

After the match Mum reminded Josh and Jade that the Lord Jesus had taken our place in a much more important way... on the Cross of Calvary...

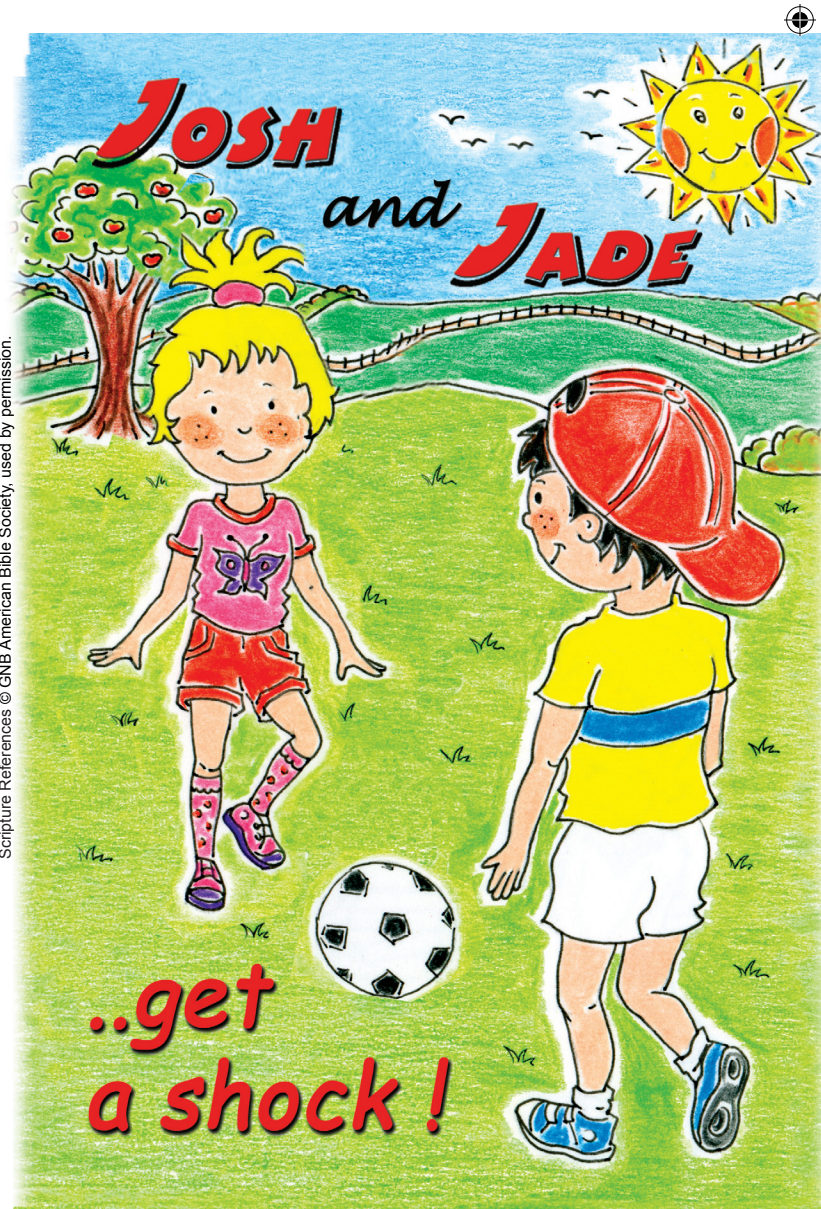
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

'And when we ask the risen Lord Jesus to become our Saviour,' she added, 'He forgives all our wrong-doing'.

'Come on,' said Dad, 'let's call in to see Pete on the way home to find out if his ankle is OK.'

Scripture References © GNB American Bible Society, used by permission.



It was Wednesday afternoon and Josh and Jade were so excited as they rushed in from school.

'They're going to start a football team,' shouted Josh, '...training begins next week.' 'And both boys and GIRLS can play,' added Jade.



See how many words you can find beginning with 'B' and colour in the picture

Josh often played football with his friends in the park and everyone knew he was a good player.

Next day, after school, Mum took the children to the sports shop in the High Street. There Josh met his best friend Pete who was with his mum to buy a new training kit.



The boys were so keen to speak about the positions they would play in the team... that they just ignored Jade, and she felt a bit upset about this.

WORD SEARCH

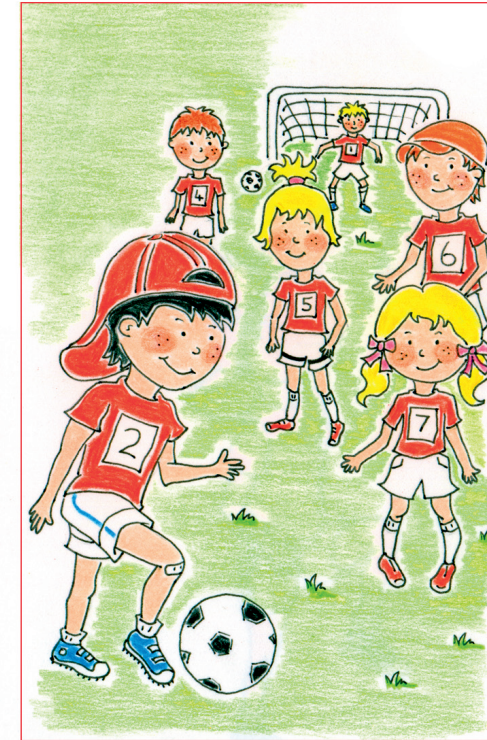
football socks glove whistle
shorts referee tackle skill
goal flag foul

R E L T S I H W
F E S K C O S S
O T F T I J H B
O A O E G O A L
T C U S R H B G
B K L T T E Q A
A L S F R P E L
L E G L O V E F
L L I K S P R G

At last the day came for their first training sessions. They practised tackling and shooting and ball control.

Josh was very proud of his skills and knew how to do lots of tricks with the ball.

But he wasn't really a 'team player' and NEVER passed the ball to any of the girls!

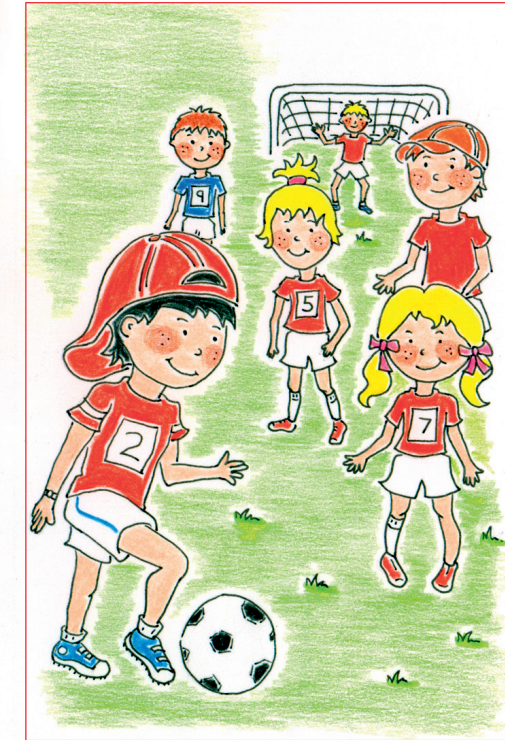


How many differences can you find?

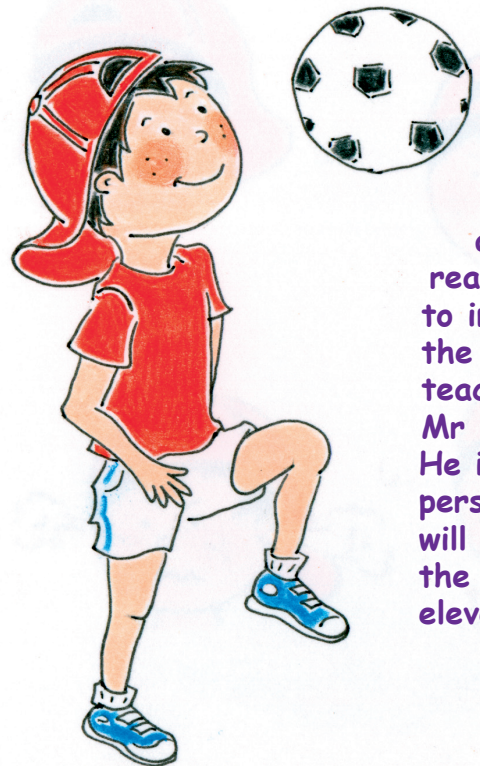
Jade was much more nervous and not nearly as confident as her brother. But she was keen to learn.

She was also nimble and very quick.

So she found that she was able to score quite a few goals... even more than some of the boys!



After weeks of training Josh and Jade discover that they both qualify for the squad from which the under 9's team will be picked.



As tension mounts, Josh is always ready to try to impress the PE teacher Mr Ball. He is the person who will select the starting eleven.

Finally the day comes when, at the end of training, Mr Ball is ready to announce the team. The boys and girls all listen in silence, hardly daring to breathe.

One by one the positions are announced, including the substitutes.

Josh can't believe it, Jade will be one of the strikers... but he is only on the bench!



Disappointed



Angry

How would you be feeling if you were Josh?

Happy for your sister



Jealous



Crying

Unfair



Poor Jade, she didn't know what to say. She felt so excited and surprised about being chosen to play, but felt so bad for Josh who sulked all the way home.

As soon as they went in Mum guessed what had happened by their faces.

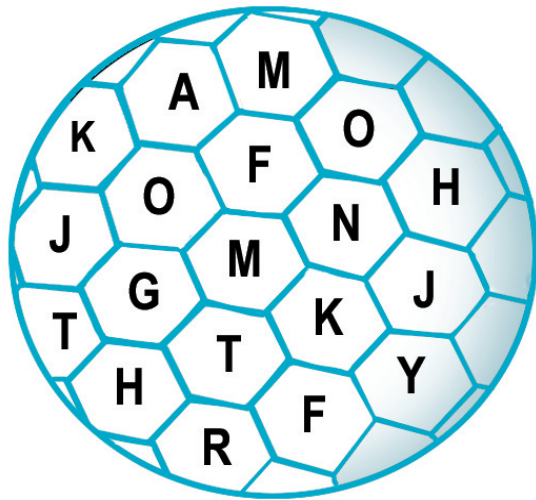
HYKOCE TCCKEIR DOJU
TLAEBN DURHLES NSNTEI
BYGRU OKONESR
DNABITNOM AMTAHRNO

Unscramble these names of other sports

Mum learns from Jade that Josh was not only horrible to her. He had also been rude to the PE teacher, Mr Ball, when he discovered that he was only to be on the bench.

When Dad came home he went to speak to Josh who was still in his room, sulking.

'I know you're very disappointed, but there's really no excuse for being so rude,' said Dad. 'There were others who would be just as disappointed - who didn't even get as far as the bench!'



Use the letters which appear only once to discover how Josh feels.

Then Dad reminded him of what the Bible says...

'...always try to be kind to
each other...'

1 Thessalonians 5:15

...and that the Lord Jesus will help us in every difficult situation when we ask Him.



Dad left Josh to think over what he'd said.

After a while
Josh came
downstairs,
still upset but
said, 'sorry',
to Jade.

And to his mum
and dad's
surprise, he
also promised
to apologise to
Mr. Ball.

The day of the match came - a lovely, sunny Saturday - and everyone was very excited.

Josh took his place on the bench, along with the other subs.

But not long into the game Pete hurt his ankle and had to come off.

Mr Ball turned to Josh, asking him to take Pete's place.



Help Josh dribble the ball
to the goal.



And, five minutes from the final whistle Josh ran forward to score the winning goal! He had been the perfect substitute!