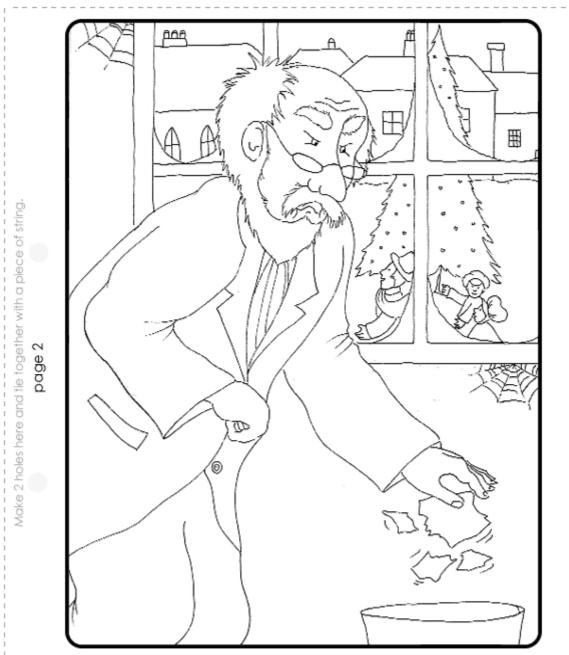
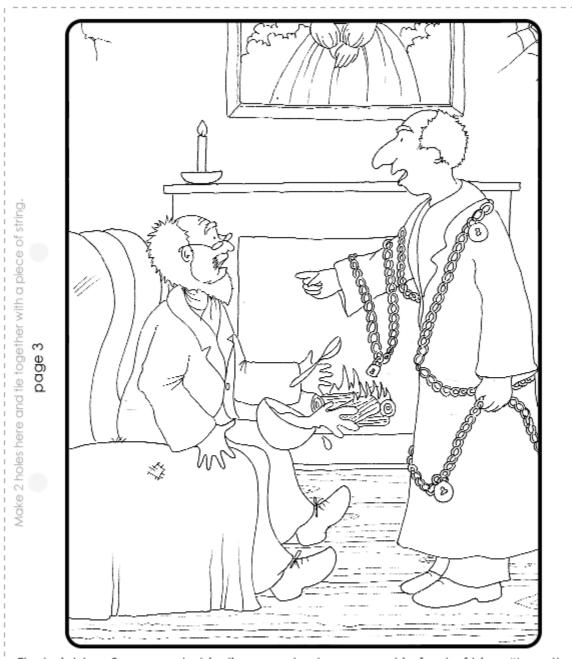


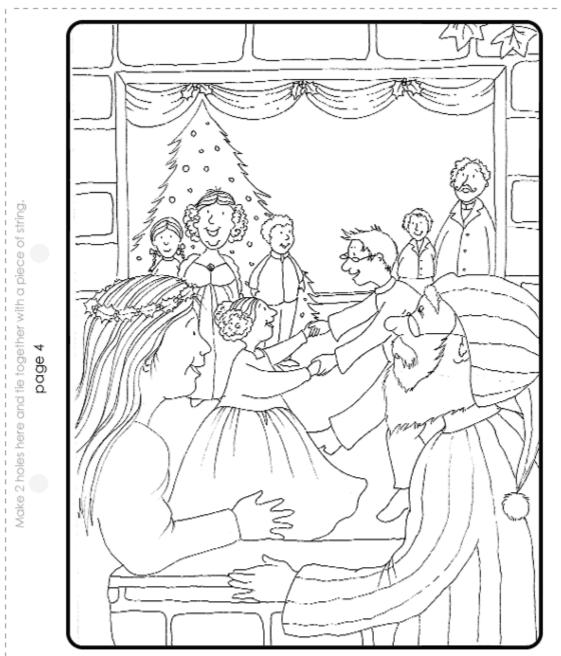
One Christmas Eve a long long time ago, Ebenezer Scrooge sat in his counting house, counting his money. Scrooge was a miserable, mean old man without a friend in the world. He was so mean that he only let his secretary, Bob Cratchit have one holiday a year.



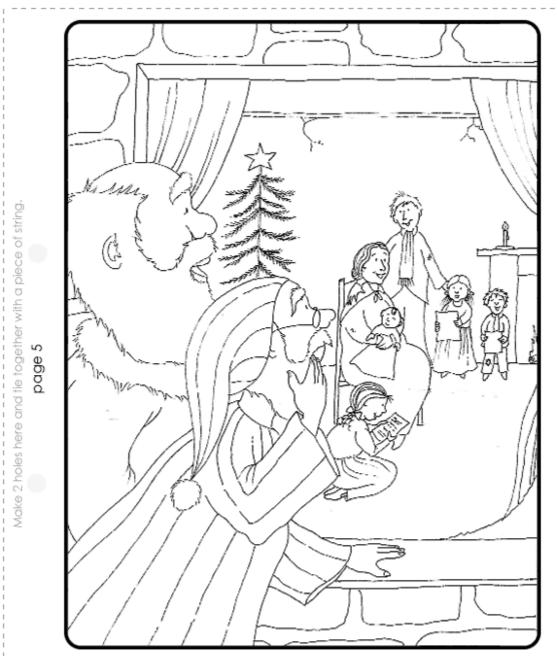
Scrooge had received an invitation to Christmas dinner by his nephew. But Scrooge didn't want to go. "Bah! Humbug!" said Scrooge. "I don't like Christmas."



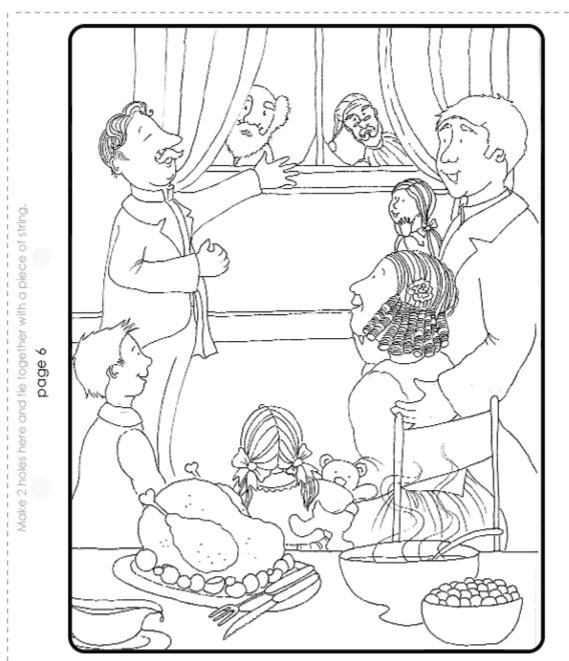
That night as Scrooge ate his dinner a ghost appeared in front of him. "I am the ghost of your old friend Jacob Marley" said the ghost. "I have come to tell you that you must change your ways." Scrooge felt very scared.



That night Scrooge was visited by three more ghosts. The first was the Ghost of Christmas Past. She took Scrooge into the past to see a party. Scrooge saw himself with lots of old friends. They were singing and dancing and having fun. "I remember that!" said Scrooge.



Next the Ghost of Christmas Present appeared. He took Scrooge to see Bob Cratchit's house. There he saw Bob and his family. They didn't have any Christmas presents because they were poor, but they were all having fun and singing Christmas songs.



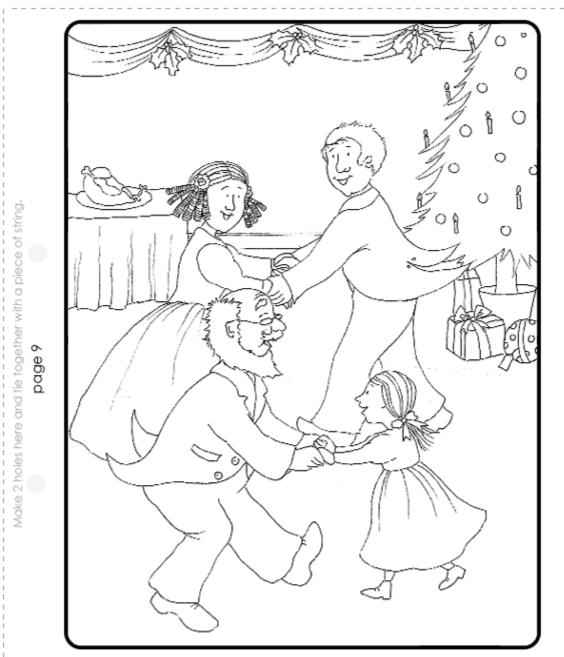
Then the ghost took Scrooge to his nephew's house. They had a big Christmas dinner and were playing games. "Poor Scrooge!" said his nephew. "He's the only one who never has fun."



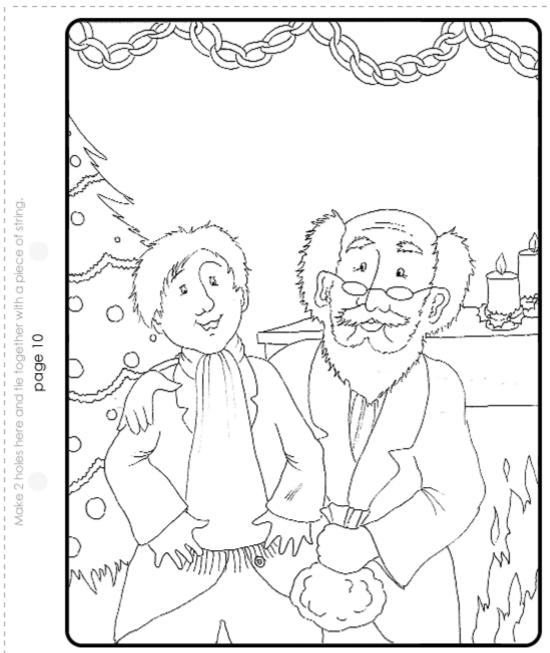
The ghost took Scrooge all over the world. Everywhere they stopped, from lighthouses to coal mines, everyone was having fun celebrating Christmas.



Scrooge found himself at home again and a new ghost appeared. This was the Ghost of Christmas Future. He took Scrooge to see an old man sitting in a room all alone. He wasn't having fun at all. "That's me!" moaned Scrooge. "From this day on I will do my best to make people happy and treat every day like Christmas day," he promised.



The next morning it was Christmas day. Scrooge rushed out of bed and went into town. He bought the biggest goose he could find and sent it to Bob Cratchit's house. Then, he gave lots of money to the poor so that they could celebrate Christmas too. Finally, Scrooge went to his nephew's house for Christmas dinner. Scrooge enjoyed himself very much.



The next day, Bob Cratchit was late for work but Scrooge wasn't angry at all. He gave Bob Cratchit a pay rise. "Merry Christmas and God bless us one and all!" said Scrooge.

The End.

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