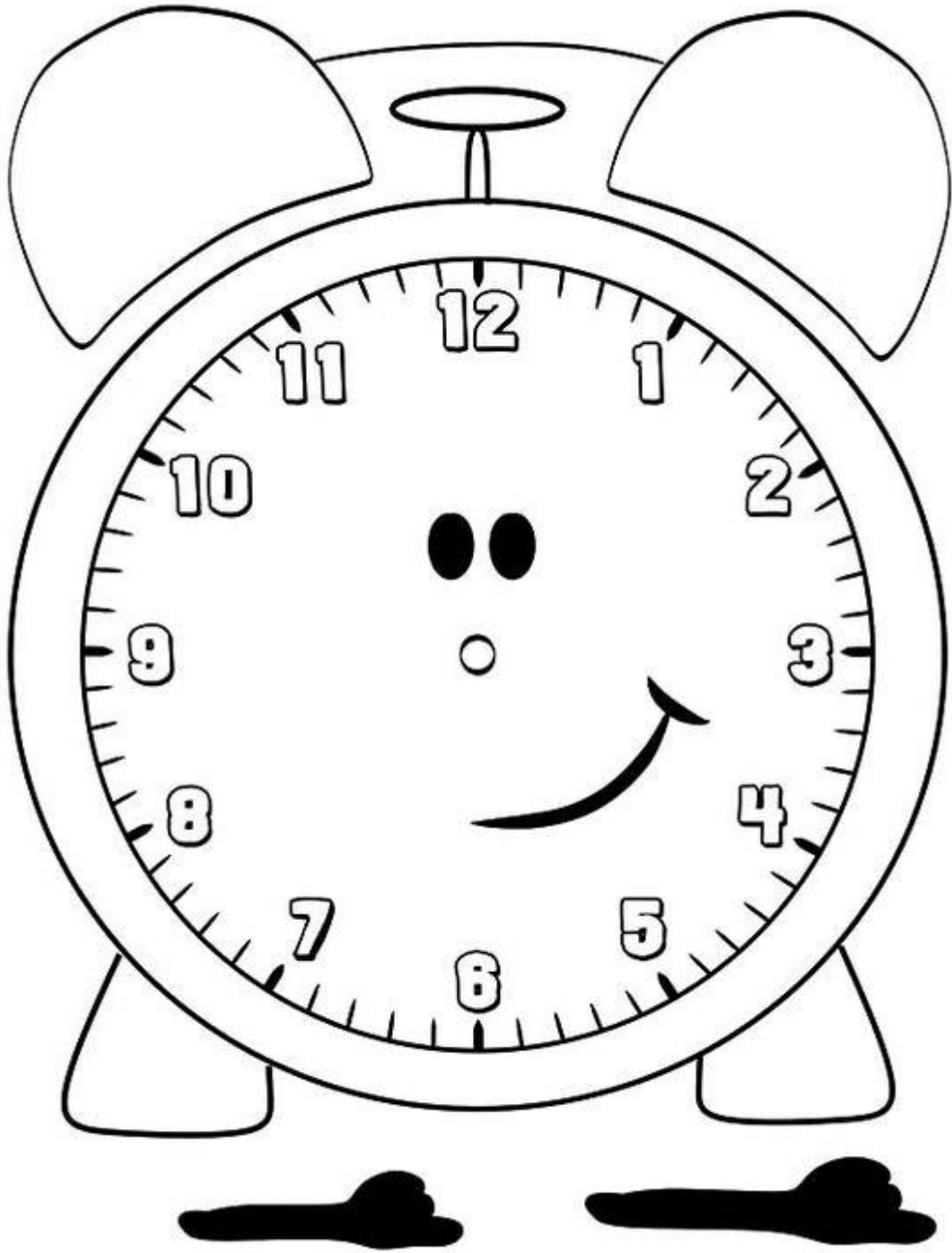
Mary and Martha

- **Ask:** What things are most important/special to you?
- **Play:** Provide each child with a small container with a lid, like a glass baby food jar or small plastic container. Help each child to put three objects inside the container, like three rocks or three marbles. Then, fill the remaining space in the container with sand/rice, and then put on the top. Now, have the children empty the contents of their container into a bowl. Ask them to put the sand/rice in first and then the larger three objects (marbles/rocks) and place the lid back on. They won't be able to do it! Explain to the children that sometimes in life we let the little things take over and come first in life which means there is not space for bigger, more important things. Now try putting the larger three objects in first and then the smaller material again. Everything should fit just fine! Discuss how the three large objects are like Jesus. If we put him "first" in our life and then add everything else (family, toys, school, tv, sports, etc), everything seems to fit a whole lot better than if we try to do it the other way around. Ask the children if they have any idea about what they can do to try to put Jesus first in their life?
- **Talk:** Today we are continuing with our Bible Character Series. We are looking at Mary and Martha but who were Mary and Martha? **They were the sisters of Lazarus, they lived in Bethany two miles from Jerusalem, they were special friends of Jesus.** Jesus often stayed at Mary and Martha's and today we are going to learn what happened during one of those visits.
- **Watch or Read:** Mary and Martha Power point at [Mary and Martha.pptx](#) and Peppa Pig Fun Fair https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuFBf6ZM_YA or Lottie's Mary and Martha video on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfoRgvwNoapVwiU5UCF2ZMg>, or Luke 10:38-42 at <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+10%3A38-42&version=NIV>,
- **Discuss:** In this event what is Martha doing? **Martha is showing hospitality - making food for Jesus and wanting everything to be right for him.** In Jesus' time the role of women was seen as a private, family role. Their role was to serve the family and support the education of the men. Women were expected to take care of the house and family, preparing food, walking to collect water as there was no running water in homes like there is today. Going to the market to buy provisions and having visitors would have meant an extra trip to market and extra preparations. Martha gets upset that Mary is not helping but is also upset that she is not fulfilling her role as a woman. What was Mary doing during Jesus' visit? **She was sitting at Jesus' feet listening to him talk to the disciples and Lazarus.** Although Jesus says Mary has chosen what is better, she has made Jesus her priority so everything else will fall into place. In Jesus' time Rabbis did not have female disciples. Women were not educated and were seen as exempt from learning the law of Moses. Women could go to the temple but were separated from the men - they stayed in the women's court and were not even allowed to pray publicly! They were encouraged to pray privately in their own homes. Jesus was radical and in this event he is challenging the traditional ways of life. He's showing that women can be disciples and that he is willing to teach anyone who will listen, whether they are men, women or children as we see in Mark 10:14 when Jesus says "let the little children come to

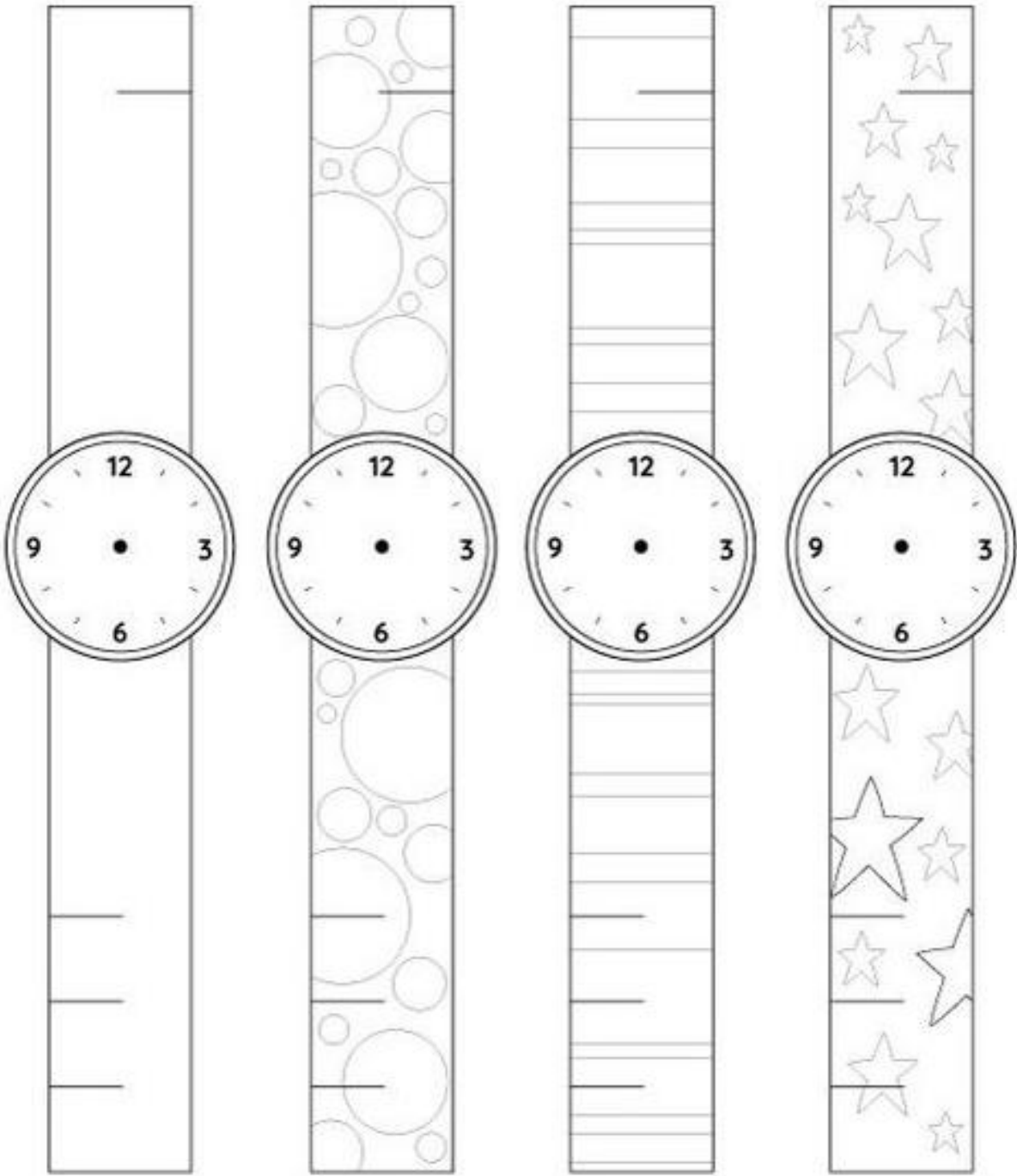
me” after he sees the disciples discouraging them from coming forward. I’m reminded of a Peppa pig episode - the Funfair - where Mummy Pig defies the doubts that everyone has about her https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuFBf6ZM_YA . In the clip Mummy Pig was determined and successful in proving everyone wrong in their assumptions about her ability. Jesus is affirming women in this event and encourages Martha to come and join the men and her sister, which at this time would have been shocking. Jesus publicly includes women in his ministry to shatter the prejudice against female discipleship. This week can you be like Jesus and accept others in your community groups such as school, football, cubs, swimming? You could encourage those on the edge of the group to join in or just talk to them nicely. Maybe ask them questions that will help you get to know them like what’s your favorite TV show? Which football team do you support? What’s your favorite game/video game?

- **Prayer:** Dear Jesus thank you that you love us and accept us all no matter what. Help us to be like you and accept others in our community groups. Helps us to encourage those on the outskirts to join in and be part of our group. Amen.
- Is there anything that the children would like to pray about?
- **Make: Jesus has time for me clock/watch craft:** You will need: clock/watch template from below, white card, coloured card, colouring pens/pencils, scissors, paperclip and a split pin per child. Print off either the clock or the watch template or you could draw your own by drawing a big circle and two small arrows for the clock face and hands. You could draw a small circle, some small arrows and a strip measuring 4cm by 25cm for the strap. Colour the template or the drawing in and cut it out. You could decorate the strap of the watch with stickers or different coloured squares of card. Then push the split pin through the bottom of the arrows and insert into the centre of the clock/watch face. You may wish to glue the watch face on to the strap as the split pin may scratch the childrens arms. Then measure the watch strap around each child's arm and hold in place with a paperclip and cut any excess off the strap or tuck it out of the way. You could write on the clock or the watch “Jesus has time for me”.
- **Make: Mary and Martha lollipop dolls:** You will need: lollipop sticks, cupcake cases/material, coloured pens/pencils, scissors, wool/pompoms, glue and sequins. Take the lollipop stick and draw a smiley face on one of the ends. Then put a hole in the middle of a cupcake case and slide this onto the lollipop stick for a skirt. Glue the skirt in place. Take a piece of material and cut it into a small square or top shape and stick it to the lollipop stick above the skirt for a t-shirt. Then cut some strands of yellow, brown or black wool for hair and glue it to the back of the lollipop stick. You could use a pompom for hair but you may need an adult with a hot glue gun to glue the pompom onto the back of your lollipop stick. The doll can be further decorated with sequins. Can you make a Jesus and Lazarus lollipop stick using white cloth? Maybe you could reenact the story.
- **Activity:** Print out the attached sheets and colour the picture, do the maze, crossword, word search.
- **Play:** Encourage the children to play with a dolls house and reenact the story or home corner toys such as a kitchen, pots and pans, sweeping brush, mop, dustpan and brush. They could pretend to take turns listening to Jesus and taking care of the home.
- **Have drink and biscuit during your crafting time or during the video.**

Clock Template



Watch templates



Mary and Martha Lollipop Dolls





At the Home of Mary and Martha

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:41-42 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on Luke 10:38-42 (NIV).

G J N K K K W M Q Q E A P A I
M Y E W M R I O Z W X E D G E
H A L S E W N I R O I M A R Y
Y N R T U E V P F R X P V G P
U C S T K S E Z R K I P K T R
I I R A H N E E D E D E R H E
S J T D L A U P S E T Y D I P
B D I S C I P L E S R V T N A
E F R R V U N R E M A D E G R
T E W H H I C H O S E N D Q A
T A F E E T L W G E D E S L T
E S S L Q U M L F G D C O G I
R I L P Y C Y H A E N F O T O
K A W O M A N T E G U X A S N
E Z D N J S H N H Q E N F Q P

VILLAGE	THING	MARTHA	FEET	HELP
SISTER	PREPARATION	WORK	NEEDED	BETTER
WOMAN	UPSET	JESUS	TAKEN	NEEDED
DISCIPLES	WORRIED	MADE	MARY	CHOSEN

At the Home of Mary & Martha

Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.



As _____ and his _____ were on their way, he came to a _____ where a woman named Martha opened her _____ to him. She had a sister called _____, who sat at the Lord's feet _____ to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my _____ has left me to do the _____ by myself? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are _____ and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is _____, and it will not be taken away from her."

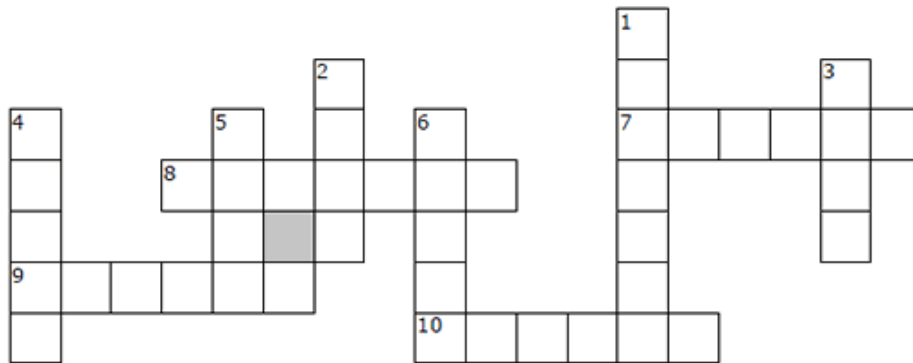
Luke 10:38-42 (TNIV)

better	home	listening	sister	work
disciples	Jesus	Mary	village	worried

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ACROSS

7. To pay attention to what someone says
8. To be concerned about something; to be troubled
9. A spoken or written reply to a question
10. A female having the same parents as another person

DOWN

1. A very small town
2. Activity, such as a job, which a person performs; labor
3. To give assistance to someone
4. An adult female human
5. The place where a family lives
6. The son of God

work	worried	Jesus	sister	village
answer	help	listen	woman	home