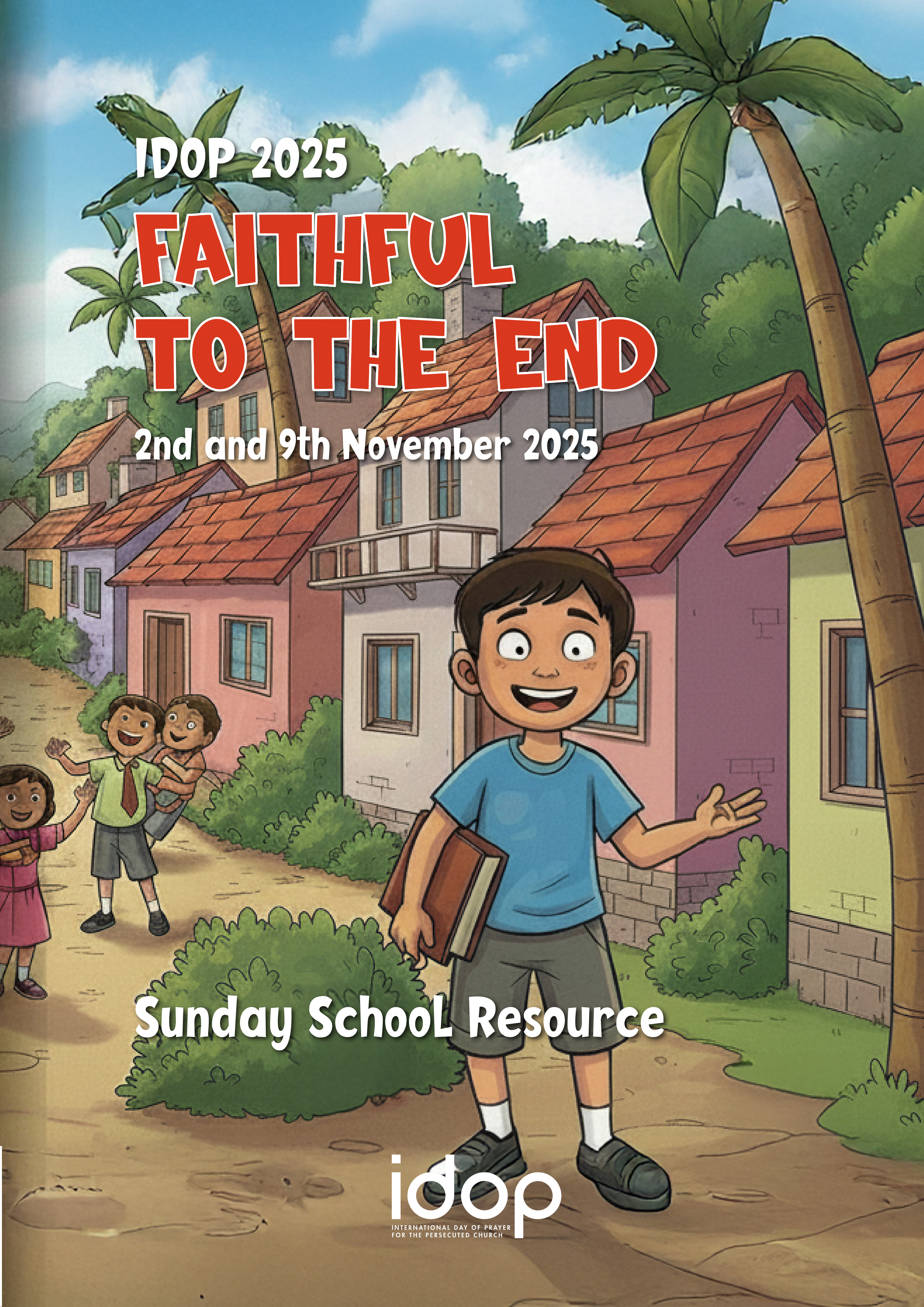




IDOP 2025

FAITHFUL TO THE END

2nd and 9th November 2025

Sunday School Resource

idop

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH





IDOP 2025

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESOURCE

Introduction:

This special Sunday School resources focuses on building awareness among children about Christian persecution around the world. The resource particularly aims to educate and engage children about the challenges faced by persecuted Christians. Through fun and interactive activities, the sessions will seek to encourage empathy, prayer, and a sense of unity among children.

Teachers are encouraged to go through the material and prepare for its delivery beforehand, taking into consideration any time limitation and age groups of the children.

This resource comprises two Sunday school lessons (two sessions) and two coloring sheets for smaller kids.

Theme:

Understanding and Praying for Persecuted Christians

Objective:

To help children understand that God calls us to stay faithful to Him even in hard times and to remember and pray for Christians around the world who face persecution because of their faith in Jesus.

SESSION ONE

FAITHFUL WHEN IT'S HARD

1. Introduction: What Does It Mean to Be Faithful? (10 minutes)

Activity: "Staying True"

- Begin by asking: What does it mean to be faithful?
- Let the children give examples — keeping promises, helping a friend, obeying parents, or standing by someone when others do not.
- Explain: To be faithful means to stay true to someone or something even when it is hard.

Discussion:

Explain that some Christians around the world face difficulties because they love Jesus. They are still faithful to Him, even when it costs them a lot.

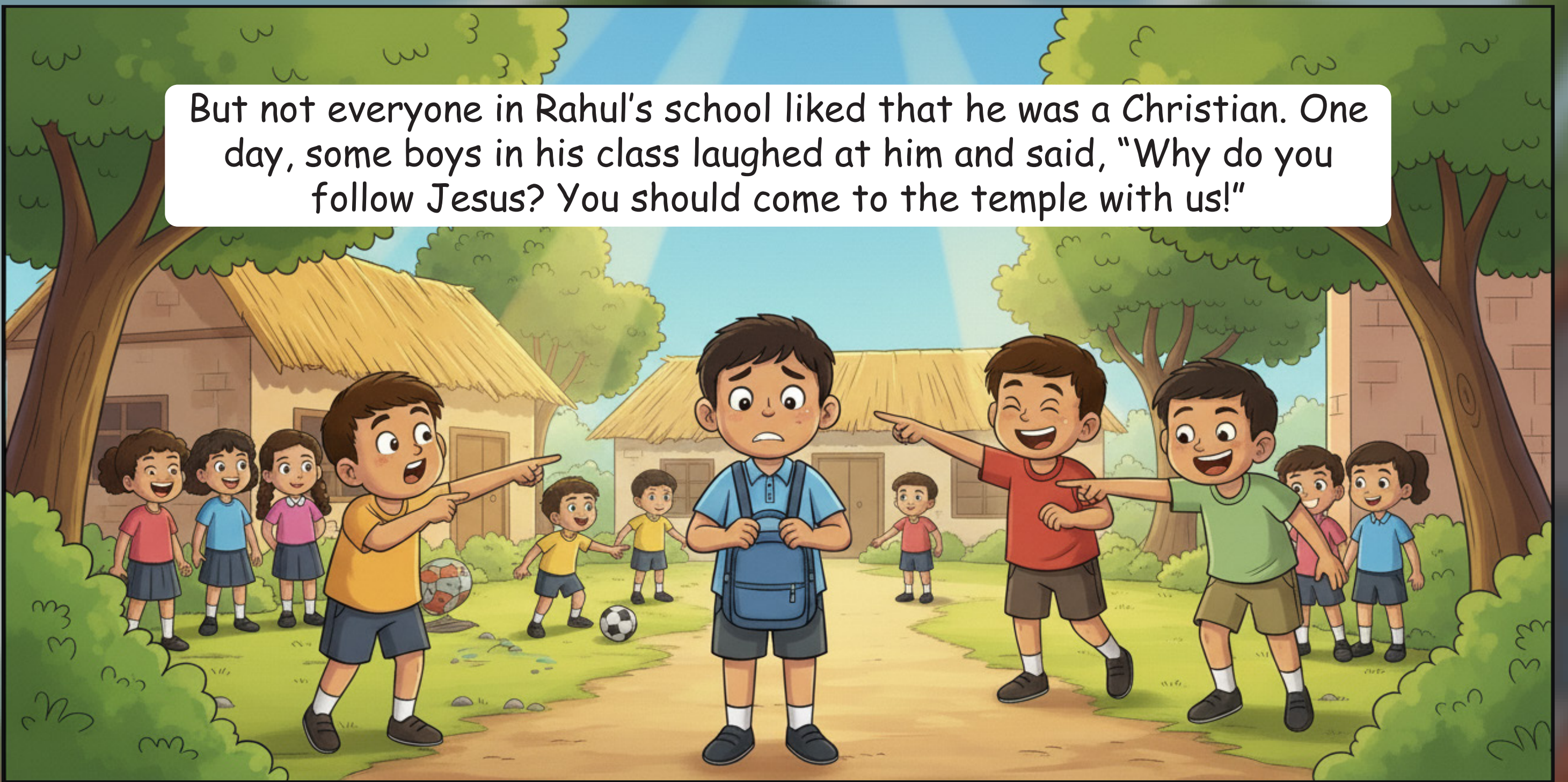
2. Story Time (15 minutes)

Story: "Rahul's Choice in India"

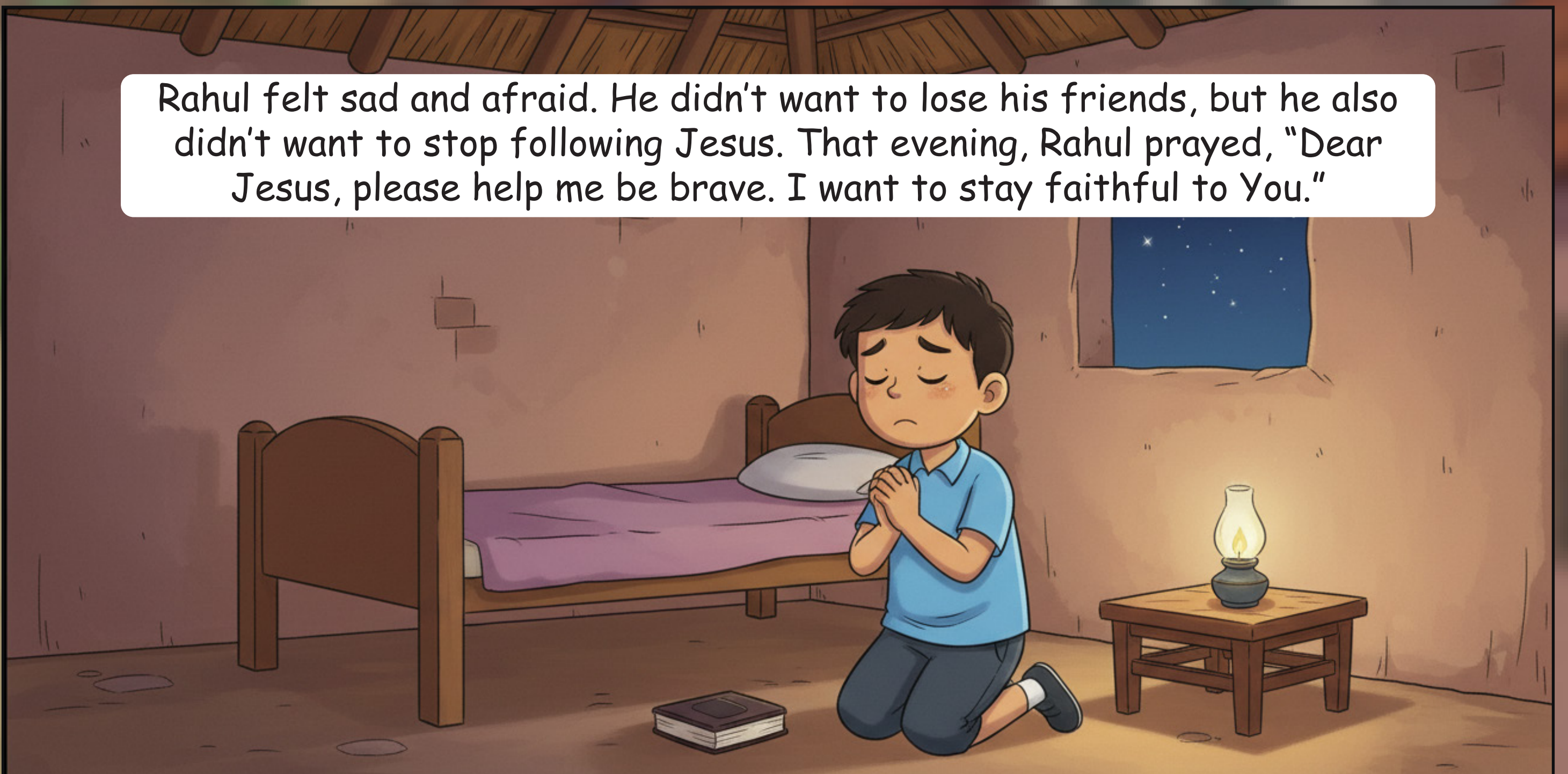
Rahul was a cheerful boy who loved going to Sunday School in his small village in India. Every Sunday morning, he would sing loudly and thank Jesus for loving him.



But not everyone in Rahul's school liked that he was a Christian. One day, some boys in his class laughed at him and said, "Why do you follow Jesus? You should come to the temple with us!"

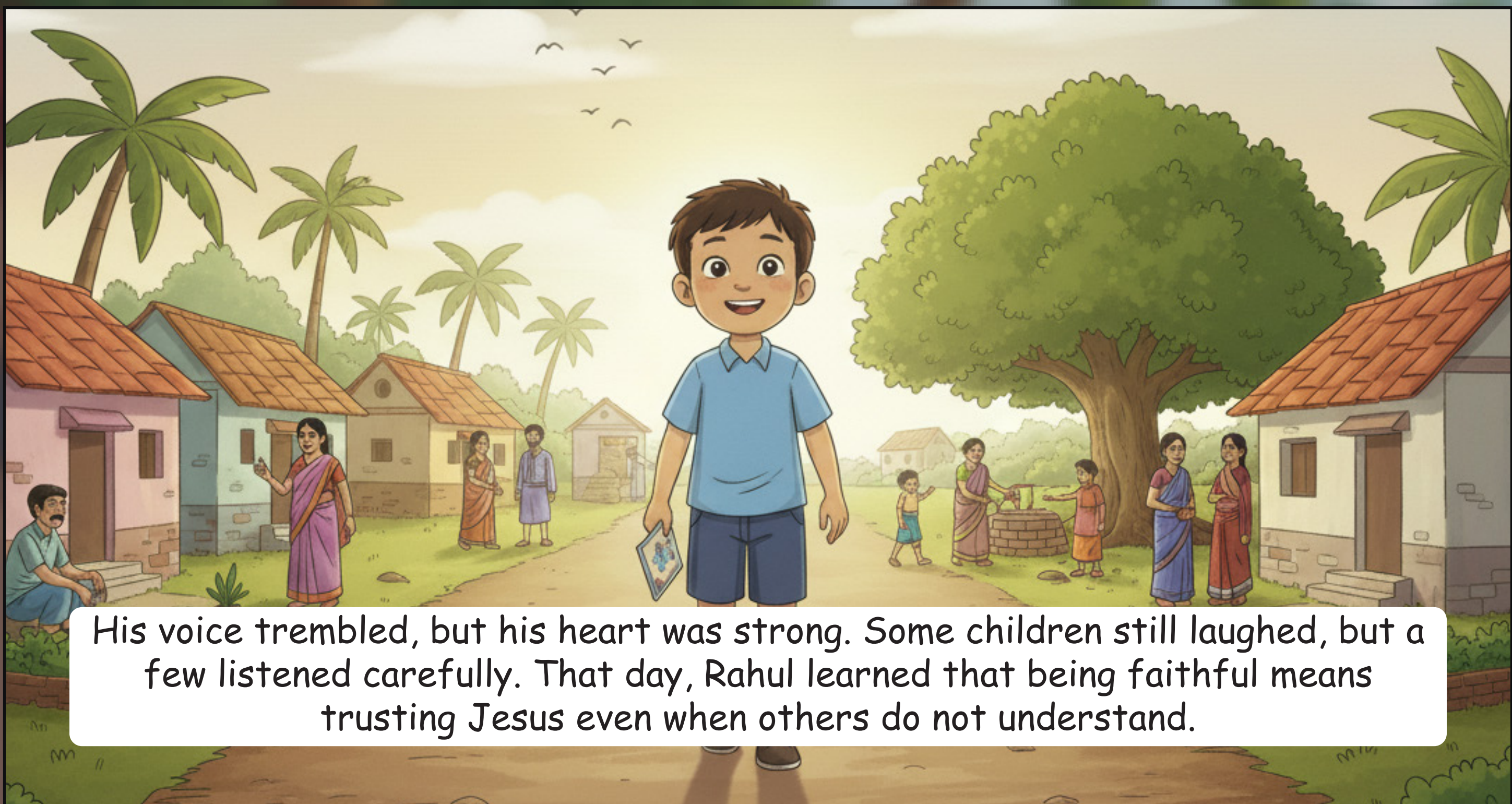


Rahul felt sad and afraid. He didn't want to lose his friends, but he also didn't want to stop following Jesus. That evening, Rahul prayed, "Dear Jesus, please help me be brave. I want to stay faithful to You."



The next morning, Rahul went to school with his Bible verse card. When his teacher asked if anyone wanted to share something, Rahul quietly stood up and said, "Jesus loves everyone, and I want to follow Him always."





His voice trembled, but his heart was strong. Some children still laughed, but a few listened carefully. That day, Rahul learned that being faithful means trusting Jesus even when others do not understand.

Learning:

Jesus loves us and helps us to be faithful. Even when it is hard, we can pray for courage and know that God is with us.

Discussion:

- How did Rahul show faithfulness?
- What helped him stay strong?
- How can we stay faithful to Jesus when others tease or exclude us?

3. Craft Activity: "Faith Promise Bracelet" (20 minutes)

- Materials: string, paper or cardboard strips, markers, glue/tape.

Instructions:

- Give each child a strip or small pieces of paper to thread or join.
- On each piece, children can write or draw: faith, courage, prayer, love, hope.
- Link or tape the pieces into a small bracelet or chain.
- Explain: Each word reminds us of what helps us to be faithful to Jesus.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that Christians who face persecution will have courage.
- Pray that children like Rahul will stay faithful.
- Pray that we will trust Jesus when things are difficult.
- Pray for people who hurt Christians — that they will know God's love.

4. Bible Verse & Memory Time (10 minutes)

Verse: "Nothing can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." — Romans 8:39

Activity:

- Say the verse together several times.
- Let children repeat the words "Nothing can separate us!" loudly and joyfully.
- Explain: Even when life is hard, God's love stays with us.

5. Closing Prayer (5 minutes)

Invite the children to hold hands or bow their heads and pray together:

"Lord Jesus, thank You for loving us. Help us to stay faithful to You, even when it is hard. Please protect and comfort children and families who face persecution. Amen."

SESSION TWO

FAITHFUL TO THE END

1. Opening Activity: "Stand Firm!" (10 minutes)

Play a game similar to "Simon Says."

- When you say, "Stand firm for Jesus!" the children stand strong like a superhero.
- When you give any other instruction without "Stand firm for Jesus," they should stay still.
- Continue for several rounds and have fun!

Discussion:

Talk about how sometimes it is hard to stand firm for Jesus when others do not believe or when life is difficult — but God gives us strength.

2. Story Time (15 minutes)

Read or tell the story from Acts 6-7 (in simple words):



But some leaders did not like what he said. They became angry and took him to court.



Even when he was treated unfairly, Stephen spoke with kindness and told the truth. He looked up to heaven and saw Jesus standing there, ready to welcome him. Stephen prayed, "Lord, forgive them." Stephen stayed faithful to Jesus until the end.



Discussion:

- What made Stephen faithful?
- How did he respond to people who hurt him?
- What does this story teach us about loving and trusting Jesus?

3. Craft Activity: "Faith Heroes" (20 minutes)

Give each child a printed sheet (see below Annex 1) with:

- A picture of Stephen praying.
- A space to draw or write about someone who is faithful to Jesus today (a missionary, pastor, or even themselves).
- A short prayer line: "Dear Jesus, help me be faithful like ____."
- Let them share their drawings and prayers.

4. Group Activity: "Building a Wall of Faith" (15 minutes)

Materials: paper "bricks" or rectangles.

Instructions:

- Each child writes or draws one thing that helps them stay faithful (e.g., prayer, Bible, family, church).
- Tape the bricks onto a wall or board to make a "Wall of Faith."
- Explain: Together, we are strong when we support and pray for each other.

5. Memory Verse & Closing Prayer (10 minutes)

Verse:

"Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown." — Revelation 2:10

Practice repeating the verse together slowly.

Closing Prayer:

"Dear Lord, thank You for being with us always. Help us to be faithful and strong like Stephen and all believers who love You, even when it is difficult. Amen."

Annex 1
Faith Heros

**Stephen
Praying**

**Someone I Know
Who Is Faithful
to Jesus**



A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners, intended for writing the name of someone who is faithful to Jesus.

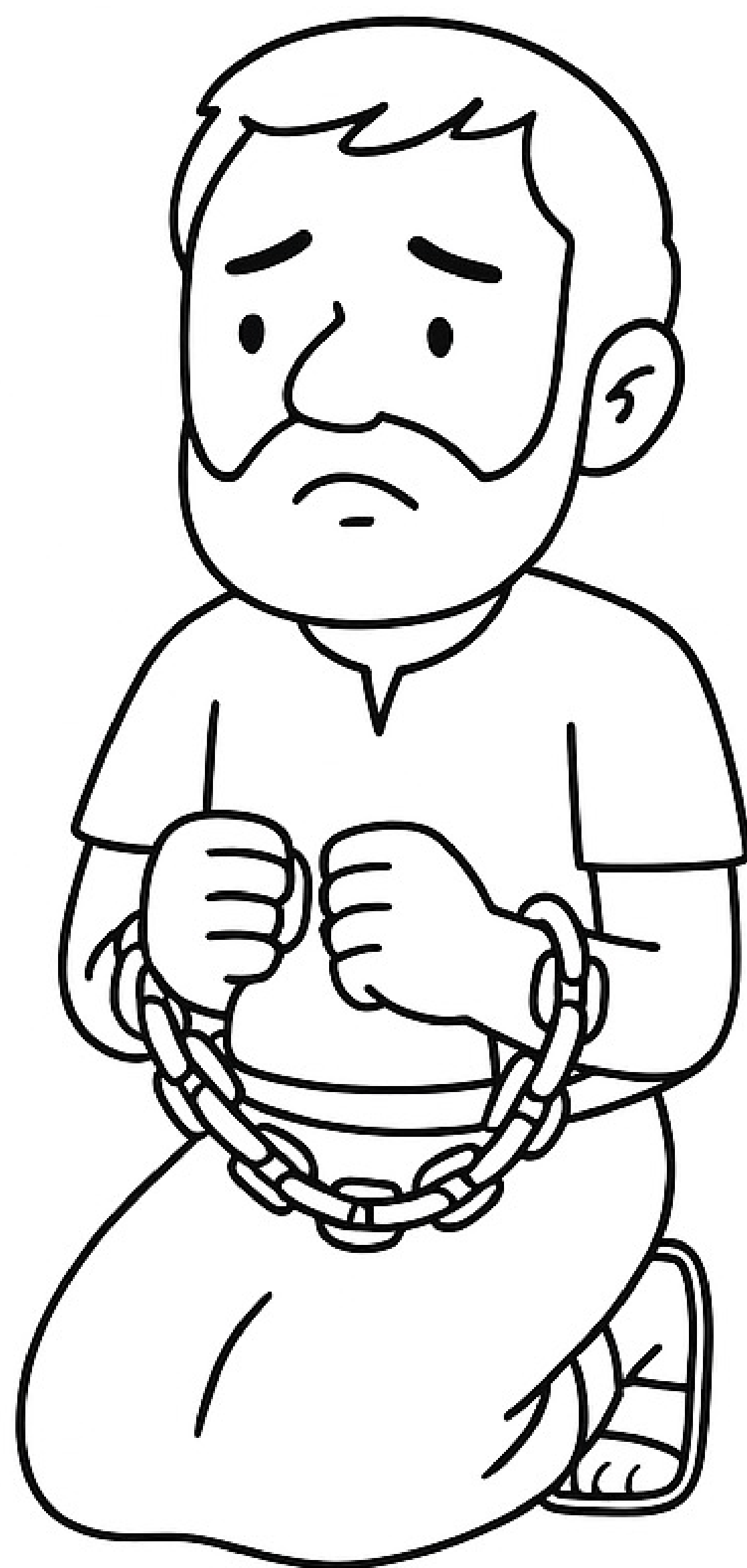
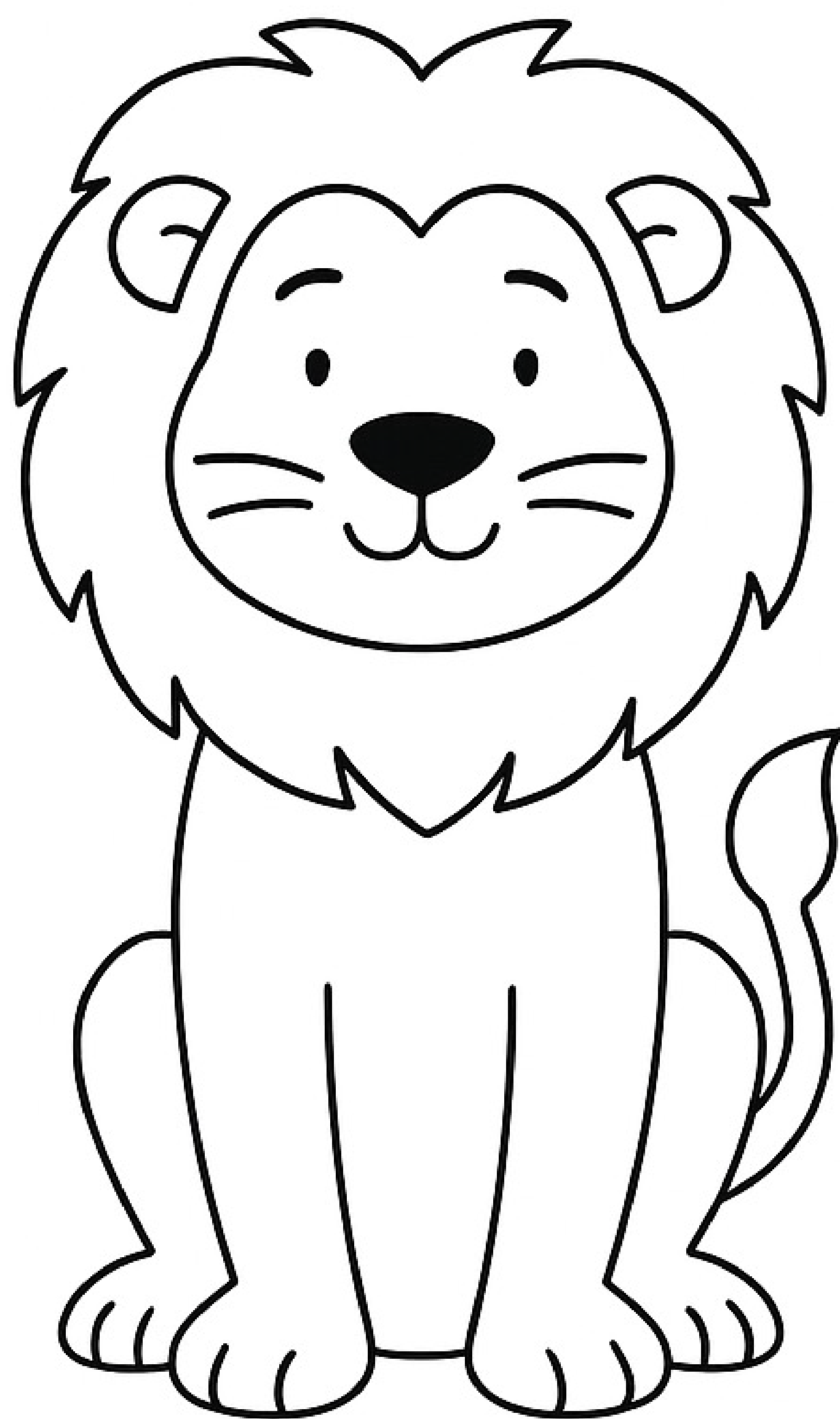
Dear Jesus, help me be faithful like

FAITHFUL
WHEN IT'S HARD



FAITHFUL TO THE END

FAITHFUL IN TROUBLE



FAITHFUL IN TROUBLE



Organised by the World Evangelical Alliance, the IDOP is an annual, global event that unites Christians in prayer for the persecuted Church.

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FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

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