

## The city of Bethlehem

Bethlehem had a long history even before it became known as the site of Jesus Christ's birth.

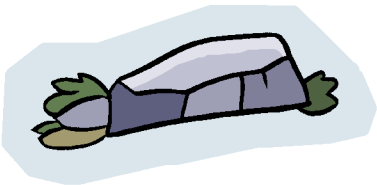
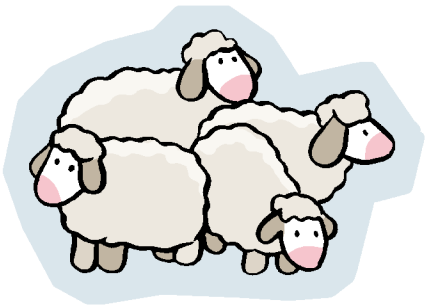
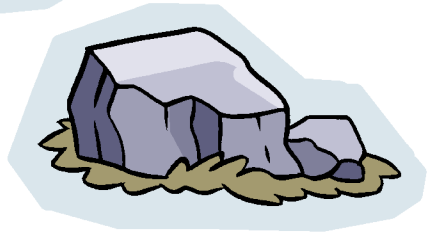
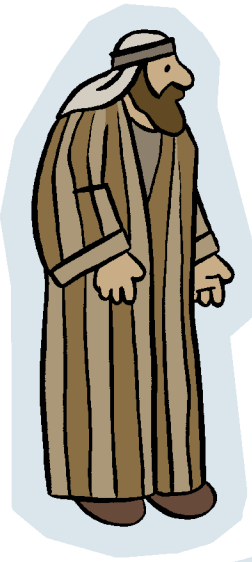
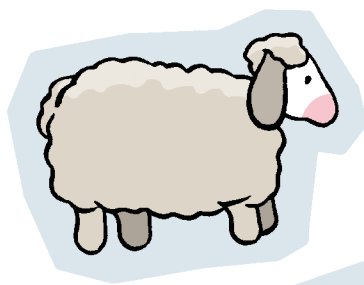
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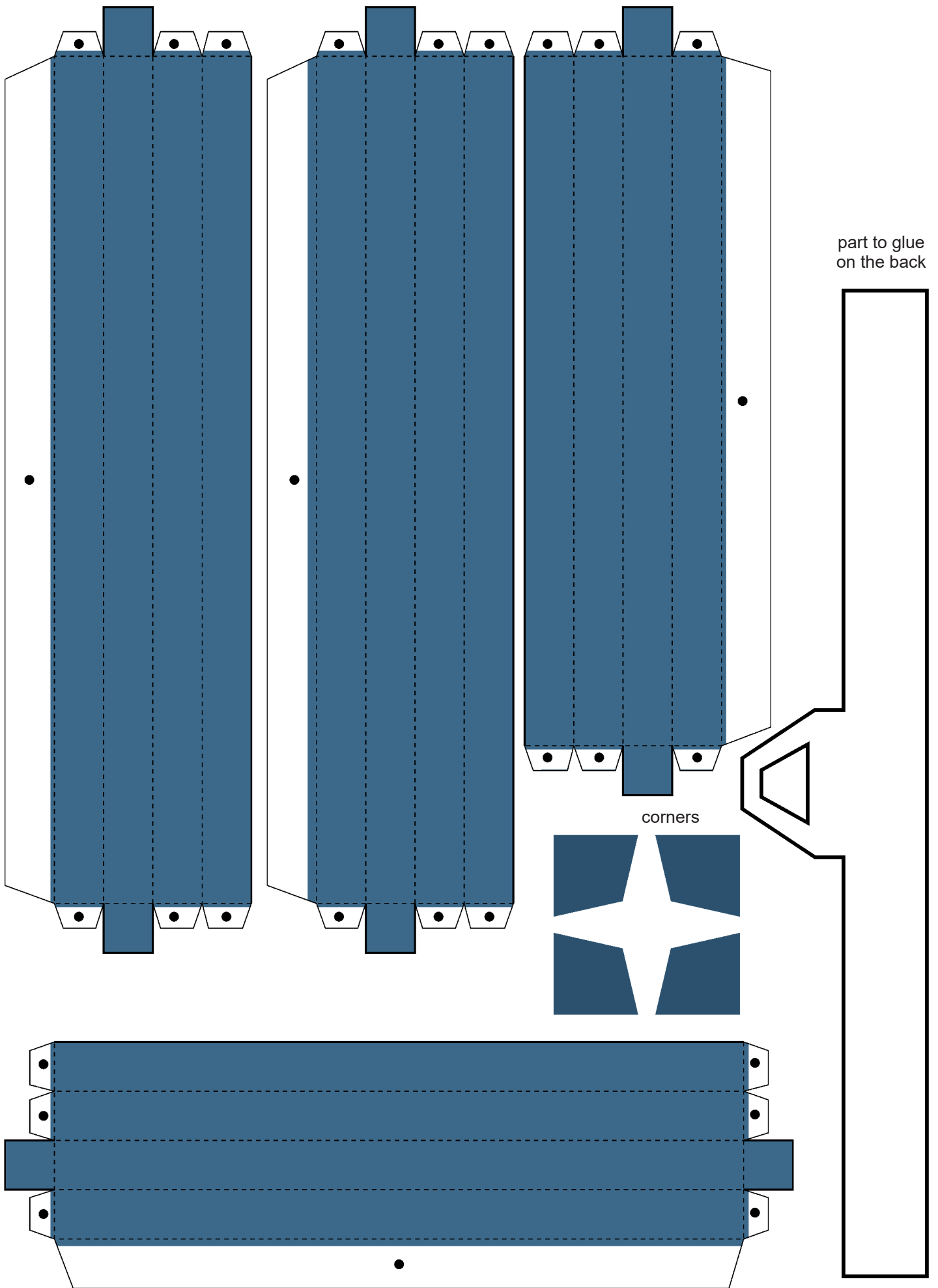
According to the book of Ruth, it was the home of Jesse, father of King David. (See Ruth chapter 4, verses 10 to 11.)

Later the prophet Micah mentioned the name of Bethlehem in his prophecy, which was then quoted to King Herod during the visit of the magi who were traveling to Bethlehem to see baby Jesus. (See Micah, chapter 5, verse 2 and Matthew chapter 2, verse 1 to 6.)

Then Matthew and Luke tell us in their Gospel the story of Joseph and Mary's travel to the city of Bethlehem to pay the Roman taxes (Joseph was a descendant of King David) and where Jesus was born. (See Matthew chapter 2 verse 1 and Luke chapter 2, verses 1 to 4.)

Bethlehem still exists today, 10 kilometers south of the city of Jerusalem.

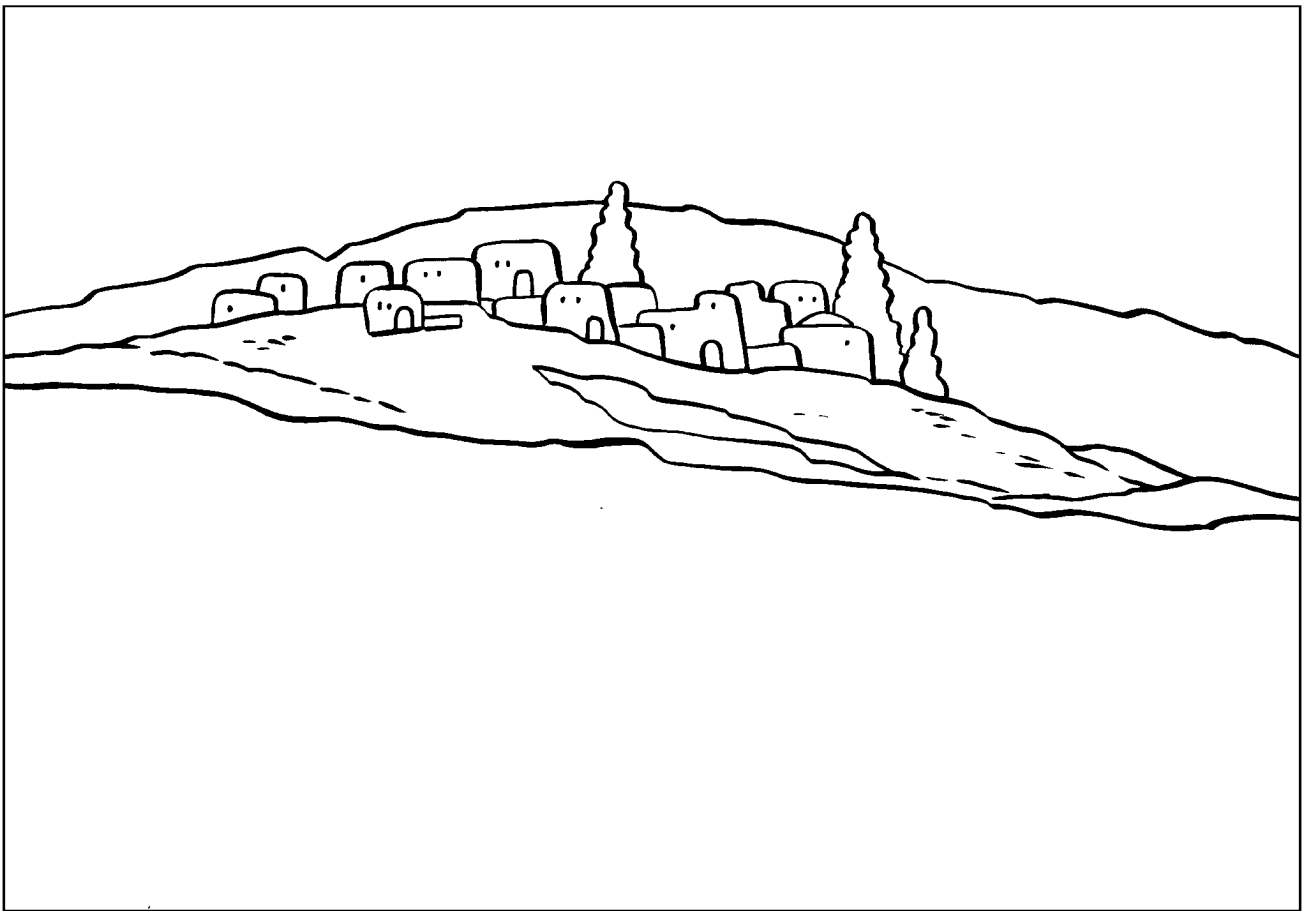




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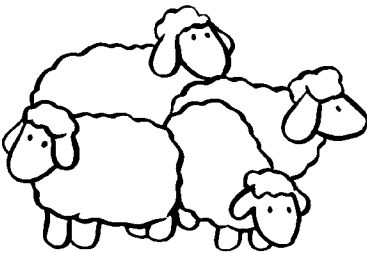
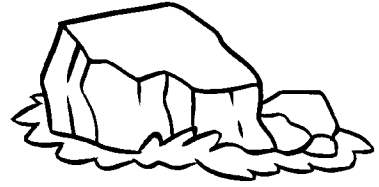
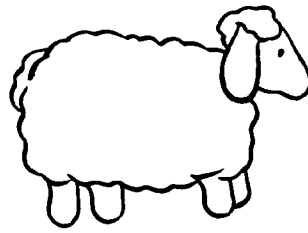
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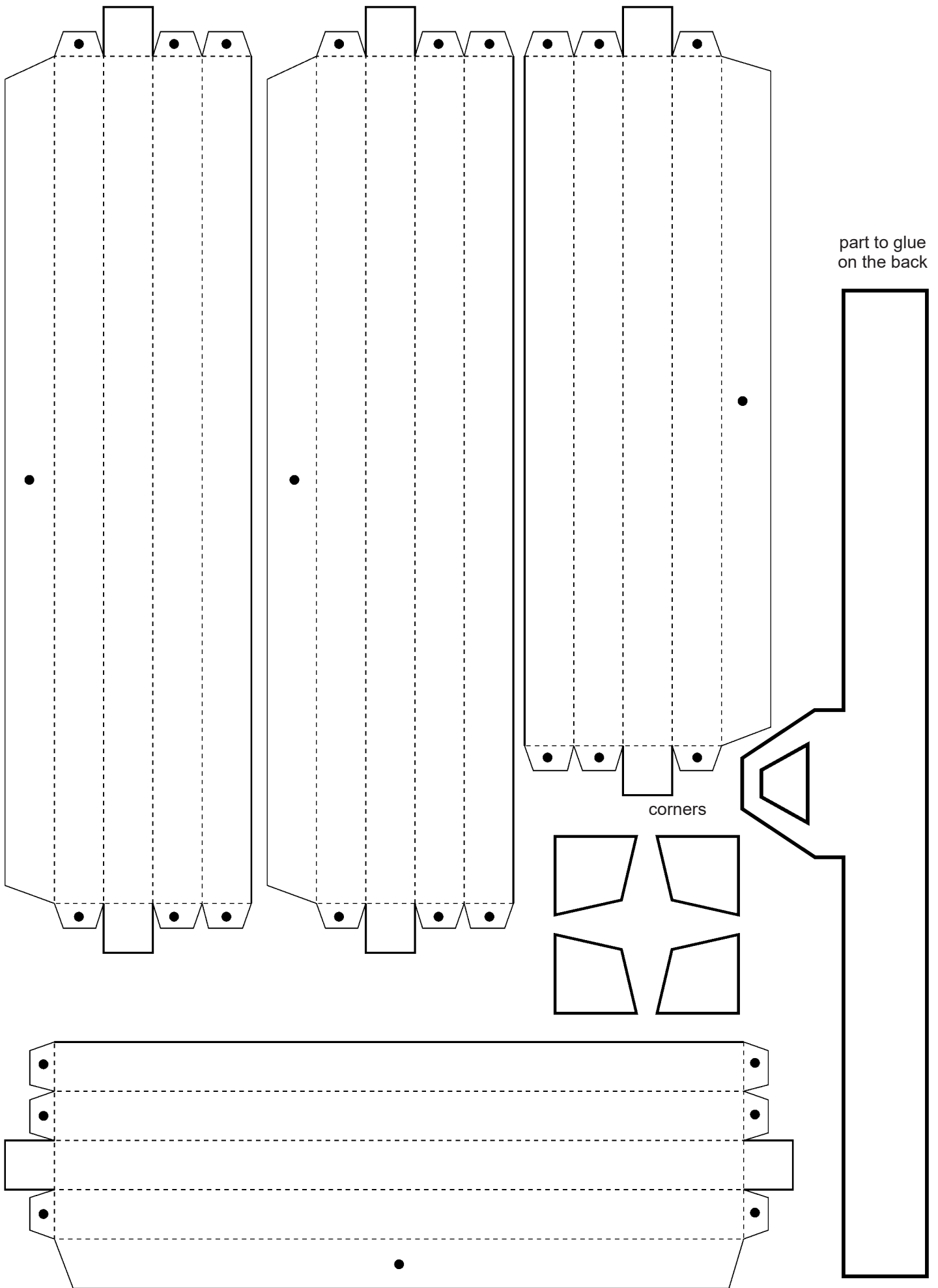
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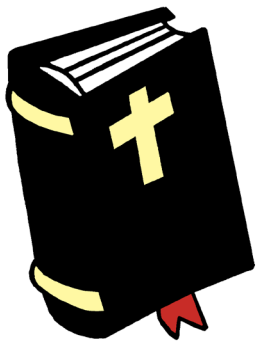




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