



The Acmar Soul Miner

*Searching for wisdom
As for hidden treasures...
For the Lord gives wisdom*



Acmar United Methodist Church January 2026 Vol. 28 Issue 1 Acmar Post Office

Three-Way Vision

Look up in trust.
Look back in gratitude.
Look forward in hope.

Peg Foltz was inspired when her pastor spoke of three-way vision. It came at a time when she was discouraged in a job search after being laid off from her job of over 11 years.

She was reminded to look back in gratitude for great jobs God had previously provided her in the past as she looked up in trust rather than down into despair. It gave her the strength and resolve to look forward in the hope that God will provide for her again.¹

Look up in trust.
Look back in gratitude.
Look forward in hope.

This focus is a great way to begin a new year. We can look back with gratitude for the way that God was with us in the past year.

Every day in the past year was probably not good but every day certainly had some good in it. Even those days in which we struggled to find the good, we could take comfort in the knowledge that God was with us.

Maybe some days our trust was no more than knowing that just as the sun descended from our view and the moon arose to reflect the sun's rays during our night, that in the morning the sun would again bless us with its rising.

***O God, You make the outgoings of the morning and evening rejoice.
(Psalm 65:8)***

Having a heart of gratitude for the small blessings of life as well as the larger gifts prepare us to look forward in hope for a new year. Through it all we look up in trust.

***O God,
You crown the year with Your goodness,
And Your paths drip with abundance.***

***They drop on the pastures of wilderness,
And the little hills rejoice on every side.***

***The pastures are clothed with flocks;
The valleys also are covered with grain;
They shout for joy, they also sing.
Psalm 65:11-13***

Let us look forward with hope into this new year for it will surely be a year in once again God will crown it with goodness.

Let us not neglect to join with the landscape of nature and shout for joy and sing with praise for the goodness of our God.

On January 6 of each year, Christians are inspired to remember the journey of the wise men who came to Jerusalem searching.

***Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?
For we have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him."
Matthew 2:2***

Wise men from the East had three-way vision:

Look up in trust.
Look back in gratitude.
Look forward in hope.

¹ *The Upper Room November-December 2025.* Nashville, TN: Upper Room Ministries. "Three-Way Vision" by Peg Foltz. Page 50.

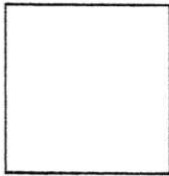
Wise people search for the King of the Jews. He is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who forgives our sins and grants us eternal life.

Children's Camp

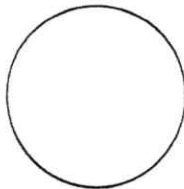
Gospel Light's Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles.

Puzzle 33

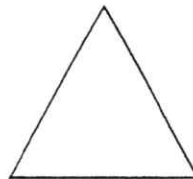
Trace each shape with your finger and say its name.



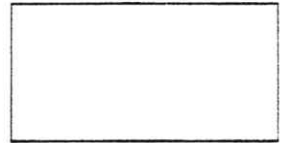
square



circle

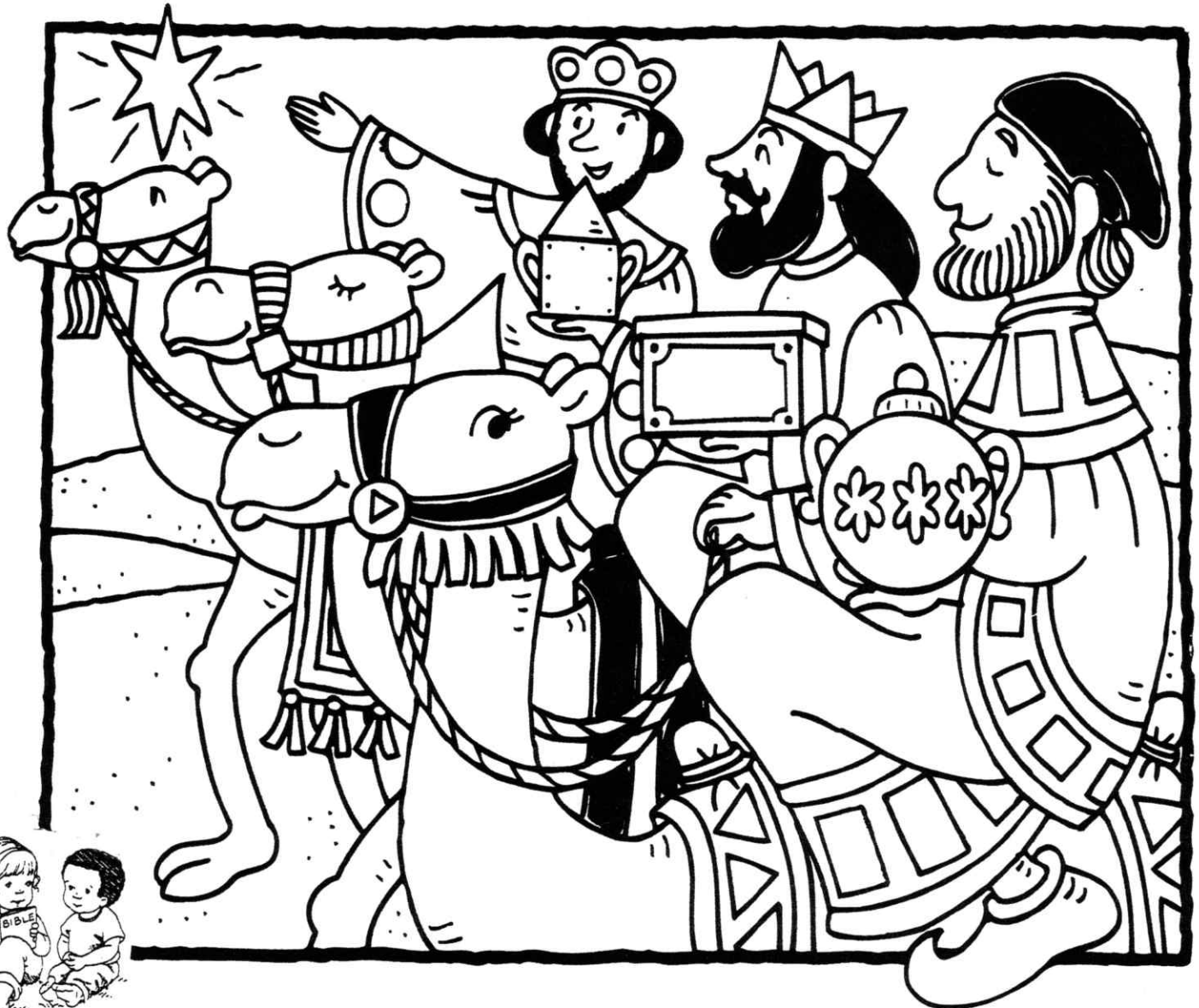


triangle



rectangle

Find each shape in the picture. Color each shape a different color.



The wisdom of God.

We see it in verses but sometimes we have to dig to uncover the meaning.

Look Here:

Wise men said, "Where is He born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star and have come to worship Him." (Matthew 2:2)

Digging In:

Wise men from the East saw a star.
They knew it announced a new king.
The wise men traveled far to see the baby.

They thanked God by worshiping the king.
The wise men brought gifts to baby Jesus.
They brought gold, frankincense and myrrh

The Acmar Community Quilt

September 4, 1941

Chas. F. DeBardeleben, Alabama Leader, Dead

Industrialist dies. Pioneer had been ill for nearly a year

Charles Fairchild DeBardeleben, "Uncle Charlie" to hundreds of friends and employees of the Alabama Fuel & Iron Company, died at the age of 65 years at a Birmingham hospital about 1 am Sunday morning.

Mr. DeBardeleben was laid to rest at Elmwood Cemetery after funeral services were held at the home of his son, Prince DeBardeleben at 2400 Aberdeen Road. Bishop C.C.J. Carpenter officiated at the funeral with Jones directing.

The deceased leader was the possessor of a colorful life history. He attended Alabama Polytechnic at Auburn, was employed at the Pratt Mines, was assistant foreman at Johns Mines at Blue Creek, foreman of the Belle Ellen Mines of the Bessemer Coal and Iron Company, and an employee of the Champion Ore Mine. Prior to becoming associated with his father, the late Henry F. DeBardeleben, in the Alabama Fuel and Iron Company, he established the Little Cahaba Coal Company. When the Alabama fuel Company was reorganized in 1908, Mr. Debardeleben became vice-president and was elected to the presidency of the company in 1921.

During his years as head of the Alabama Fuel & Iron Company, the company grew to be the largest strictly commercial coal company in Alabama, and the success of his employee plan and the paternal interest he took in every employee attracted national attention and several magazines of national circulation carried stories of the unique work-plan in operations at Margaret and Acmar. He successfully brought his company through the depression years and when there was not much sale for coal and employees could not work every day, he gave them land, tools, and seeds to plant and grow their own commodities in order to keep self-sustaining. It was one of his proudest boasts that none of his employees had ever accepted government relief.

Through all his years as an employer of labor and until his death, he successfully resisted unionization of his company and from its inception clashed with the New Deal. Charles DeBardeleben was a member of Mountain Brook and Birmingham Country clubs and a member of the Board of Governors of the Alabama Mining Institute and the Church of the Advent.

He is survived by the widow, Margaret Prince DeBardeleben, and three sons, Prince, Charles F. Jr., and Walker DeBardeleben. Prince is vice-president of the Alabama Fuel & Iron Company, Charles, president of Red Diamond Mining Company, and Walker is secretary-treasurer of Charles C. Steward Machine Company.

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Website www.acmarumc.org	Audio Sermon Podcasts On Website	<i>Soul Miner</i> on the Website in Gallery	Jim N Nick's 2831 Greystone Commercial Blvd. Birmingham	1 	2	3
4 CHURCH 9 am Epiphany Sunday	5	6  EPIPHANY	7 MCA 3-5 White's Chapel  Zac Goodner	8  Moody Sr. BINGO 10 a	9	10
11  CHURCH 9 Holy Communion	12  Job Judson Howard	13  Sonja Baker Scott Skinner	14 LUNCH 11 a Jim N Nick's Greystone  Marsha Ramsden	15	16  Gudrun Rominger Tamm	17
18 CHURCH 9 am  Karen Byers	19 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY  David Wimberly	20	21 MCA 3-5 White's Chapel 	22	23  Grace Howard	24
25  CHURCH 9 am	26  Sharon Turner	27	28	29	30	31

Soul Food for January

Mon., December 29 Jeremiah 31:7-14
 Tue., December 30 Psalm 147:12-20
 Wed., December 31 Ephesians 1:3-14
 Thur., January 1 Matthew 2:1-12
 Fri., January 2 Philippians 1:1-11
 Sat., January 3 Matthew 7:7-8

Mon., January 5 Isaiah 42:1-9
 Tue., January 6 Psalm 29
 Wed., January 7 Acts 10:34-43
 Thur., January 8 Matthew 3:13-17
 Fri., January 9 Luke 15:3-6
 Sat., January 10 Zephaniah 3:14-20

Mon., January 12 Isaiah 49:1-7
 Tue., January 13 Psalm 40:1-11
 Wed., January 14 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
 Thur., January 15 John 1:29-42
 Fri., January 16 Hebrews 10:19-25
 Sat., January 17 Ephesians 2:1-10

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Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. Rd. 10
 Take County Rd. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
 Travel 1 mile; Turn right on Acmar Rd.; travel 2 miles;
 Left onto Old Acton Rd., Church is on the left

Mon., January 19
 Tue., January 20
 Wed., January 21
 Thur., January 22
 Fri., January 23
 Sat., January 24

Isaiah 9:1-4
 Psalm 27:1, 4-9
 1 Corinthians 10:10-18
 Matthew 4:12-23
 Psalm 84:1-12
 Luke 22:39-46



Food for the Soul

Mon., January 26
 Tue., January 27
 Wed., January 28
 Thur., January 29
 Fri., January 30
 Sat., January 31

Micah 6:1-8
 Psalm 15
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
 Matthew 5:1-12
 1 Peter 5:6-7
 Luke 22:24-30