



Sunday, January 23, 2022
Jesus Goes to Nazareth * Luke 4:14-21



What's the Big Idea?

God's love and grace are for everyone

Although there was only one temple in Jesus' time, there were many synagogues. The synagogue was the local gathering place for study, prayer and sometimes even meals. In today's story, Jesus traveled to his hometown, Nazareth. He had some news to share at the local synagogue about God's great love for ALL people and how God's love is not always understood. But, the people there were not quite ready to hear Jesus' words about love. Even though Jesus had good news to share, many people didn't believe what he had to say. Some were angry and thought, "Who does he think he is?" They thought that Jesus included too many people in God's love. But God doesn't want anyone to be left out. God's love and grace are for everyone!

God's love is for you; it's for everyone! We can help share God's good news.



Read It

Find this week's story on pages 252-253 of your Spark Story Bible.

Where do you see Squiggles this week?



Try It

- 1) Play a game where you throw a ball to each other (like hot potato) and when you catch it, list a person or group of people whom God loves. See how fast you can go!
- 2) Send "God Valentines!" Make simple valentines with messages like *Jesus Loves You!* and *God Loves You Always & No Matter What!* and *God Loves Everybody!* Have fun mailing or delivering them anonymously so that the recipients feel the real surprise of the message.



Talk About It

- 1) If you were one of the people at the synagogue, would Jesus' message of love made you grumbly or glad?
- 2) Whom does God love?
- 3) When does God love us?
- 4) People in Jesus' time studied and prayed and ate at the synagogue. What kinds of things do you do at your church?

Pray: Thank you, God, for always loving us, no matter what. Thanks for sending Jesus to tell us this over and over. In his name we pray. Amen.

Memorize It

Challenge yourself to memorize the following verse of the week.

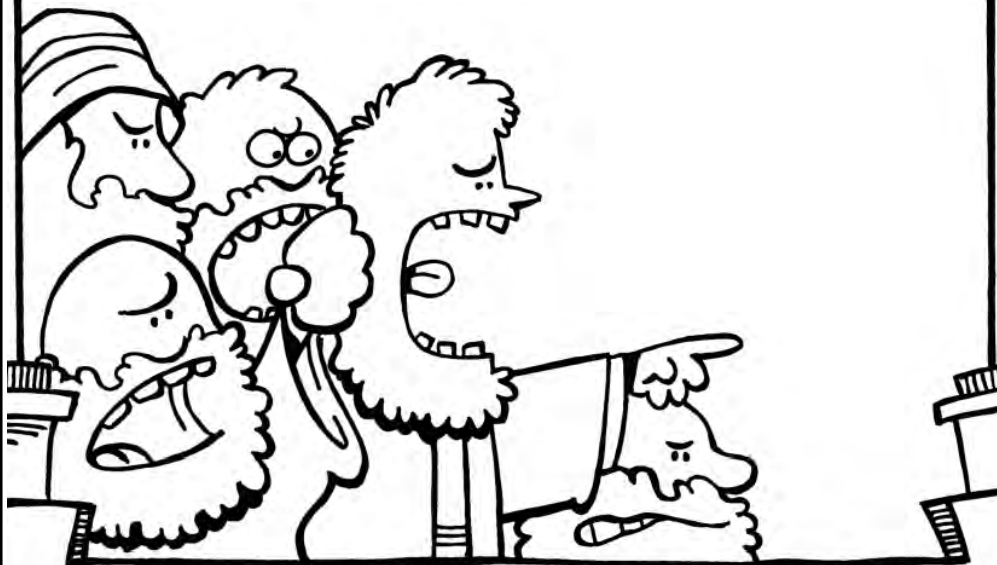
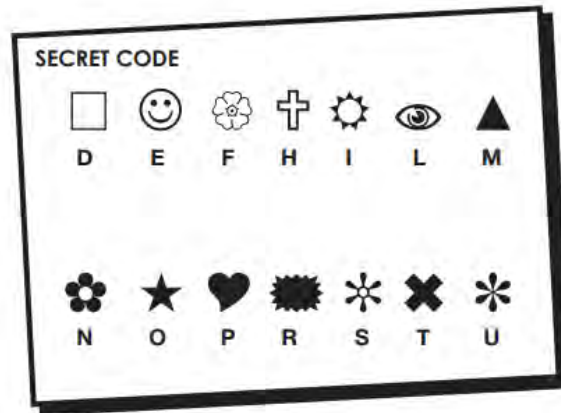
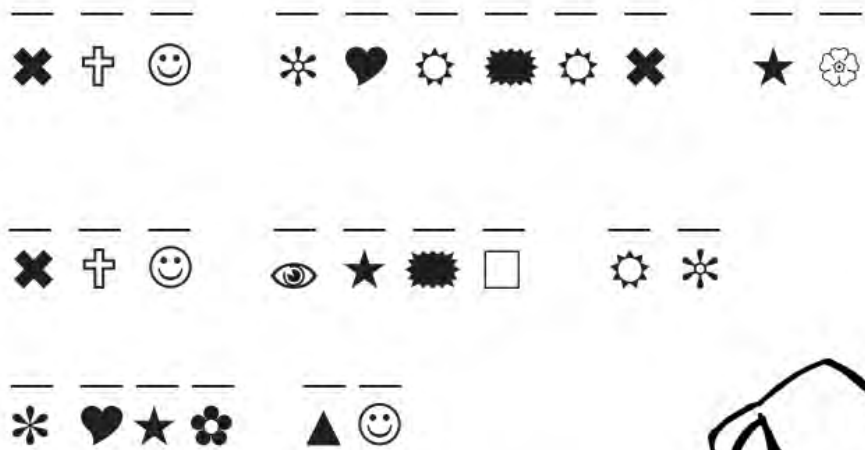
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

Luke 4:18

God's Love and Grace are for Everyone

Jesus' Clever Code

Jesus spoke to a crowd in the synagogue. What did he say? Crack the code to find out!



The people began to grumble. "Go away, Jesus!" Jesus went away from there, but he kept on telling people and showing people about God's love.