



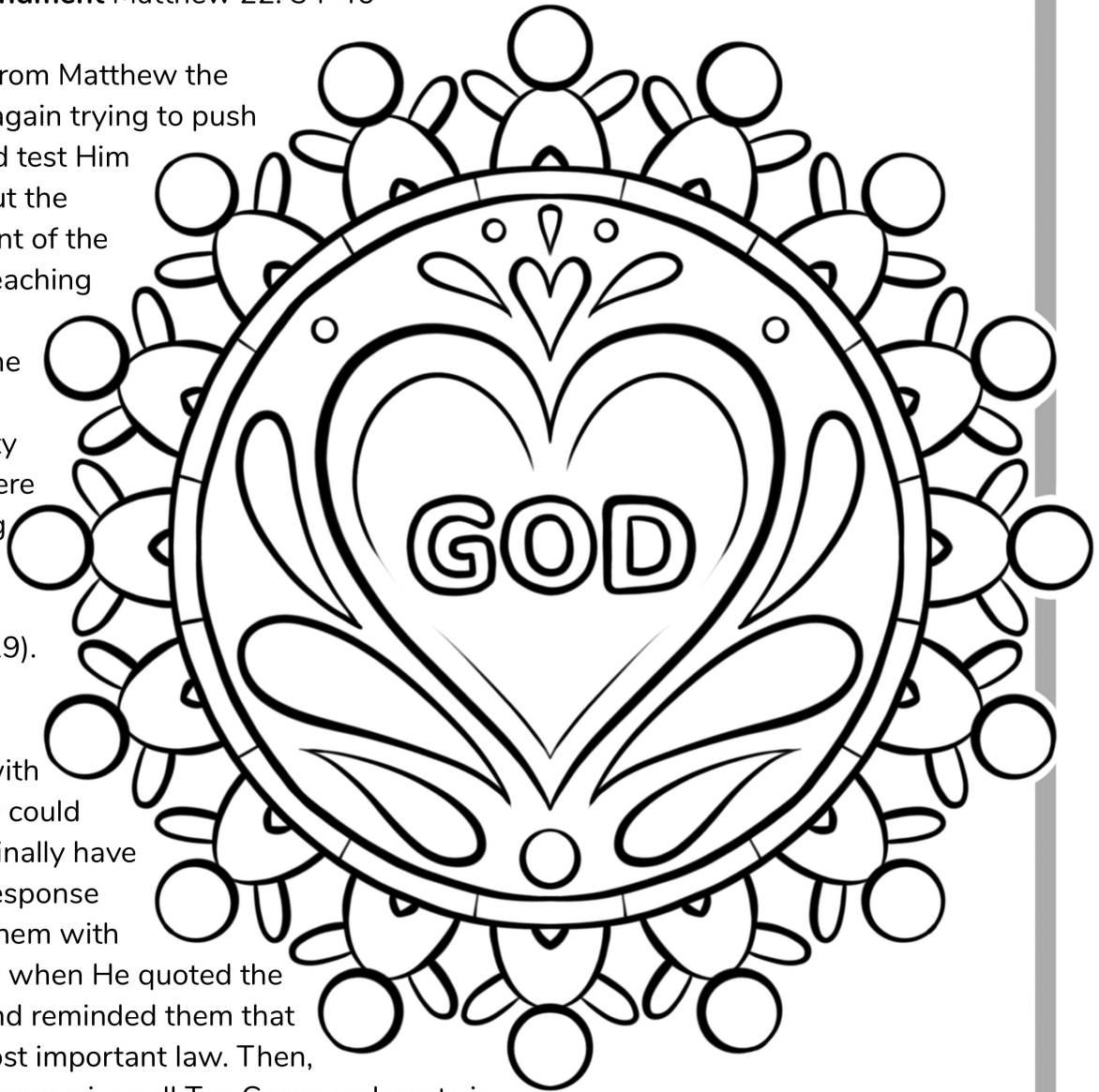
KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING TEACHING SUPPLEMENT

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (REFORMATION)
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH, 2023

BIBLE LESSON: MATT. 22:34-46

The Greatest Commandment Matthew 22: 34-46

In today's reading from Matthew the Pharisees were once again trying to push Jesus into a corner and test Him when they asked about the greatest commandment of the law. Jesus had been teaching parables and the Pharisees didn't like the way He explained scripture with authority and the Sadducees were not happy about being told that they did not know scripture or the power of God (verse 29). They were probably hoping Jesus' answer would provide them with a juicy quote that they could use against Him and finally have Him arrested. Jesus' response must have surprised them with its truth and simplicity when He quoted the first commandment and reminded them that it was the first and most important law. Then, He keeps going and summarizes all Ten Commandments in two succinct sentences saying, "And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'" (verse 39).



Do you see how these two sentences explain all ten commandments? The first three commandments teaching us about our relationship with God, and then the remaining seven our relationship with our neighbour? Jesus didn't leave it up to the Pharisees to figure out- probably because they were having so much trouble understanding Him already. He spells it out for them in verse 40 when He explains it simply again, by saying that "All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments".

...



KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING TEACHING SUPPLEMENT

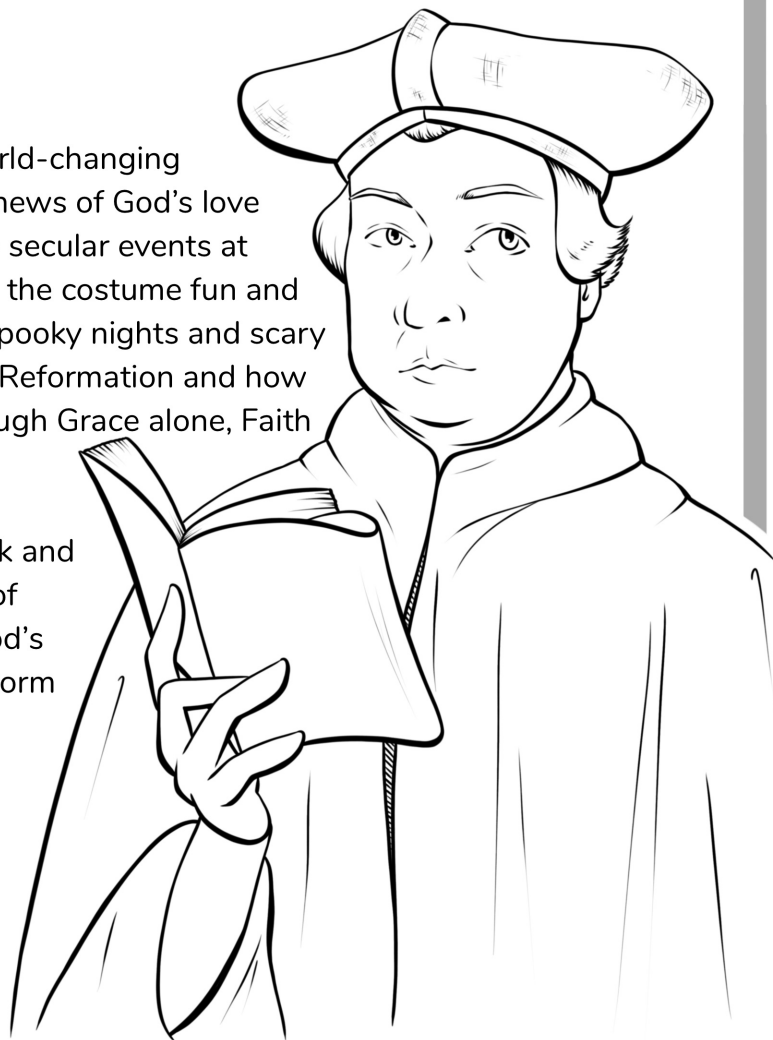
(Continued)

LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE
OF CANADA

Reformation Sunday

Today we observe the Reformation. The world-changing events when Martin Luther helped spread the news of God's love and forgiveness. Children may be distracted by secular events at this time of year, waiting for Hallowe'en and all the costume fun and candy that goes with it. As the focus turns to spooky nights and scary creatures you can also talk about the Lutheran Reformation and how it is tied to the understanding of Salvation through Grace alone, Faith alone and Scripture alone!

Fun fact: Lightening is often a symbol of dark and scary nights and Martin Luther was so scared of lightning – wrongly thinking it was a sign of God's anger that after a particularly scary lightning storm he vowed to become a monk.



Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in Heaven, we thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to guide people like your servant Martin Luther to study and teach us about the truth of Grace found in the Bible. Help us to remember the truth of your Word, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Notes: