



**NATIVE FIRST COMMUNION SERIES**

# **HEARING**

**WORKBOOK**





## **NATIVE FIRST COMMUNION SERIES**

A series of 9 children's workbooks with family letters, including a family and teaching guide:

1. BELONGING
2. CELEBRATING
3. FORGIVING
4. HEARING
5. LOVING
6. OUR CREATOR'S GIVE-AWAY
7. NEW LIFE
8. SHARING
9. SERVING
10. FAMILY & TEACHING GUIDE

- Created in the early 1970s by Fr. Gilbert F. Hemauer, OFM Cap. and Religion Research Center Staff at St. Labre Indian School, Ashland, MT 59003
- Piloted in various native communities until the Summer of 1987
- Revised by the Tekakwitha Conference Staff and Native Catechists in 1987
- Illustrated by Gus Antone



# HEARING

Through the teaching on HEARING, children are taught to listen and hear what others are saying. Through respect, the children learn the real meaning of the words they hear. After children hear and understand, they can respond freely.

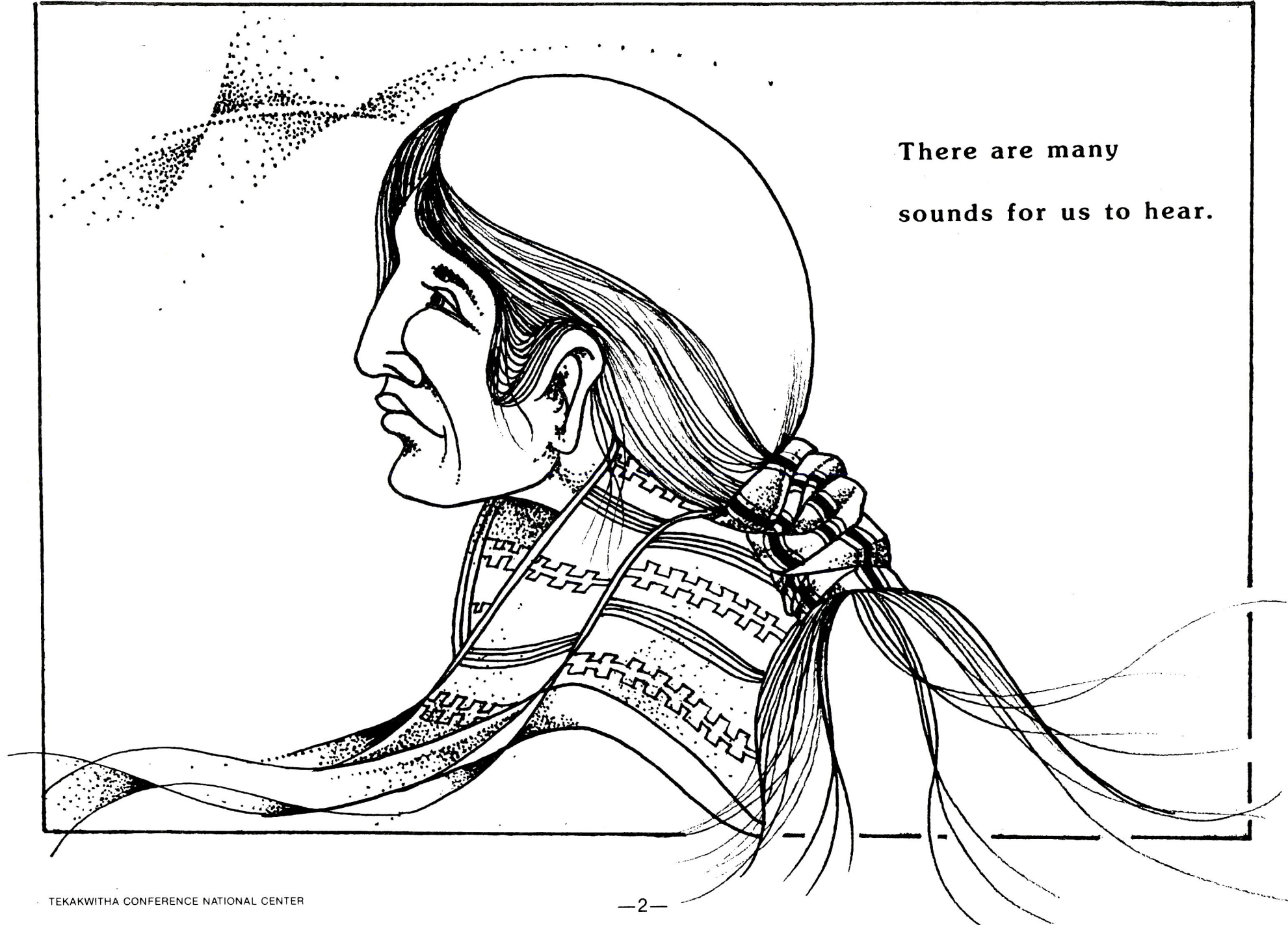
We start by asking the children to listen to the everyday sounds of God's creation. Then they listen to both human and machine made sounds and recognize their meanings. Sounds people make when they are speaking have a special meaning. This foundation will help the children take steps toward listening to what God is saying. In the Bible stories and sacred stories, and history of their own tribes, children will understand with their mind and heart and learn the ways of living by God's teachings.

Storytelling within the family is the traditional way for children to learn ancient

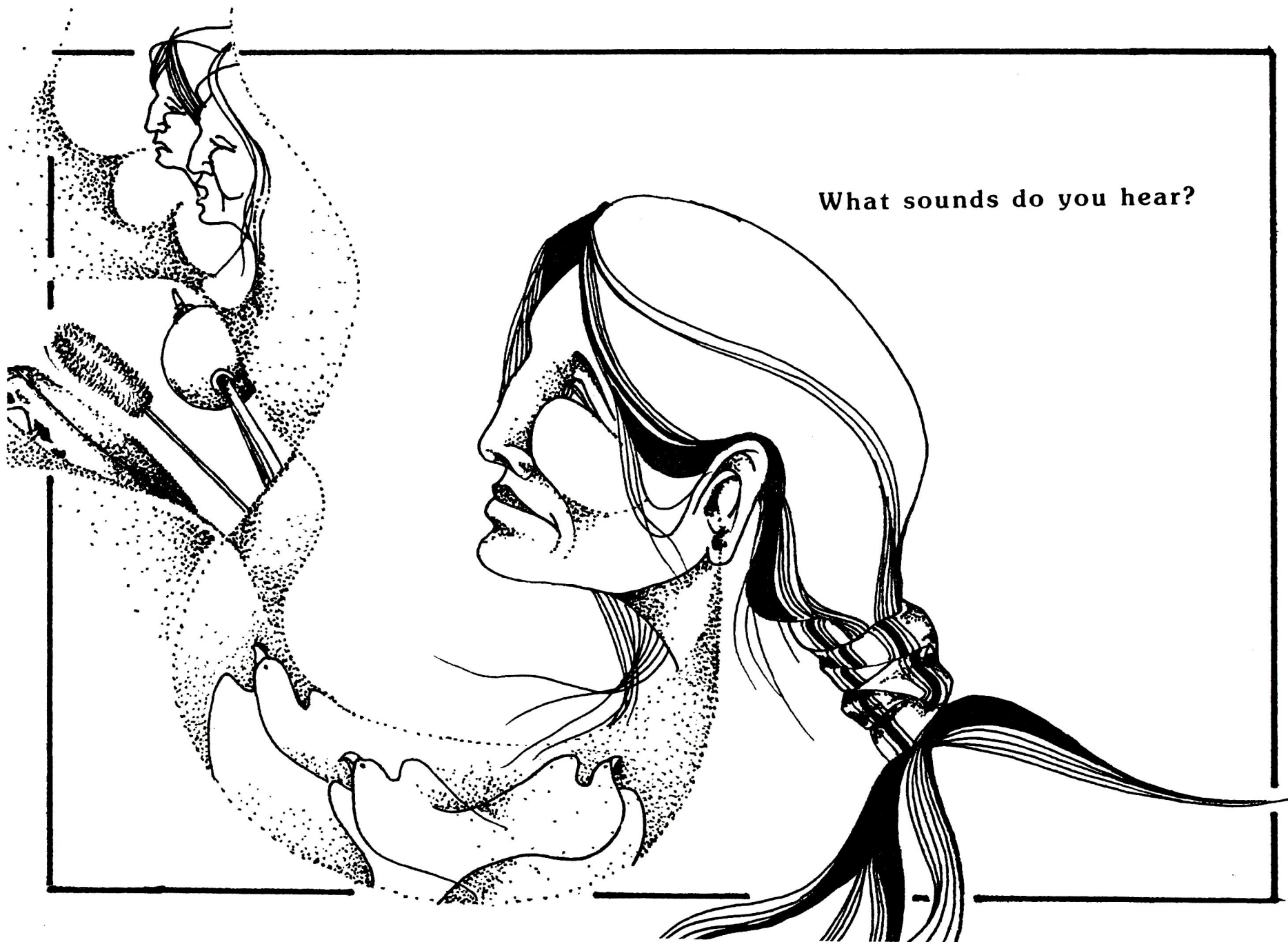
wisdom. The legends of the tribe contain the history of the people and instructions for living the right way. The Scriptures of the Church tell the stories of God's love for his people down through the ages. The best way to really hear these religious stories is to pray to the Holy Spirit for help in understanding the sacred ways of living.

The greatest story of all is the story in the four Gospels about Jesus, who is called THE WORD OF GOD. Jesus is a person who not only told us about his Father's love for us; he showed his love by offering his life on the cross. Children can come to know the stories of faith and respond in love. By listening to their families and teachers and by listening and hearing the word of God during the celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy, children are given good ways to live.

There are many  
sounds for us to hear.







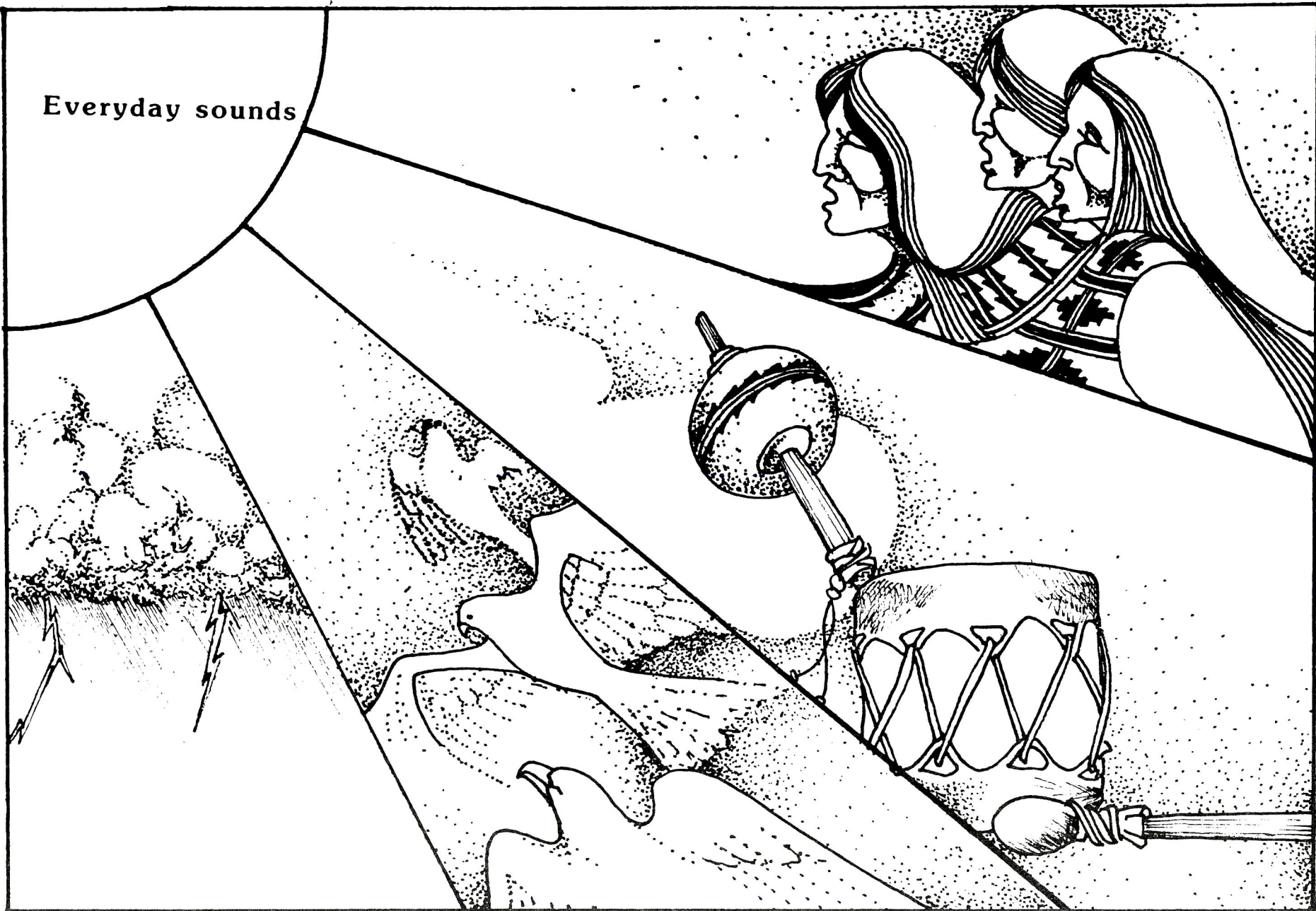
What sounds do you hear?

**Can you guess what these sounds are?**

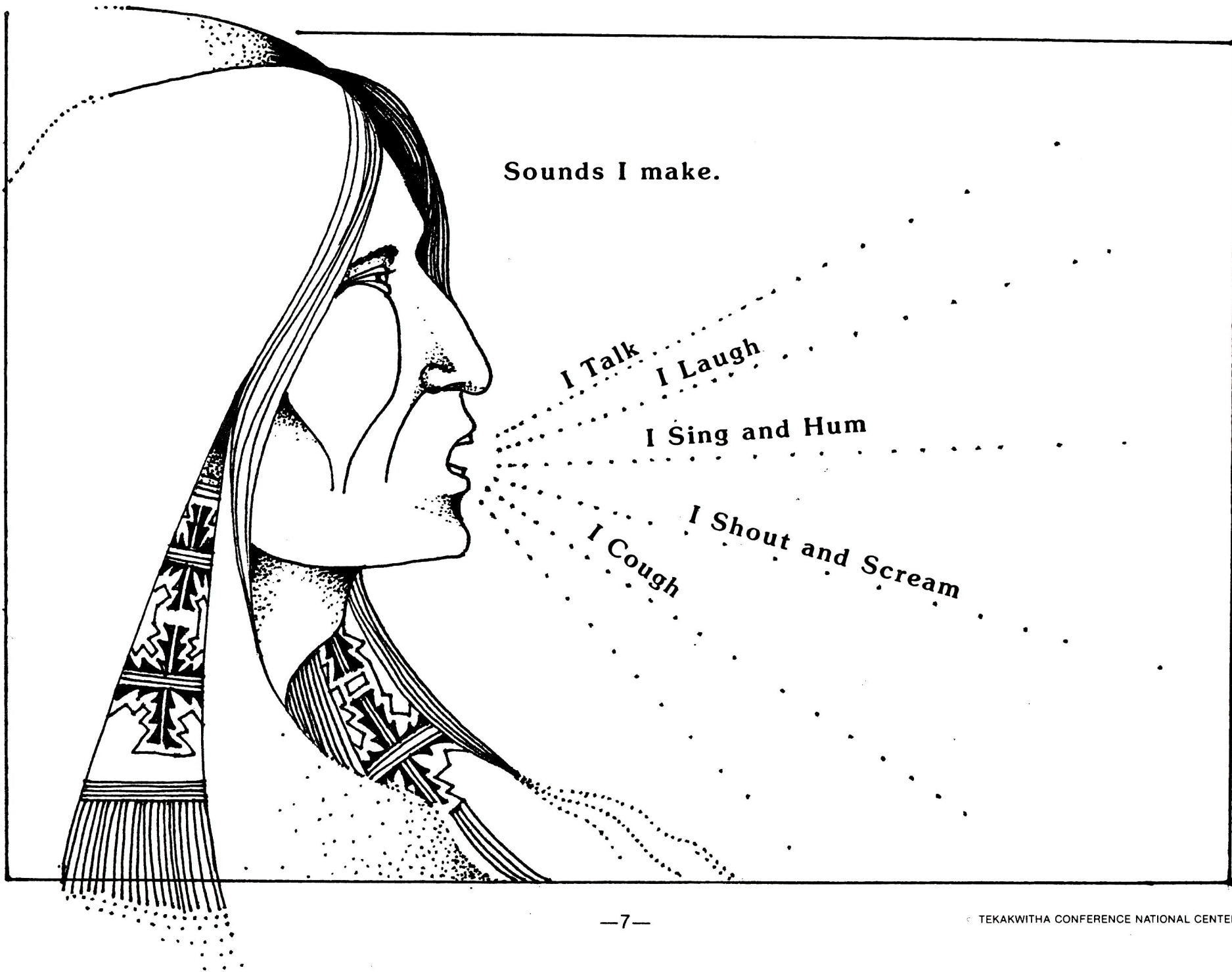


**What do these sounds mean?**

Everyday sounds







Sounds I make.

I Talk

I Laugh

I Sing and Hum

I Cough

I Shout and Scream

Other people hear  
sounds that I make.





When we talk, our sounds become words.

HELLO

DAD

FLOWER

MOM

GRANDMOTHER

TREE

GRANDFATHER

**What do these words mean?**

**BELONGING      CELEBRATING      LOVING**

**SHARING      FORGIVING**

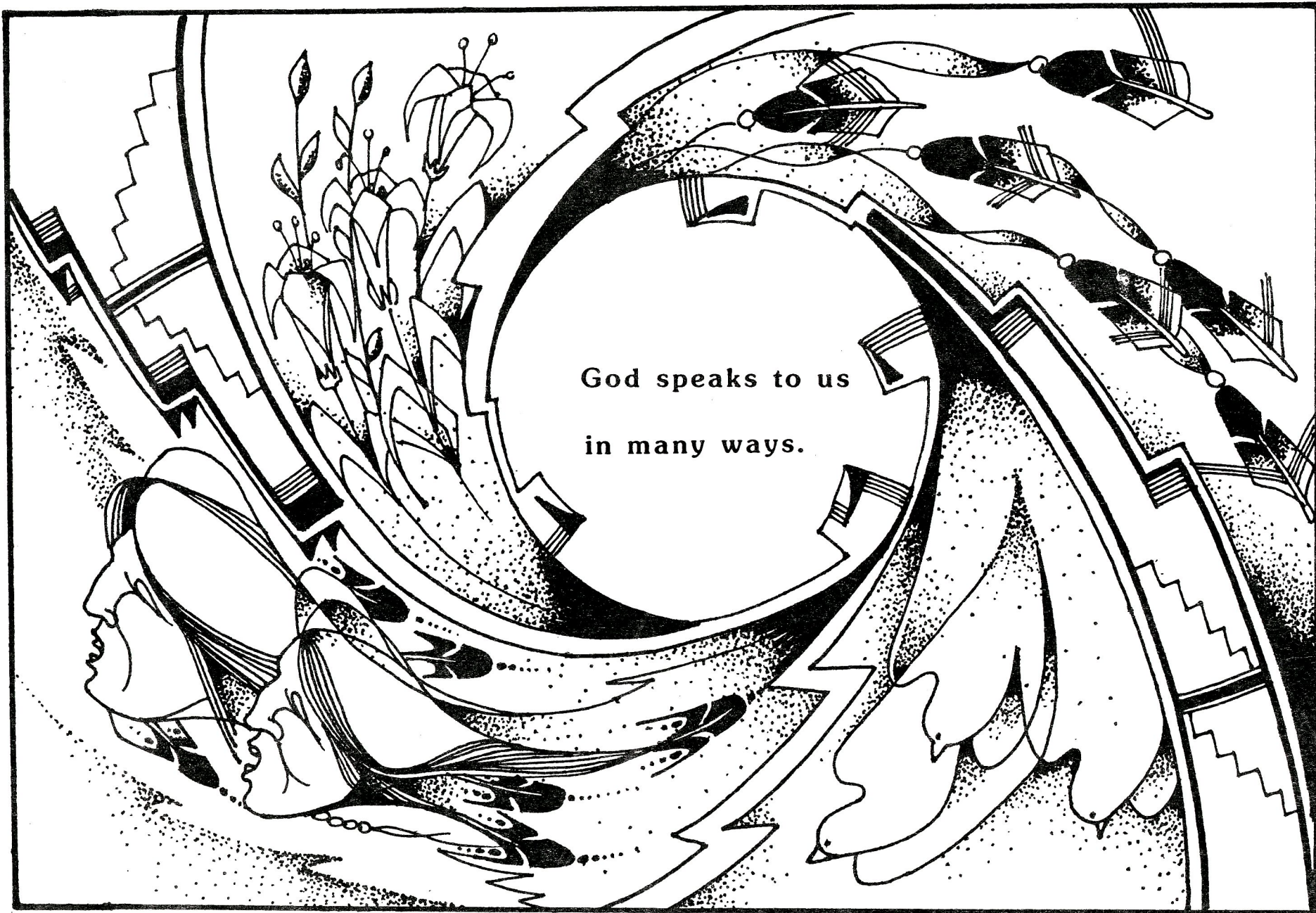
To understand what I hear, I have to listen to  
the sounds and words of other people.





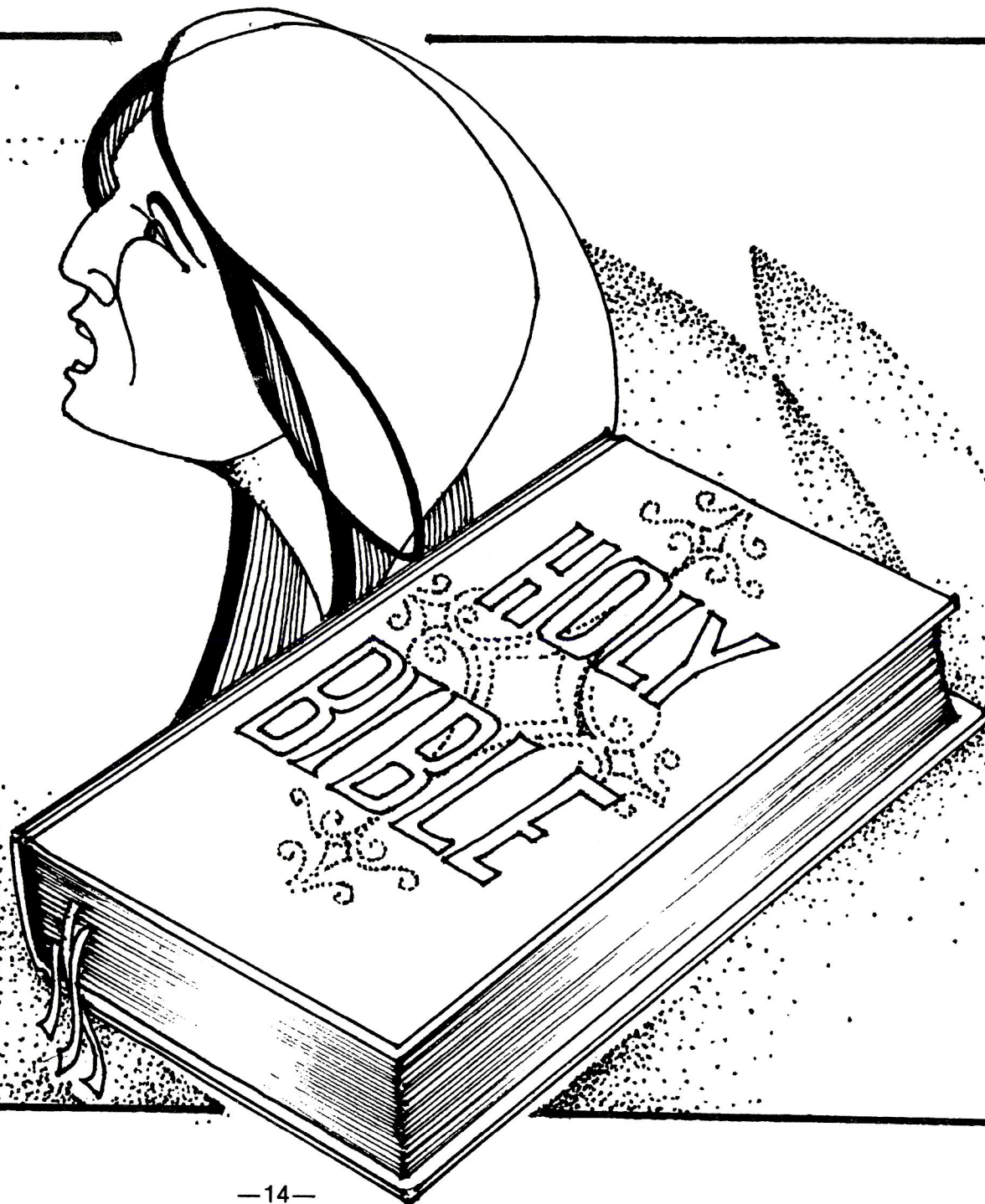
We share what we  
understand  
by talking and  
listening.







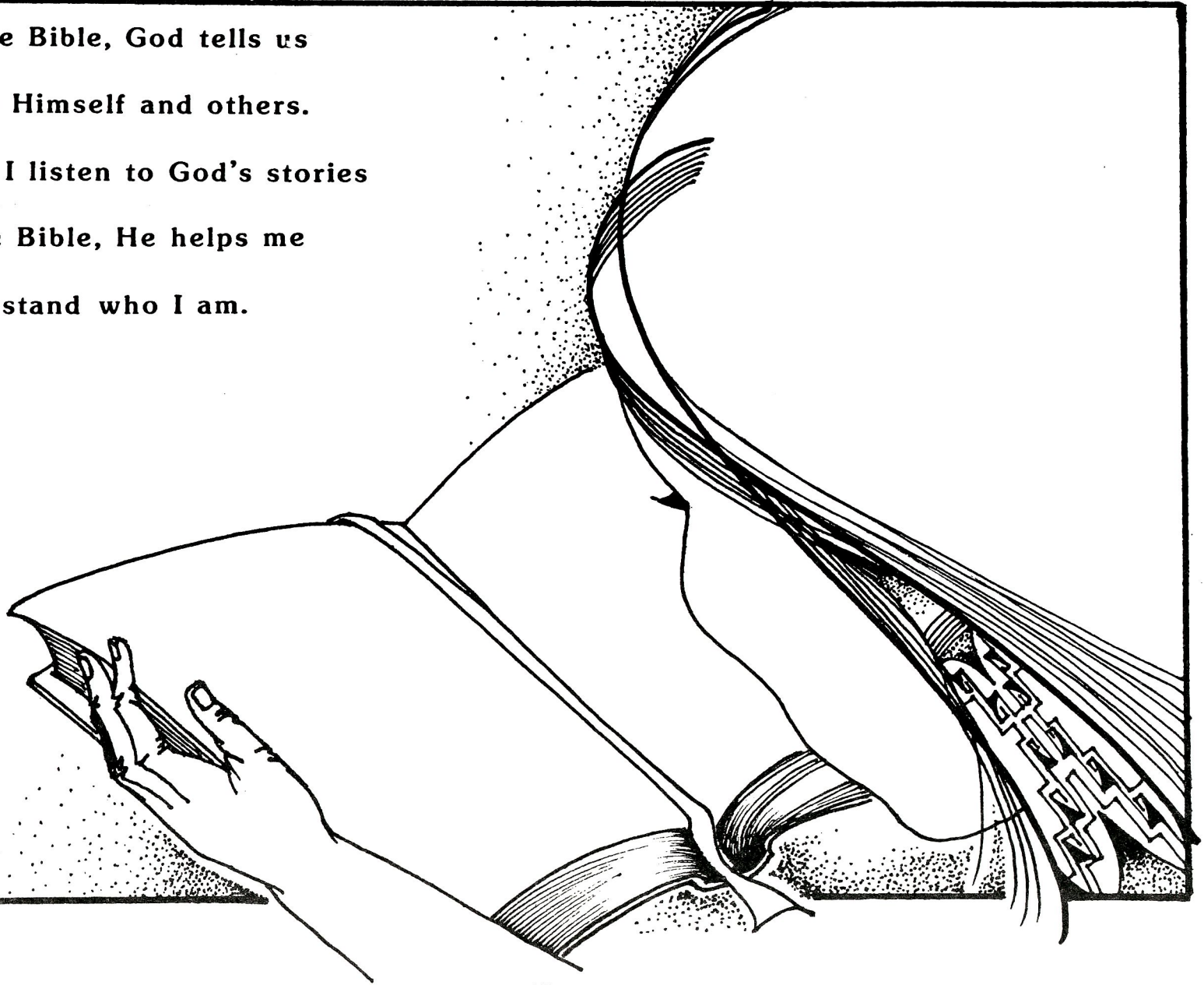
One special way God  
speaks to us is through  
His word - the Bible.

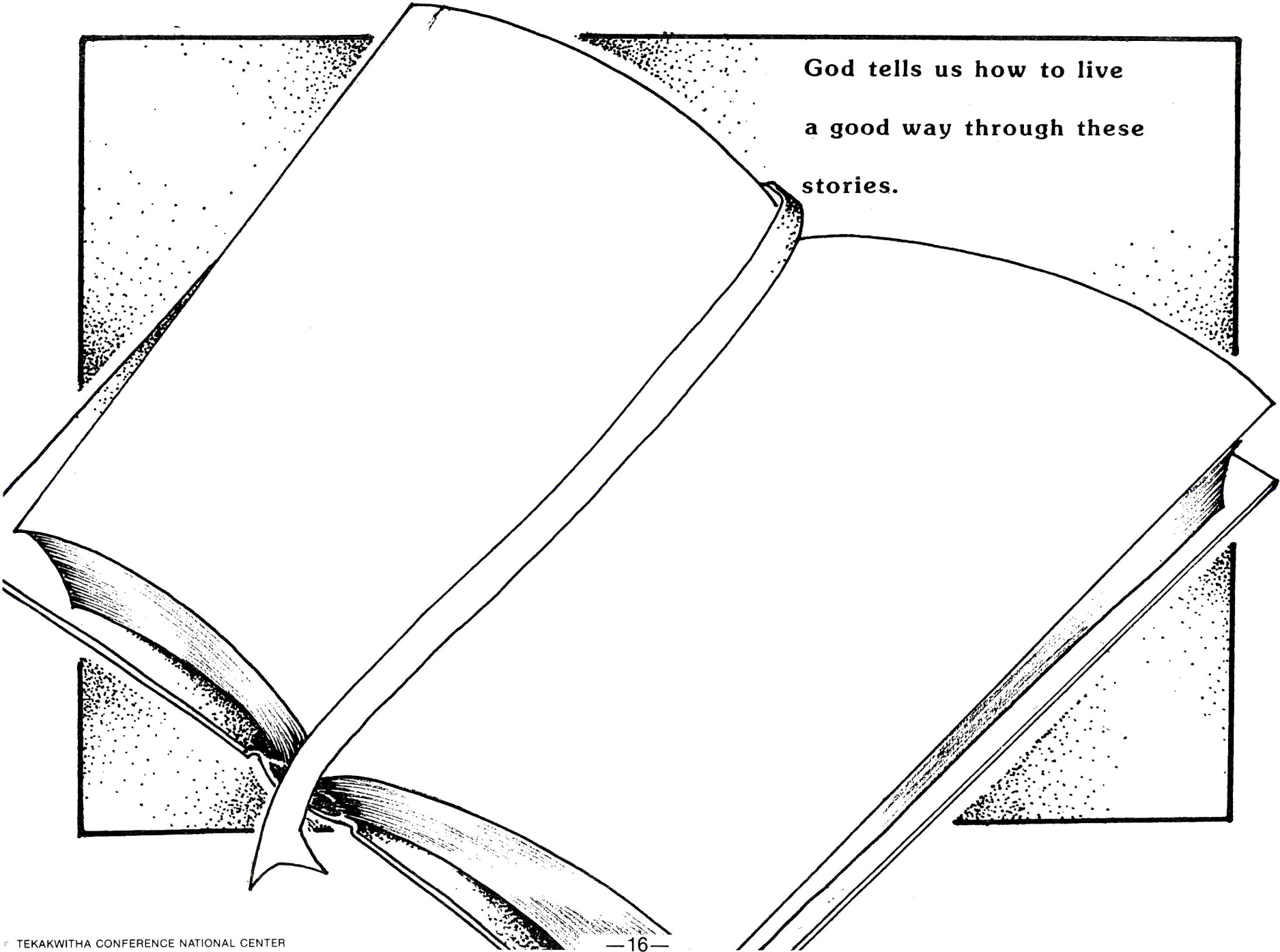




In the Bible, God tells us  
about Himself and others.

When I listen to God's stories  
in the Bible, He helps me  
understand who I am.





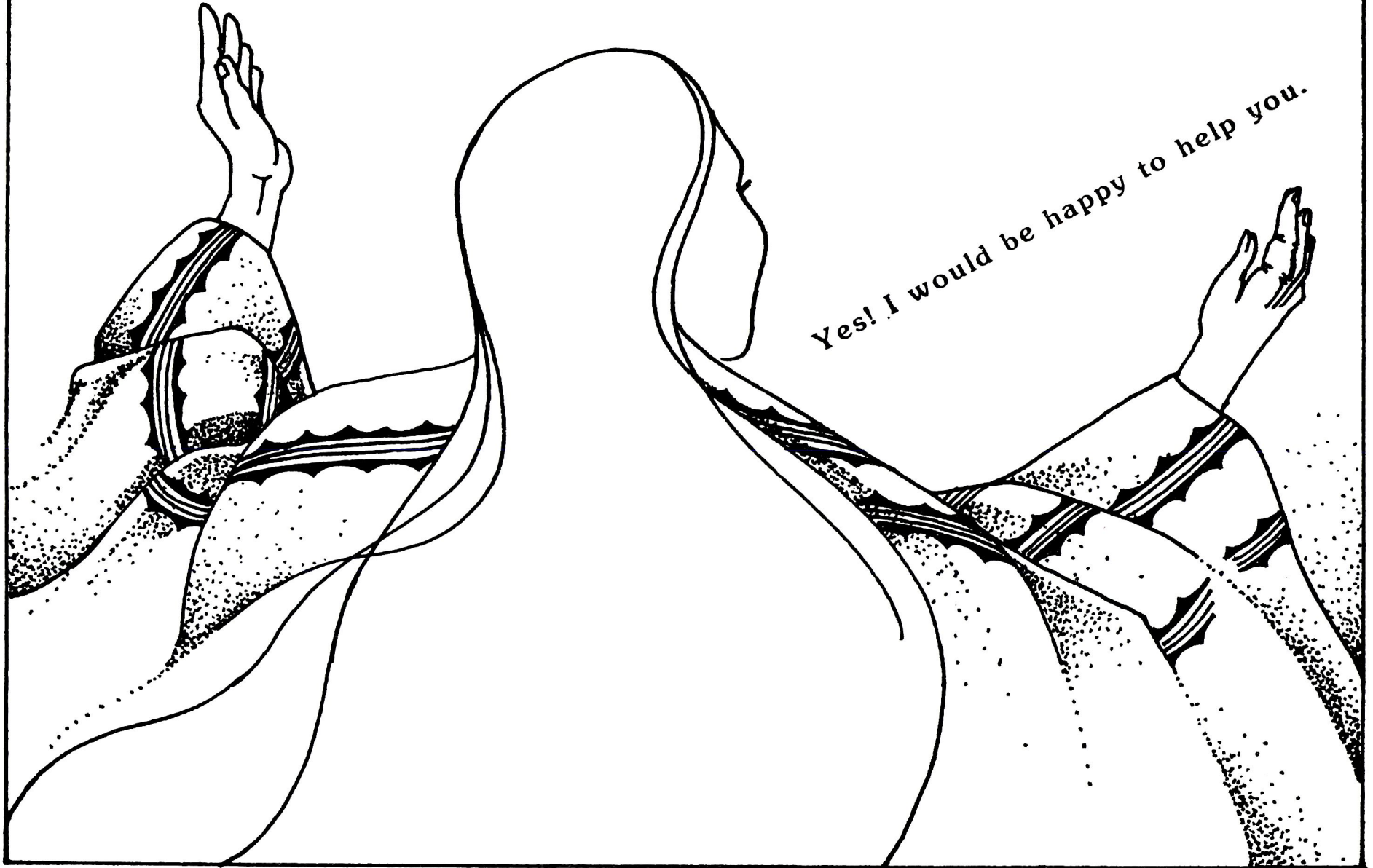
God tells us how to live  
a good way through these  
stories.



Many people help me understand the word of God.



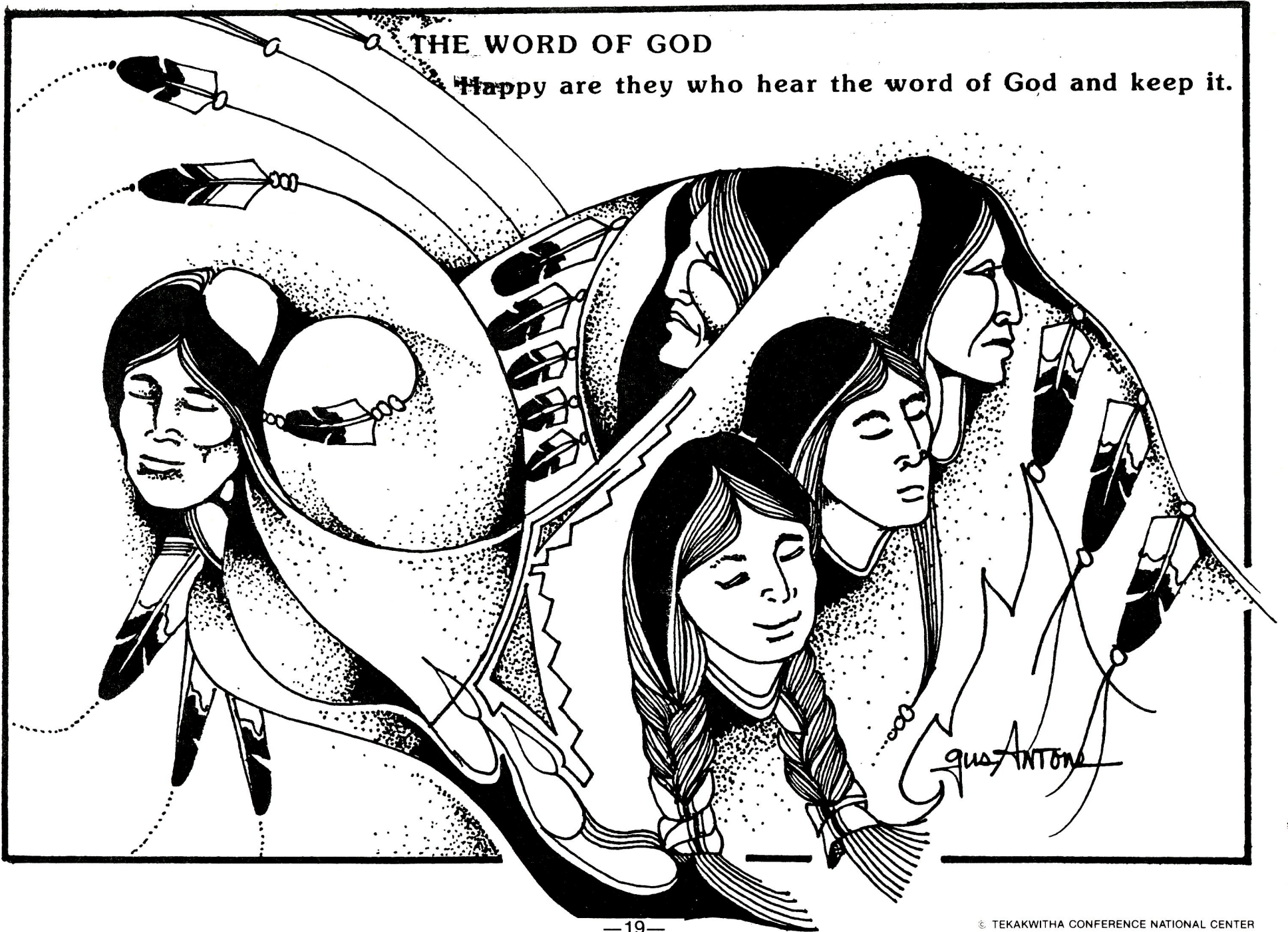
I share what I understand about the word of God when I live what I hear.



Yes! I would be happy to help you.

# THE WORD OF GOD

Happy are they who hear the word of God and keep it.



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