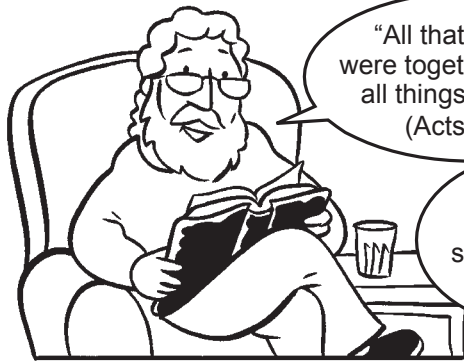


Why Family Disciples ...

Live Communally

To live communally means to have a group of people and families living together.

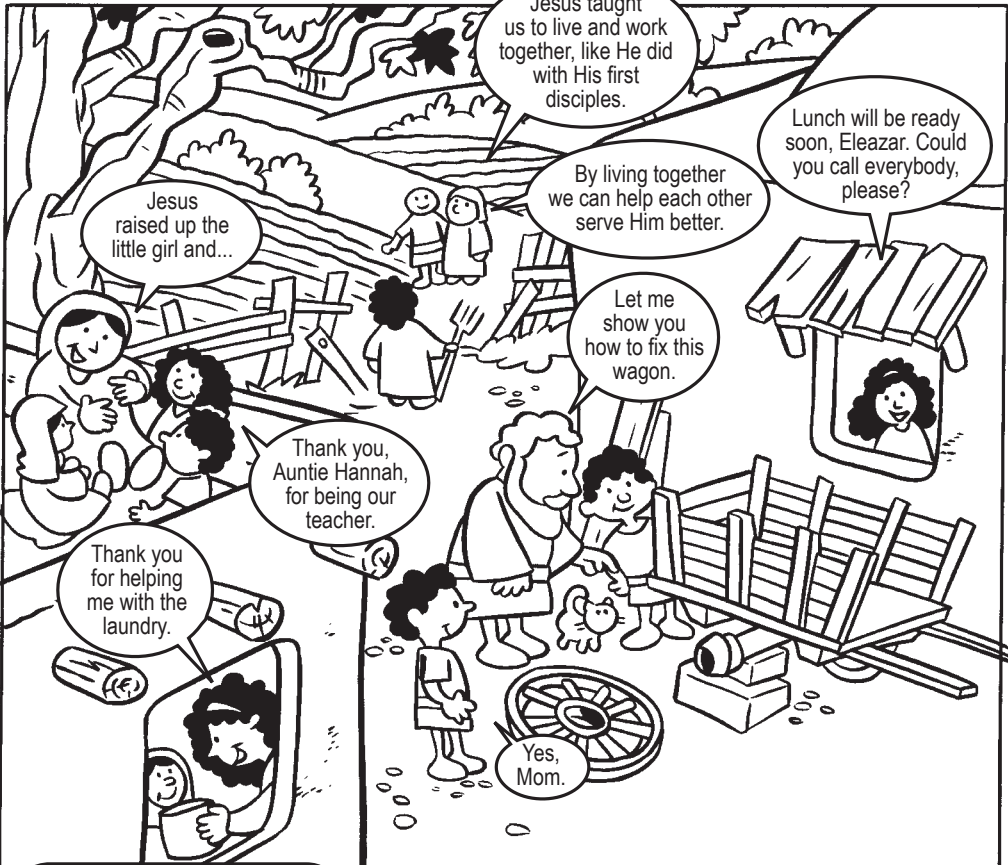




“All that believed were together and had all things common” (Acts 2:44).

This was the way that Jesus showed the Early Church to live.

Quote Acts 2:44 and 45.



Jesus raised up the little girl and...

Jesus taught us to live and work together, like He did with His first disciples.

Lunch will be ready soon, Eleazar. Could you call everybody, please?

By living together we can help each other serve Him better.

Let me show you how to fix this wagon.

Thank you, Auntie Hannah, for being our teacher.

Thank you for helping me with the laundry.

Yes, Mom.

In Acts 4:32–35 you can read how all those who believed in Jesus in the early days of Christianity shared their possessions.

What does Acts 2:44 and 45 mean? It means that the early disciples lived and worked together, and shared the things they owned.



Jesus has also told our Family to live communally and to share our possessions with one another.

Jesus' love helps our Family to live and work together in love and harmony.

By living together and sharing our possessions we show the world that living like Jesus taught His disciples to live works today.

Then you add three to this number...

Lunch is almost ready.

So boys, let me show you how to check the oil.

I really like to help you, Auntie Rose.

Thank you, Uncle Peter, for taking us witnessing.

You're welcome. Your dad is teaching the JETTs mechanics today, so I am more than happy to take you kids out.

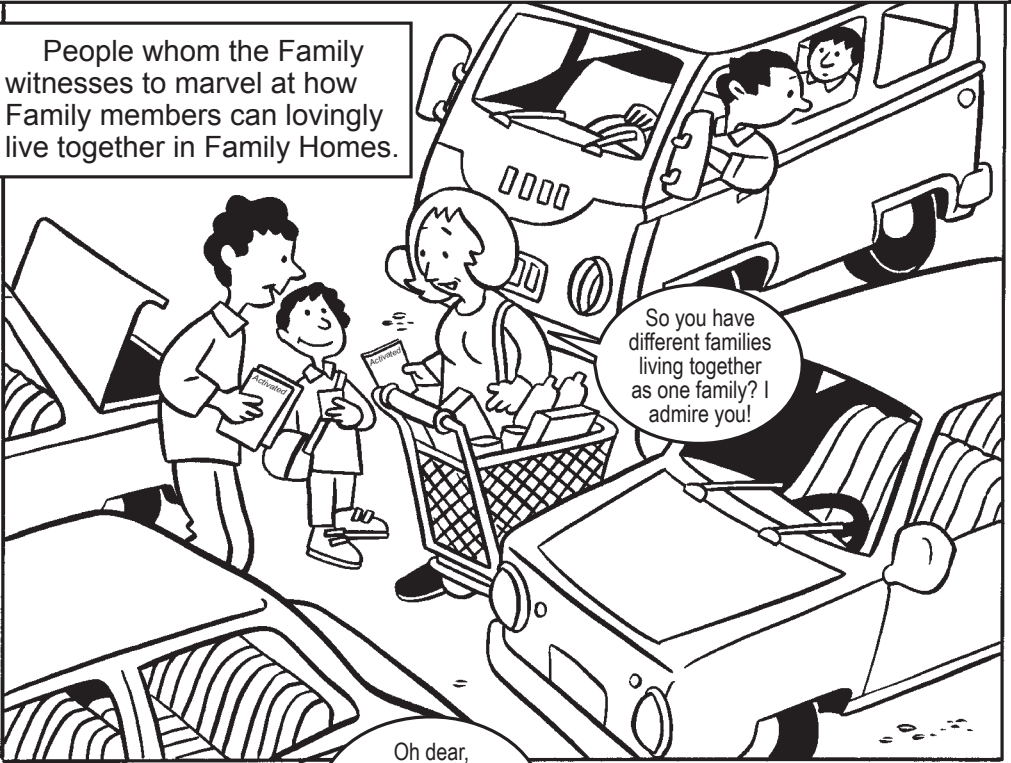
Thank you, Sara, for helping with the laundry.

It's Jesus' love that helps you learn to prefer others' needs above your own, which is a necessary ingredient for successful communal living.

Read "Not a Sermon, but a Sample" (*Junior DB2*). Also, read with your parent or teacher, "The Economy Revolution," ML #330A:1-4 (*DB6*).

Did you know that communal living is a tremendous witness to others?

People whom the Family witnesses to marvel at how Family members can lovingly live together in Family Homes.



People in the world often have difficulty living together in unity with others of just their own personal family. So when they see you in the Family successfully living together communally, with more than one personal family under the same roof, they know it's a miracle.



This testimony of successful communal living causes people outside of the Family to want to know how you do it. That gives you an excellent opportunity to tell them about Jesus' love and His power, which helps you live this way.



How do you manage to live with other families?

In the Bible, in the book of Acts, Jesus taught Christians to live together. So...

I'm bored!

Dad!
Dad!
Dad!

We would love to have you visit us. Then we can read the Bible with you and tell you more about what we do as missionaries.

Yes, we would be very happy to visit. Here is our phone number. Please phone us so we can work out a time.

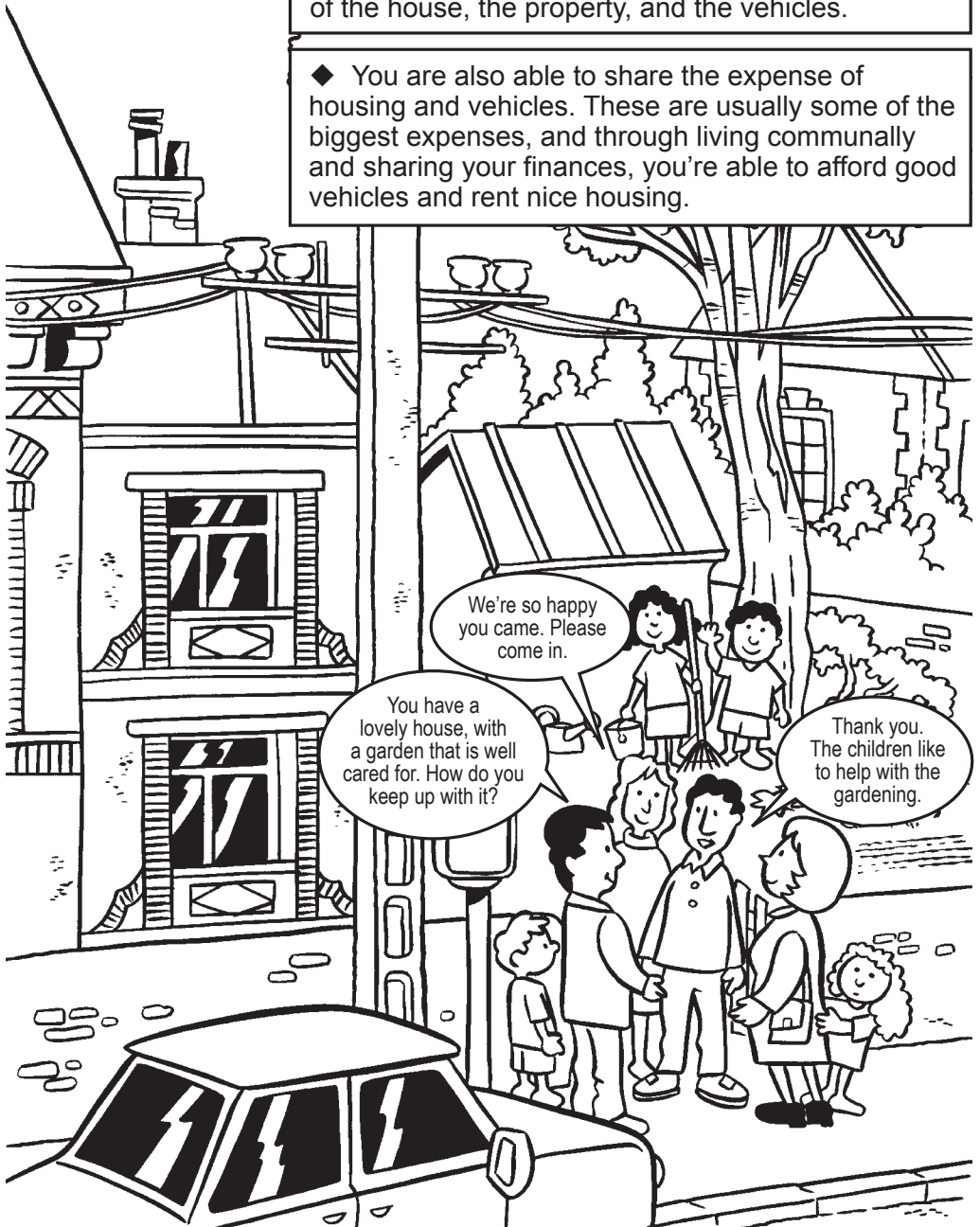
The Family's lifestyle of communal living is proof that following Jesus' teachings works! It's proof that what the Bible teaches is true!



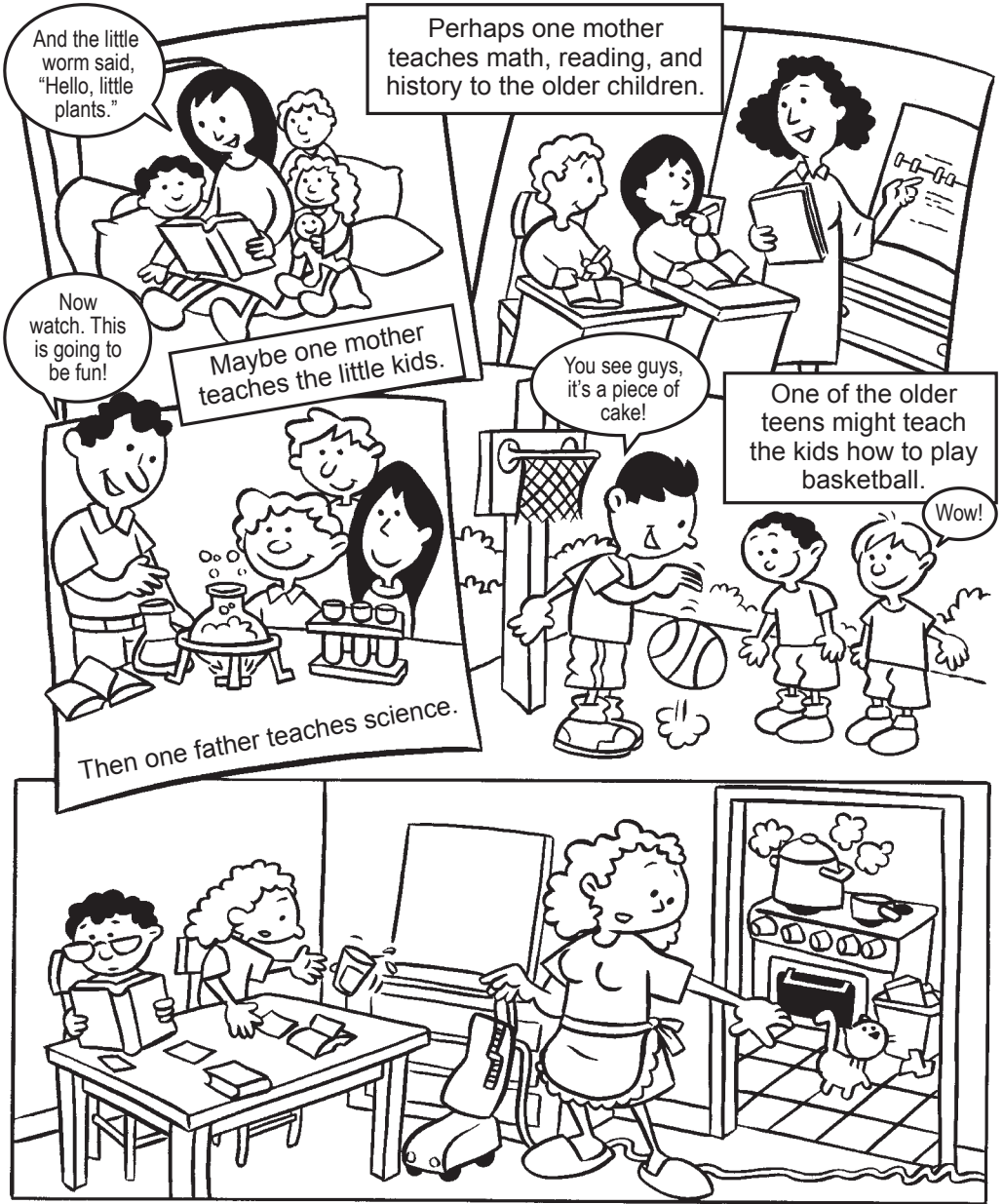
By living communally and working together as a united Family, you are able to be a help to those living with you in many ways.

◆ You are able to share the responsibility and care of the house, the property, and the vehicles.

◆ You are also able to share the expense of housing and vehicles. These are usually some of the biggest expenses, and through living communally and sharing your finances, you're able to afford good vehicles and rent nice housing.

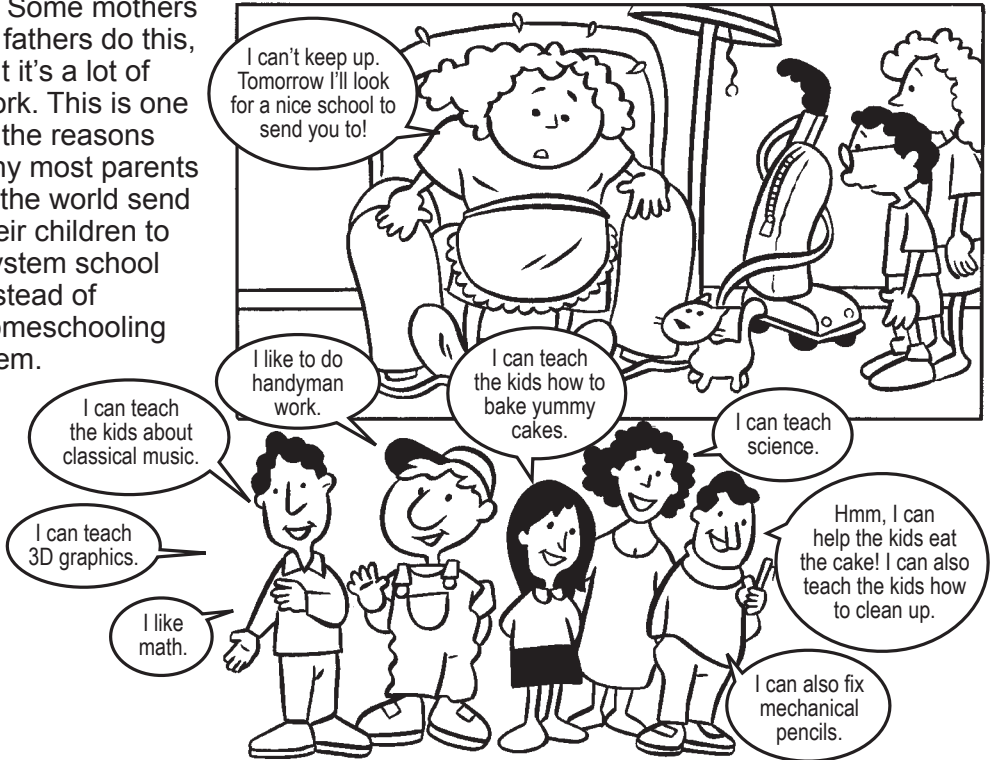


◆ The adults are able to share the responsibility of caring for the children. This includes sharing the responsibility of homeschooling the children.



Homeschooling is much more difficult for a parent to handle in a single-family home. While one parent is working to earn money to support the family, the other parent is on her (or his) own to teach the kids all of their school subjects, and take care of the cooking and cleaning in the house as well.

Some mothers or fathers do this, but it's a lot of work. This is one of the reasons why most parents in the world send their children to System school instead of homeschooling them.



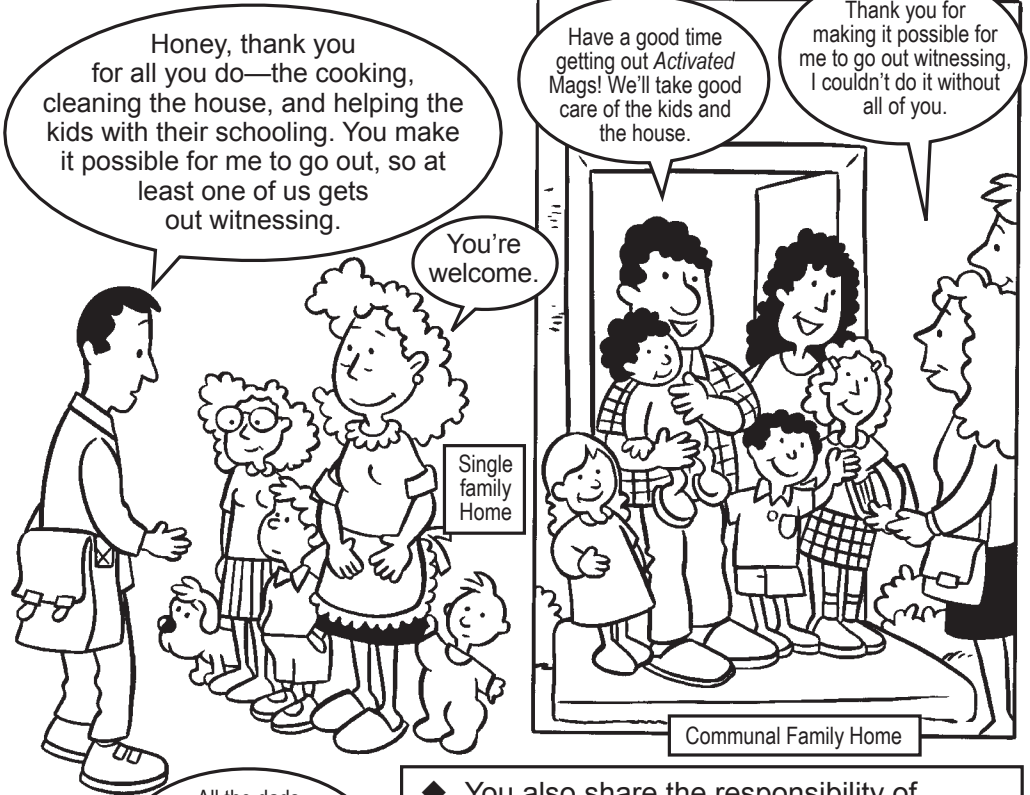
In communal living, the adults are able to work together to homeschool the children. Because there are more adults in a communal Home, between them there are more talents that they have, which they are able to teach to the children.

For example, if you want to learn how to play an instrument such as the piano, even if your mommy or daddy doesn't know how to play the piano, maybe there is an uncle or aunt in the Home who knows how and can teach you.

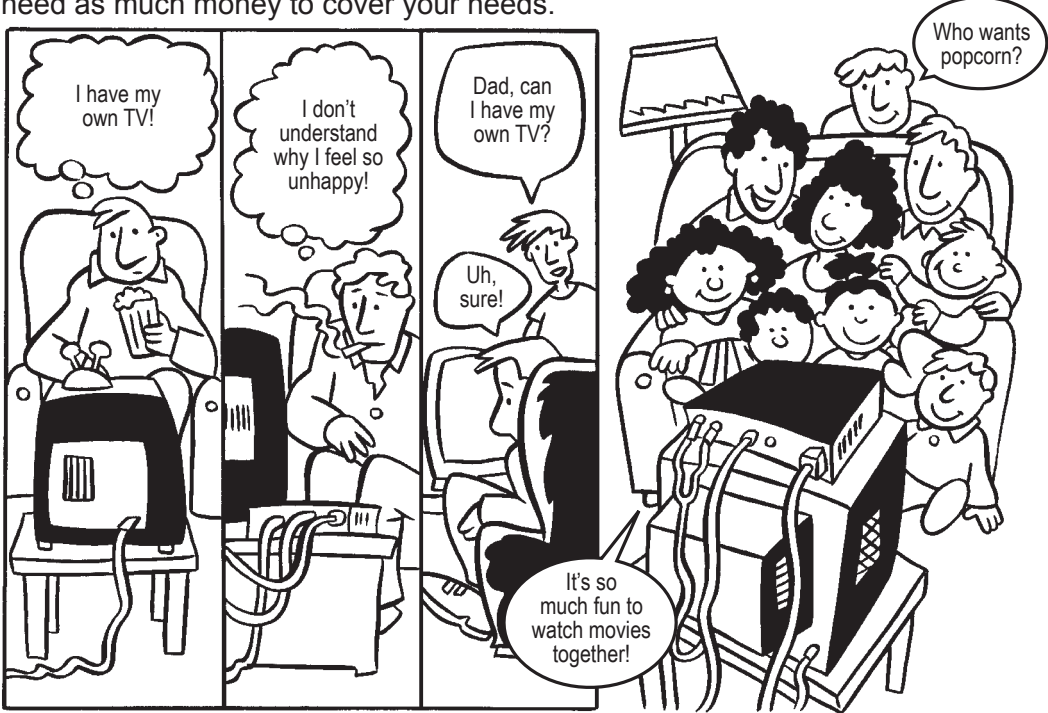
Or maybe you'd like to learn to play cricket, though your father only knows how to play baseball. But there might be another uncle or aunt in the Home who knows how to play cricket and can teach you.



◆ Witnessing is the Family's main goal, and by living and working together and sharing the household responsibilities Home members are then able to spend more time telling people about Jesus.



◆ By having all things in common, you are able to share your material goods. When a few families live together, each family doesn't need to have as many material belongings as a worldly family would need. This also means you don't need as much money to cover your needs.

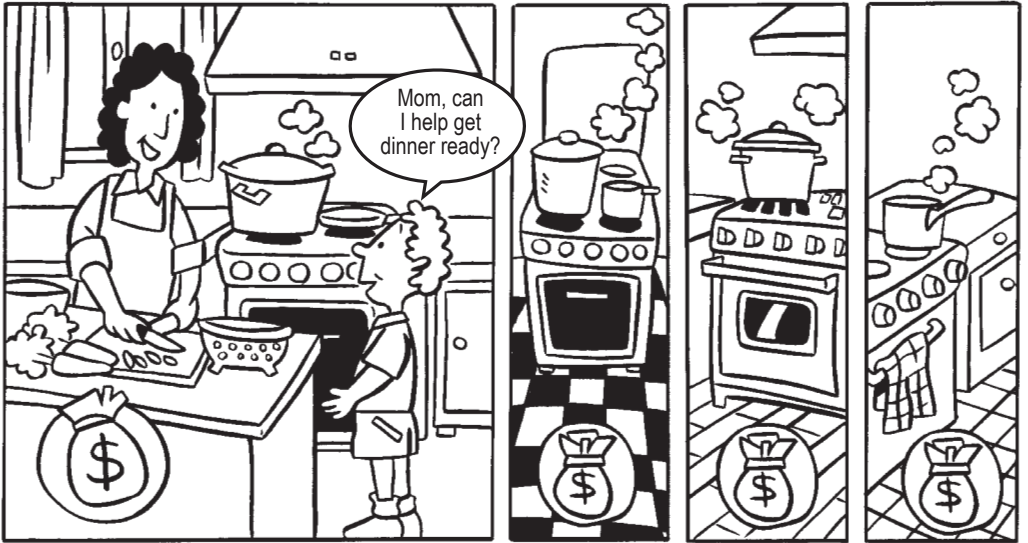


For example, when two, three, or more families live together in one house, they can share the expense of the rent. But if it was only one family renting the house, that one family would need to pay the full rent.

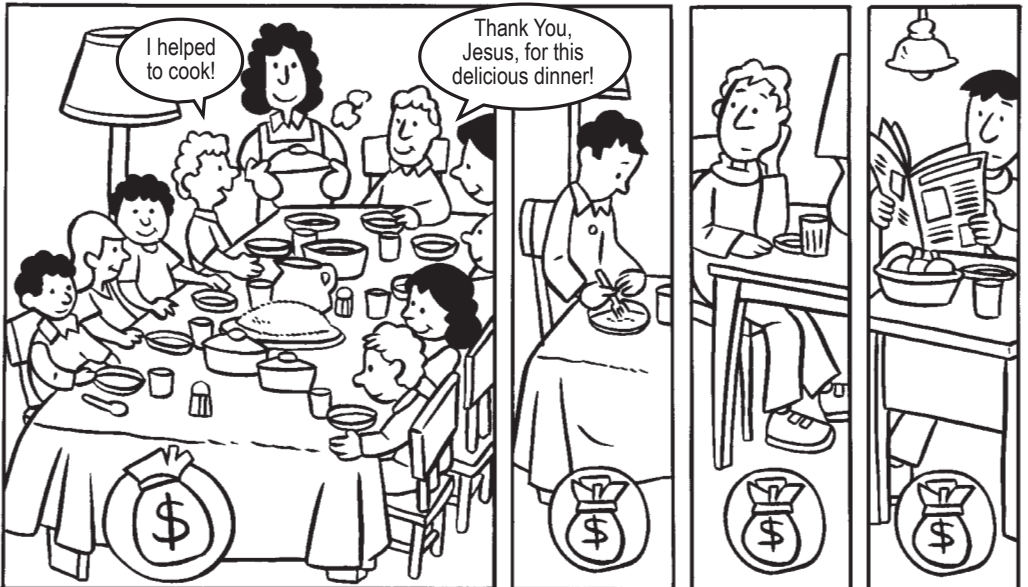


By having more than one family live in a house, the utility bills are also shared. For example, the expenses of the phone, the electricity, the water, and the gas are shared. Of course, with more families living in the house, you use more of these utilities. But it still usually comes out cheaper than if you were to live separately, with each family having to pay for the utilities on their own.





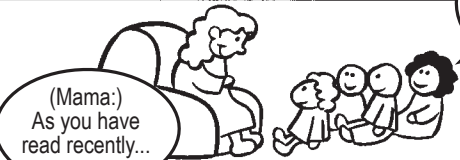


◆ One example of this is when one of the adults cooks a meal, he or she uses the gas or electricity to cook that meal on the stove. By cooking for three families at one time, the amount of gas or electricity used for cooking for those three families all together is less than if three cooks individually cooked three separate meals on three separate stoves for their three separate families.



◆ Or when you are in the dining room and have the overhead lights on, it doesn't matter if there is one or fifteen people in the dining room, the same overhead lights are on, which means that either way, the same amount of electricity needs to be paid for.



◆ There is another big advantage to living communally. You are able to fellowship and talk about Jesus together every day! You don't just meet once or twice a week to talk about Jesus, read God's Word together, and pray together. You do some of these things together every day!

Monday	 <p>Wow! A new GN!</p>	<p>“Not forsaking the assembling [gathering] of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting [advising] one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching” (Hebrews 10:25).</p>
Tuesday	 <p>Jesus, we pray for our Family in Africa.</p> <p>Today we'll have a Word study about witnessing.</p>	
Wednesday	 <p>We praise You, Jesus, for all our blessings.</p>	
Thursday	 <p>Can we read the story about when Jesus walked on the water?</p>	<p>Uniting around the Word daily, and praying together daily brings on God's blessings. That's why the Charter states that all members of a Home should meet for reading the Word and praying together a minimum of four times per week, and preferably more (LC: 13,A,1).</p>
Friday	 <p>(Mama:) As you have read recently...</p>	
Saturday		
Sunday	 <p>Let's read a few pages of Mama's Childhood Memories.</p>	<p>Besides these times of meeting together for Word and prayer, you eat together daily. You also fellowship together throughout the day, every day, while you live and work together.</p>

◆ By more than one family living together, you often get to live with friends that you can do things with. If a child is an only child in a single-family home, it can be quite lonely.

But with communal living, even if you are the only child in your personal family, you usually get to live with other children from other families.



The others are well now, and you'll be better soon too.

◆ If anyone in the Home gets sick, they know that others will help take care of them, and help with their responsibilities until they get well.



If you live in a house with only your personal family, your parents might be so busy that they aren't able to give you much attention when you are sick. If you live in a System family, your parents might both be at work, and your brothers and sisters away at school.



◆ Living together in unity brings on God's blessings.

In Acts 2, Jesus' followers received a great blessing—the gift of tongues from the Holy Spirit.

What were they doing before they received that gift?

Read the first verse of Acts 2. "They were all together in one place."—They were living together!

1

Find the three objects from our modern times that are hidden in this picture on pages 14 and 15.



When you read the rest of the Book of Acts you will find that this “living in unity”—communal living—resulted in Jesus giving the disciples greater power and anointing in their witnessing!

2

Find on pages 14 and 15:



John



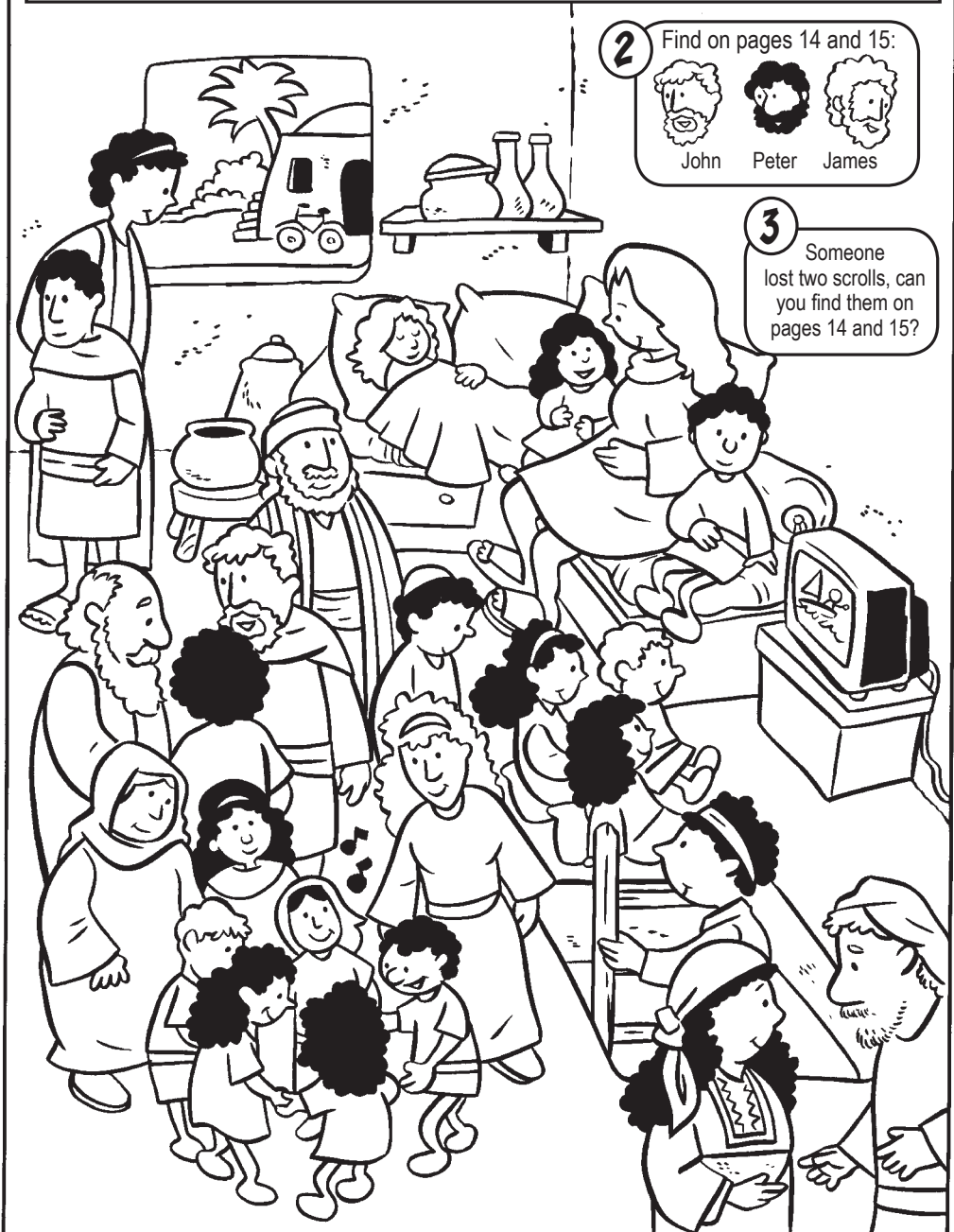
Peter



James

3

Someone lost two scrolls, can you find them on pages 14 and 15?



As Family members you live communally to help you to be stronger disciples for Jesus; to make you better and more successful missionaries, and more capable of spreading Jesus' love all around the world.



Come join us
—to conquer
the world for
Jesus!

Living together
in unity makes each
communal Family
Home a sample of a
little Heaven on Earth!