

Make:

Drawn from the Word

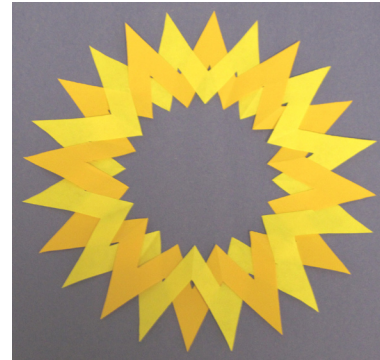
The waters of the pool of Bethesda picture healing truths from the Word. Students will choose a paper cut-out of the Open Word, an Interlaced Star, or the Alpha and Omega symbols to make and display as a reminder of the Lord's presence with us through His Word. This activity will be enjoyed by students with good manual dexterity.

Materials Needed

- a selection of cut-out patterns printed on thin paper (see following pages) *Note:* Using different paper colors will add interest and showcase both parts of interlaced cut-outs, e.g. weaving together a red alpha and white omega will make each letter more visible.
- sharp-edged scissors for each student

Introduce the Activity

1. The Lord creates and sustains everything in the world. His presence may be felt in a loving relationship, an exquisite flower, or a happy feeling. He does not want His presence to be secret! He longs to communicate with human beings so that we will know what will make us truly happy. But how can we get to know Him? (in His Word)
2. The healing properties of the Pool of Bethesda lay in its waters. Everything mentioned in the Word has a direct relationship or *correspondence* with something spiritual. Water corresponds to true ideas. Water is mentioned in many different forms in the Word—rain, dew, rivers, fountains, rainbows, etc.
3. *Choose one or two quotations from the Waters of Truth Quotations to read to the students. As a group, brainstorm ways that the kind of water mentioned in the passage(s) might relate to the cleansing and healing power of truth on a person's spirit. For example, "May God give you the dew of heaven...." Dew forms overnight on plants in tiny droplets. The Lord can renew our spirits with an outlook of fresh and positive ideas as we wake each day.*
4. The pool of Bethesda drew people with all kinds of sicknesses who wanted to be healed. Their sicknesses picture our own weaknesses and faults. As in the story, we can go to the "waters" of truth in the Word to be healed of our spiritual diseases.
5. Today we will be making paper cut-outs to display as a reminder to go to the Word for healing truths that can help in overcoming spiritual sicknesses.



Directions

1. This project includes three sets of cut-outs: the Open Word, Stars of Light, and Alpha and Omega. Both the stars of light and the alpha and omega are designed so that you can cut out two different patterns and then interlace them. (Alpha and omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. In Revelation 22:13 the Lord says, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.” These letters picture the fact that the Lord is in all things—from start to finish.)
2. Follow the cutting and interlacing directions on the templates.

Waters of Truth Quotations:

May God give you of the dew of heaven.... (Genesis 27:28)

Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, as raindrops on the tender herb, and as showers on the grass. (Deuteronomy 32:2)

Who covers the heavens with clouds, who prepares rain for the earth, who makes grass to grow on the mountains. (Psalm 147:8)

Then Israel shall dwell in safety, the fountain of Jacob alone, in a land of grain and new wine; His heavens shall also drop dew. (Deuteronomy 33:28)

Then hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of Your servants, Your people Israel, that You may teach them the good way in which they should walk; and send rain on Your land which You have given to Your people as an inheritance. (I Kings 8:36)

The rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater.... (Isaiah 55:10)

Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the Lord, till He comes and rains righteousness on you. (Hosea 10:12)

He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. (Matthew 5:45)

Now a river went out of Eden to water the garden.... (Genesis 2:10)

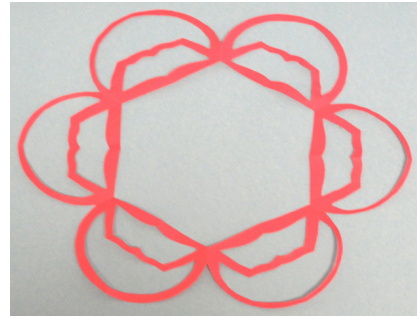
It came to pass the same day that Isaac’s servants came and told him about the well which they had dug, and said to him, “We have found water.” (Genesis 26:32)

The land which you cross over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven.... (Deuteronomy 11:11)

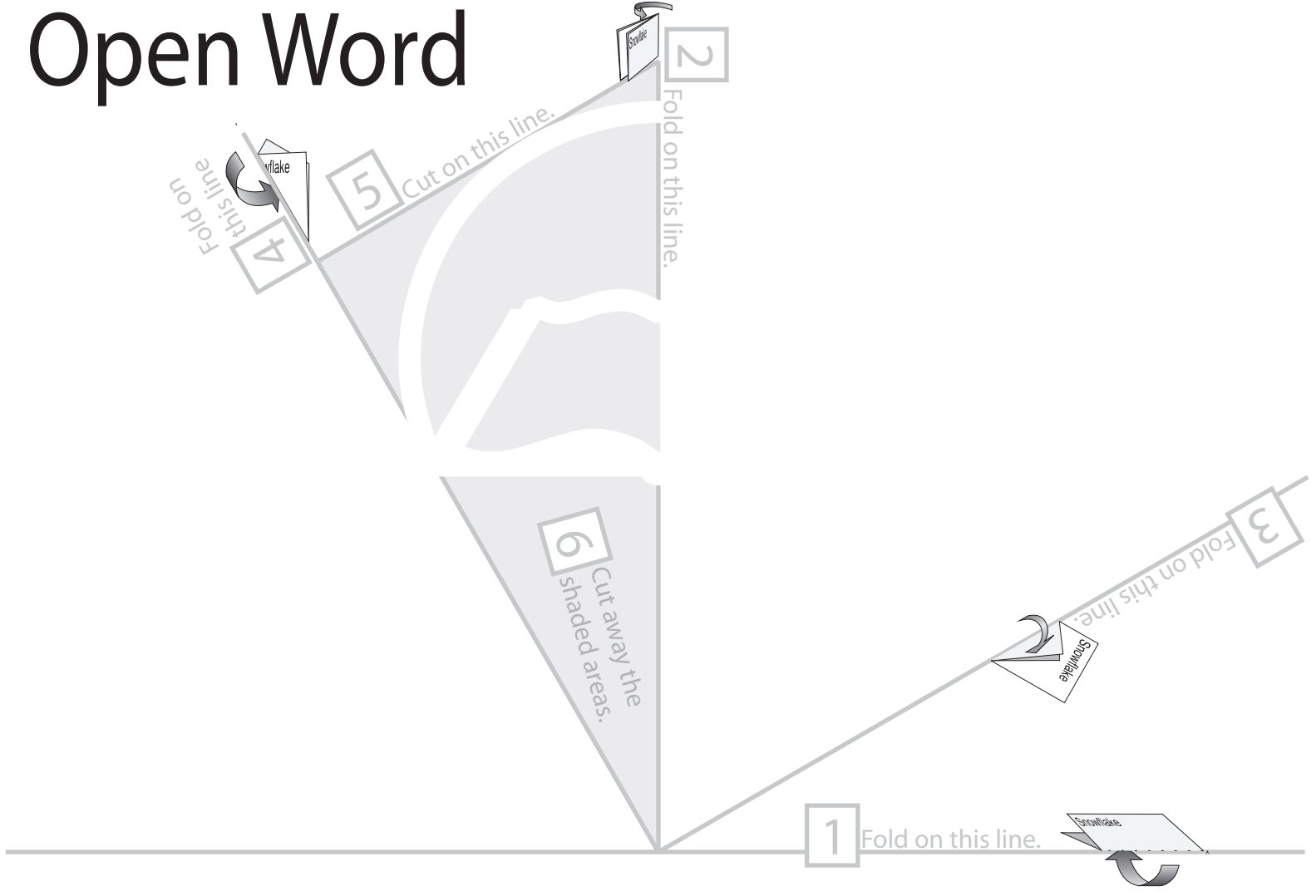
There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God.... (Psalm 42:4)

You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, for so You have prepared it. (Psalm 65:9)

I will open rivers in desolate heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. (Isaiah 41:18)

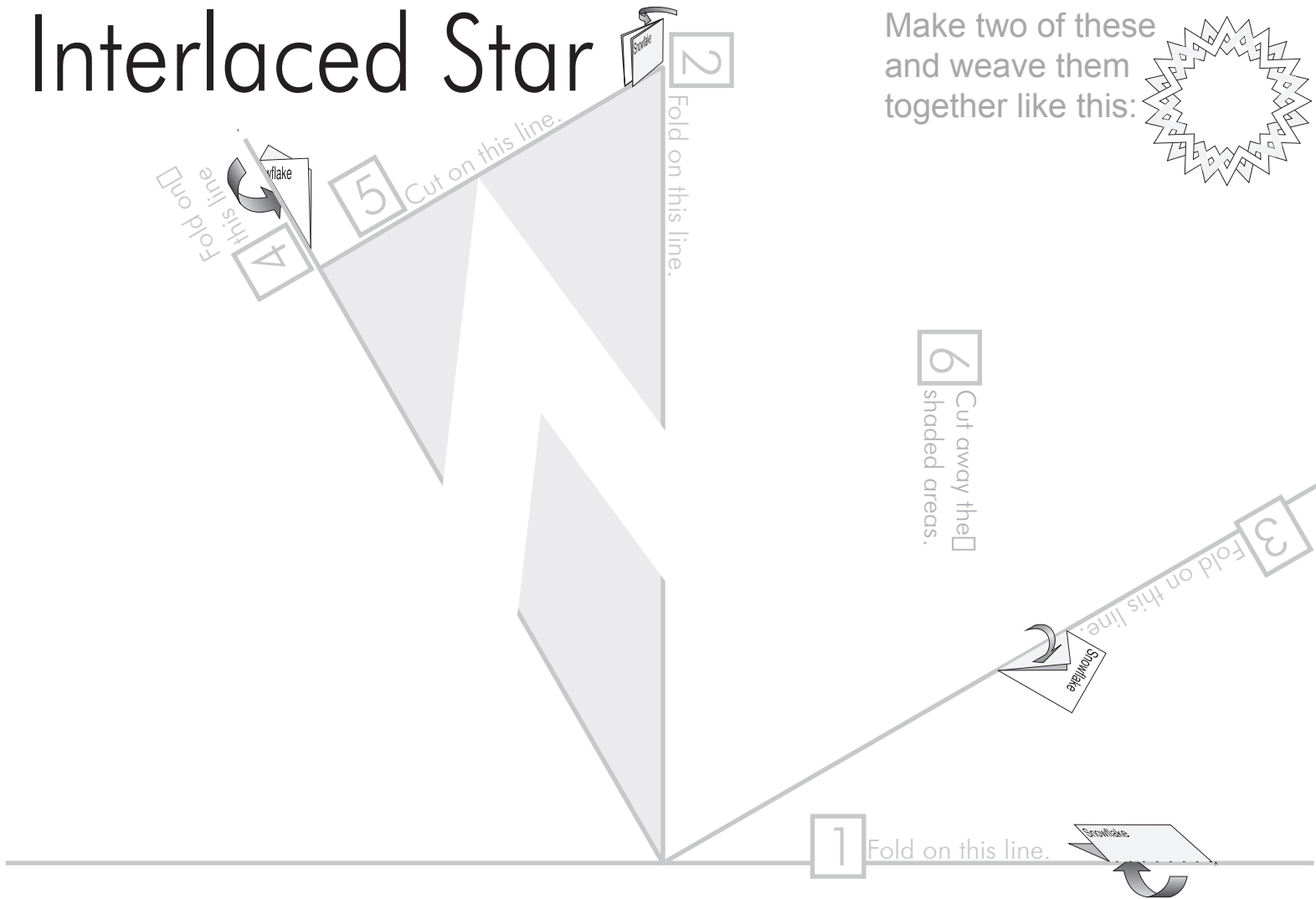
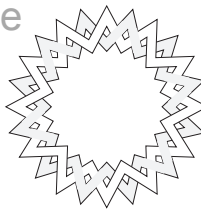


Open Word

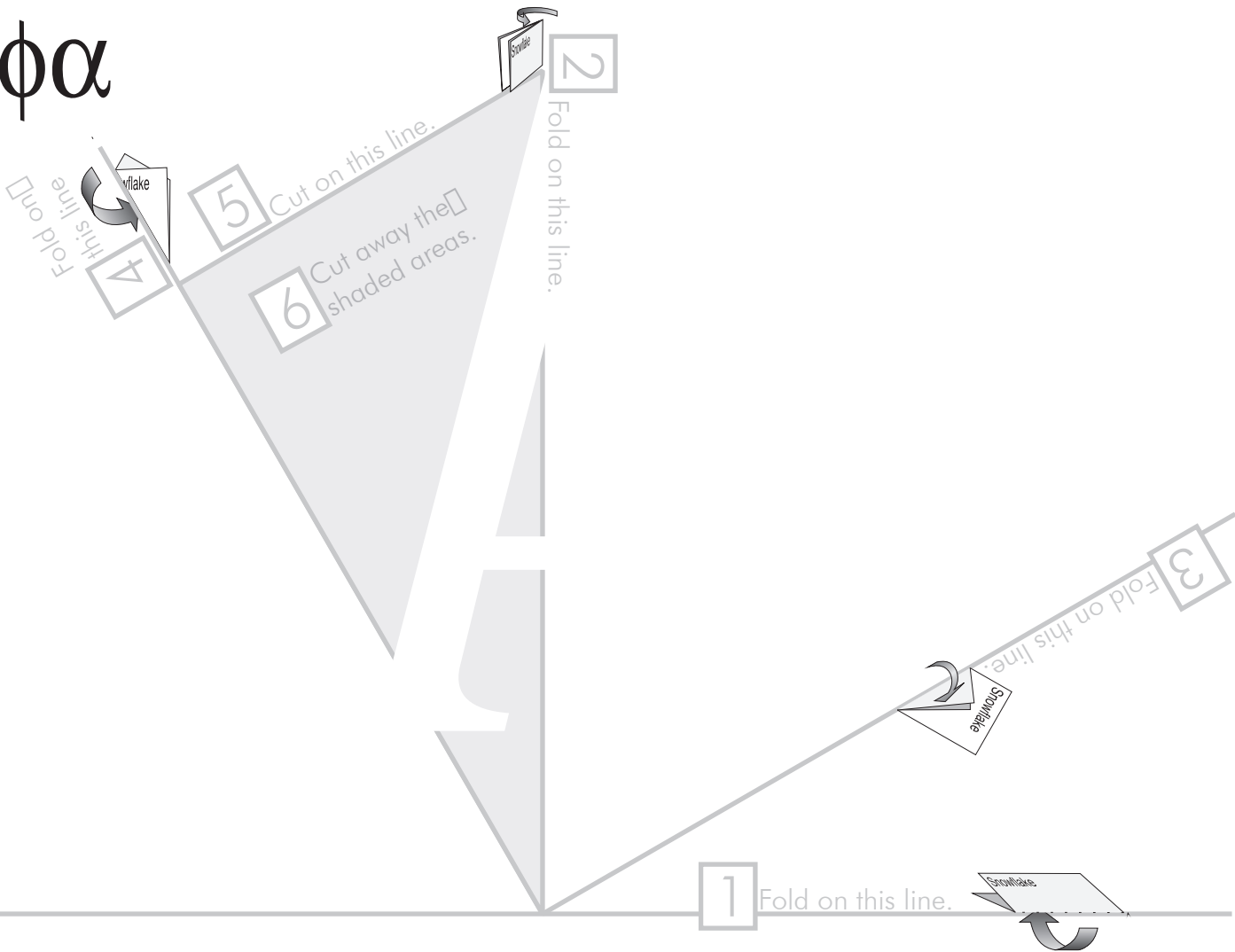


Interlaced Star

Make two of these and weave them together like this:



Αλφα



Omega

