Learn by Doing

Choice Footprints for Finger Puppets

At the end of the parable of the Good Samaritan, the Lord directs the lawyer to “go and do likewise”—that is, to be like the Good Samaritan. In this activity, children make finger puppets of the Priest, the Levite, and the Samaritan and trace the footsteps each followed when they came down the road and saw the injured man lying there. In this way, they can practice “walking” in the Samaritan’s footsteps.

1. Hand each child the three puppets and remind them of who each character was. Have the children color the figures.
2. Help children to get their fingers in the holes and show them how to “walk” on the table or floor.
3. Hand out the background picture and point out the injured man lying beside the road.
4. Show the three sets of footprints and trace them with your finger, saying the name of the person with each set of prints. Then have children put on each finger puppet in turn and “walk” the character along.
5. The Priest came along first. His footprints are the dark gray ones. When he saw the hurt man he went to the other side of the road.
6. The Levite came second. His footprints are medium gray. When he saw the hurt man he went closer to look at him, but then turned back to the other side of the road and walked away.
7. The Samaritan came along last. His footprints are light gray. When he saw the hurt man, he went over and knelt down beside him. He helped the hurt man, even though he did not know who he was.
8. The story can be repeated.
9. If time allows, have the children color the background picture.



Materials Needed for Each Child

Footprints Background p. 2 and *Puppet Figures* p. 3 copied on stiff paper, tape, crayons or markers, *optional:* bag to carry project home

Prepare in Advance

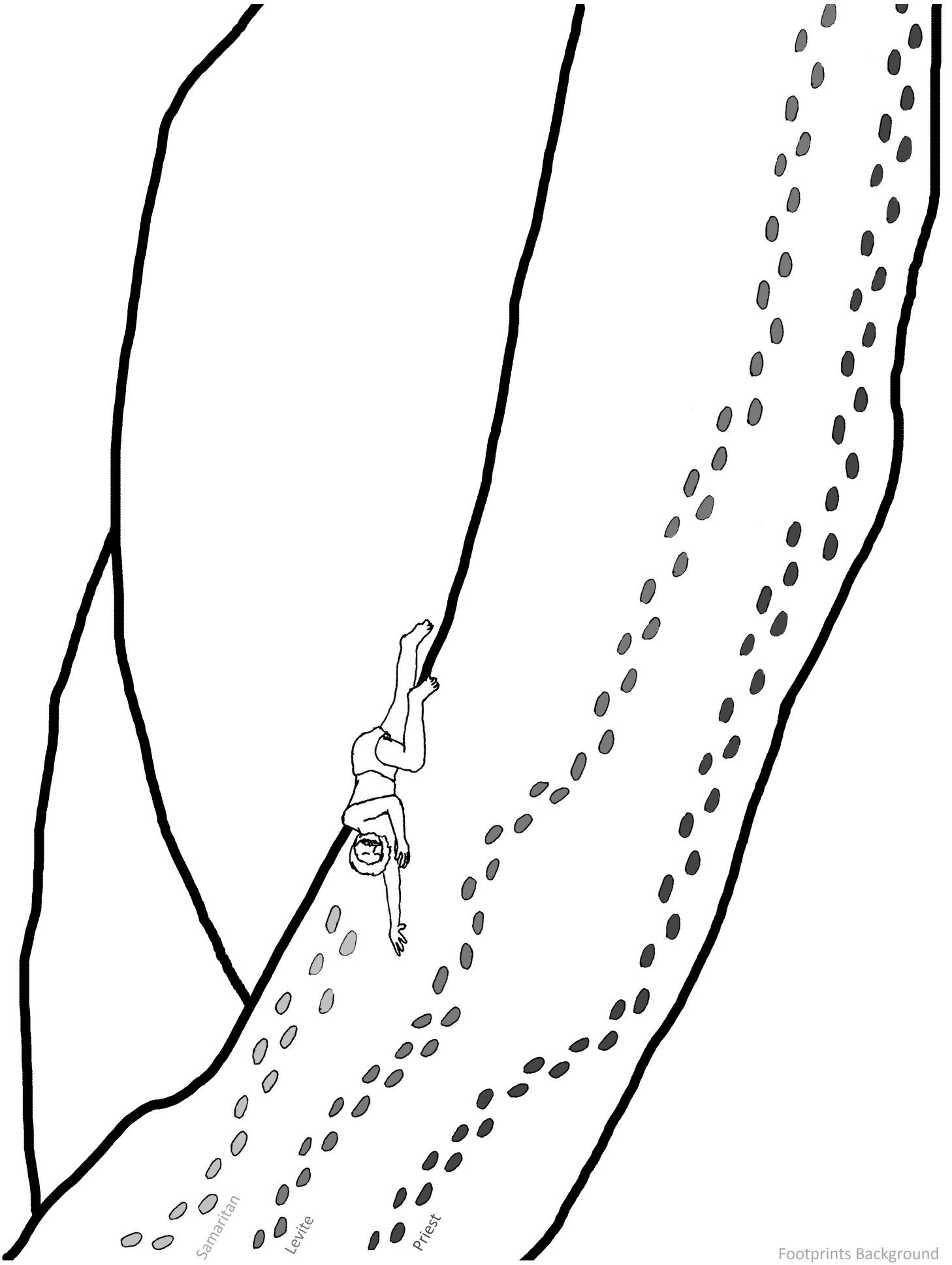
Print the *Footprints Background* and *Puppet Figures* pp. 2-3 on stiff paper. Cut around the rectangular puppet shapes using a paper cutter or scissors. Fold puppets on the dashed line and cut out the finger holes.

New Church Concept
The Stranger

The stranger signifies people who are outside the church…. They are just as capable of being purified as those inside the church. They are purified when they put aside impure loves and live...in charity. *Arcana Coelestia* 2049

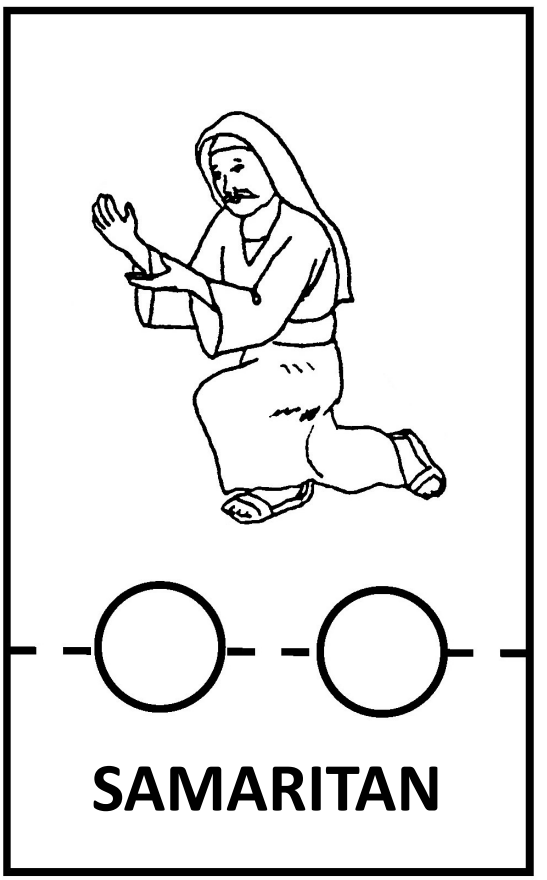


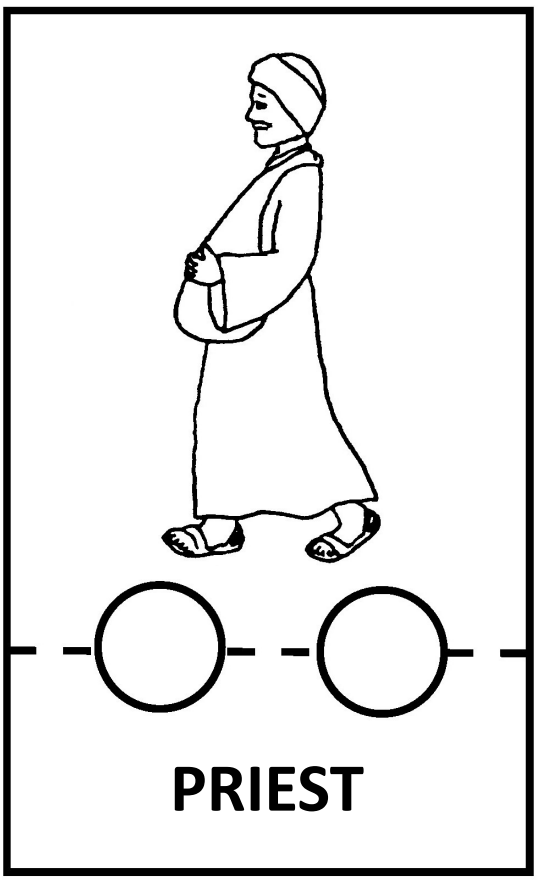
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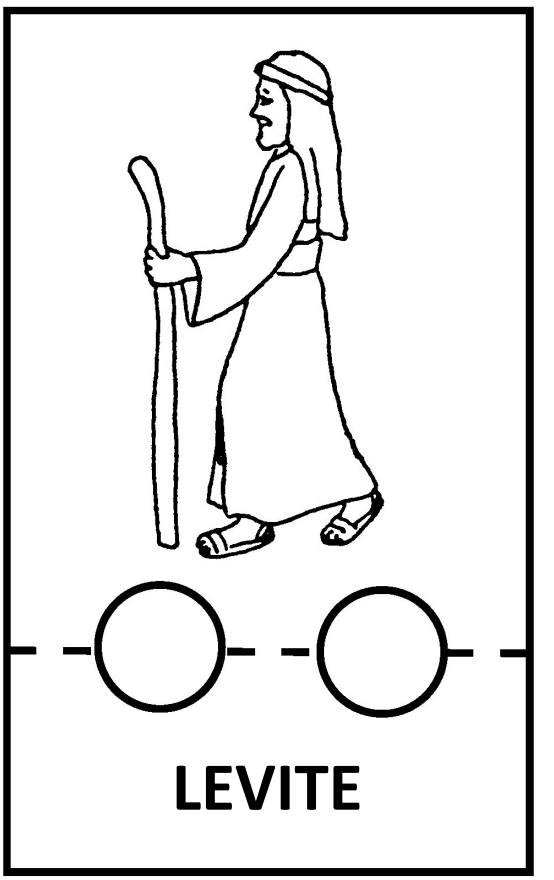


Footprints Background

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Puppet Figures

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