

## The CHOICE of Champions: Jesus Christ

### Lesson #6

#### **Teacher's Section**

This last session finishes up the CHOICE steps to salvation. The goal of these lessons has been to help the children themselves experience salvation if they had not done so previously. A secondary goal for these lessons was to teach the children a way to tell others about Jesus and know how to lead their friends to Christ. With this secondary goal in mind this lesson will emphasize how to use the CHOICE acronym to tell their friends about Jesus along with finalizing the last step in this acronym—E for Excelling until Jesus comes again.

#### **Goals:**

- to discuss the last letter of the acronym CHOICE—E is for Excelling until Jesus comes again.
- to learn how Christians can Excel in their walk with Jesus
- to practice delivering the CHOICE steps to friends in order to lead them to Christ.

**Champion for this lesson:** each child

#### **Lesson Bible Verses:**

- Joshua 24:15           Unit Verse
- Mark 12:30-31       Lesson Bible passage
- Matthew 28: 19-20   The Great Commission

In this lesson the link to excellence for the Christian is to live the commandment Jesus gives in this lesson passage—“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.” There are, of course, other ways to excel as a Christian, but if the children can understand that if they love God first, and their neighbor as themselves they will be successful in their walk with Christ.

#### **Coming in Activity:**

There are two activities for this stage of the lesson.

1. Using the Heart puzzle have the students decode the lesson Bible verse. This worksheet is found in the Student Section of this lesson.

Discuss the Bible verse. How can the students love the Lord with all their heart, soul, and mind? How can they love their neighbor? Ask for examples, illustrations of what some of the students have experienced.

2. The younger students may want to make a Heart Fan.

Materials needed:

Construction paper cut into two 8-inch hearts. (Write “Love the Lord with all your heart and soul and mind” on one side and on the other side write, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”)

Craft sticks (tongue depressors)

crayons, markers, glitter, ribbons, and any other decorative materials you might have

glue

1. Give each child two hearts. (With the words on them or have them write the words themselves.)
2. Let each child decorate the worded side of the heart. They may want to create a border around the words or decorate however they want.
3. Glue the hearts together so that the words can be seen on either side of the heart. Leave a small opening at the bottom or point of the heart.
4. Slide a craft stick into the hearts and then glue closed.
5. Discuss how you can love God with our whole hearts, souls and minds. Then discuss how we can show our neighbors love also.

**Transition:**

**Because we are becoming more Christ-like as we continue to grow as a Christian, we will examine Jesus' overriding characteristic –love. Ask the children how they show love to their Moms and Dads? to their brothers or sisters? to their friends? to themselves?**

Emphasize that love is an action not just a feeling. Jesus showed his love in action.

**Bible story:**

Ask, **How did Jesus show His love?** (You'll get a variety of answers here....He healed people, He died on the cross, He preached and saved people.....) Say, **Today we are going to look at a moment when Jesus showed how much he loved his disciples.**

Read John 13:1-5, 12-17

1. What did Jesus do for His disciples? (**He washed their feet**)
2. Why was this so important for Jesus to do? (**It showed to them that He loved them and He would serve them because of His love. In Jesus' time people wore sandals all the time so their feet would get really dirty. When you came into a house there would be a bowl of water by the door and a servant to help you wash your feet. This was a job for the slaves or servants because it wasn't a very pleasant job. Jesus is showing His disciples He is willing to serve them as well as be their teacher.**)
3. What is Jesus trying to teach His disciples? (**They need to serve one another also. This is one way to show their love for Jesus—to show love for their neighbor.**)

**Transition:**

**Just as Jesus showed love to his fellow man, we are to do the same. But who is our neighbor and where do we need to show this love. Let's look at one other great commandment of Jesus. This commission was Jesus' parting words to the disciples before He went up into heaven. He told His disciples, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matt. 28:19-20) As Christians we are given a circle of influence where we can tell others about Jesus and love them like Jesus did. Examine the Circle of Influence handout located in the Student Section of this lesson. Help the students fill out the different levels of influence they have. First their family, then their church, then their school, then their community, their city, their state, their country, etc. Go through different**

examples of how they can love in their family, their church, their school and so on.

**CHOICE Activity:**

There are several culminating activities to choose from to wrap up these six lessons. These activities will give the children something to take home to help them remember the CHOICE steps to salvation.

1. CHOICE necklaces: For the younger children give them a 5" circle from a piece of bright construction paper. Before class write on each circle on one side—CHOICE and the other side I'm a champion. Or you can have the children write out the words. Let them decorate with crayons, markers, glitter. Punch a hole at the top of the circle and thread with yarn to make a necklace. Have each student make two—one for them and one for a friend.

After they have finished their champion necklaces pair up the children and have them practice telling each other what CHOICE means and what being a Christian means to them.

2. CHOICE medallions: For the older children let them create a CHOICE medallion. Give each child a 5" circle from a brightly colored piece of construction paper. Then give each student 6 1" x 4" strips of paper. On each strip they need to write each of the letters for CHOICE and then what each letter stands for. For example, C=Choose Jesus, H=Hand your heart to Jesus, etc. Each child needs to then glue the strips of paper around the bottom of the circle in a half circle formation so the strips look like they are ribbons flowing from the medallion. Let them decorate the medallion if they want. Then pair them up and let them practice telling their partner about what CHOICE means. Encourage the listener to bring up different questions people might have as the other person tells them about CHOICE.

3. Paper Chain Dolls:

Enclosed in the Student Section are the directions for making paper chain dolls. Follow the directions and let the students make a chain of girls or boys. Let them decorate the paper chain. They need to write on the dolls names of people they can share the CHOICE plan of salvation.

There is included in the Student Section of this lesson a word search puzzle that summarizes all of the concepts discussed in these lessons.

**Concluding Activity:**

Finish up the bulletin board by placing the E on the Olympic rings or the lowest arch of the rainbow. Discuss and review with the students the different steps in the CHOICE plan of salvation. Encourage them to share the plan with one friend this week.

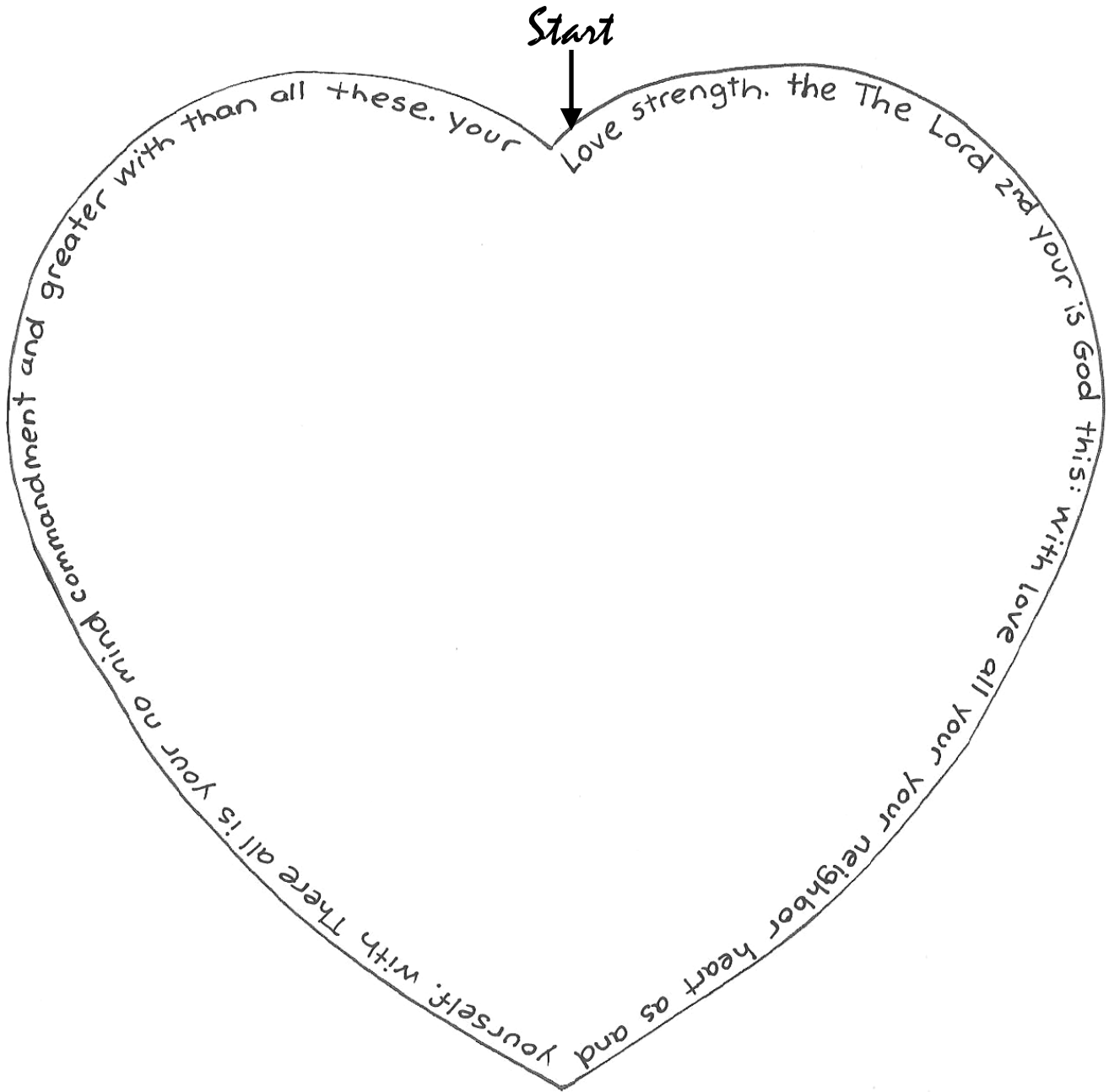
End with a prayer of wisdom and direction for the students this week.

**Student Section:**

1. Heart Puzzle worksheet
2. Circle of Influence worksheet
3. Paper doll chain directions

# Love Who?????????

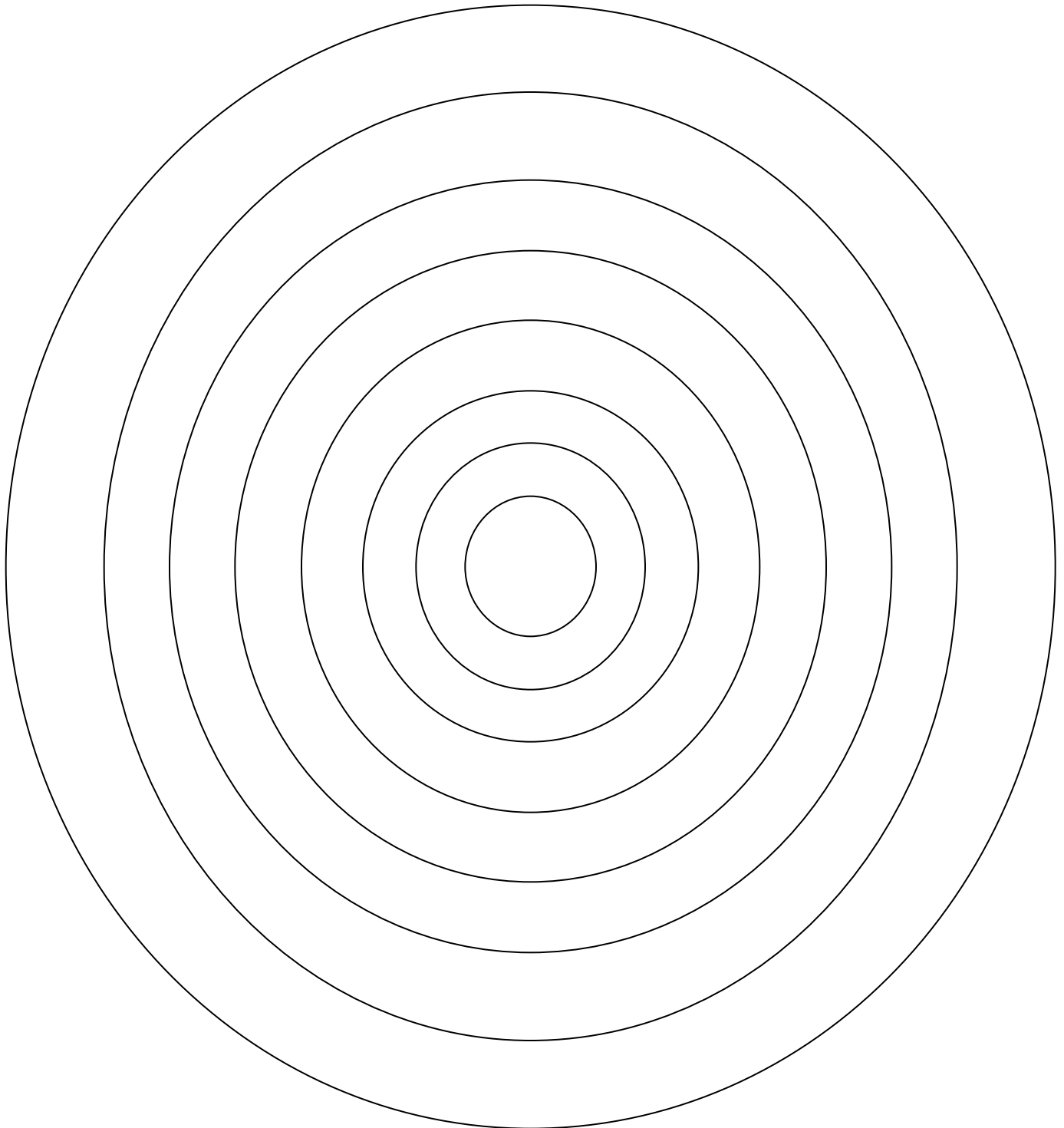
Start with "Love" and write down every other word to reveal the lesson Bible verse.



Mark 12:30-31

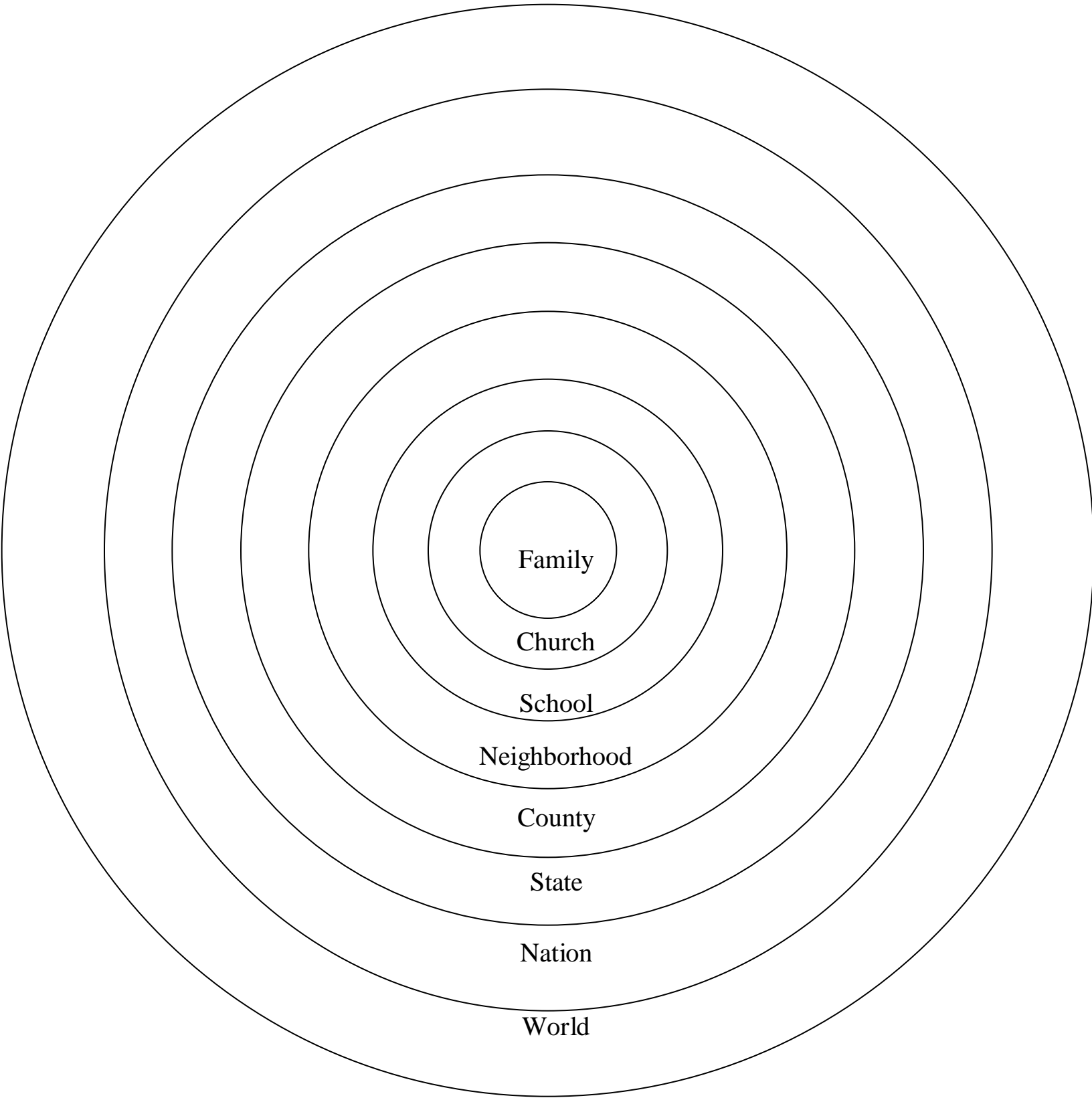
# Circles of Influence

Place specific names of people and places describing your circles of influence.

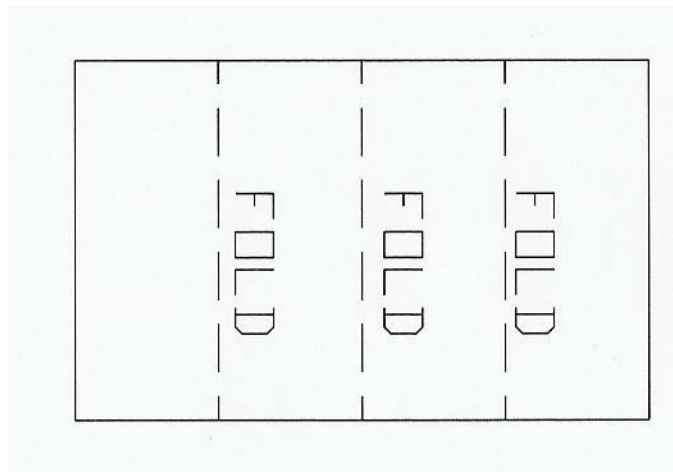


# Circles of Influence

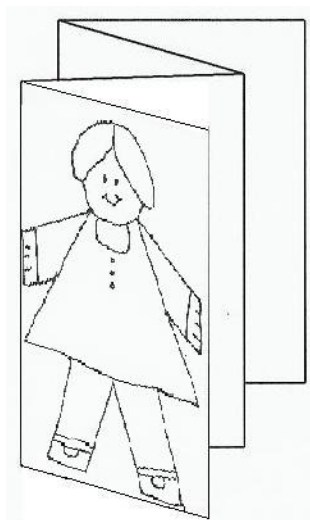
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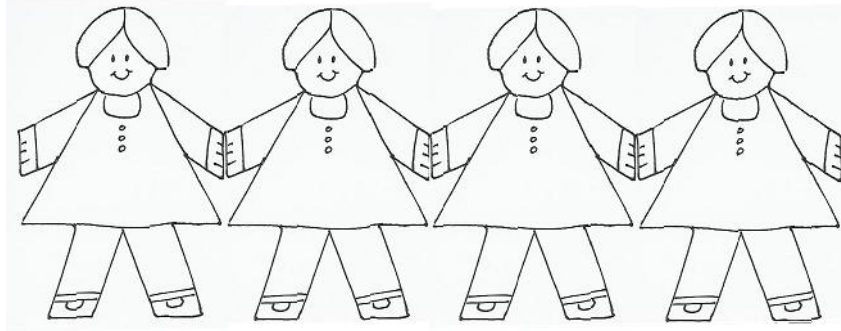
## Paper Chain Doll



1. Fold the paper lengthwise in fourths. Use the pencil to draw the shape of a figure on the top fold of paper (Make sure drawing touches folds on both sides in at least one place). (You may want to supply a model for them to trace on their paper)
2. Use scissors to cut out the figure, keeping folded edges intact in several places on the drawing.



3. Open the paper for a row of dolls.



**4. Use markers to draw things such as clothing, hair, and a face on each paper doll.**