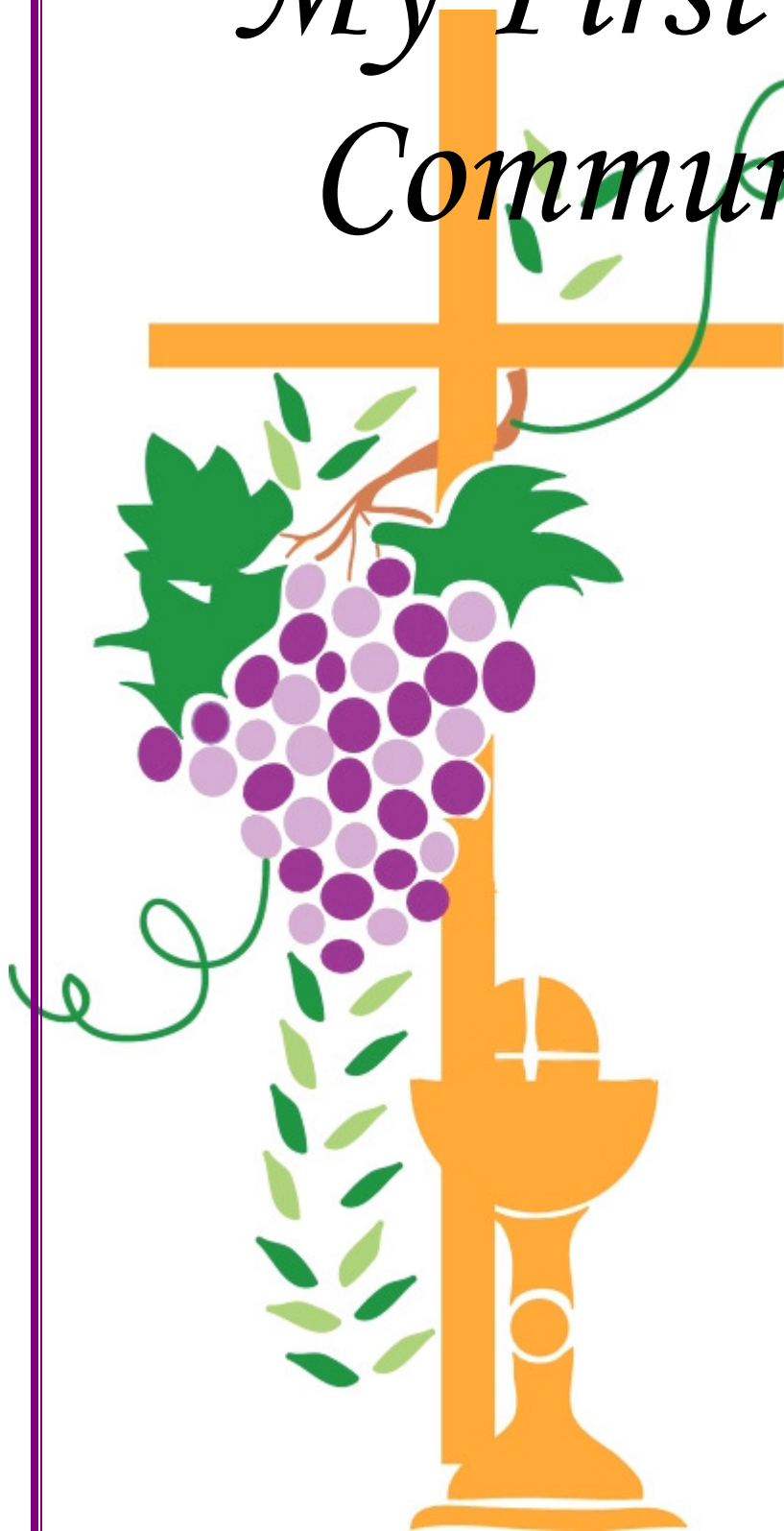









My First Holy Communion



*"Let the little children come to me,
do not hinder them, for the kingdom
of God belongs to such as these."
Mark 10:14*

by Diane Bischoff McCarty

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What is Holy Communion?



You are soon going to make your First Communion. You see your mother and father and others receive Holy Communion at church, and you want to learn more about it.

God loves you very much and He sent us a special gift in His Son. Jesus made Himself an everlasting gift to us when He died upon the cross for our sins. God then raised Him up to a new life in heaven. Before He died, Jesus shared a special meal, "The Last Supper" with his friends and asked that they remember all He did for them. He wants all his followers - those who truly believe in Him - to share in this special meal, too. He made the bread and wine spiritual symbols of Himself. He is with us at every Communion, forever blessing us and guiding us, so that we may continue to grow in love and faith.

The lessons in this book will help you understand more about Jesus and just how important this special gift is, so that you will be ready to receive it when the time comes.

As you go through these lessons, you will notice that all Bible verses are in blue print. This is to make it easier for you to separate the words of the Bible from the rest of the Bible story lessons. Some of the verses have *s by them. You should select at least one from each lesson and work hard to memorize it. All of these verses are important and will be included on your completion bookmark.



Jesus is Always with Us

Bible Lesson

Jesus died on Good Friday. His friends were so sad that they wondered if they'd ever be happy again. Early on the following Sunday morning (Easter), they found the stone rolled away from his cave-like grave. His body was gone! An angel said, "Don't be afraid. Jesus is alive!" Jesus overcame death and rose again. That is how the Passover meal or the Last Supper became known as the Lord's Supper. Jesus wants us to share in His meal, and as often as we do, to think of Him in remembrance. Jesus showed us that those who believe in Him will rise and go to heaven just like He did.



Of course, before Jesus died, his disciples were quite saddened by his news that he was going to die. To comfort them, he said, "But the Counselor, or the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26*)

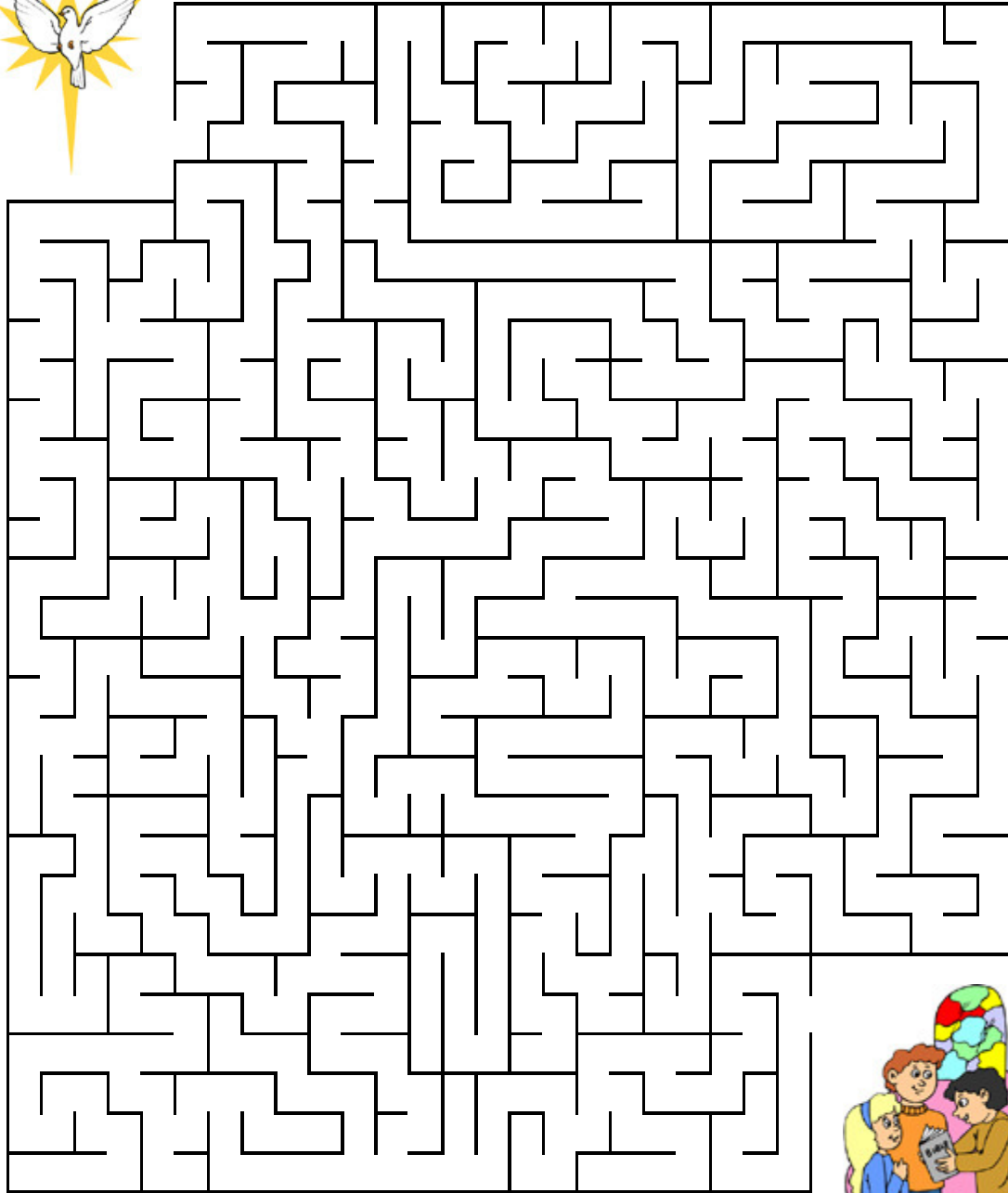
After his resurrection, Jesus visited with His disciples before returning to heaven. They were so happy to see Him. He told them to go out into the world and tell everyone about Him and how much God loved them. Tell people that they have a choice

to make - if they choose to believe in Him, they can live forever in heaven with Him. Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes...will be saved. (Mark 16:15-16) Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:21-22)



The disciples did as they were told so that others could learn about Jesus and believe in Him, too. The Holy Spirit helped them and it helps us tell others about Jesus so they understand that God loves them. Even though we cannot see the Holy Spirit, we know He is with us. He hears us, sees us, watches over us, and protects us. Wherever we go, He is there with us.

Jesus is Always With Us



Help the children find the Holy Spirit.

Jesus is Always With Us

God's Words to Think About and Remember:

The Holy Spirit, whom my Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. John 14:26



True or False:

We can see the Holy Spirit.

True False

The Holy Spirit knows all. He hears us, sees us, watches over us, and protects us.

True False

There are some times when the Holy Spirit is not able to be with you.

True False

Circle the Correct Answer:

Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he _____ on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

breathed sneezed

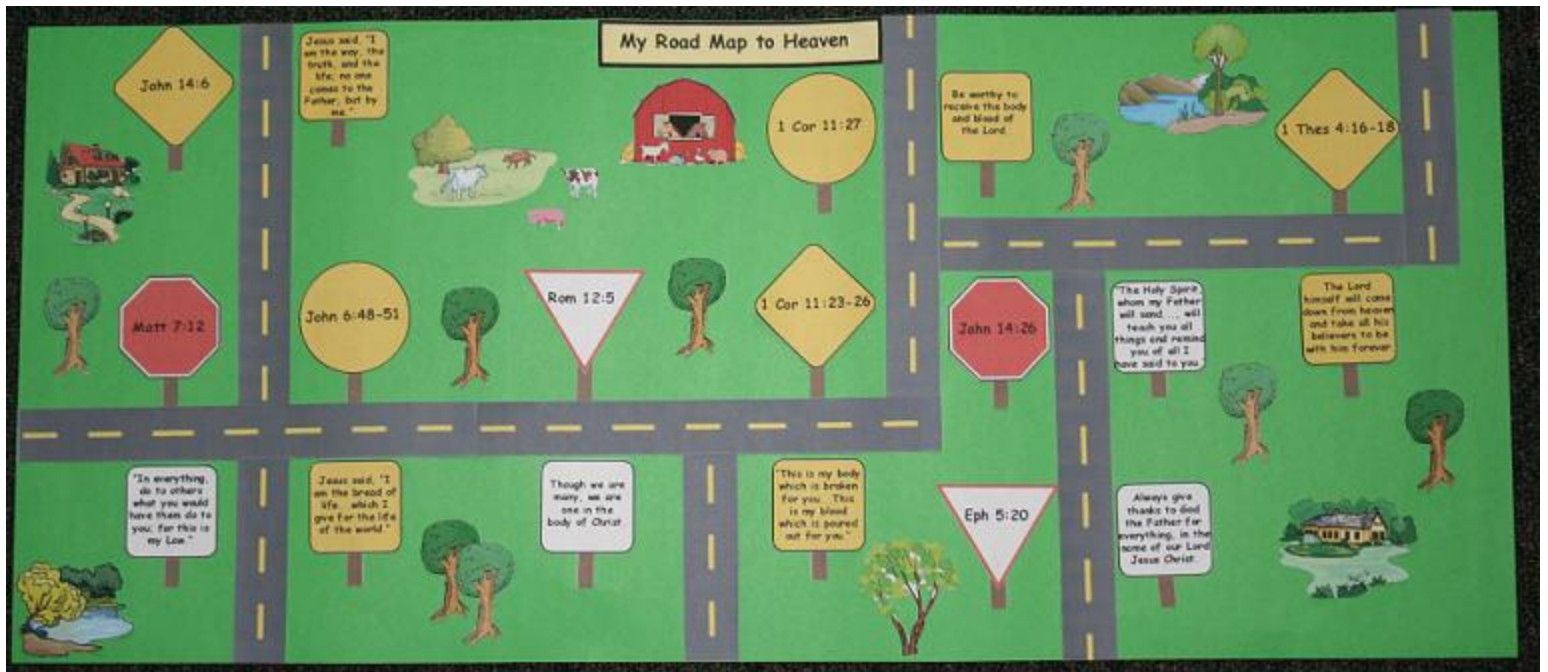
Fill in the Blanks:

"The _____, whom my Father will send in my name, will _____ you all things and will _____ you of everything I have said to you."

My Road Map to Heaven

Craft project

This section contains all the clipart needed to complete the Road Map to Heaven project as outlined in each lesson. Here is a sample of what the road map can look like:



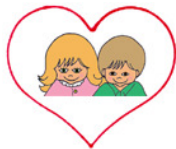
Learning About Communion

Excellent program for Families and Churches



Finally, a non-denominational approach to teaching Protestant children everything they should understand about our Lord prior to their reception of Him during Communion.

Through the Bible verses, lessons, and activities in this program, children will learn and understand that the Lord's Supper is an act of remembrance, celebration, and wonderful anticipation of Jesus coming again. They will learn they must be reverent and of clean mind and heart to receive the Lord's Supper. They will learn that Jesus is always with us in spirit and is ever present at His Supper. Above all, children will learn to receive Him with faith and devotion and thankfulness.



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