4

Way to Worship!

Key References: Mark 1:21-28; *The Desire of Ages*, chap. 26, pp. 252-261; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 7, pp. 157-159; Our Beliefs nos. 20, 12, 22



Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 33.

power**text**

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name" (Psalm 100:4).

power**point**

When we take an active part in worship, we are responding to God's love.

Do you have a favorite preacher or teacher? Why do you think you enjoy that person so much? Have you told the person how you feel? Imagine Jesus as your pastor.

A young man squirmed in his seat beside his father. "I'm glad we came early," he said. "I can't believe how many people are here at the synagogue today."

"Everyone has come to hear Jesus," his father answered. "After He healed the nobleman's son, word spread quickly about His teachings."

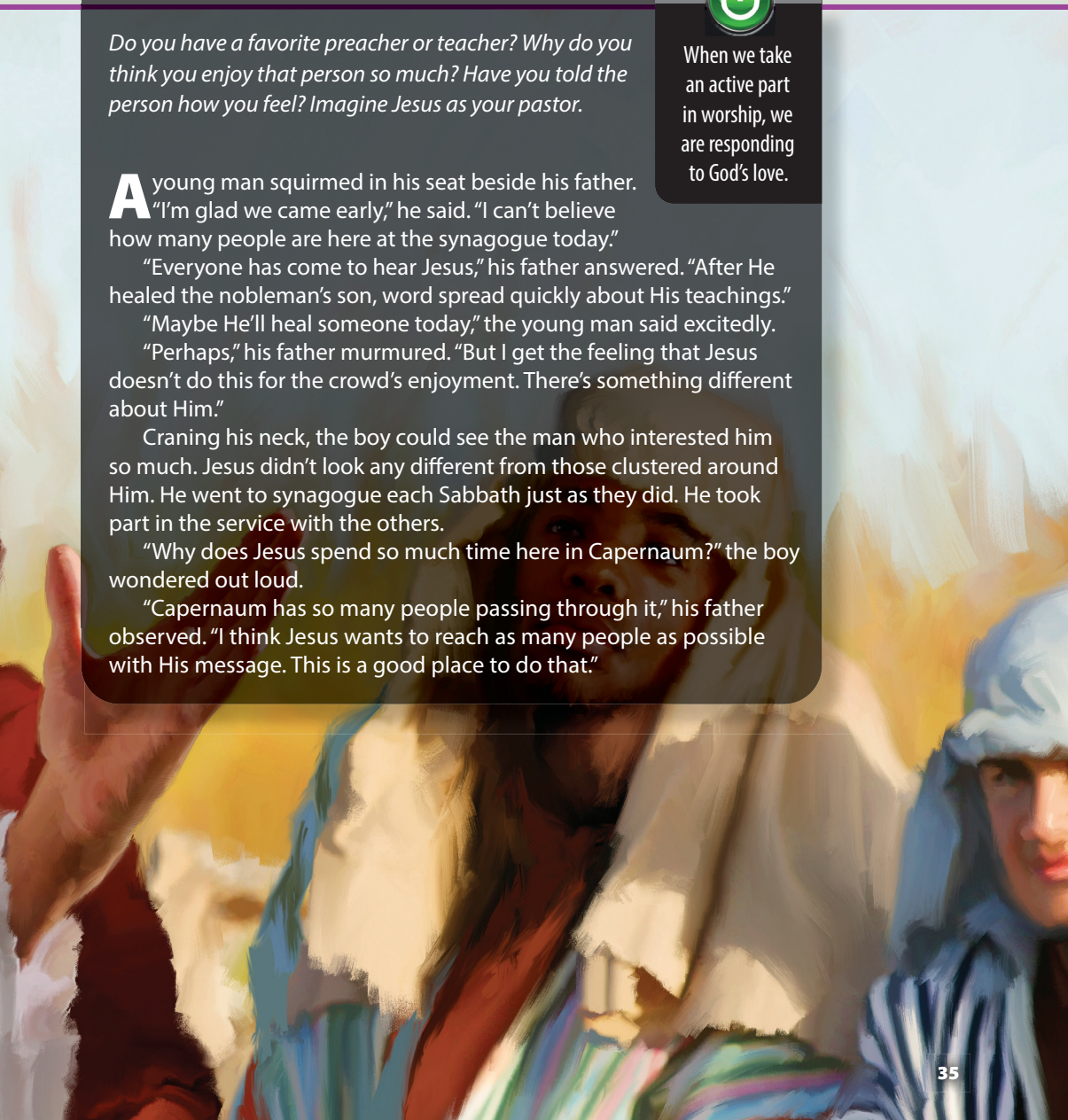
"Maybe He'll heal someone today," the young man said excitedly.

"Perhaps," his father murmured. "But I get the feeling that Jesus doesn't do this for the crowd's enjoyment. There's something different about Him."

Craning his neck, the boy could see the man who interested him so much. Jesus didn't look any different from those clustered around Him. He went to synagogue each Sabbath just as they did. He took part in the service with the others.

"Why does Jesus spend so much time here in Capernaum?" the boy wondered out loud.

"Capernaum has so many people passing through it," his father observed. "I think Jesus wants to reach as many people as possible with His message. This is a good place to do that."



4

Sunday

READ Read Luke 4:31-37 and this week's lesson, "Way to Worship!"

CREATE Draw a temple gate with the power text on it. Be sure to include the reference.

PRAY Praise God for the things He has done in your life.

Monday

READ Read Mark 1:21, 22.

COMPARE The word *authority* can mean different things. Compare your understanding of these verses with this contemporary version: "They were surprised at his teaching—so forthright, so confident—not quibbling and quoting like the religion scholars" (*The Message*).

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to speak with authority in your life and help you to be a powerful witness for Him.

Tuesday

READ Read Mark 1:23-28 and John 2:15, 16.

DISCUSS Jesus showed that worship is a positive experience. Discuss with an adult how you could contribute with your talents to the worship programs at church.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God for wisdom as you seek to worship Him.

Growing quiet, the crowd recognized that Jesus was ready to speak. No one wanted to miss a word He would say. He seemed to talk directly to each one. And He used illustrations from everyday life that they could understand. He used those illustrations to tell them



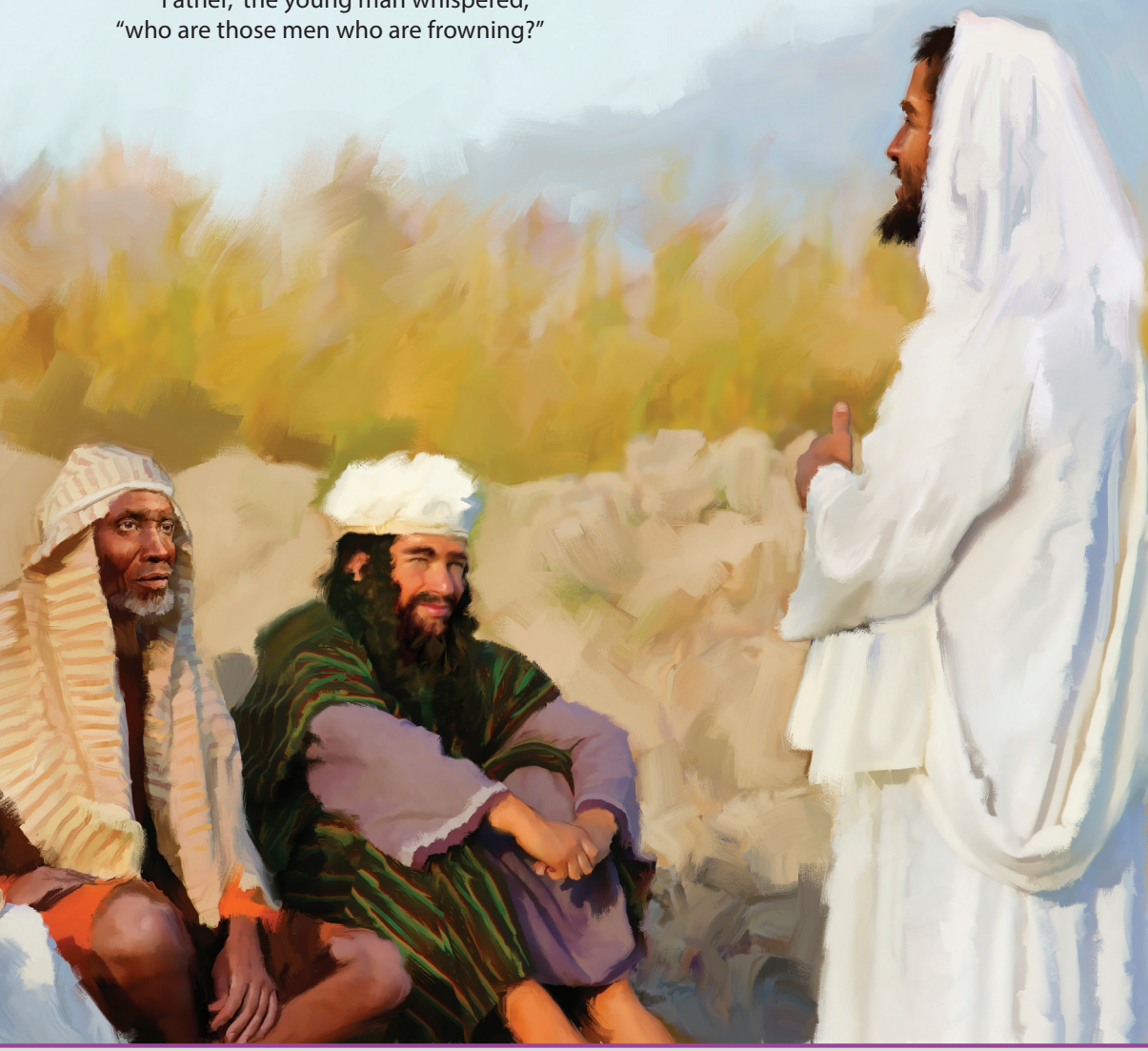
important things about the love of God. Jesus spoke with authority, using simple language, to help people receive and believe the truth. The boy was amazed that even he understood Jesus' teaching.

Looking around him, he saw people listening carefully. Some were smiling. Others nodded their heads in agreement. But some were frowning.

"Father," the young man whispered, "who are those men who are frowning?"

"They're from the Sanhedrin," his father answered. "Some say that they are following Jesus from town to town, gathering information on what He does."

Jesus began to speak about His kingdom. Hope filled the hearts of the people as they recognized that Jesus was able to set them free from the forces of darkness that had kept them in captivity to sin.



4

Wednesday

READ Read 1 Chronicles 16:8-36.

WRITE After you have read this Bible passage, underline or make notes in your Bible study journal of the words that tell about different ways we can worship.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray verses 8-11, using "I" as the subject.

Thursday

READ Read Psalm 65:4 and Psalm 92:12-14.

THINK What is promised to those who worship in the house of the Lord?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY At worship, praise God for His blessings.

Friday

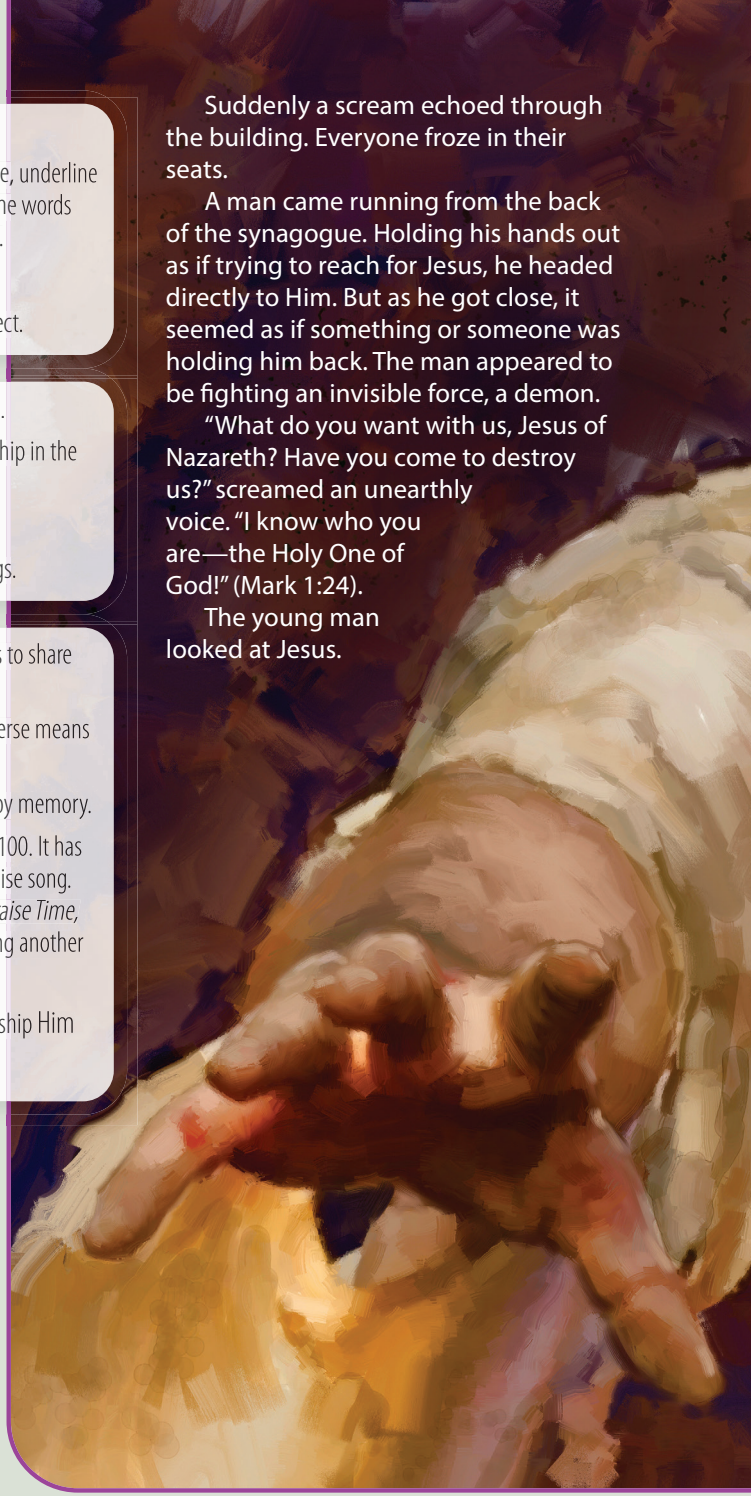
READ For worship, ask your family or friends to share in the reading of Psalm 100.

SHARE Ask each person to share what the verse means to them.

SAY Share with your family the power text by memory.

SING Psalm 98:4-9 is very similar to Psalm 100. It has been made into a contemporary Christian praise song. If you know that song, "Shout to the Lord" (*Praise Time*, no. 69), sing it to open the Sabbath. If not, sing another song of praise.

PRAY Thank God for the opportunity to worship Him joyfully.

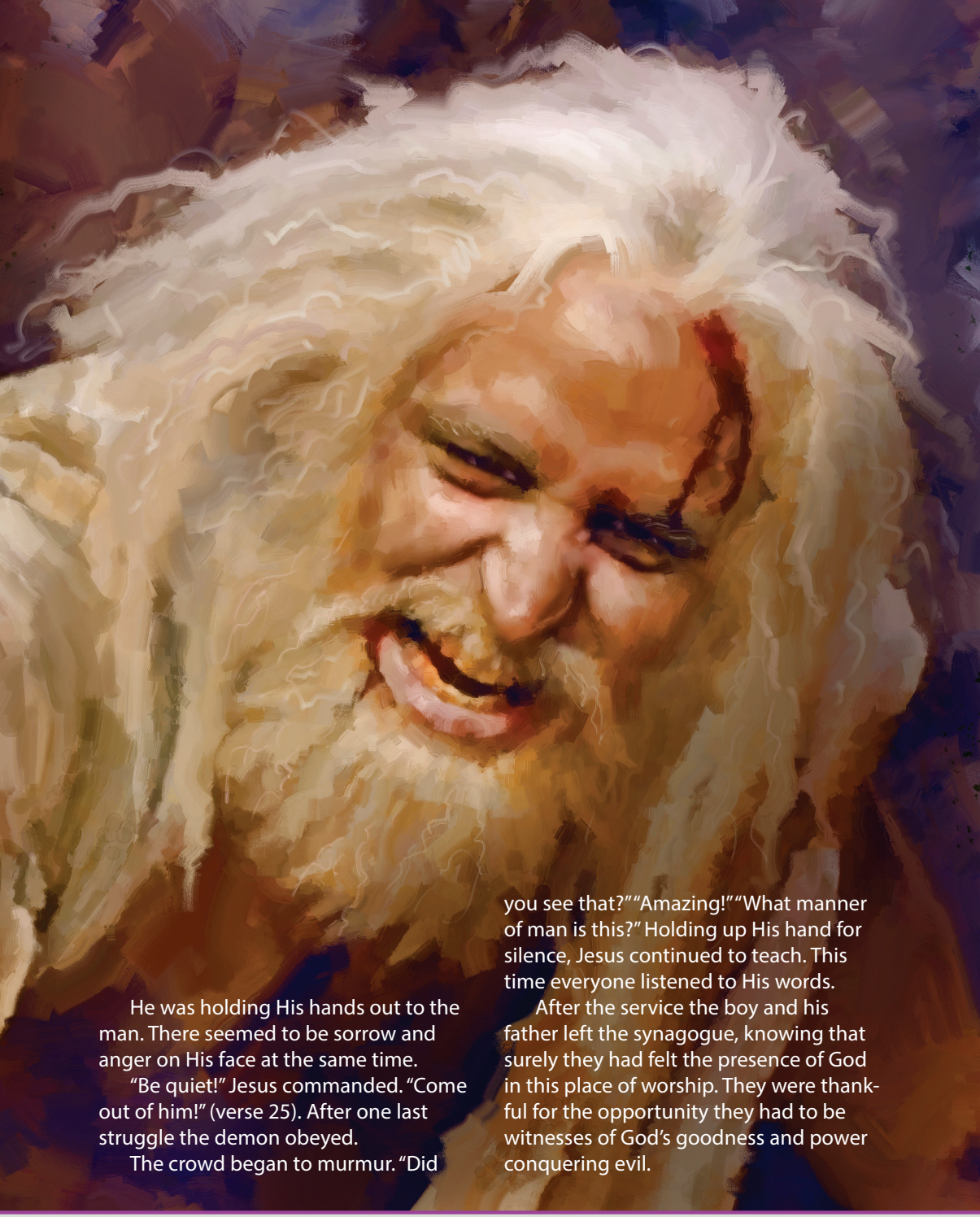


Suddenly a scream echoed through the building. Everyone froze in their seats.

A man came running from the back of the synagogue. Holding his hands out as if trying to reach for Jesus, he headed directly to Him. But as he got close, it seemed as if something or someone was holding him back. The man appeared to be fighting an invisible force, a demon.

"What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?" screamed an unearthly voice. "I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" (Mark 1:24).

The young man looked at Jesus.



He was holding His hands out to the man. There seemed to be sorrow and anger on His face at the same time.

"Be quiet!" Jesus commanded. "Come out of him!" (verse 25). After one last struggle the demon obeyed.

The crowd began to murmur. "Did you see that?" "Amazing!" "What manner of man is this?" Holding up His hand for silence, Jesus continued to teach. This time everyone listened to His words.

After the service the boy and his father left the synagogue, knowing that surely they had felt the presence of God in this place of worship. They were thankful for the opportunity they had to be witnesses of God's goodness and power conquering evil.