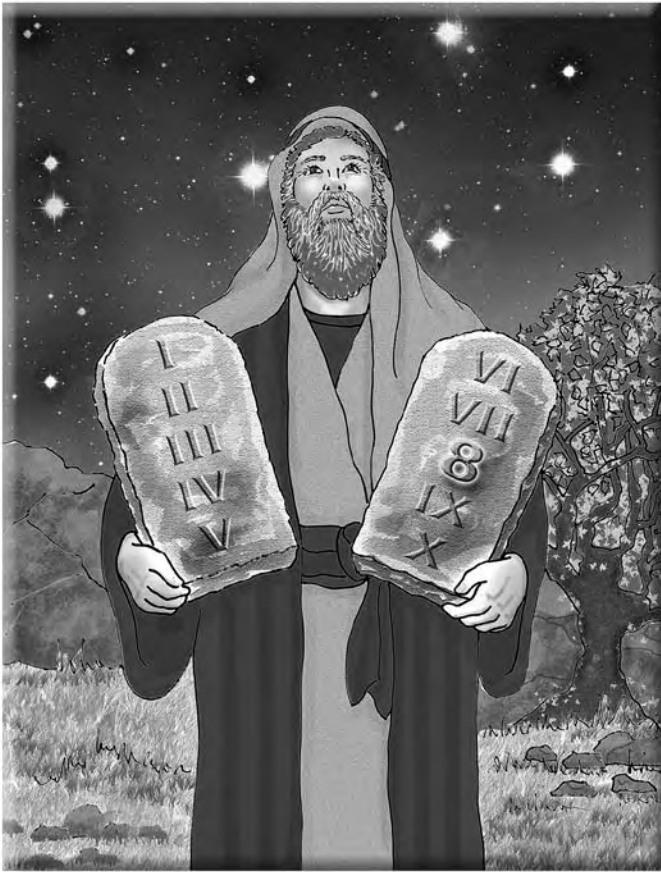


The EIGHTH Commandment



**“Thou shalt
not steal.”**

Exodus 20:15

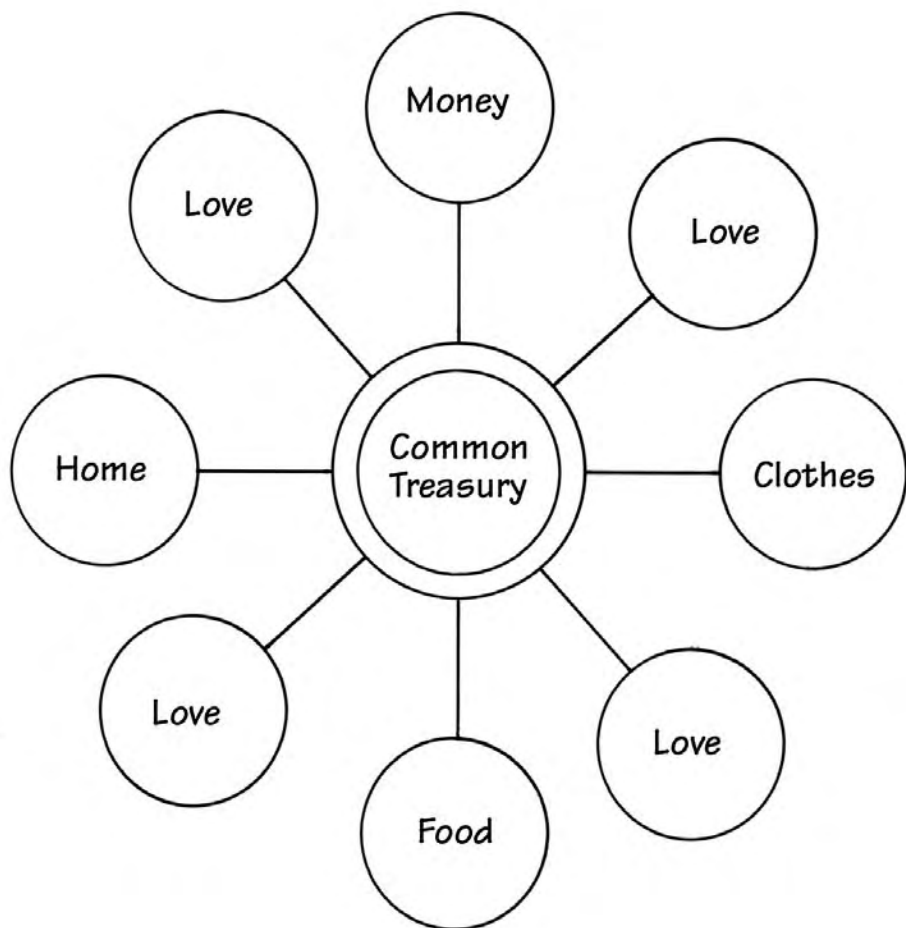
The 8th Commandment given to Israel was, "Thou shalt not steal." To steal means to take something that does not belong to you without permission of the owner.



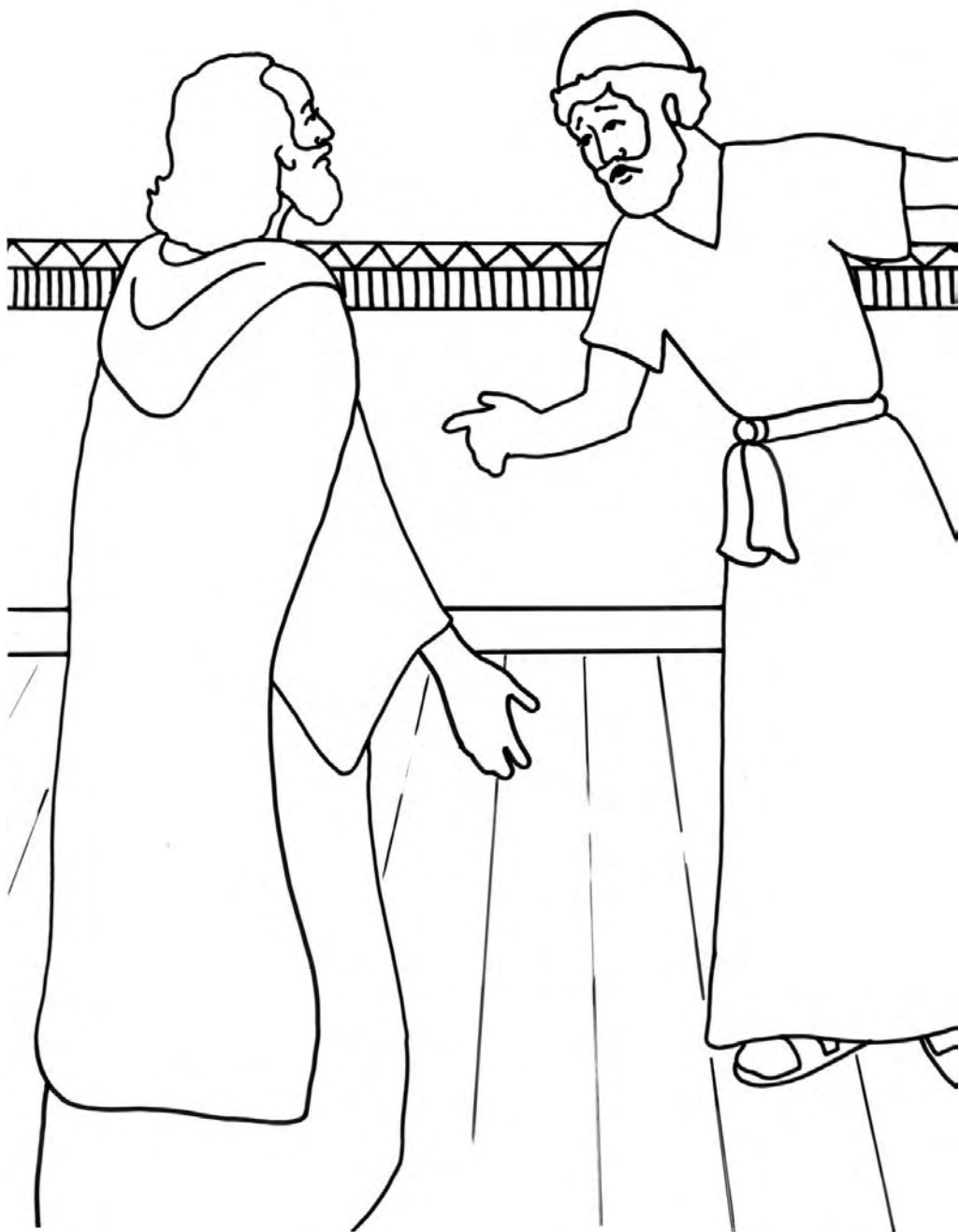
Some of the Christians living in the time of the Apostles shared all that they had.



Any time one family would earn a lot of money, they would put it in the common treasury for all to use as they needed it. Love for one another was the reason for every act of giving.



It was important for all to be honest
and follow the rules. If anything
was held back by one, then the
whole group would suffer loss.



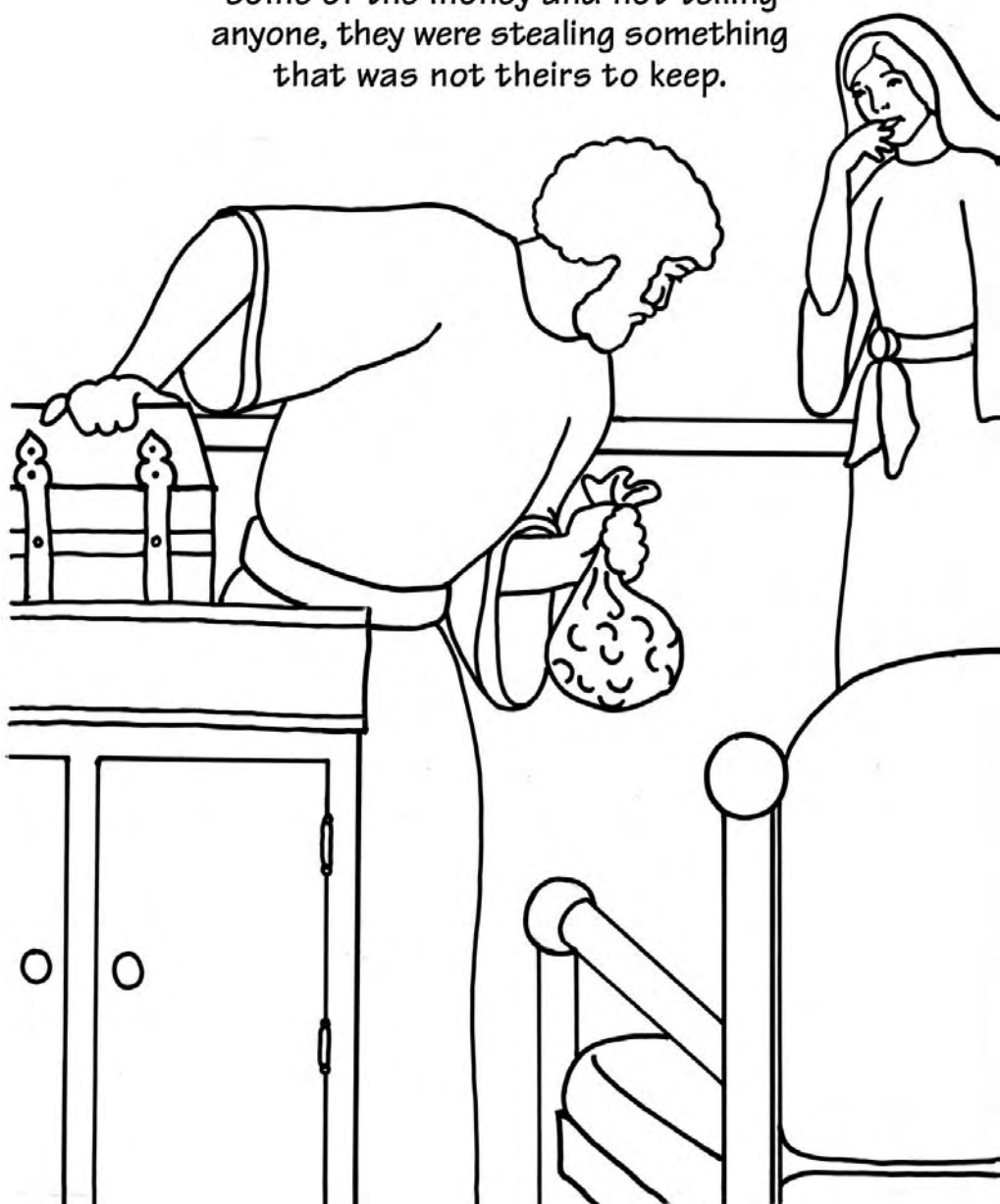
Ananias and Sapphira were
two Christians who lived in this
common property arrangement.



Ananias sold his land and brought the money to the Apostle Peter for the common treasury.



But, Ananias and his wife held some of the money back for themselves. This would have been o.k., but they had promised God that they would give all of the money to the whole group of Christians. So, by taking some of the money and not telling anyone, they were stealing something that was not theirs to keep.



178 God was very angry at this act of stealing.
He took their lives that very day, so that
they would no longer hurt themselves or
anyone else by their selfishness. This was
a very hard, but necessary lesson for all.



Many things have been stolen besides money. Can you add to the list below?
We must be careful not to take anything that does not belong to us, unless it is given to us freely.

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Go to Page 193

FLOWERS

TOYS

JEWELRY

CANDY

If we say something terrible about
a person to others, we are stealing
that person's honor and good name.



If we are always expecting someone else to do what we could do ourselves, we are stealing someone's time.



Rather than taking something from someone else, it would be much better if we would give to others and share. We can share our time with others, even if we have nothing else. We can help to make others happy.



We can share our toys and books with others.



And best of all, we can share
all of the good things we know
about God with others.



Jesus gave us many good examples
of how he shared his time, goods and
truth about God with others.



Jesus obeyed the 8th Commandment and never stole from anyone. He was much more happy when he was giving to others, teaching and helping them.

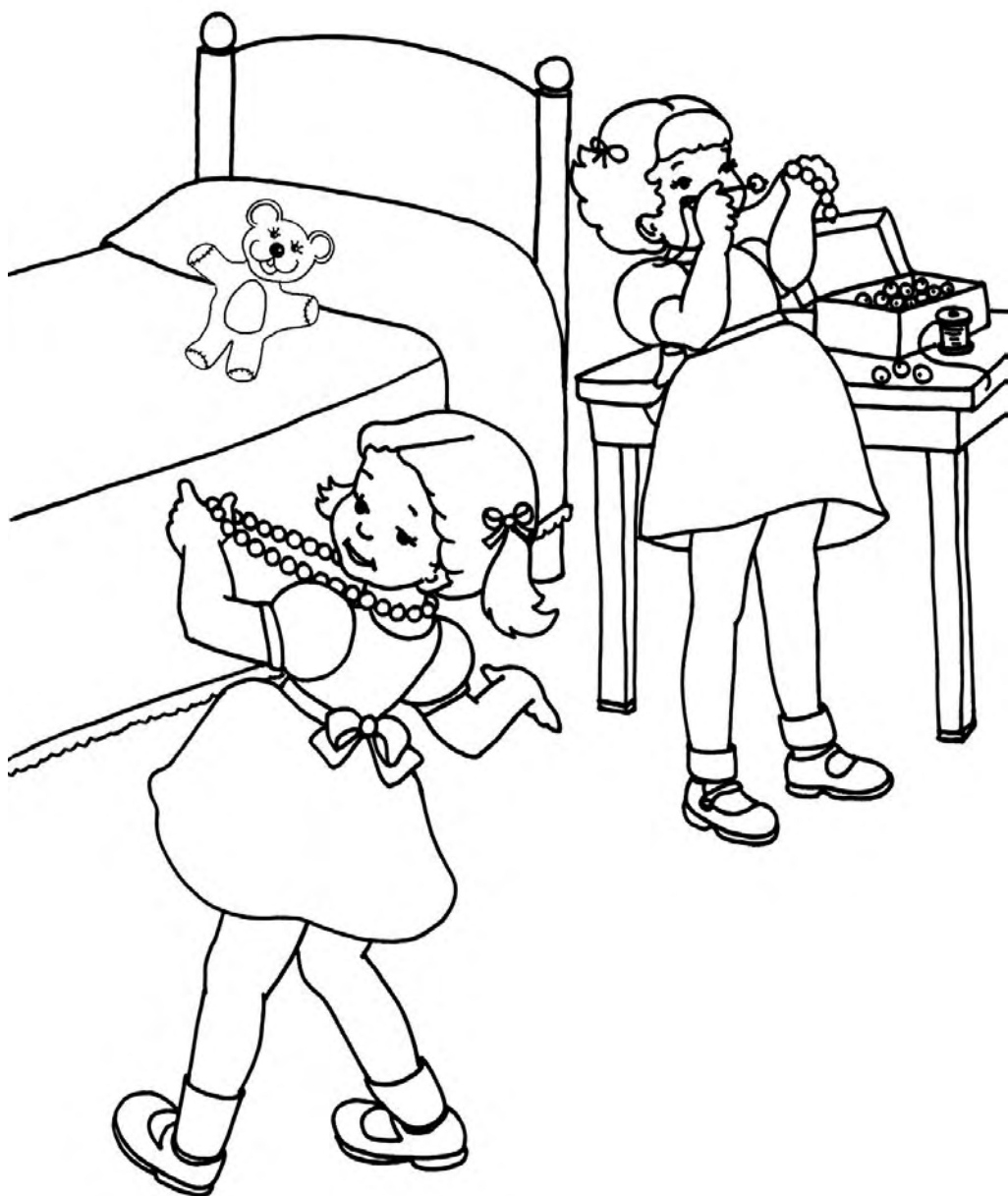


If anyone ever gave Jesus praise,
he would tell them that the praise
belongs to His Father in Heaven.

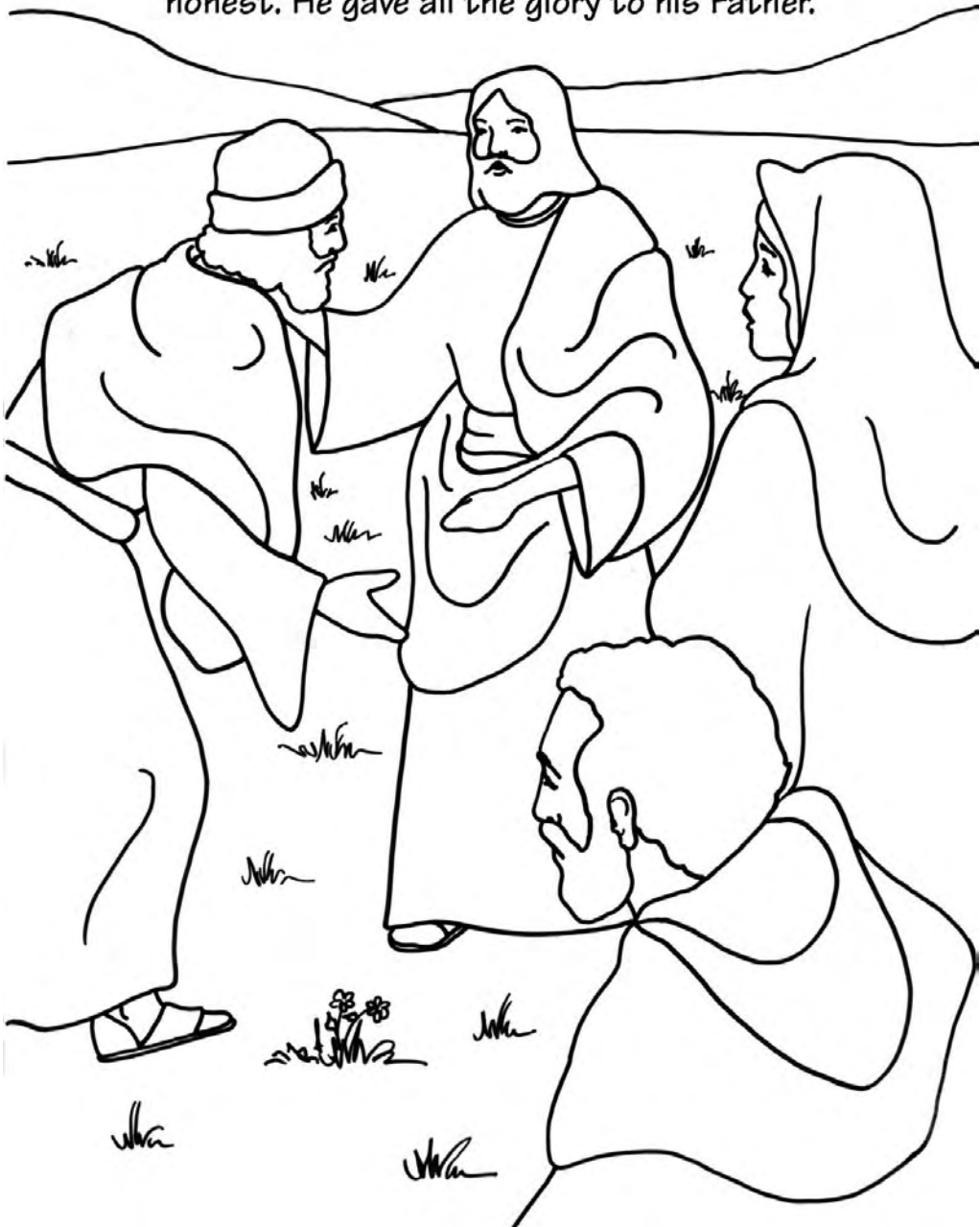
He did not want to take
the honor away from God.



It is almost like stealing if we take the credit for something someone else has done. Sometimes pride gets in the way of remembering who the praise belongs to.



Jesus knew that, even though he was doing many wonderful miracles, he could not really take the praise. He told the people that the Heavenly Father provided the miracles through His Holy Spirit, so that all could learn of God's goodness. Jesus was humble and honest. He gave all the glory to his Father.

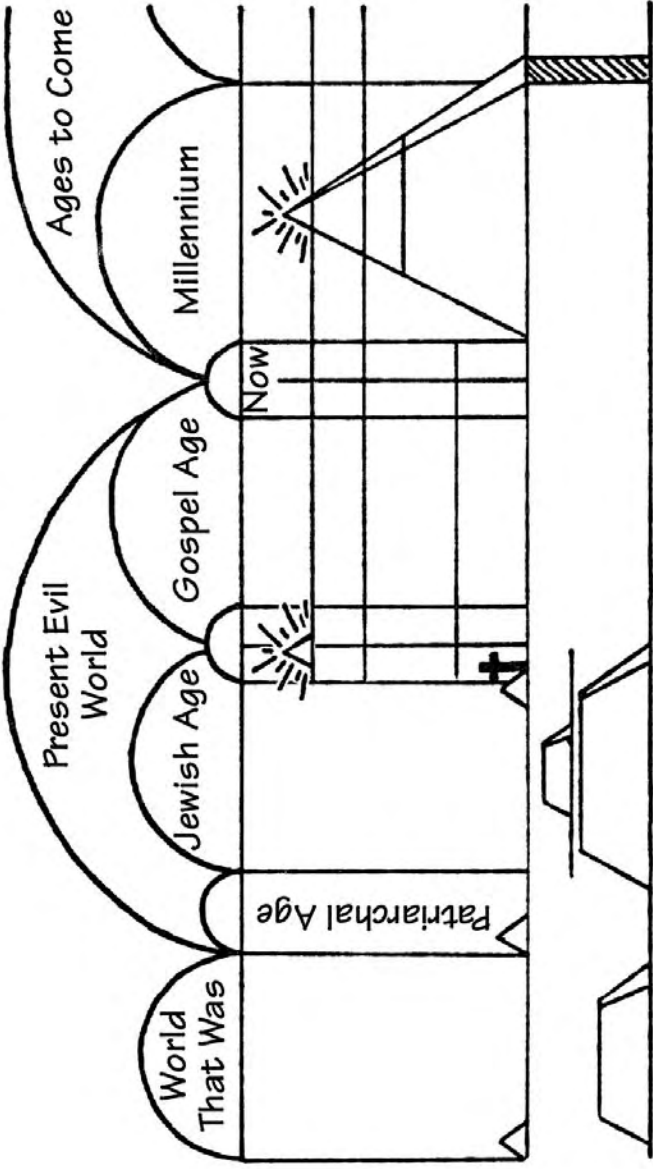


In God's Kingdom, people will learn how good it is to give, and they will only take what is willingly given to them.

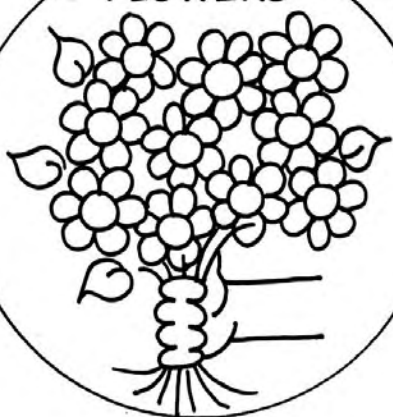


Many things can be taken from
others that don't belong to us:
Time, Money, Praise, Good Name, Belongings...

Draw a picture of you
sharing something you love.



FLOWERS



Place these circles
on Page 179

TOYS



JEWELRY



CANDY



On Page 192, put the
young people sharing
in the Millennium