



Shooters, Shiners, and Sparklers Sketch

[**Please provide:** six readers with appropriate props for the sketch and six copies of the sketch for the readers; a paper star about 3-4 inches across for each attendee – see pattern on page 230; pencils or pens for attendees.]

Leader: Let's take a moment to think about some different kinds of stars. When I think of stars, I think of SHOOTERS.

[Enter **Athletic One** with a basketball, a hockey stick and puck, or a pool cue and a **Tourist** with a camera.]

Athletic One: SHOOTER, I know what that is. That's me when I'm participating in my favorite sport, right?

Tourist: No, SHOOTERS are what we bring along on vacation to take pictures!

Leader: That wasn't exactly what I had in mind. [**Athletic One** and **Tourist** shrug and exit] I was thinking more of a shooting star. You know, the kind that streaks across the sky and then burns out. You might know people like that. Do you know someone who seems to know exactly when you need perking up and they surprise you with a visit or card? Or you may know someone who made a lasting impression on you even though you only knew them for a short time. That's what I think of as SHOOTERS.

Then there are the stars I think of as SHINERS.

[Enter a **Fisherman** with pole and a **Starlet** wearing sun glasses.]

Fisherman: [holding up pole] I know what SHINERS are. I use those little minnows for bait. Everybody knows that.

Starlet: No, dahling, a SHINER is what I got when I walked into my dressing room door this morning. I do hope my make-up artist can cover this. We have to film tomorrow.

Leader: Well, I wasn't really thinking of those either. [**Fisherman** and **Starlet** shrug and leave] I was thinking of people I know who absolutely shine with God's love. They always seem to put their faith first. You know what I mean; they are SHINING examples for us to follow.

And then there are the stars I call SPARKLERS.

[Enter someone with Fourth of July sparkler.]

Person: I'm sure I'm right about this one. We light these SPARKLERS every Fourth of July.

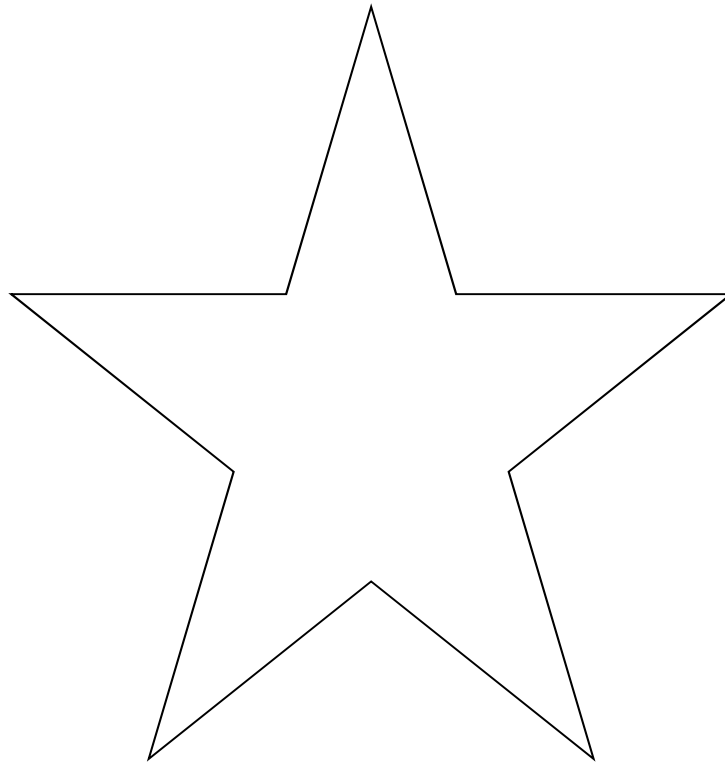
Starlet: [entering again from the other side with big sparkling rings or other jewelry] No, no, dahling, every woman knows **these** are SPARKLERS.

Leader: You do have some good examples, but I had something else in mind. When I think of SPARKLERS, I think of sparkling personalities – people with faith and enthusiasm who send out sparks to everyone around them. Their excitement is contagious.

I want each of you to think of someone who was a star in your life – SHOOTER, SHINER, or SPARKLER. In the center of your table you will find some stars. Please take one now. On it, write the name of the special person you know. Remember the way that person touched your life.

Listen to God's Word. *Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life (Philippians 2:14-16a NIV).*

Take the star home with you and put it in a place where you will see it. Let it remind you to thank God for the strong Christians He has used to strengthen your faith. Let it remind you to let your faith shine.



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Published by Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Revised by Christian Resources Editors, 2015