**October 23, 2016**

**Volume 5, Issue 7**

Sunday School Times

# The Cost of Discipleship High

Published almost weekly, but more like…..whenever, so get used to it, OK?

***Stuff For Today***

• An update on the pineapple crop in Irian Jaya, Indonesia.

• Slavery in the 21st Century and what it means for you and I.

• Can disciples be wealthy?

**By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)**

[***Luke14:33***](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+14:33&version=KJV) *So likewise, whosoever he be of you that****forsaketh****not****all****that he hath, he cannot be my disciple*

Jesus, as he taught his disciples, spoke of the cost of being His disciple. This cost is not necessarily monetary, but can include everything we call our own.

As Christians, we are referred to as being His possession. He bought us with His own blood, and we are His servants. Servants, or slaves, do not have rights as a free man, but are answerable to their owner completely.

We are called to be in this world, but not a part of it. You are growing up in a society that is increasingly guided by possessions and money and position in life.

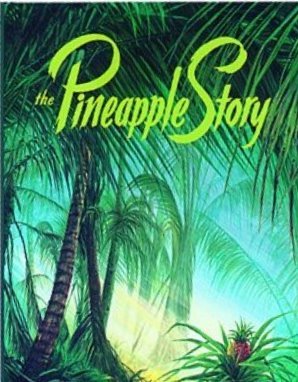
To be sure, many of the heroes of the Bible were quite wealthy. And yet Jesus warned often of the tremendous draw that money has upon us. Can a Christian be wealthy? Yes, but it is NOT easy.

Our culture seems to be built upon the love of money and possessions. Consider how many commercials accompany every TV show today. This writer has counted as many as a dozen during a single commercial break. Fifty years ago that number would have been one or two.

When calculating what is of value to you personally, do not forget the non-monetary things. Friends, reputation, and health are examples of areas we tend to take for granted Often, we think that we have the right to have all of these, when in reality, Jesus said these things are gifts from Him. We possess them at His leisure and will.

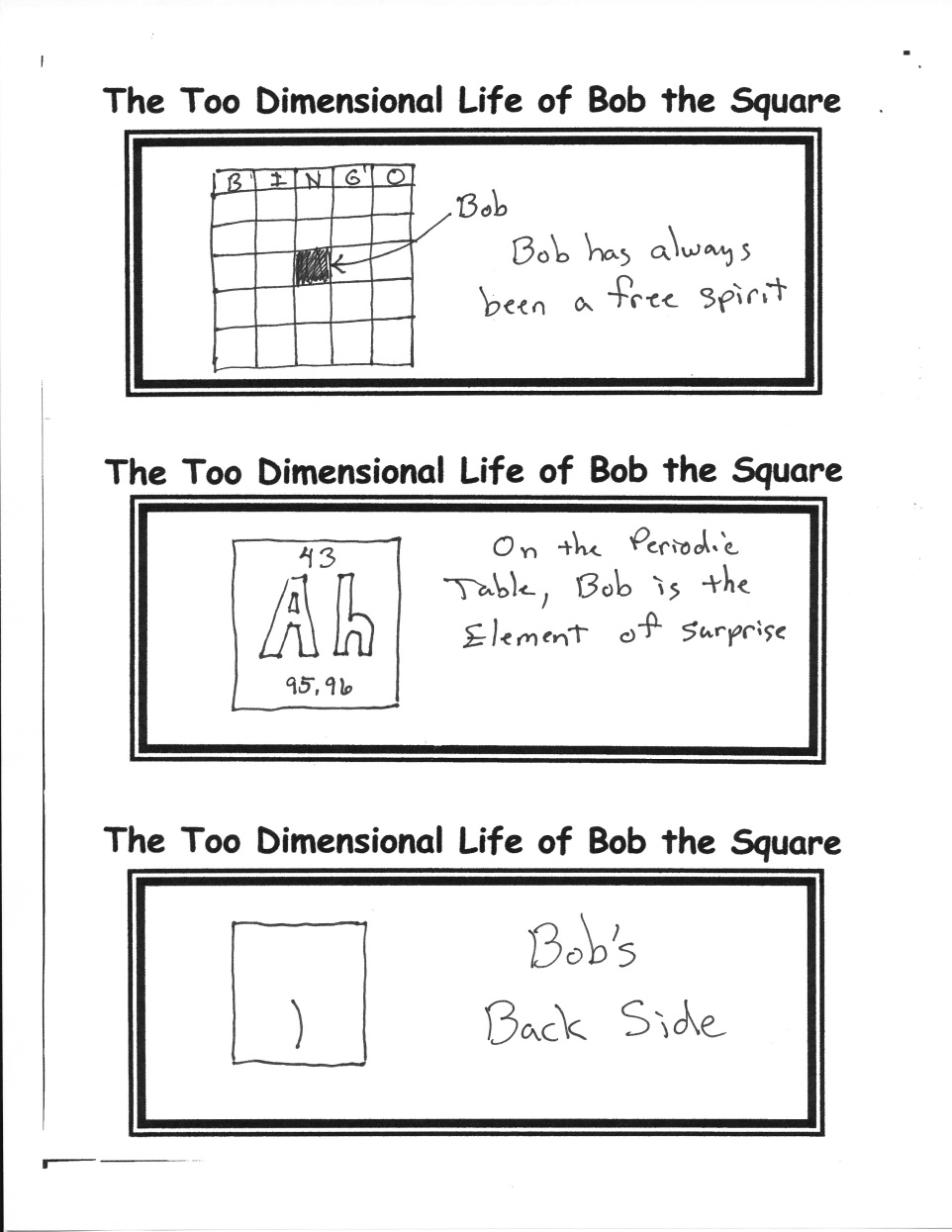
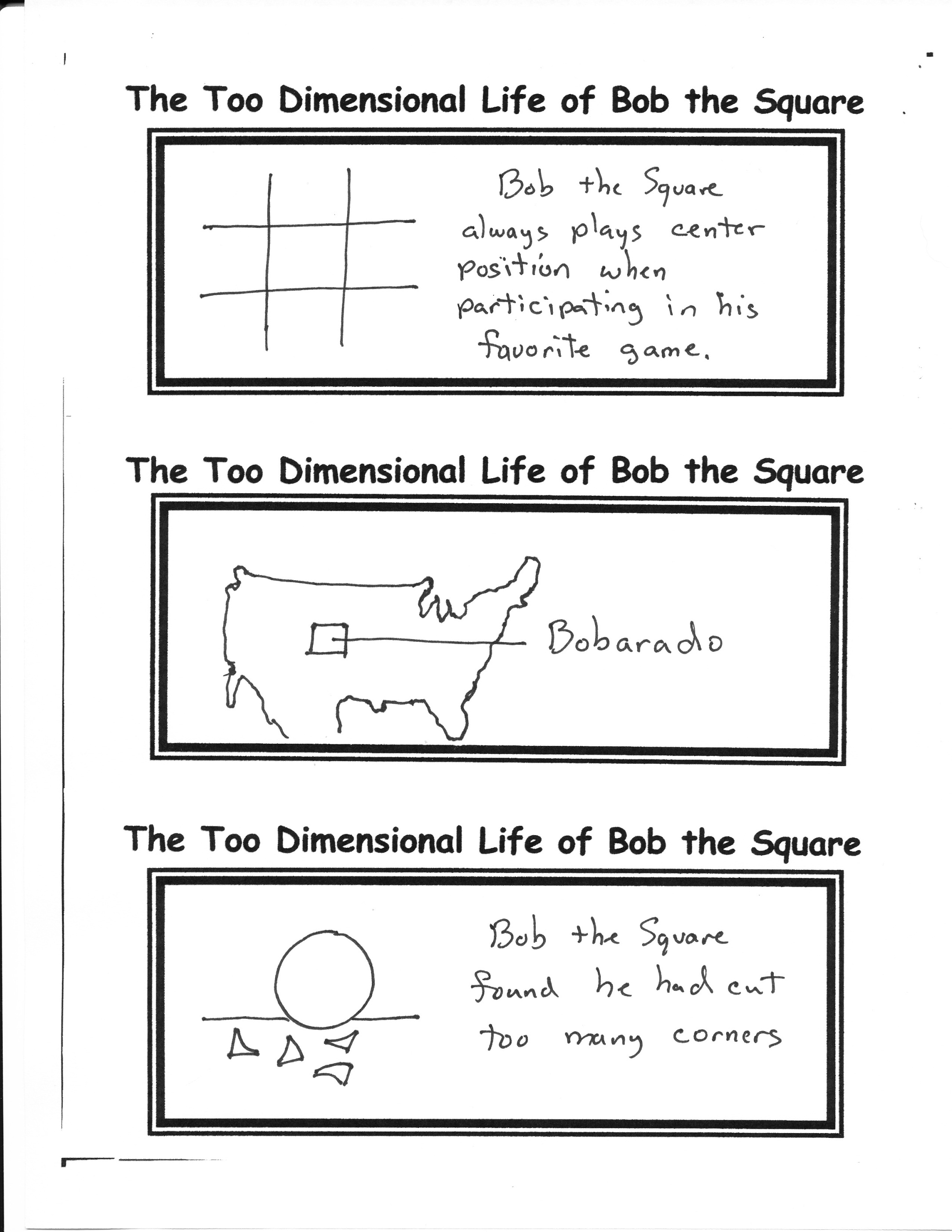
Today, we will begin watching a movie called The Pineapple Story. Although the events took place some time ago, the truths presented here are timeless. A missionary to Irian Jaya, Otto Koenig, tells of his life there as he learned the lesson taught in Luke 14:33.

You will enjoy the sometimes comical story of a man who simply wanted to have a pineapple garden. Such a simple thing, and yet God often teaches us using the small things in our lives to bring big issues to our attention.



**Pineapples:**

**Interesting and Fun Facts**



1. Christopher Columbus stumbled across pineapples in 1493 on the island of Guadalupe. He brought some samples back to Queen Isabella, who loved them. Many others in Europe felt the same way.

2. Pineapple is technically not a single fruit, but a *sorosis—*a hundred or more individual fruits that grow together.

3. You will rarely see fresh pineapple in Jell-O. The raw fruit contains a chemical called bromelain which keeps the gelatin from congealing.

4. If you twist the leafy top off of a store bought pineapple, let it dry for 2-3 days, and then plant it, it will very likely grow.

By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com)