

# YOUTH BIBLE LESSONS

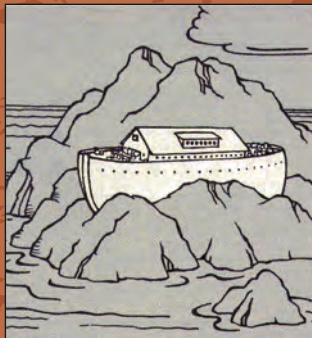
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LEVEL

3



Creation



Noah



Abraham -  
Who Obeyed God



The Birth of Two Nations



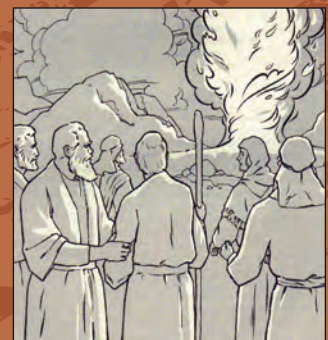
Beginning of the Twelve  
Tribes of Israel



Joseph



Moses and the Plagues  
on Egypt



Israel's Deliverance  
from Egypt



Israel at Mount Sinai



Lessons at Mount Sinai



Forty Years in the  
Wilderness



The Spring & Fall Feasts



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# YOUTH

LEVEL 3

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# BIBLE

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# LESSONS

LESSON 1

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Creation

# CREATION

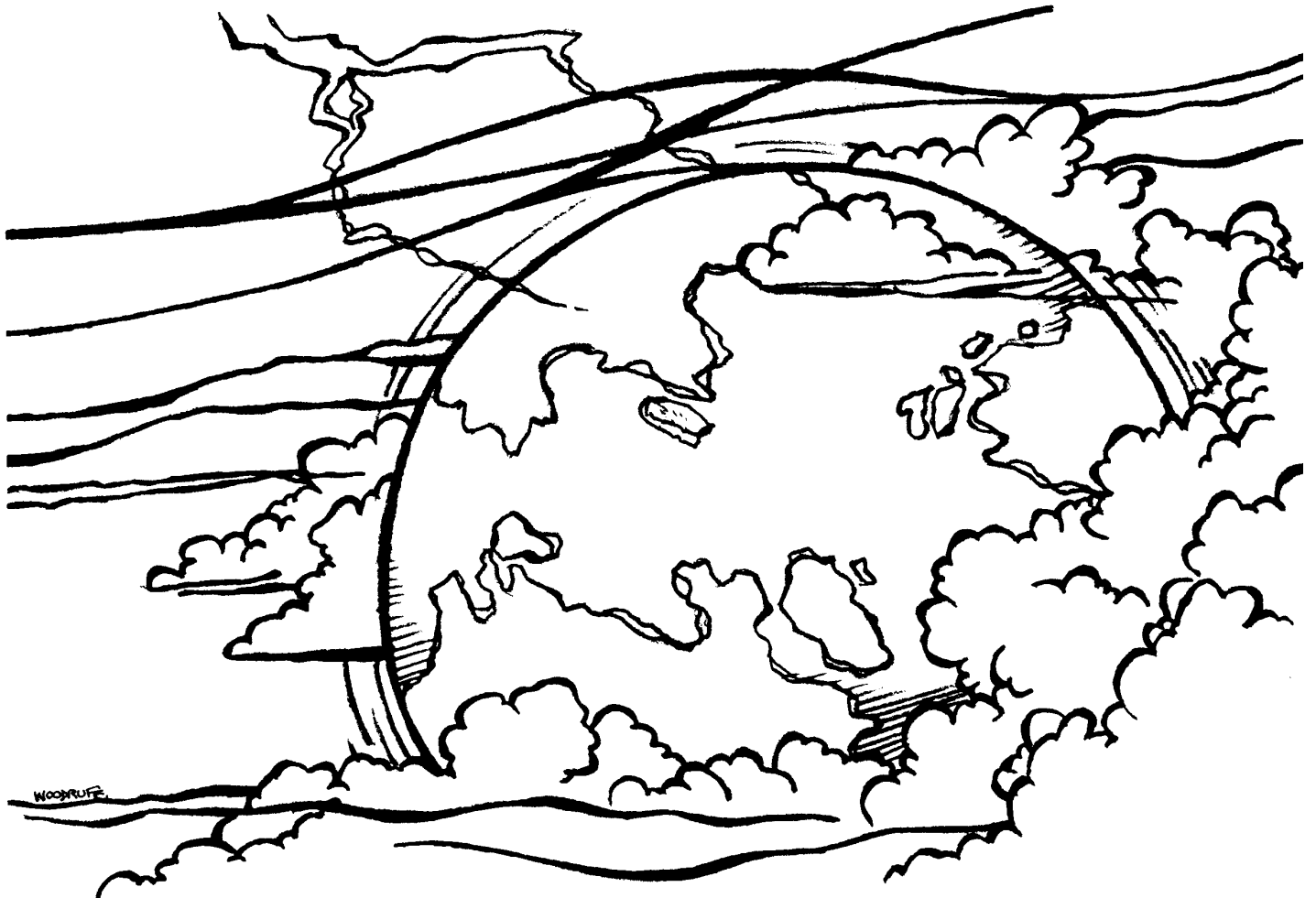
How would you like to live in a world with *no* trees or flowers, *no* birds or animals and *no* light? It would be a dark and empty world.

Yet that is the way the earth

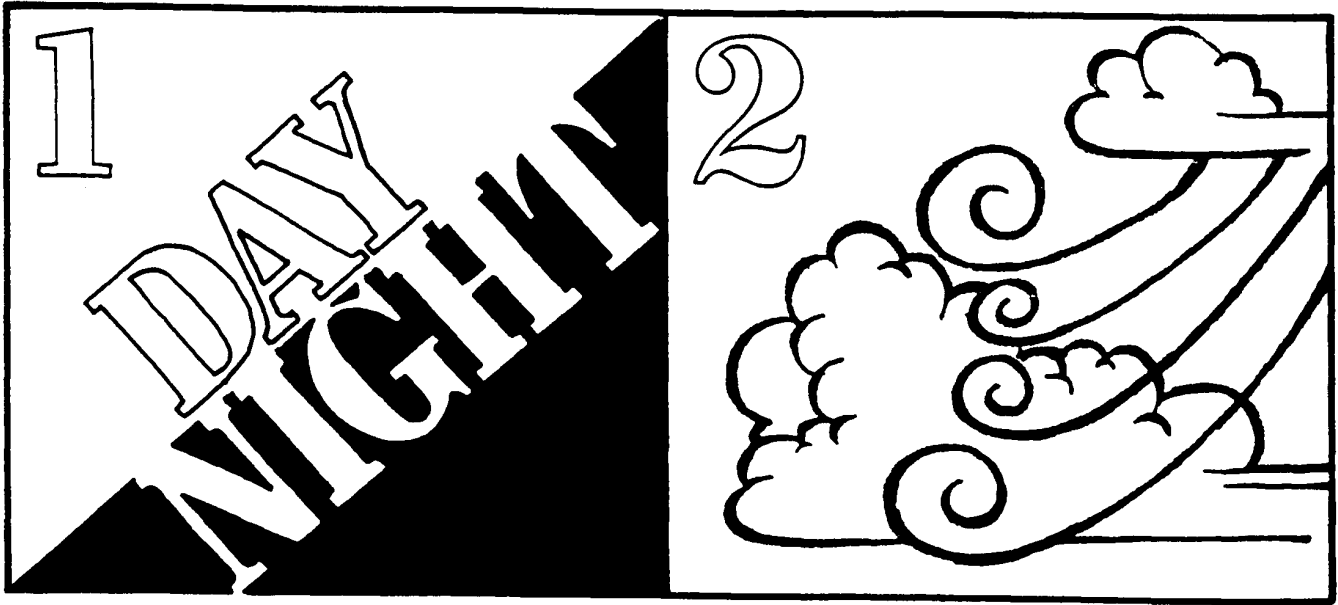
looked at one time.

But God had a plan — to make people who would look — and could become — just like Him!

However, before people could be



Illustrations by Michael Jon Woodruff



made, God had to remake the earth into a place where man could live. For five days God worked at making earth ready for man to live on it.

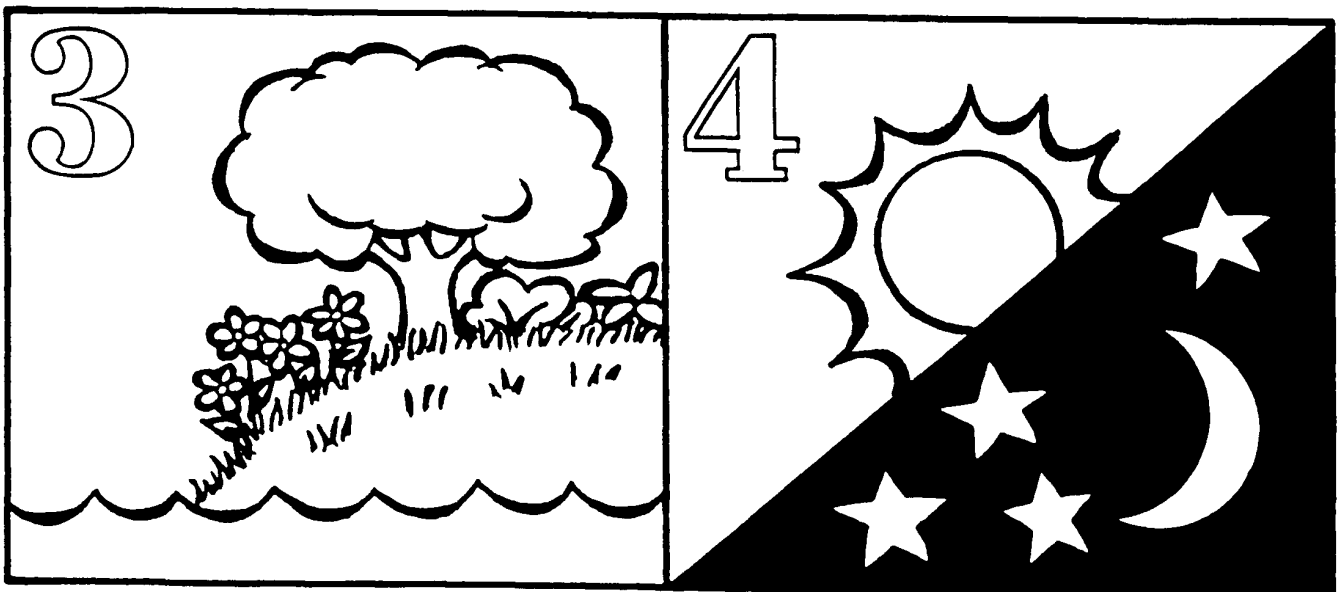
On the first day God made light, forming day and night.

On the second day God put fresh air over all the earth. This would give man air to breathe. And God made big, puffy clouds appear.

On the third day God shaped the earth so that some of it was high and

some of it was low. Water that covered the earth drained into the low places to make oceans. The higher places above the oceans formed the large pieces of land we call continents. On these continents God made trees, bushes, flowers and grass. The earth was beginning to be a beautiful place.

On the fourth day God caused the sun to shine during the day and the moon and stars to shine at night.







On the fifth day God made the water animals — whales, fish, eels and many others. He also made the many kinds of birds.

Then came the sixth day. The earth was now a beautiful place for man. But wait — before God made

the most important earth being, He needed to make land animals. Some of these animals were elephants, lions, giraffes, worms and insects.

Finally, everything was ready for the most important part of God's plan — making a human being.



## ADAM AND EVE

Have you ever made something out of clay? Remember how you molded and shaped that lump of clay until it looked just like a dog or a lion, perhaps? In very much the same way, God made the first man. He made man to look like Himself. God used the dust of the ground for His clay.

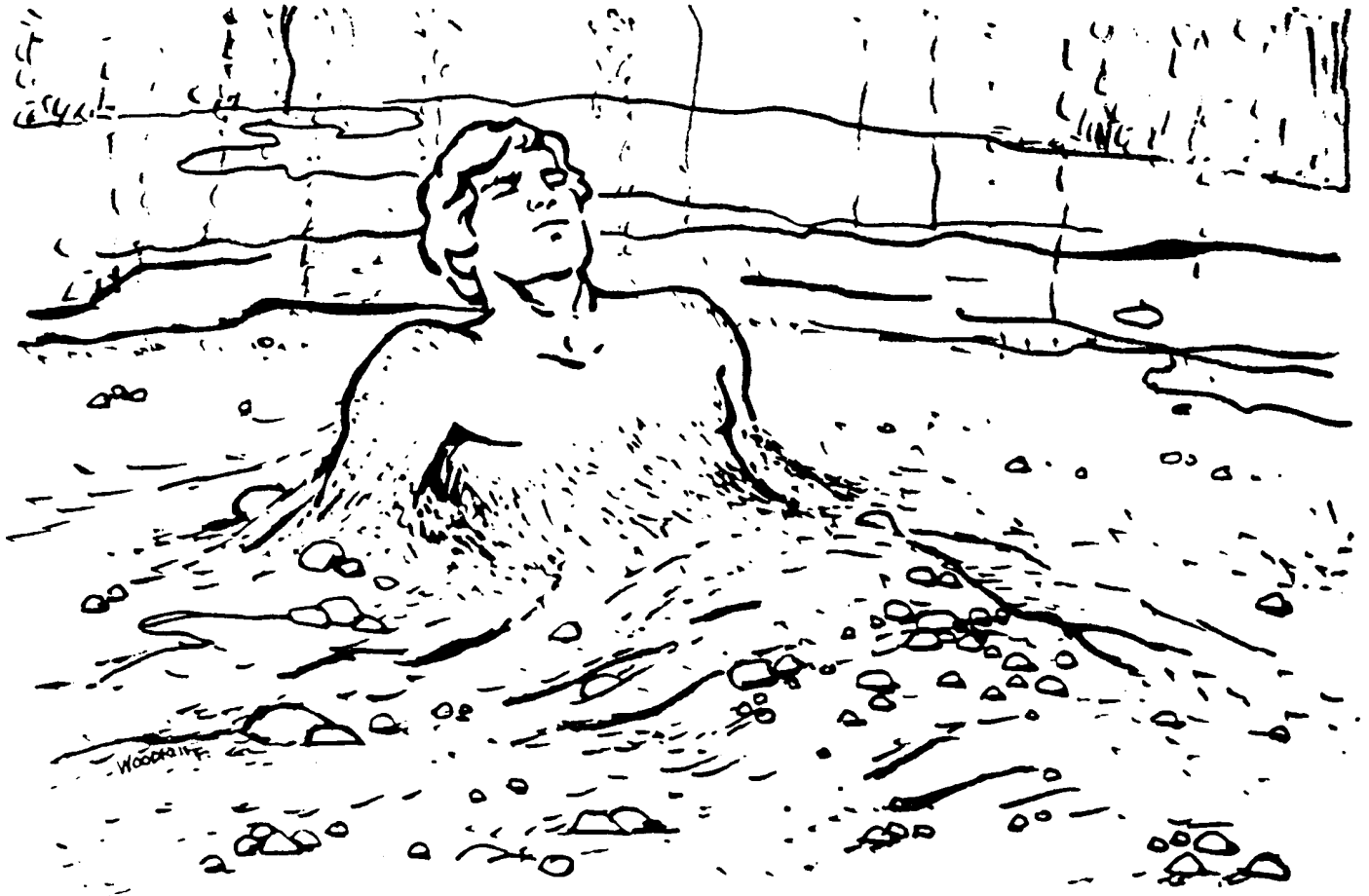
God then breathed air into the man, giving him life — the very first man to live on earth.

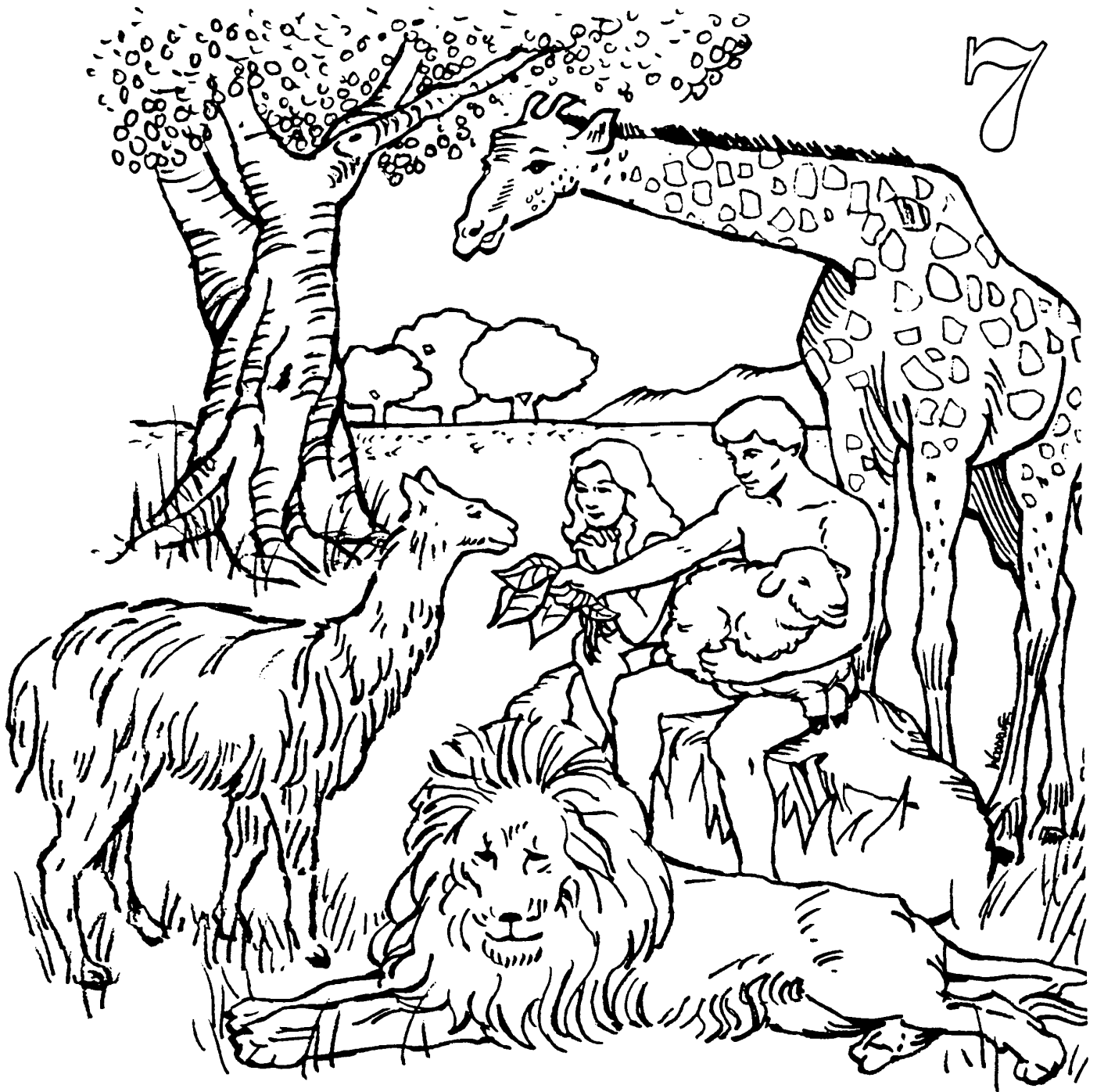
God called this man Adam and placed him in a part of the earth called Eden. God knew that Adam

would like living in the Garden of Eden with all of its beauty. But God also knew that Adam would become lonely if he were the only person. Can you imagine how you would feel if you were the only person on earth?

So, while Adam slept, God took one of Adam's ribs and, with His great power, made a woman from it. God gave her to Adam for a wife and Adam named her Eve.

God finished all of these things in just six days of work. Everything looked complete, but God wasn't finished. One more thing was needed for man.





On the seventh day God made the Sabbath. This day was not made by working but by resting. God made this day special and tells us that we are always to keep this day holy —

by resting and by worshiping Him. Adam and Eve rested on the Sabbath. They were also able to talk to God as they walked through the beautiful Garden.





The home of Adam and Eve was Eden, with its colorful flowers, its fruit and shade trees, and its clear, blue streams. There were many animals, birds and fish to enjoy and take care of. God also showed Adam and Eve how to take care of the Garden.

God taught Adam and Eve rules for good living. As long as they obeyed the rules, they would stay

happy and healthy. God put two special trees in the garden. He told Adam and Eve that they could eat the fruit of the Tree of Life but not the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. If they ate of the Tree of Life they could live forever. But God told them, "If you eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, you will die." God warned them to protect them from what would happen if they

happen if they disobeyed.

For a little while, Adam and Eve obeyed God's laws and they were very happy. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, trouble began. Let's see how it happened.

Long before the earth existed God had created spirit beings, called angels. Some of the angels served God in heaven where His throne is. One of those angels was called Lucifer. But, after a while, Lucifer started to think he was greater than God. He tried to get many of the angels to join with him to fight God. But God is much more powerful than

an angel — or all of the angels together! He has always been the most powerful being alive. He took away much of Lucifer's job and changed his name to Satan, which means "enemy."

Satan wanted very much to find a way to turn Adam and Eve against their God so that Satan would become their master. And he found a way!

One day as Eve took a walk, she saw a serpent. Even though serpents were friendly at this time, this one was different — it spoke to her! Eve did not know it, but it was Satan



speaking through the serpent. "Did God say you would die if you ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?" asked the serpent.

"Yes, He did," answered Eve, "and we don't want to die."

"But you won't die," lied the serpent. "If you eat of that tree, you will be wise — you will know as much as God."

Eve listened and took some of the fruit. She bit into it and found it tasted good. So she gave it to Adam and he ate some too.

Then they felt sad. They knew they had disobeyed God. And by not obeying Him, Adam and Eve sinned. They were ashamed and tried to hide. But God knew where they were.

"Have you disobeyed Me and eaten of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?" asked God.

"Eve gave it to me," said Adam, putting the blame on his wife.

God was very unhappy that they had not obeyed Him. But God *let* them decide — whether to choose His way of love, which brings happiness, or Satan's way of hate, which causes unhappiness.

Then, because Adam and Eve had sinned, God made them leave Eden. God had to punish them for disobeying, just as a parent must punish his child for disobeying.

Also, because of their sin, God

caused the dirt of the ground to become hard and to have many weeds. This made it harder for Adam to grow food.

## CAIN AND ABEL

After some time Adam and Eve had a baby boy. They named him Cain. Later they had a second son, who was named Abel.

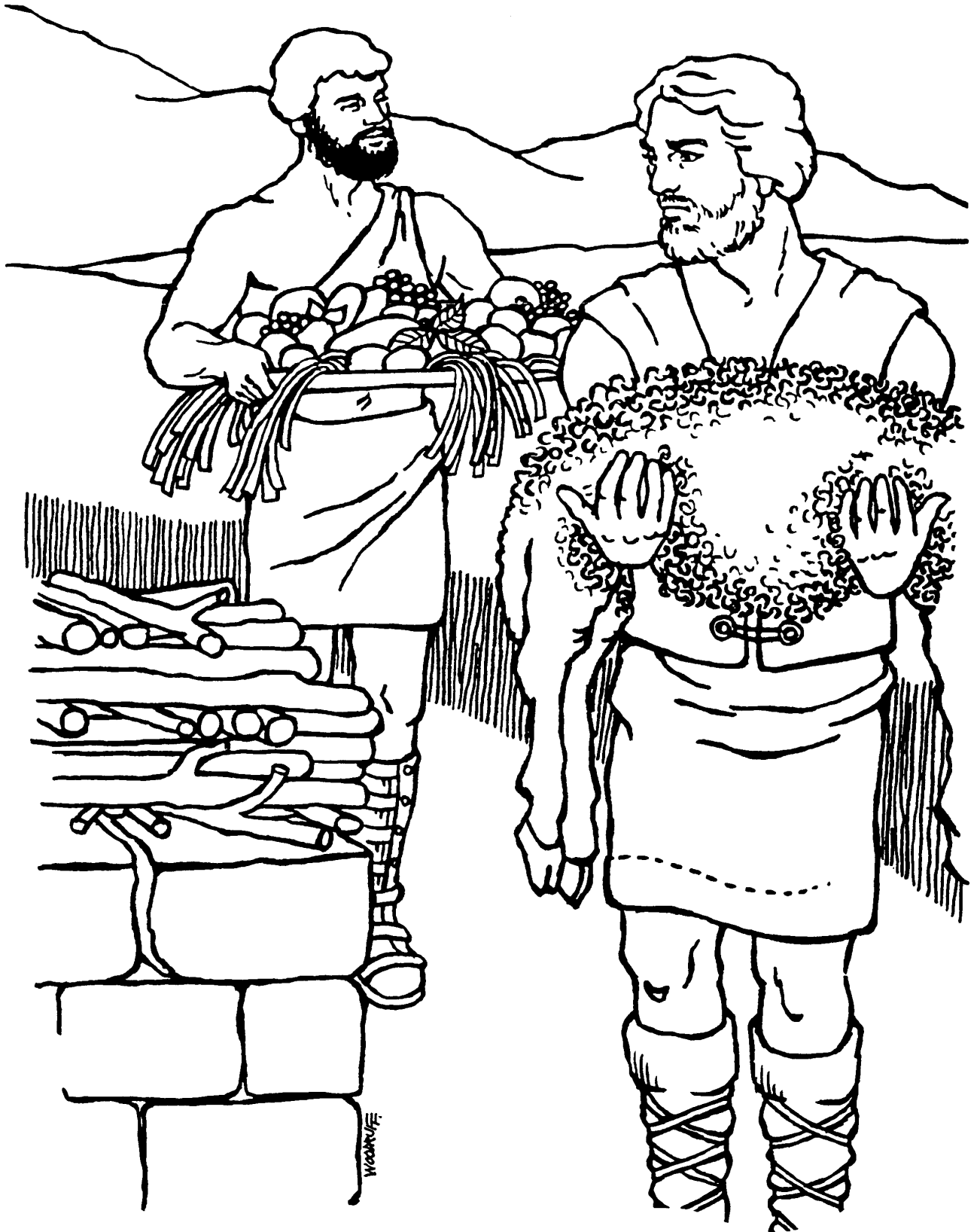
God told Adam and Eve that they should, at certain times, kill a lamb and burn it on an altar. This was to remind them of their sins, for which they were to ask God to forgive them. They were also to teach Cain and Abel to make sacrifices too.

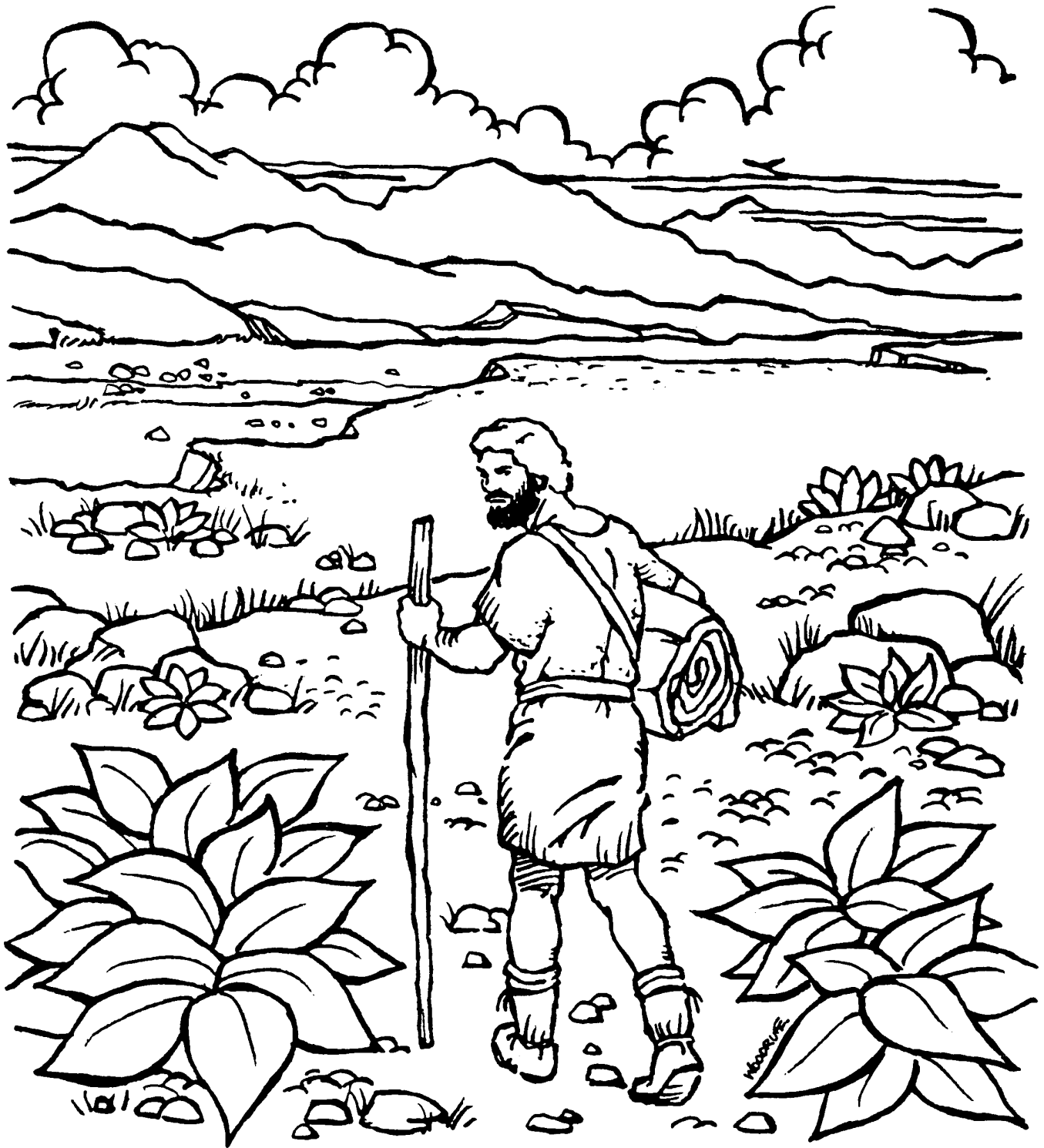
As Cain and Abel grew up they worked hard. Cain became a farmer and grew fruit, vegetables and grain. Abel was a shepherd who raised sheep.

One day Cain and Abel brought their sacrifices to an altar. Abel chose his best lamb. Cain had a few animals, too, but he didn't want to give up even one. He didn't want to obey God. *He* decided that some of his fruit and vegetables would do just as well as an animal offering.

But God did not accept Cain's sacrifice. Cain became angry that God would not accept his offering but did accept his brother's sacrifice. He became so angry he killed Abel. Then Cain tried to hide, but God's voice came to him, saying,







"Where is Abel, your brother?" Cain lied and said he didn't know where Abel was. But God knew that Cain had killed him.

God punished Cain for his sin by sending him away from home. Also,

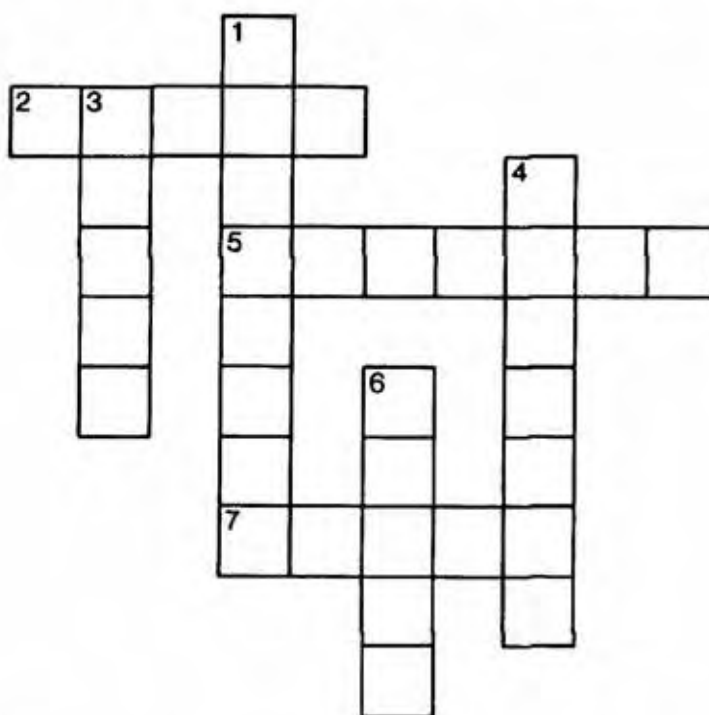
God made it harder for Cain to grow food.

Adam and Eve had more children. Those children grew up and had children. After many years God's earth was filled with people.

## BIBLE MEMORY

On the first day God made DAY and NIGHT  
On the second day God made the AIR WE BREATHE.  
On the third day God made LAND, SEAS, PLANTS and TREES.  
On the fourth day God caused the SUN, MOON and STARS to become visible.  
On the fifth day God made BIRDS and SEA ANIMALS.  
On the sixth day God made LAND ANIMALS and MAN.  
On the seventh day God made the SABBATH.

# "IN THE BEGINNING" CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

2. On the fourth day, God caused the sun, moon and \_\_\_\_\_ to become visible.
5. On the sixth day, God made the land \_\_\_\_\_.
7. On the first day, God divided the day from the \_\_\_\_\_.

### DOWN

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ lasted seven days.
3. On the third day, God made the plants and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. On the seventh day, God made the \_\_\_\_\_ by resting.
6. On the first day, God said, "Let there be \_\_\_\_\_."



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# YOUTH

LEVEL 3

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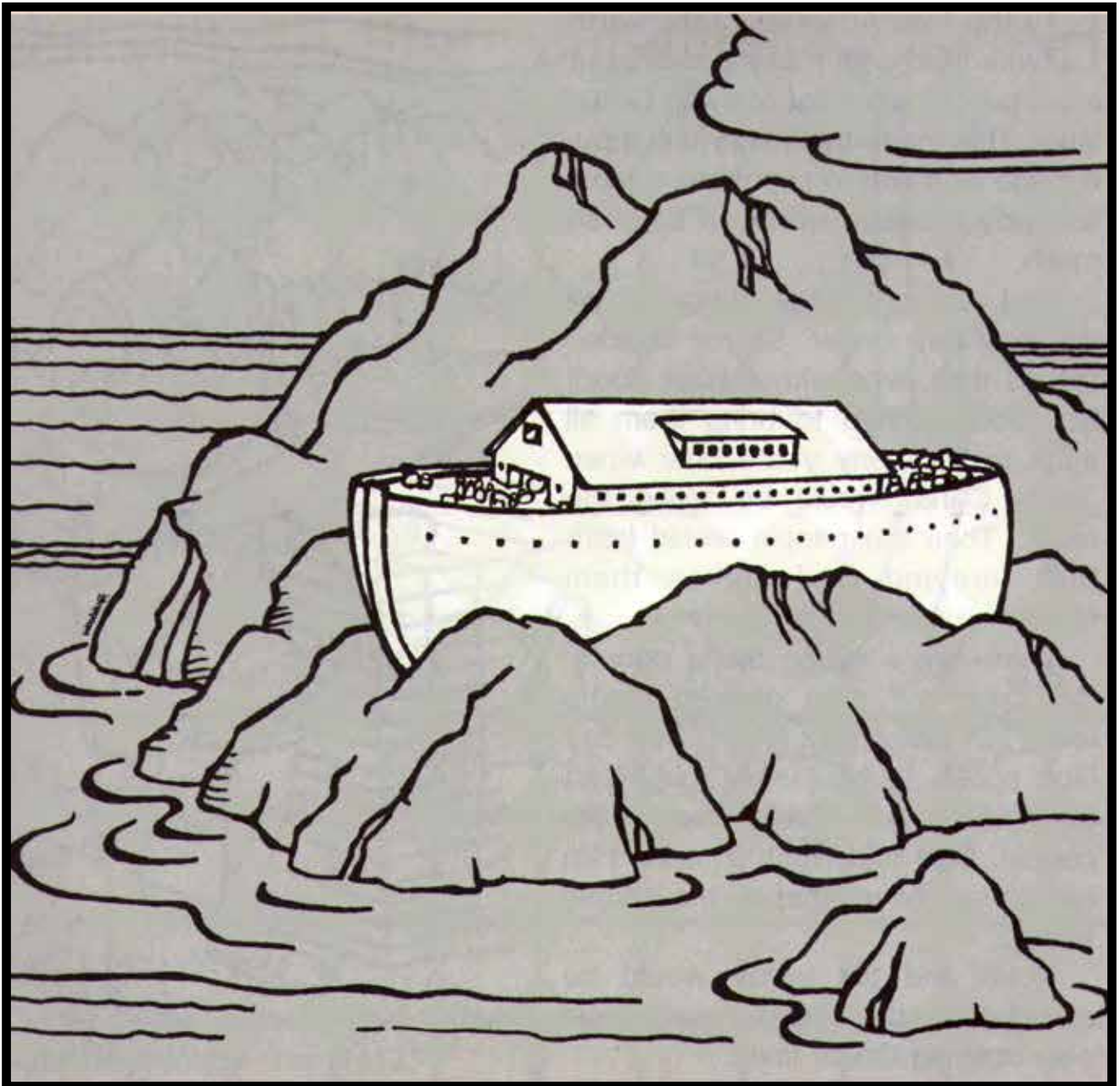
# BIBLE

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# LESSONS

LESSON 2

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Noah

# NOAH

By the time Adam died, the earth was filled with many people. But most people were not obeying God's laws. This made them very unhappy. It made God sad to see these people unhappy because He loved them so much.

God did not want them to be unhappy any longer. So He decided to end their lives with a huge flood! But God planned to bring them all back to life many years later when Jesus Christ would be ruling the earth. Then the people would learn that obeying God makes them happy.

There were many, many people. But only one man obeyed God's laws. His name was Noah. One day God spoke to Noah. He told Noah about His plan to end the lives of the people. God told Noah it made Him sad to see how unhappy the people were.

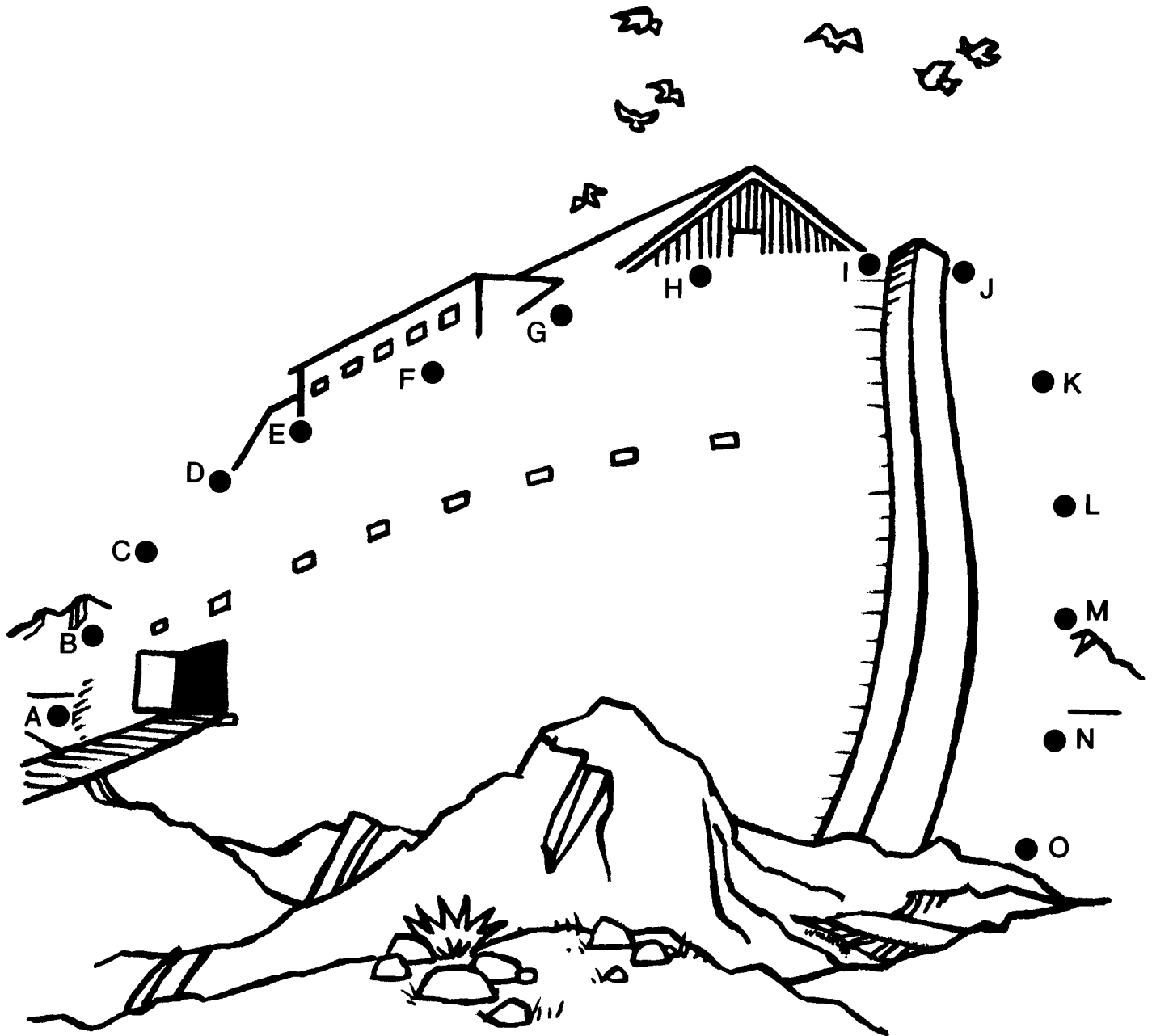
Noah and his family would be saved from the Flood because he was obeying God's laws.



Illustrations by Michael Jon Woodruff

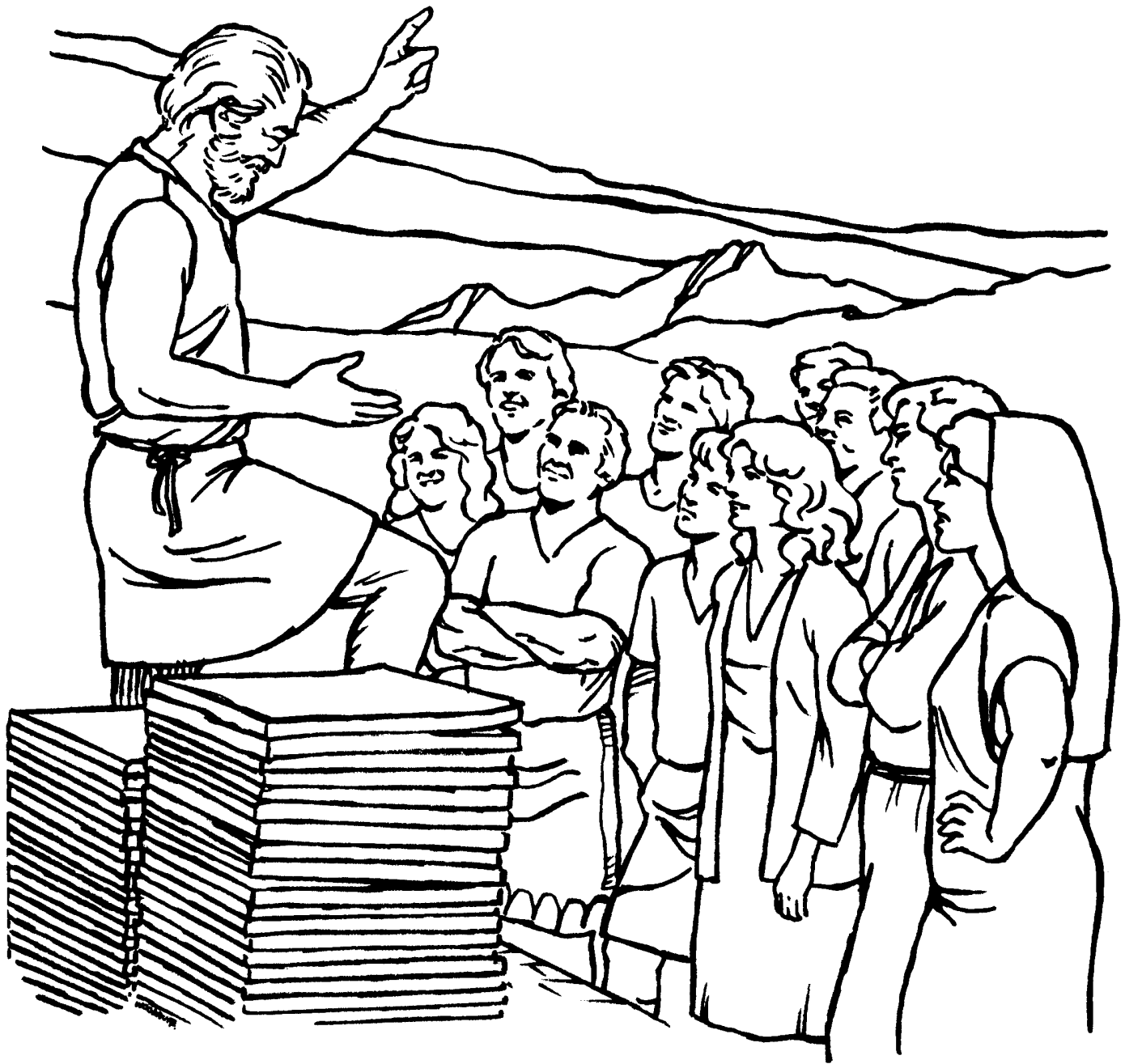
But how could Noah be saved if water was going to cover the whole earth? God told Noah to make a big

ship, called an ark. He told Noah how to build it, step by step. It had to be big enough to hold some of every



**Connect the dots by following the alphabet, then see what Noah used to escape the flood.**





kind of animal on earth!

Noah and his sons began work on the ark. It took a long time to build something that big. They did not have the many machines that we do today. Everything had to be done by hand. Noah's family worked on the

ship for nearly 100 years. While they worked, Noah told people why they were building the ark. "If you are really sorry for the way you are living and will obey God," said Noah, "you will be saved from the Flood, too." But the people just laughed. They

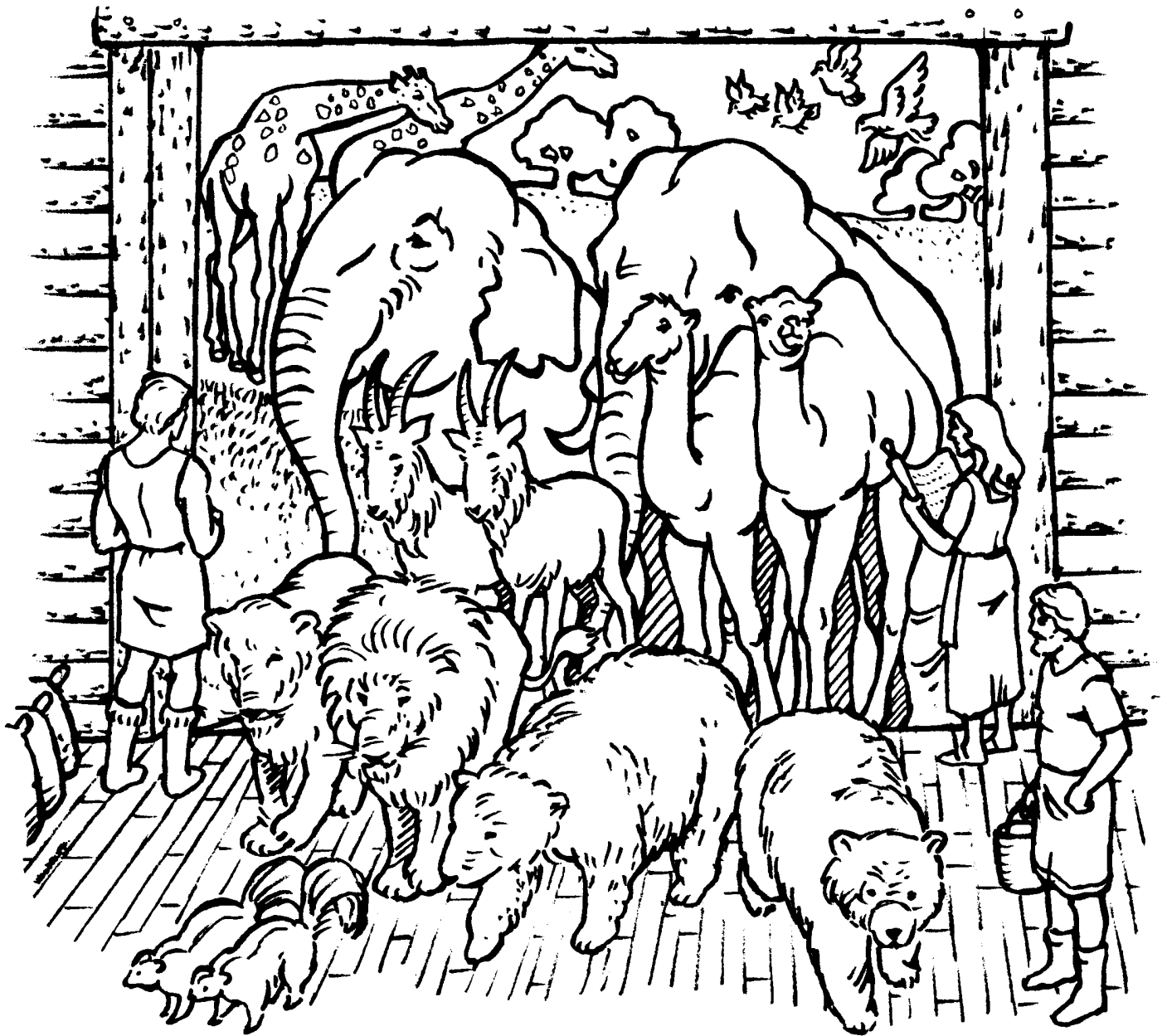
thought Noah was crazy.

Inside the ark were cages and stables. There were small cages for animals like mice and chipmunks and large cages for apes and lions. There were also rooms for supplies. The ark was very much like a big

indoor zoo! After the ark was built, there was still much to do. It was a big job to gather food for so many animals.

It was not easy for Noah and his family to listen to all the people laugh. No one likes to be laughed at.





One hundred and twenty years is a long time to wait for God to bring the Flood. But this was a time for Noah to show God he believed Him.

One day all kinds of animals came to the ark. People stopped laughing. They stared at what they saw. They could not see anyone leading the animals. Yet the animals seemed to know that they were to come to this

big boat. Noah had built a large ramp leading to the door in the side of the ark. The animals came in pairs — one male and one female. Seven pairs of animals that are clean to eat came into the ark. One pair of unclean animals came. More clean animals were needed so Noah's family could use some for food. Can you imagine what it must have



looked like to see so many animals coming to one place?

The animals were put into cages. When they were safely inside with Noah's family, God closed the big, heavy door of the ark.

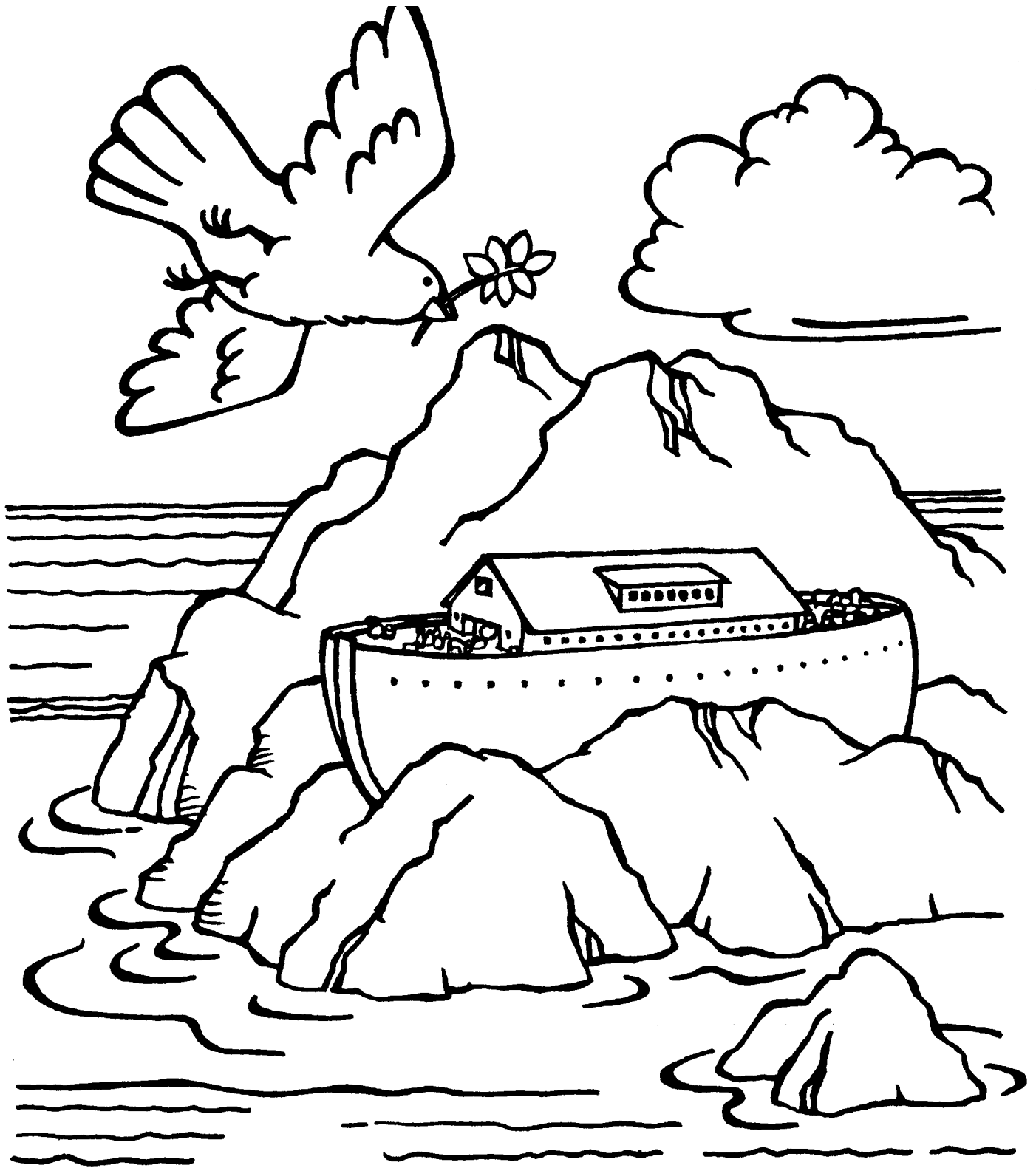
A week went by, but it still did not rain. The people outside were laughing at Noah. "Where's the flood, Noah? It's not even raining!" But then the sky started to get dark. Small drops of water began to fall. Very soon it was raining quite hard.

People were not laughing any-

more. They were scared because it continued to rain and the water was rising everywhere. Soon everyone was drowned except those in the ark. It rained for 40 days and 40 nights. Even the mountains were covered with water.

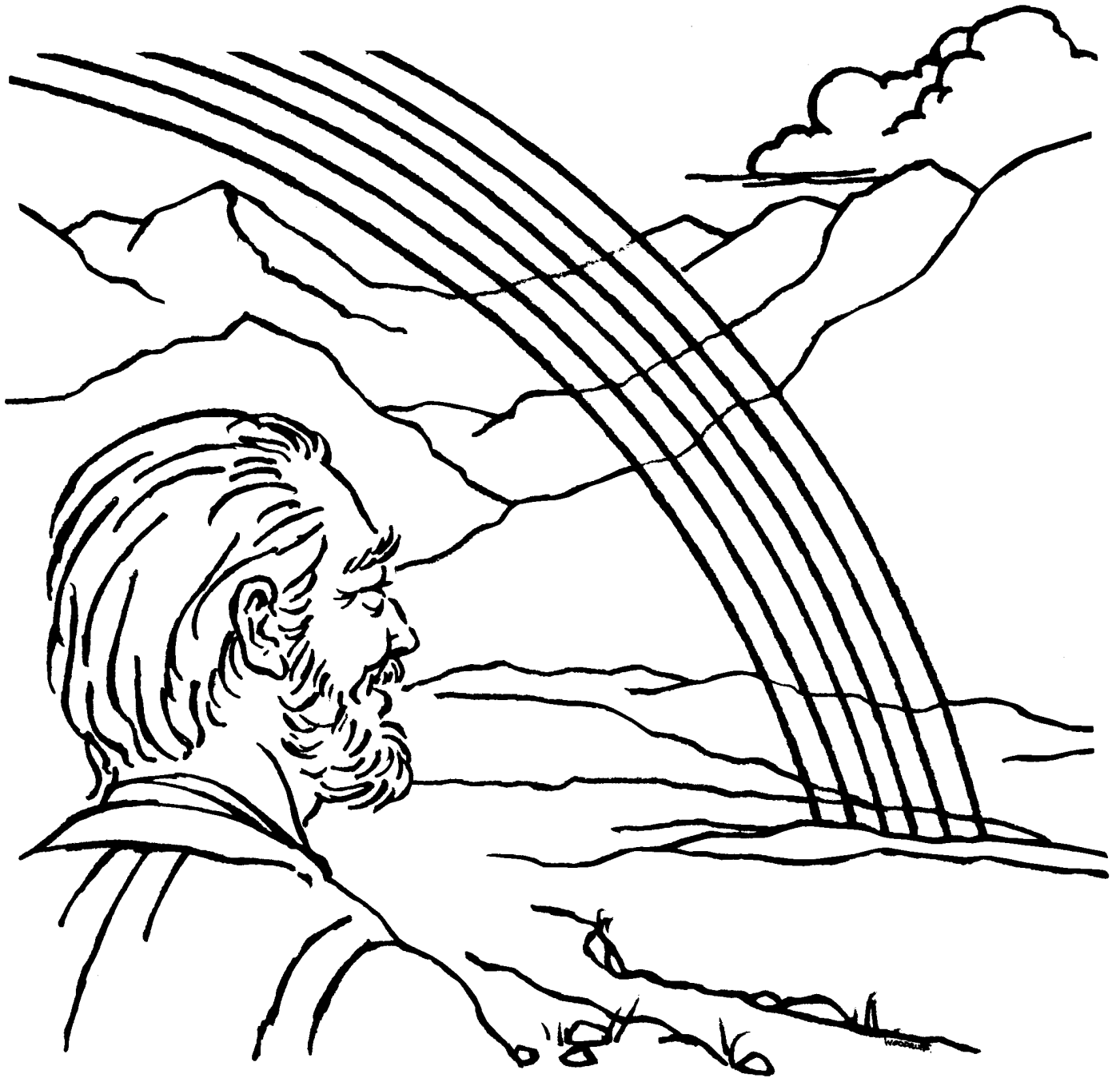
Noah and his family were in the ark for many months. But they kept busy taking care of all the animals. Each animal had to be fed and given water. Their cages had to be kept clean.

Finally, the water began to lower.



The tops of the high mountains could be seen. The ark rested on one of the mountains. Noah waited two more months. The water dropped

more and more. Noah sent out birds to see if there were plants growing yet. One of the birds finally came back with a leaf in its beak.



Noah opened the top of the ark and looked out over the land. It was a good feeling to see land again. Noah and his family had been in the ark for more than a year. Everyone, including the animals, left the ark.

Noah was thankful to God for taking care of him and his family.

They built an altar and offered to God some of the clean animals. God promised Noah that he would never again flood the whole earth. Noah looked up to see a beautiful rainbow. God told Noah that whenever we see a rainbow in the sky, we are to remember His promise.



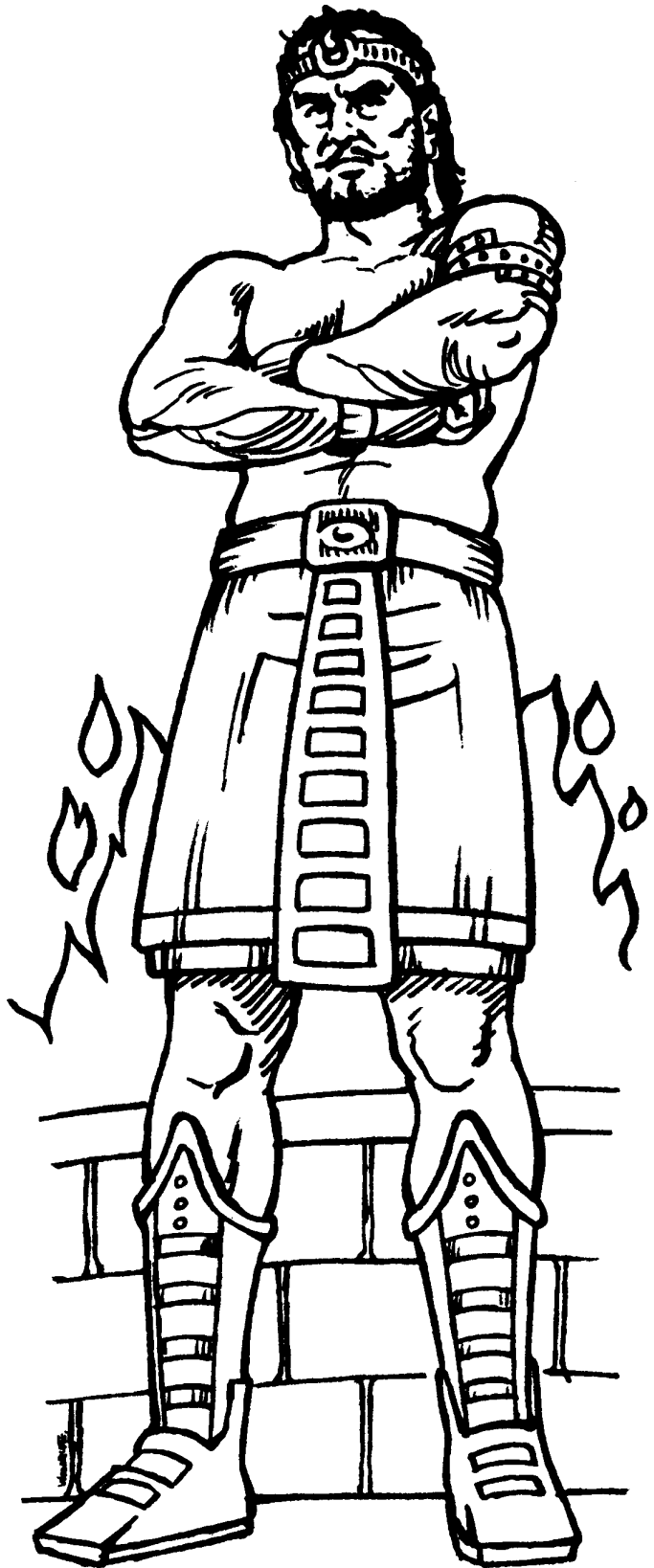
## THE TOWER OF BABEL

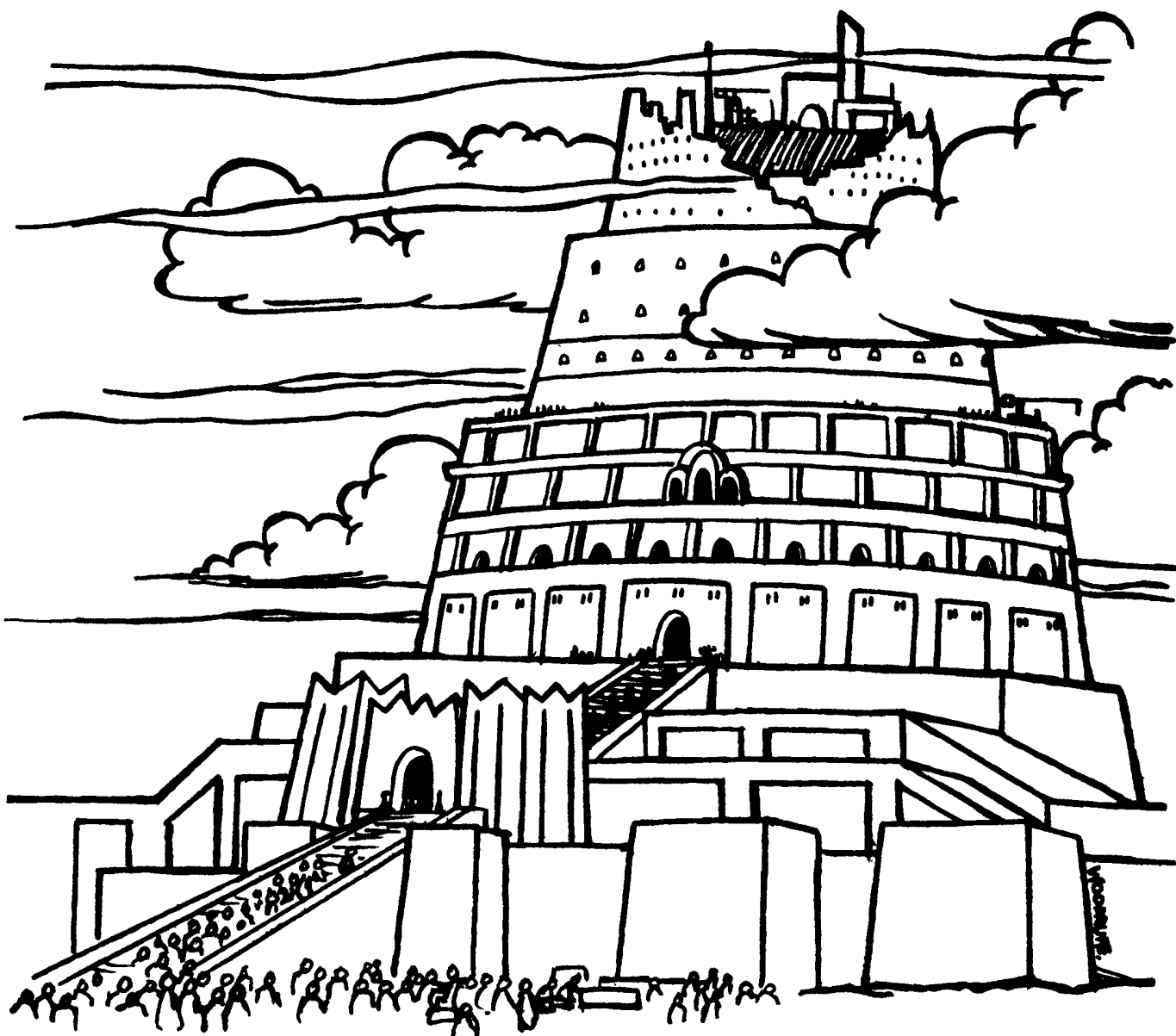
Imagine being one of only eight people on the whole earth! All the people born after the Flood came from these eight. As the years went by, there were many people again.

They built houses, barns and all kinds of buildings. They built them very close together. This did not please God. He knew that when too many people live too close together in big cities they are not happy. They cannot enjoy all the beautiful things God has made for us — the forests, the mountains and the deep, blue lakes. Soon the people forgot that obeying God's laws would make them happy. Satan gave them some very bad ideas.

One of the cities they made was ruled by a man named Nimrod. He was a big, strong man. Nimrod did not follow God's laws. Nimrod told the people not to look to the God of Noah as their ruler. He taught them to honor Satan by worshiping things like the sun and snakes.

Nimrod wanted the people to stay close together and obey him. So he came up with a plan to build a very tall tower. It was to honor Satan, whom they called their sun god. Nimrod wanted this tower to reach the clouds. He knew that if the people were thinking about this big project, they would not think about God.





The people worked very hard for months. The tower became the most important thing in their lives. By this time, God was very unhappy with them. He did not want the tower project to go any further, so God divided their one language into many different languages.

After the Flood the people spoke only one language. But suddenly, they were having a hard time

understanding each other. When one person would have to say something again and again, he would get very angry. This would lead to fighting. Soon they were not able to work together.

Work on the tower stopped. It was called the Tower of Babel from that time on. *Babel* means "confusion." God did not want the tower finished — so it never was.

## BIBLE MEMORY

Books of the  
Old Testament

Genesis  
Exodus  
Leviticus  
Numbers  
Deuteronomy  
Joshua  
Judges

Ruth  
1 Samuel (1 Kings)  
2 Samuel (2 Kings)  
1 Kings (3 Kings)  
2 Kings (4 Kings)  
1 Chronicles  
2 Chronicles

Ezra  
Nehemiah  
Esther  
Job  
Psalms  
Proverbs  
Ecclesiastes

Song of Solomon  
Isaiah  
Jeremiah  
Lamentations  
Ezekiel  
Daniel  
Hosea

Joel  
Amos  
Obadiah  
Jonah  
Micah  
Nahum  
Habakkuk

Zephaniah  
Haggai  
Zechariah  
Malachi

# ANIMAL SCRAMBLE

Someone mixed up part of the list of animals and other creatures on the ark. Can you help Noah make a new list by putting the letters in the right order? Use the words in the word bank to help you.

— — — — —	FARIEFG
— — — — —	HETNAELP
— — — — —	PAE
— — — — —	ONIL
— — — — —	EBE
— — — — —	DREPIS
— — — — —	PUCIKNMH
— — — — —	GAELE

WORD BANK	
ELEPHANT	BEE
SPIDER	GIRAFFE
LION	EAGLE
APE	CHIPMUNK

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# YOUTH

LEVEL 3

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# BIBLE

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# LESSONS

LESSON 3

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Abraham – A Man Who Obeyed God

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# ABRAHAM — A MAN WHO OBEYED GOD

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**M**any, many years after the Flood, a boy named Abram was born. He grew up in a city called Ur. Ur was near the place where the ark landed after the Flood. Most people there prayed to idols. One day God spoke to Abram. He told Abram to move to another city. God promised him some big blessings if he would obey. Abram did not know just where he was to go. But he knew God would take care of him. Abram did not ask any questions. He just obeyed God right away.

Do you obey your mother and father when they tell you to do something? Or do you always ask “Why?” Your parents love you very much and want what’s best for you. God knew what was best for Abram. It made God happy to see Abram leave without asking any questions. It makes God happy, too, when you obey your parents.

This was a big move for Abram. Many people and animals had to move with him. Abram took his

wife named Sarai. Abram’s nephew, Lot, and Lot’s wife went along, too. They also had to take workers and their families along to take care of their many sheep and cattle.

Abram’s family traveled for many weeks. At last they came to an area called Canaan. It was a good place to grow food. But the people living there did not obey God’s laws. So God stopped the rain from falling in Canaan. The fruit trees and vegetables soon died. There was no water or food for all the animals. So Abram moved his family to Egypt. When the famine ended, Abram moved back to Canaan.

A few years passed. One day God spoke to Abram. “Look into the heavens, Abram,” said God. “Try to count the stars.” But that was no easy task! There were so many stars Abram could not count them all. Yet God said Abram’s family would be that big! Abram would have many children. His sons and daughters

Illustrations by Michael Jon Woodruff





would have many children. This would go on for many years. One day, the number of people in Abram's family would be as many as the stars!

God went on to tell Abram, "All the land you can see from where you stand will be yours. When you die, it will be for your children."

But Abram did not understand all that God told him. You see, he did not have any children to give his land to before he died.

Sarai was getting old, too. She was past the age when women can have children. So Sarai told Abram he should take Hagar as his wife. Hagar was Sarai's handmaid or servant. In those days a man sometimes had more than one wife. Sarai hoped that Hagar could have a child for them. So Hagar became Abram's wife. Sometime later she had a son named Ishmael.

A few years later God called Abram by a new name — *Abraham*. *Abraham* means "father of many people." Sarai was to be called *Sarah* which means "princess." Then God promised Abraham that Sarah would have a son, too. His name would be Isaac.

### **SODOM IS BURNED**

Sometime later, three men came to Abraham's tent. Abraham did

not know it at the time, but two of the men were really angels. The third one was the member of the God family who later became Jesus. One of His names is "the Word." He did the speaking for the God family.

Abraham asked them in to eat and rest. They told Abraham that Sarah would have a son that year. At first, Sarah did not believe what she heard. But the news did make them both very happy. The one who later became Jesus stayed to talk. The angels went on to Sodom. He told Abraham about a plan to burn the city of Sodom. The people there did not obey God's laws and were so very unhappy.

Abraham knew that Lot lived in the city of Sodom, so he asked, "Must all the good people die along with the evil ones? Would You save the city if there were 50 people obeying God?"

"If there are 50 people obeying God, I will save the city," the Word answered.

"If there are 45 people who obey God," Abraham asked again, "will You save the city?"

"If there are 45 people keeping God's laws," answered the Word, "I will spare the city."

Abraham asked again and again. Each time he asked the Word to





save the city for a smaller number of people. Finally, he asked if the Word would spare the city for just 10 people.

Again the Word answered, 'I will save the city if I can find only 10 people who are obeying God.' But He could not find even 10!

When the angels came to Sodom, they met Lot. He asked them into his home. "Sodom is filled with evil people," the angels

told Lot. "God is going to burn the city. Take your family away. Don't stop and don't look back."

As they ran, they felt the heat of the flames. Lot's wife turned to see the burning city. She had not learned an important lesson. When God tells us to do something, He expects us to obey!

As she looked back, she turned into a piece of rock salt. We need to learn to obey God, too. Then we

won't have to learn lessons the hard way like Lot's wife.

Lot and the rest of his family ran to the next city.

### **A TEST OF ABRAHAM'S FAITH**

Soon after, Abraham moved south. Just as God said, a son was born to Abraham and Sarah. God spoke through an angel and told them to name him Isaac. Before long, Isaac

was not a baby anymore. He was now a little boy.

Ishmael was Abraham's son, too. But Hagar felt that Abraham spent much more time with Isaac. Soon they began to say bad things about Isaac. Sarah heard them one day and became very angry.

Sarah went to Abraham at once. She told Abraham that she wanted Hagar and Ishmael to be sent



away. Abraham was very sad to hear this. He did not want to see them go. But he knew they would never be a happy family with both mothers in the same house. Abraham did not know what to do.

Then God said to him, "Don't be sad. Send Hagar and Ishmael away. I will take care of them." Abraham felt much better now. The next day, Hagar and Ishmael left Abraham.

Year after year, Abraham obeyed God's laws. He taught Isaac those same laws. But God wanted to really test Abraham's obedience.

One day God called Abraham and said, "Sacrifice Isaac as a burnt offering!" Abraham could not believe what he heard. He had waited so long for Isaac. Why would God want to take him away? But Abraham knew that God loved him and knew best.

God told Abraham to take Isaac to the land of Moriah for the sacrifice.

The next morning Abraham and his servants packed for the trip to Moriah. Abraham told his son that they were going to make an offering to God. But he did not say what the offering would be.

The trip took two days. So Abraham had a lot of time to

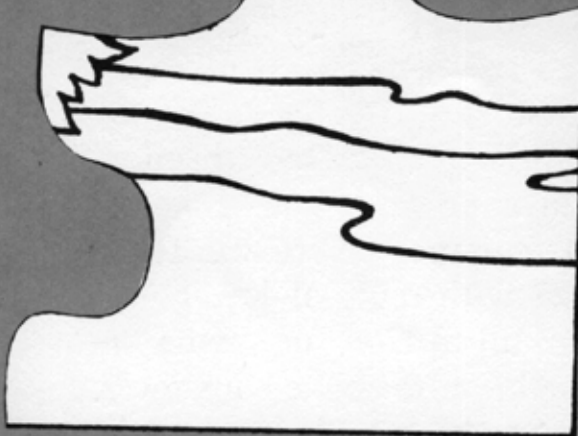
think. God said that many people would come from Isaac's children and grandchildren. So how could Isaac die now? Abraham became very sad. But he did not argue with God. He did not try to get out of doing what he was told to do. He knew he must obey.

When they came near the mountain, Abraham and Isaac went on alone. Isaac asked his father, "Where is the lamb for the offering?" Abraham told Isaac that God would give them the lamb.

At last Abraham told him that he was to be the lamb. He tied Isaac upon the altar, picked up the knife and held it above his head. What a frightening moment for Isaac! How sad Abraham must have felt. He must kill the son he loved so much!

Suddenly a voice said: "Do not harm Isaac. You have been willing to give up your son. I know that you fear me." Abraham fell to his knees with tears of joy. He was so thankful to God for saving his son. As Abraham looked up, he saw a ram in the bushes. God had given the ram for the offering in place of Isaac.

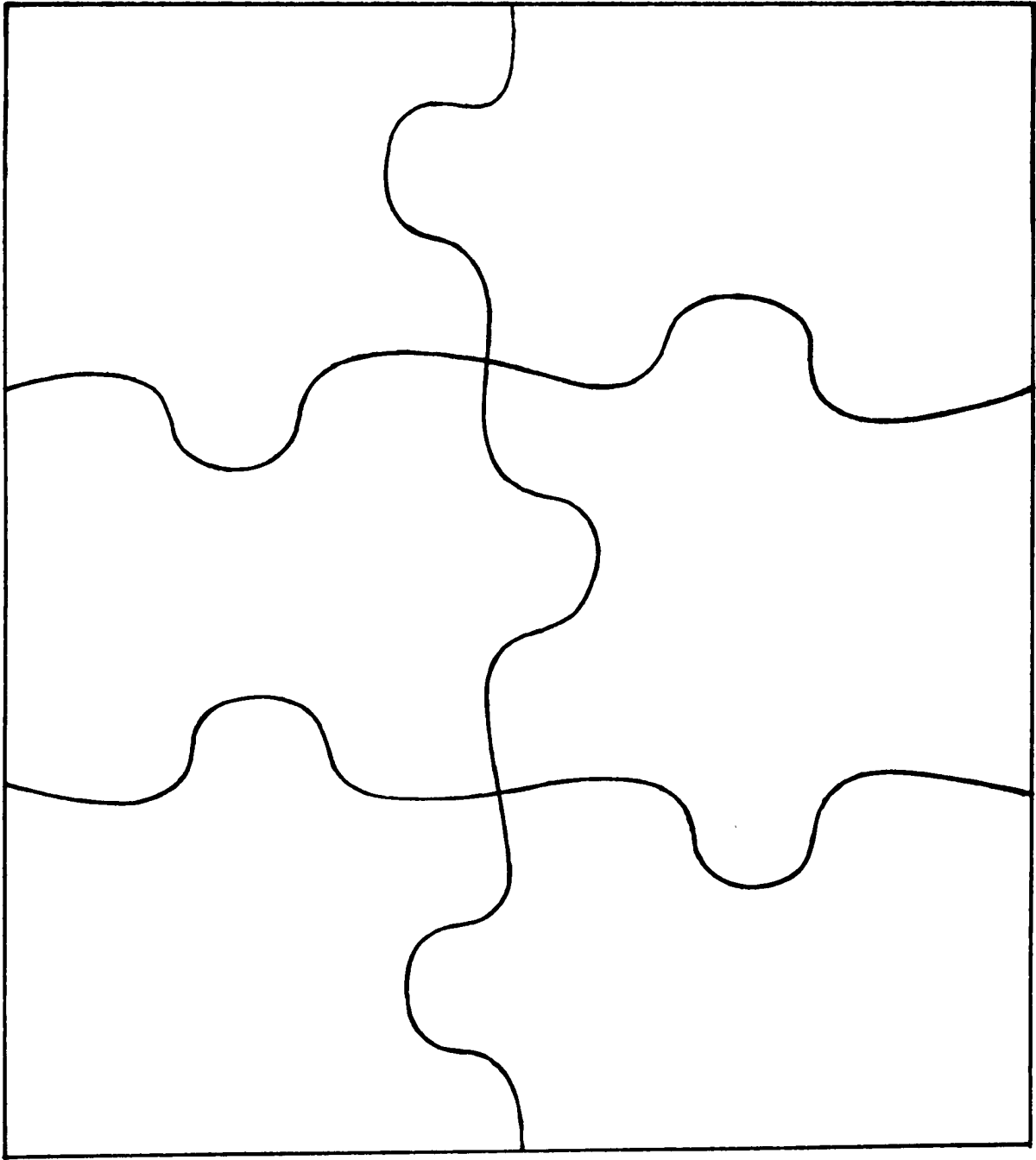
As the years went by, Isaac grew up to be a strong man. He obeyed God's laws just as his father did.



**Directions:** Cut on the dotted line to remove this page from your lesson. Then cut out each puzzle piece. Paste them in the frame on the next page to find the special sacrifice God told Abraham to make.







Paste the puzzle pieces from page 9 in the frame above.

**BIBLE MEMORY**    Genesis 22:17-18

Fill in each blank with the word that completes the sentence. Then rewrite the word in the spaces on the right. After you have written the right answers, read the letters in the boxes from the top to the bottom. They will spell a word that tells a very important lesson we should learn from Abraham. If you cannot spell a word, the Word Bank will help you.

1. Abram's nephew was named \_\_\_\_\_.

—  —

2. God changed Abram's name to \_\_\_\_\_.

—  — — — —

3. When there was famine in Canaan,  
Abraham took his family to \_\_\_\_\_.

— — — —

4. God burned the city of \_\_\_\_\_.

— —  — —

5. Before Sarah's name was changed she  
was called \_\_\_\_\_.

— — — —

6. Sarah's name means \_\_\_\_\_.

— — — —  — —

7. God told Abraham to sacrifice his  
son as a burnt \_\_\_\_\_.

— — — — —

8. The name of Abraham and Sarah's  
son was \_\_\_\_\_.

— — — —

9. God promised Abraham \_\_\_\_\_ if he  
would obey Him.

— —  — — — — —

**WORD BANK**

princess

blessings

Abraham

Isaac

Egypt

Sodom

Lot

Sarai

offering

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# YOUTH

LEVEL 3

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# BIBLE

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# LESSONS

LESSON 4

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The Birth of Two Nations

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# THE BIRTH OF TWO NATIONS

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After Sarah's death, Abraham thought about finding a wife for Isaac, his son. Isaac was then forty years old.

Abraham called his chief servant and told him: "Choose a wife for my son from Mesopotamia, the land from which I moved when God called me. Bring back a wife for Isaac from among my own people."

Abraham wanted to be sure his son did not marry one of the women from Canaan. He knew God wants people to marry only those of their same race.

## **GOD SELECTS REBEKAH**

After several days of travel, the servant came to a well outside the city of Nahor in the land of Mesopotamia. Every evening the women of the city went to the well to draw water. Abraham's servant prayed that the woman God chose for Isaac would ask to draw water for him.

"Please, God," he said, "let the

woman want to draw water for me and for my camels. Then I shall know she is the right one."

Drawing so much water was hard work indeed! It was not like turning on a water faucet or tap today. The pail had to go down on a rope into the well and then be pulled up when full. It was heavy. It would take many pails to fill those thirsty camels!

Before the servant finished praying, a beautiful young woman came up to the well. He went up to her and asked for some water.

"Please drink," she said.

"Could she be the answer to my prayer?" the servant wondered to himself as he drank. "Will she draw water for the camels, too?"

Can you imagine how he felt when she added, "I will be glad to draw water for your camels, too!"?

The servant knew God had answered his prayer. He then gave the young woman a gold ring and gold bracelets. They were very costly.

“Who is your father?” he asked her. “I am the daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son.” Nahor was Abraham’s brother! This made her second cousin to Isaac. The servant bowed his head and gave thanks to God for His swift answer.

The young woman, named Rebekah, ran home to tell her family what had happened at the well. After hearing her story, her brother Laban rushed back to the well to invite Abraham’s servant into his home.

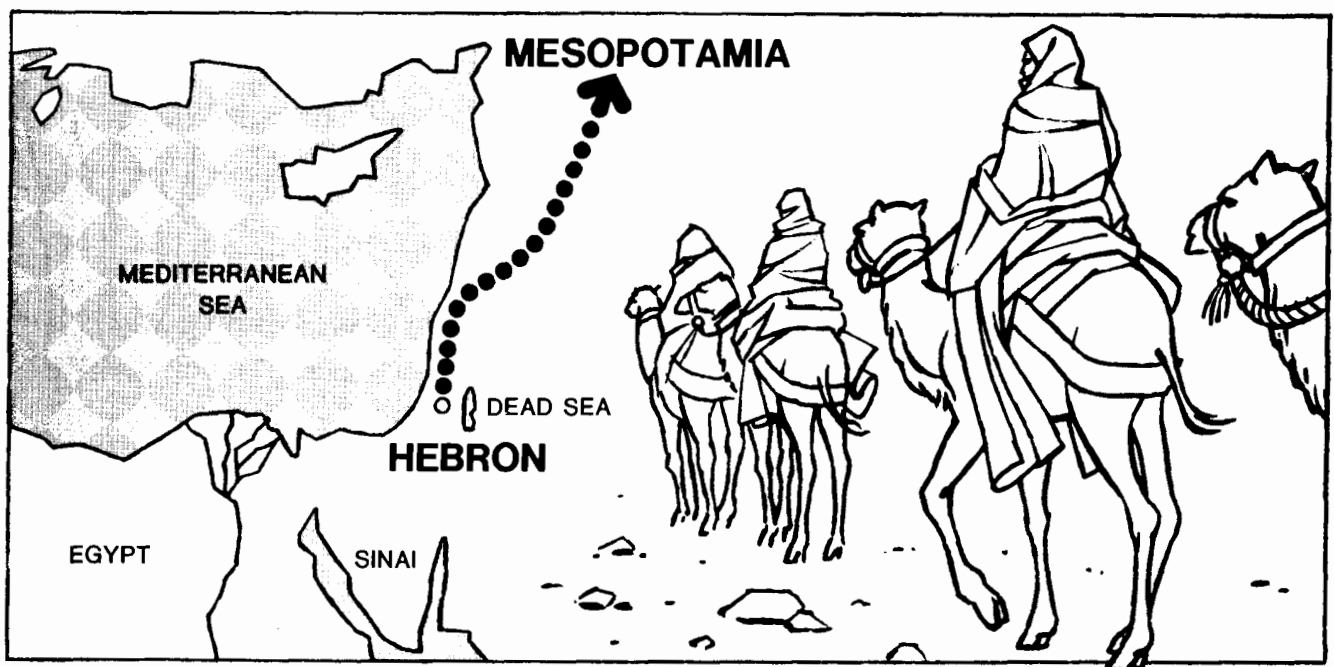
When they arrived, the camels were given food to eat and straw to rest on. Then a fine meal was set down. But the servant would not eat until he told his hosts why he had come. He said Rebekah was the answer to his prayer. Her father and brother agreed.

After giving thanks to God again, the servant gave fine jewelry and clothing to Rebekah and precious gifts to her family. Then they ate and drank until late in the evening.

The next morning the servant wanted to return with Rebekah to his master Abraham, but Rebekah’s family wanted her to stay home a little longer.

“No,” said the servant, “God answered my prayer so quickly that I believe we should return as soon as possible.” The choice was left to Rebekah and she decided to go immediately to meet her husband to be.

As they came near the end of their journey, they saw a man walking in the field. It was Isaac. As he spotted the caravan he





thought to himself, "Is this the caravan my father sent out?"

Rebekah, seeing him, asked Abraham's servant, "Who is that man?"

"It is Isaac," he answered.

Rebekah quickly put on a veil and went out to meet him. They were married soon afterward and were very happy.

### **TWIN BOYS ARE BORN**

Many years went by after Isaac and Rebekah married, but they did

not have any children. They wanted to have a family so Isaac asked God to give them a child.

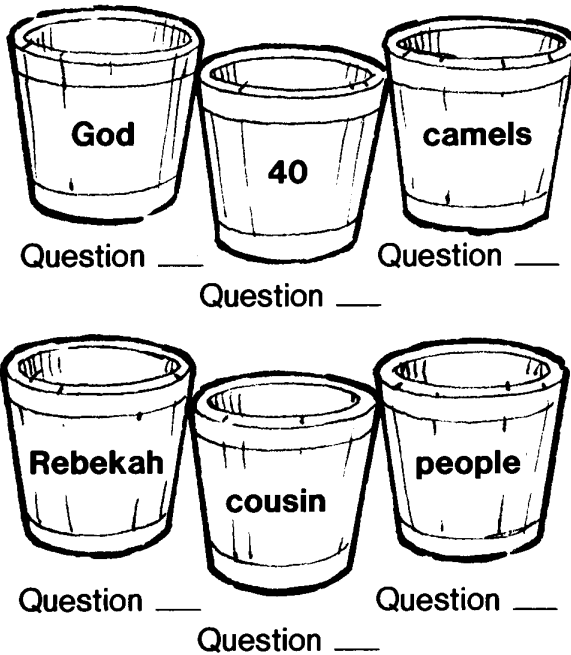
Soon after, they learned that they would be parents. How happy they were! But as the baby grew inside her, "he" was struggling and moving around so much that Rebekah was alarmed. She then asked God why this was happening.

God told Rebekah in a dream that she would have two babies and that each would be the father of a different nation!



## "FILL" THESE PAILS

- A. Fill in the blanks in the statements below.
- B. Under each pail fill in the number of the statement in which the word was used.
- C. Color the buckets.



1. Isaac married when he was \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ was his bride.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ answered the servant's prayer.
4. The servant was sure of the answer when Rebekah drew water for his \_\_\_\_\_, too.
5. Abraham wanted Isaac to marry someone from his own \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Rebekah was a \_\_\_\_\_ to Isaac.

"One will be stronger than the other," God said, "and the one born first will serve the younger."

Rebekah wondered about God's answer. But she knew that God would help her understand as time went on.

Rebekah soon had twin boys, just as God had said. The happy parents named the first *Esau*, and the second *Jacob*.

As they grew, Isaac and Rebekah could see that the boys were not alike. They did not like to do the same things.

Esau liked to hunt. Jacob liked to raise animals and grow fruits and vegetables. Whenever Esau came back from a hunting trip, he would cook the meat from the animals he had killed for his father. Isaac liked this very much and Esau became very special to Isaac. But Rebekah favored Jacob.

## ESAU SELLS HIS BIRTHRIGHT

It was common for the oldest son to be given more of the things his parents owned when they died. Esau was the firstborn, so he would be given more than Jacob. This was called the "birthright."

Some of the things that the firstborn received were land, cattle and money. Isaac's oldest would also receive the promises given to

Abraham and his children's children. What were the promises given to Abraham? Do you remember? If not, then review Lesson 3. On the lines below list two promises God gave Abraham. (See Genesis 17:4-8.) \_\_\_\_\_

One day Esau came back from a hunting trip, tired and very hungry. He saw Jacob making a big pot of soup. It smelled so good!

"Feed me some of that soup," said Esau. "I'm starved!"

Jacob could see how hungry and faint Esau was. "Esau might trade anything for a bowl of soup," Jacob thought to himself. "This may be a way to get the birthright for myself." So Jacob answered his brother, "You may have the soup if you give me your birthright."

Esau knew the birthright was very important. But now all he could think of was how hungry he was and how good that soup would taste! "I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?" So he traded his birthright for a bowl of soup.

It seems nothing was said to Isaac or Rebekah about this trade. Isaac would have been very unhappy if he knew what Esau had done.

## ESAU AND JACOB

Isaac, Rebekah then Esau and Jacob  
(These were the children born).  
Esau, the hunter, Jacob, the "cook"—  
Thus was the birthright scorned:

For Esau was hungry—  
Good smelled the soup!  
Jacob decided  
This way to stoop.

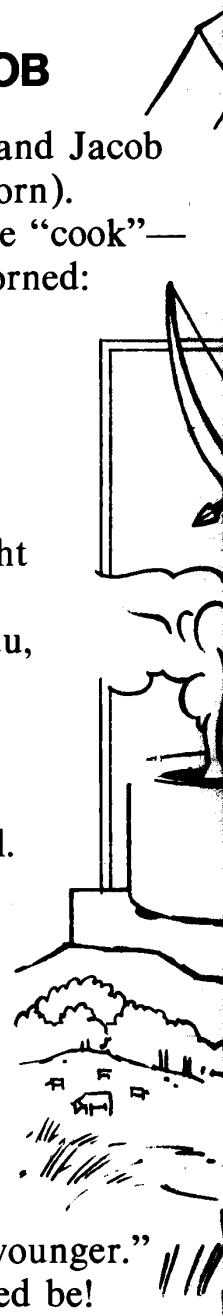
"What good is the birthright  
If dead I'll be.  
It's yours, Jacob," said Esau,  
"Soup's all I can see."

How tragic for Esau—  
Small value was set  
On the birthright so special.  
(Esau seemed to forget.)

But Jacob remembered  
(His goal it became)  
And because of this  
The promises he gained.

But God had already said  
In Genesis 25:23:  
"The elder shall serve the younger."  
So Jacob's trick did not need be!

For human beings do not need  
To work things out for God.  
His purpose for us all will stand.  
Onward we must prod!





What does this poem tell us? Explain to your parents if you can. They will help you to understand the parts which may be difficult.

## JACOB STEALS THE BLESSING

Years later when Isaac was old and blind, he called Esau to him. "Take your quiver and bow and kill a deer for me. Cook the meat the way I like it, and then I shall give you the blessing of the firstborn."

Esau should have been honest. He should have told his father that he had sold his birthright to his brother. The blessing was now for Jacob. But he did not tell Isaac. He went to hunt for a deer as his father had asked.

Rebekah was standing nearby and overheard Isaac talking to Esau. She wanted Jacob to have the blessing so she thought of a plan to make that happen. Rebekah did not need to do what she was planning. Had she forgotten what God had told her?

What did God tell her before the babies were born? (Look back a few paragraphs.) Finish this sentence: "The one born \_\_\_\_\_ will serve the \_\_\_\_\_." Who was born first? \_\_\_\_\_. Who was the younger? \_\_\_\_\_. Rebekah should have trusted God to work it out His way.

"Go to the flocks," Rebekah told Jacob. "Get two young goats and I will cook them just the way your father likes. Then you will take the

meat to him to eat, and he will give you his blessing before Esau returns.”

But Jacob did not think this plan would work. His brother was very hairy. “My father will feel my smooth hands and know I am not Esau,” protested Jacob. “Then he will know I am trying to trick him.”

“I will take care of that,” replied his mother. “Just go get the two young goats as I have asked.” So Jacob left. Soon, he returned with the two goats from his flocks.

Rebekah cooked the meat just the way Isaac liked it. Next, she took some of Esau’s best clothes

and told Jacob to put them on. And the skins from the goats she had just cooked she wrapped around Jacob’s neck and hands. Finally she handed the platter of meat to Jacob.

“Now,” she told him, “take the meat to your father.”

As Jacob came into Isaac’s tent, he called, “My father.”

“Who are you?” asked Isaac.

And Jacob replied, “I am Esau, your firstborn. I have brought the venison that you asked for. Sit up and eat it. Then you can give me the blessing.”

But Isaac wondered how Esau had found a deer so quickly. “How



could you have returned so soon?" he asked.

Once again, Jacob lied to his father. "God showed me where to find one," he said.

Isaac was not sure that the voice he heard was Esau's so he said, "Come to me so I may feel you."

Jacob moved closer. Isaac reached out and felt Jacob's hands. "Your voice is like Jacob's, but your skin feels like Esau's. Are you really Esau?"

"I am." Jacob lied again.

So Isaac ate the venison. Then he asked a blessing on Jacob, thinking he was Esau: "God give my son well-watered fields that will grow much food. Let people serve him and nations bow down to him. May a curse be on those who curse him and may a blessing be on those who bless him."

As soon as Isaac finished giving the blessing, Jacob left his father's tent.

Meanwhile, Esau had returned with a deer. He cooked some of the meat and took it to Isaac's tent. He arrived right after Jacob left!

"I have the meat you asked for, father," said Esau. "Sit up and eat it."

Isaac could not believe what he heard! Trembling, he asked, "Who are you?"

"I am Esau, your firstborn son," he replied.

"Then who was just here and left?" asked Isaac. "He said he was Esau. I asked God's blessing upon him. And God *will* bless him!"

Esau was stunned. "Bless me, too, father," he cried.

"But your brother tricked me and took your blessing," Isaac answered.

"So it was Jacob!" Esau said angrily. "He has cheated me twice. First he took my birthright. Now he has stolen my blessing. Don't you have anything left for me, Father?"

Esau broke down and wept. Isaac felt very sorry for his son. Then he said to Esau, "God will give you and your children a land far away from the best places. You will have to hunt and fight for what you get. You and your people will serve your brother and his people. But there will come a time when you will be free of them."

Esau did not feel thankful for his blessing. All he felt was anger. "My father is getting very old," Esau thought to himself. "When he dies, I will kill Jacob."

He told someone of his plan and soon Rebekah heard of it. She was afraid for Jacob and told him of Esau's plan.

“You must leave at once,” Rebekah told Jacob. “Go to Haran and stay with your Uncle Laban for awhile.”

Rebekah did not tell Isaac the real reason for wanting Jacob to go away. Instead she asked Isaac to send Jacob away to marry one of Laban’s daughters.

Before Jacob left, Isaac reminded him of God’s blessing that was his because of his grandfather Abraham.

“You will have many children and grandchildren, Jacob. And you will have the land which God gave to Abraham,” Isaac told his son. Then he sent Jacob on his way.

### **A SPECIAL DREAM**

Jacob set out for Haran where his Uncle Laban lived. At sunset, he stopped for the night. Jacob took a stone and made it a pillow for his head.

While Jacob slept, he dreamed of a long stairway. It started on the earth and reached far up into the sky. Angels of God walked up and down the stairway. At the top of the stairway stood God.

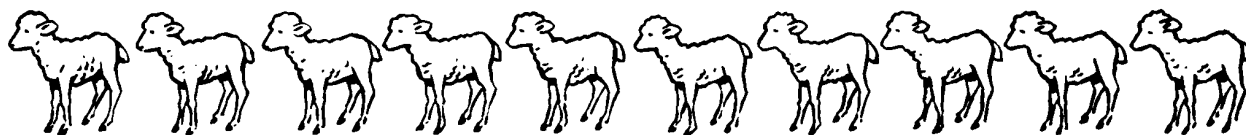
God spoke to Jacob and said, “I am the God of Abraham and Isaac. I will be with you and take care of you. I have given you and your children the land where you lie. Their members will spread out over the land and they will be blessed very greatly. I will bring you back to this land again.”

When Jacob awoke, he was afraid. He knew it was God who spoke to him in the dream. So Jacob marked the place of his dream with the stone he used for a pillow.

He promised God that if He would take care of him and one day bring him back to his father’s house, then he would worship God and pay God one tenth, or a tithe, of all that He would give him.

Jacob knew about God’s law of tithing. He knew that the earth and everything in it belongs to God. And of all that God gives us, He tells us to pay back one tenth to Him. Then He blesses us even more if we obey that law of God.

Jacob now continued on his way with a happy feeling. He knew God would help him.

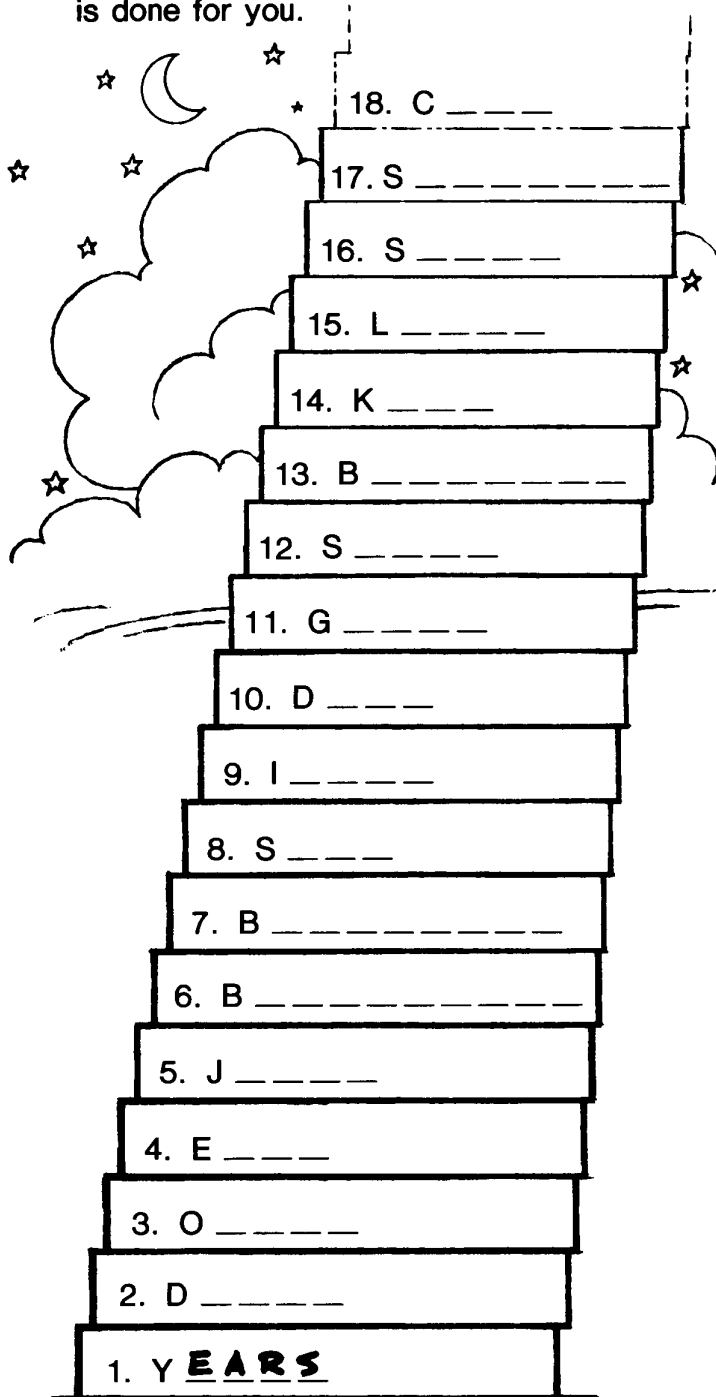


**Circle the tithe**



## CLIMB THE STAIRWAY!

You may go up one step with each correct answer. Write the answers on the steps as you climb up. The first one is done for you.



1. Isaac and Rebekah were married for many \_\_\_\_\_ before she had any children.

2. God told Rebekah in a \_\_\_\_\_ that she would have twin boys.

3. "One will be stronger than the other and the \_\_\_\_\_ will serve the younger."

4. The older was named \_\_\_\_\_.

5. The younger was named \_\_\_\_\_.

6. The older normally received the \_\_\_\_\_.

7. The Birthright was the receiving of many \_\_\_\_\_ such as land, cattle and money.

8. Esau was hungry and sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of \_\_\_\_\_.

9. Later, when \_\_\_\_\_ was old and blind, he wanted to bless Esau.

10. Isaac told Esau to get some \_\_\_\_\_ meat for him to eat, and then he would give him the blessing.

11. Rebekah told Jacob to get two \_\_\_\_\_ from the flocks.

12. Rebekah wrapped the \_\_\_\_\_ around Jacob's neck and hands.

13. Isaac thought Jacob was Esau and gave him the \_\_\_\_\_.

14. Esau said he would \_\_\_\_\_ Jacob.

15. Rebekah sent Jacob to \_\_\_\_\_ to be safe.

16. On his way Jacob used a pillow of \_\_\_\_\_ to rest his head on.

17. Jacob dreamed of a \_\_\_\_\_ that started on earth and reached to the sky.

18. God told Jacob, "I will be with you and take \_\_\_\_\_ of you."

## BIBLE MEMORY

Books of the  
New Testament

- |                         |                     |               |                |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Matthew              | 8. 2 Corinthians    | 15. 1 Timothy | 22. 2 Peter    |
| 2. Mark                 | 9. Galatians        | 16. 2 Timothy | 23. 1 John     |
| 3. Luke                 | 10. Ephesians       | 17. Titus     | 24. 2 John     |
| 4. John                 | 11. Philippians     | 18. Philemon  | 25. 3 John     |
| 5. Acts of the Apostles | 12. Colossians      | 19. Hebrews   | 26. Jude       |
| 6. Romans               | 13. 1 Thessalonians | 20. James     | 27. Revelation |
| 7. 1 Corinthians        | 14. 2 Thessalonians | 21. 1 Peter   |                |

## WORD MEANINGS

Match each word with the correct picture or worded meaning. Put the correct number by each word at the left.

venison \_\_\_\_

important \_\_\_\_

tragic \_\_\_\_

caravan \_\_\_\_

veil \_\_\_\_

stunned \_\_\_\_

wondered \_\_\_\_

prod \_\_\_\_

faucet \_\_\_\_

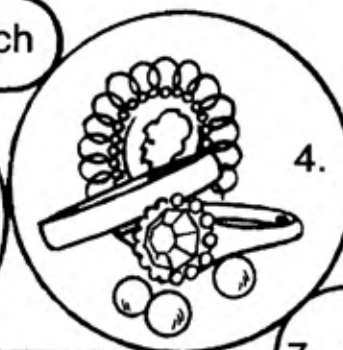
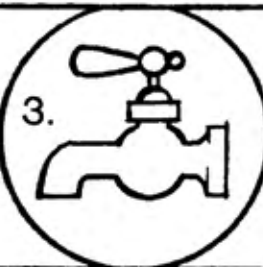
jewelry \_\_\_\_

favor'd \_\_\_\_

scorn'd \_\_\_\_

trembling \_\_\_\_

1. worth very much

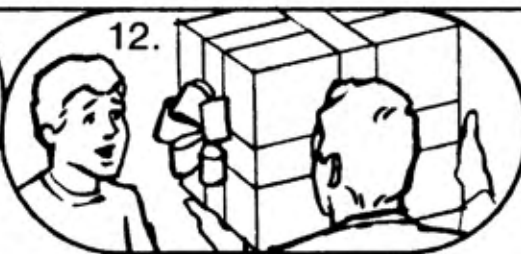


7. Go!

6. thought about very carefully



11. thought of as low, not worth much



Find these words in the lesson.

Write out on a separate piece of paper the sentences in which they are used.

# YOUTH BIBLE LESSONS

LEVEL 3

LESSON 5



Beginning of the Twelve Tribes of Israel



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# BEGINNING OF THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL

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Remember that our last lesson left Jacob traveling to Haran where his uncle Laban lived. After falling asleep one evening, Jacob dreamed of a stairway reaching to heaven. At the top of the stairway stood God. He told Jacob that He would be with him and bless him greatly.

Jacob woke up the next morning thankful that God was with him. On his way to Haran, he trudged along stony mountain trails and over hot desert sands. He then crossed the great Euphrates River. It was a long way to his uncle's home. Finally, Jacob came near the city of Haran, in the land of Mesopotamia.

## JACOB MEETS RACHEL

As he drew close to the city, Jacob spotted some shepherds and their flocks. He quickly ran to meet them at a nearby well. "Do you know my uncle Laban?" he asked one of the shepherds.

"Yes," the shepherd replied,

"and here comes his daughter Rachel with some of her father's sheep!"

Wanting to be of help, Jacob moved the large, flat stone from the well so the animals could be watered. As the animals drank, Jacob noticed how beautiful Rachel was.

Jacob walked over to where Rachel stood and greeted her. He was so thankful that God had led him to his relatives that he wept for joy.

Rachel was so surprised and excited to see her cousin \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank), she left him at the well and ran home to tell her father Laban. Laban ran to the well and invited Jacob to his home where he stayed for a month. During that month he worked for Laban in the fields and took care of his flocks (Genesis 29:1-14).

Jacob saw Rachel often during that month. The more he saw her, the more he liked her. Rachel had an older sister named Leah, who



was closer in age to Jacob, but Rachel was the one he really liked.

Laban was happy with the work Jacob did for him. He asked Jacob if he would like to keep on working for him and what he thought would be fair wages, or pay, for his work.

“I shall work for you the next seven years if you will then give me Rachel to be my wife,” said Jacob (Genesis 29:15-18).

Laban liked the idea. Seven years of labor from a strong, hard worker would be worth a large sum of money.

Are you seven years old? Didn't it seem to take a very long time to become seven? The passing of seven years seemed but a short time to Jacob. This was because he saw Rachel every day (Genesis 29:20).

## THE WEDDING

When the seven years of labor were over, it was time for the wedding. Laban planned a great wedding feast that would last seven days! Jacob was very happy.

During the wedding ceremony the bride wore a long, heavy veil that hid her face. Later, when the veil was removed, Jacob found he had not married Rachel! Laban

tricked him. Jacob married Laban's older daughter Leah instead!

Jacob was very angry. “Why have you tricked me?” he demanded of Laban. “You knew I wanted to marry Rachel!”

“I am sorry,” said Laban, “but we have a custom here that the older daughter must marry first” (Genesis 29:21-26).

“Why didn't you tell me that before?” Jacob demanded. Laban hadn't told Jacob earlier because he wanted Leah to get married first. Was Laban being honest?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Fill in the blank.)

Does Laban's trick remind you of anything Jacob had done? Think back. Look in the last lesson if you cannot remember. Jacob must have thought about the time when he tricked his brother Esau. Now *he* had been tricked!

Then Laban said, “I will still give you Rachel if you'll do two things.”

“What are they?” asked Jacob, wondering to himself if this was another trick.

“If you will treat Leah nicely, then you may marry Rachel at the end of the week,” said Laban.

“I am willing,” Jacob said after some thought, “but what else must I do?”

“You must work seven *more*

years for Rachel,” answered Laban (Genesis 29:27). How long would Jacob have to work altogether for Rachel?  $7 + 7$  or  $7 \times 2 =$  \_\_\_\_\_. (Fill in the blank.)
























































Is your answer 14 years? If so, you’re right. Jacob was willing to work 14 years because he loved Rachel very much!

At the end of the week Jacob married Rachel. Now he had \_\_\_\_\_ wives. (Fill in this and the following blanks.) They were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Men

were allowed to have more than one wife in those days. But Jacob loved Rachel more (Genesis 29:28-30). This must have made \_\_\_\_\_ sad. See the next page of this lesson for a little poem that will help you remember this story.

### GOD BLESSES JACOB

During his fourteen years of work for Laban, Jacob’s family grew very large. But only one of his eleven sons was born to his favorite wife Rachel.

$1 + 1 =$	$1 \times 2 =$		$=$	_____
$2 + 2 =$	$2 \times 2 =$	 	$=$	_____
$3 + 3 =$	$3 \times 2 =$	  	$=$	_____
$4 + 4 =$	$4 \times 2 =$	   	$=$	_____
$5 + 5 =$	$5 \times 2 =$	    	$=$	_____
$6 + 6 =$	$6 \times 2 =$	     	$=$	_____
<b><math>7 + 7 =</math></b>	<b><math>7 \times 2 =</math></b>	      	<b><math>=</math></b>	<b>14</b>
$8 + 8 =$	$8 \times 2 =$	       	$=$	_____
$9 + 9 =$	$9 \times 2 =$	        	$=$	_____
$10 + 10 =$	$10 \times 2 =$	         	$=$	_____

Fill in the correct numbers in the spaces provided at the right.



## JACOB'S LOVE FOR RACHEL

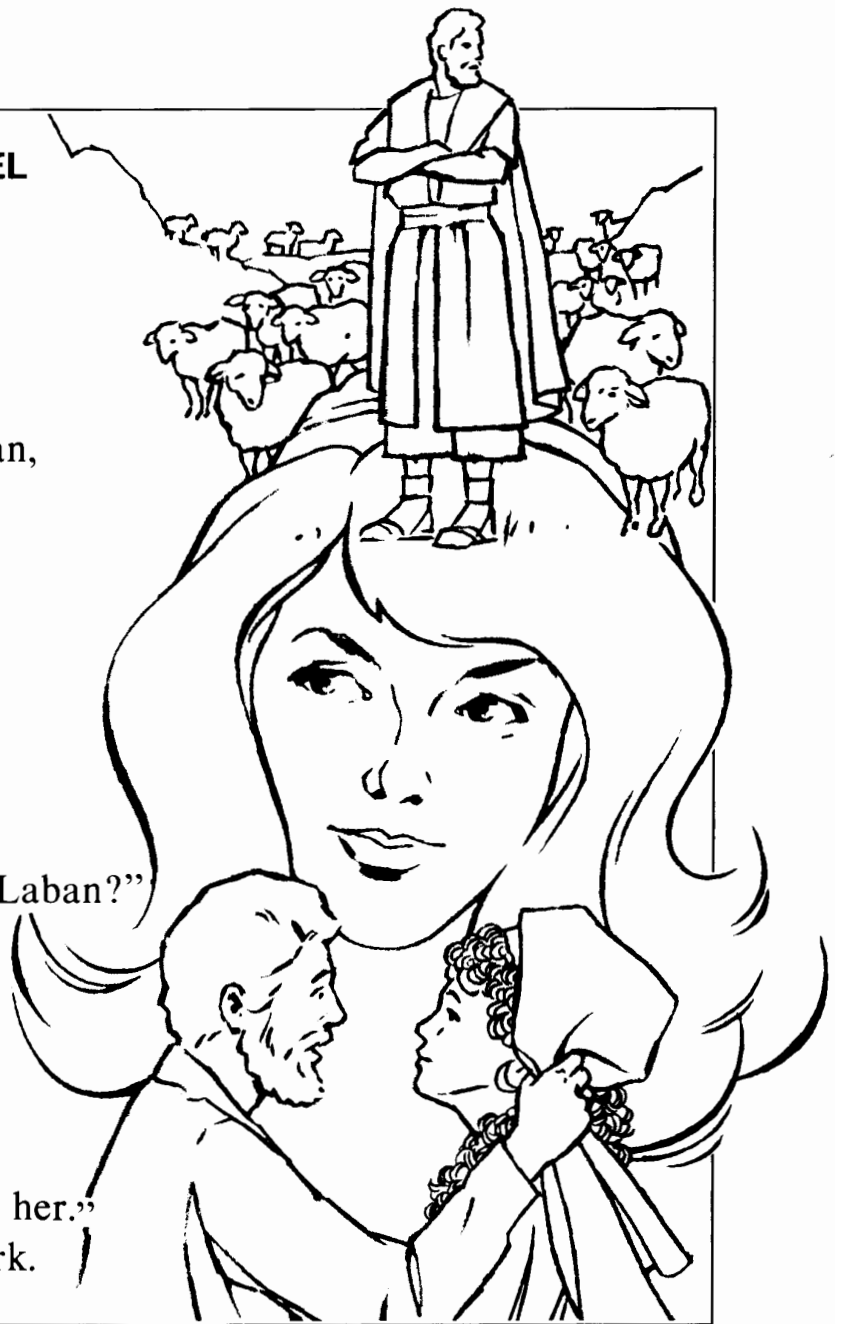
Jacob loved Rachel  
And to Laban said:  
"I'll work for seven years  
If Rachel I may wed."

"That's very fine," said Laban,  
"Very fine indeed.  
After seven years  
A wedding you will see."

The seven years were over  
The wedding day was here.  
But when the veil was lifted,  
Rachel was not near!

"Why have you tricked me, Laban?"  
Jacob sought to know.  
(Hadn't he done that earlier  
When Esau was so low?)

"If for seven years more  
For Rachel you will work,  
At week's end you may have her."  
Laban said he would not shirk.



During those years, Laban became very rich because of Jacob's diligent, hard work. Near the end of the fourteen years, Jacob told Laban he wanted to move back to Canaan where his elderly father Isaac lived (Genesis 30:25-26).

Laban was not happy to hear this. Do you know why? He knew

that God was blessing him because of Jacob.

"I will pay you whatever you want if you will keep working for me," said Laban.

"I don't want money," Jacob answered, "but I would like to have your animals which have spots or ring marks on their hides."

Laban agreed very quickly. That surprised Jacob. The next day he found out why.

After Jacob asked for those animals, Laban had his sons and workmen take away most of the animals Jacob wanted. They hid the animals where Jacob wouldn't notice them. Again Laban was being very tricky (Genesis 30:27-35).

Jacob now had to wait for more animals with spots or ring marks to be born. This took time.

Recall that God had promised to bless Jacob, and He did. During the next six years that Jacob took care of the animals, large numbers were born with spots or ring marks. Jacob now had many flocks.

Laban's animals were not having as many young ones as they had before, so his flocks were not increasing as fast as Jacob's. This shows that if we are honest and do things right like Jacob did, God will bless us too.

### **JACOB DEPARTS**

Jacob still wanted to go back to Canaan. God also wanted him to return. But Laban was not pleased about Jacob's desire to leave.

Jacob waited until Laban was tending his sheep far away. Jacob then took down his own tents,

loaded his belongings, put his wives and sons on camels and secretly departed. He did not want Laban to prevent them from leaving. Jacob was very careful not to take anything that belonged to Laban. It was not possible to travel quickly because the herds of animals moved slowly (Genesis 31:1-21).

Have you ever seen a flock being herded along a path? The animals often try to scatter and go in different directions. It must have been very difficult for Jacob and his men to get the animals to go in the right direction.

Three days later Laban was told that Jacob and his family left. Laban became very angry. He then discovered that some of his images were missing. He was sure Jacob took them.

"Saddle our fastest camels! We will catch up with Jacob and take care of this matter!" Laban shouted.

After seven days of hard travel, Laban spotted Jacob's caravan in the distance. Laban and his men then camped for the night. While they slept, God spoke to Laban in a dream and told him not to harm Jacob (Genesis 31:22-24).

The next morning when Laban overtook Jacob's caravan, he asked Jacob, "Why did you secretly leave

without letting me know? I would have prepared a feast before you left and would like to have kissed my grandchildren goodbye. And why did you steal my images?"

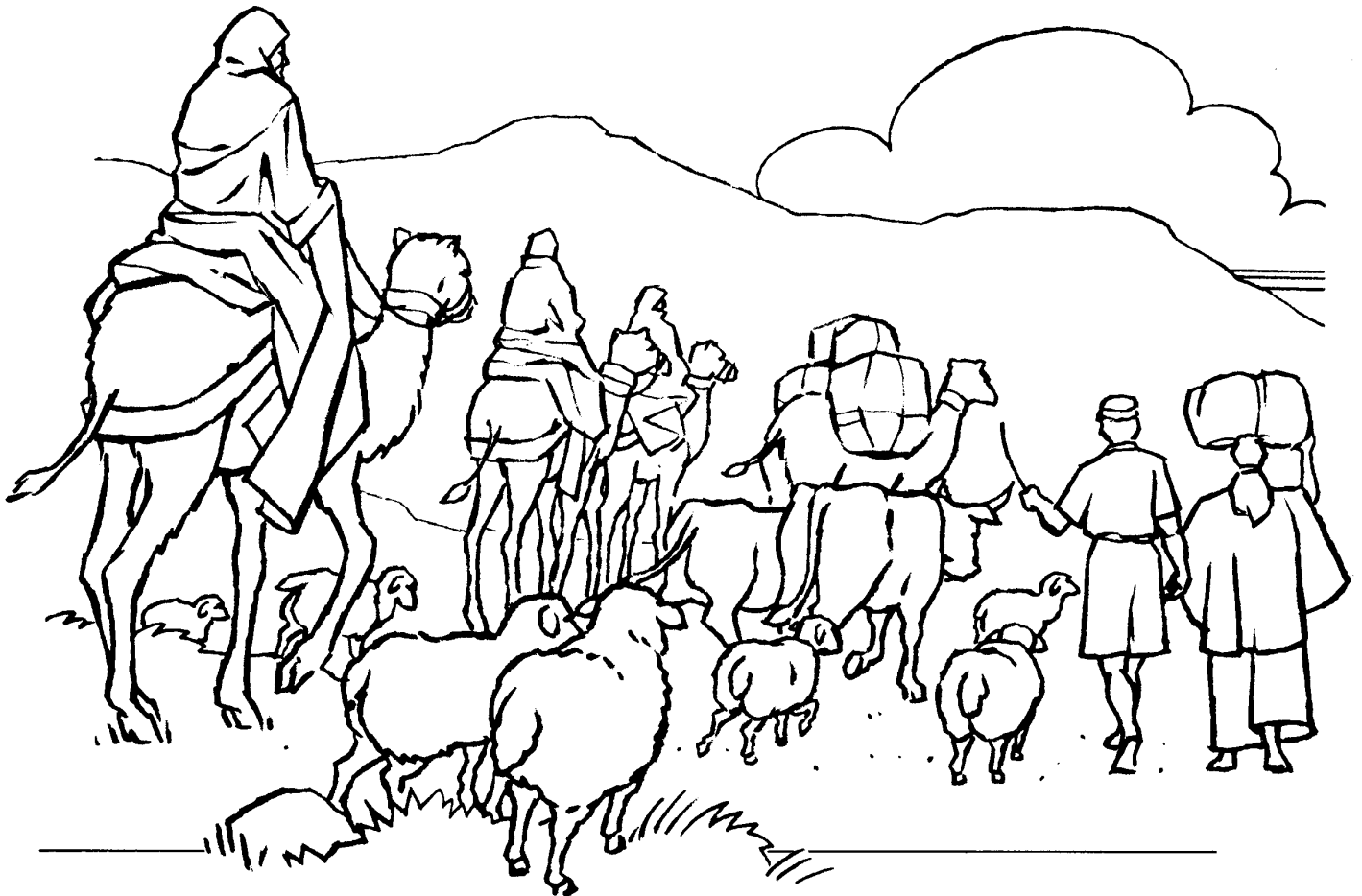
Jacob was very surprised to hear this. Do you remember how careful he was not to take anything belonging to Laban? But there was something he didn't know. He did not realize that Rachel had taken the images. Had Jacob known, he would not have permitted her to take them.

Laban began searching through all the tents. When he searched

Rachel's tent, he could not find the images because she hid them beneath the saddle on which she was sitting.

When Laban could not find the images, he suggested that both he and Jacob make an agreement. "Let's build a pillar here as a sign that I will not cross it to harm you and you will not cross it to harm me," said Laban. Jacob agreed.

After piling up stones for the pillar, the two shared a meal together. Early the next morning after saying goodbye to each other, Laban and his men left for home

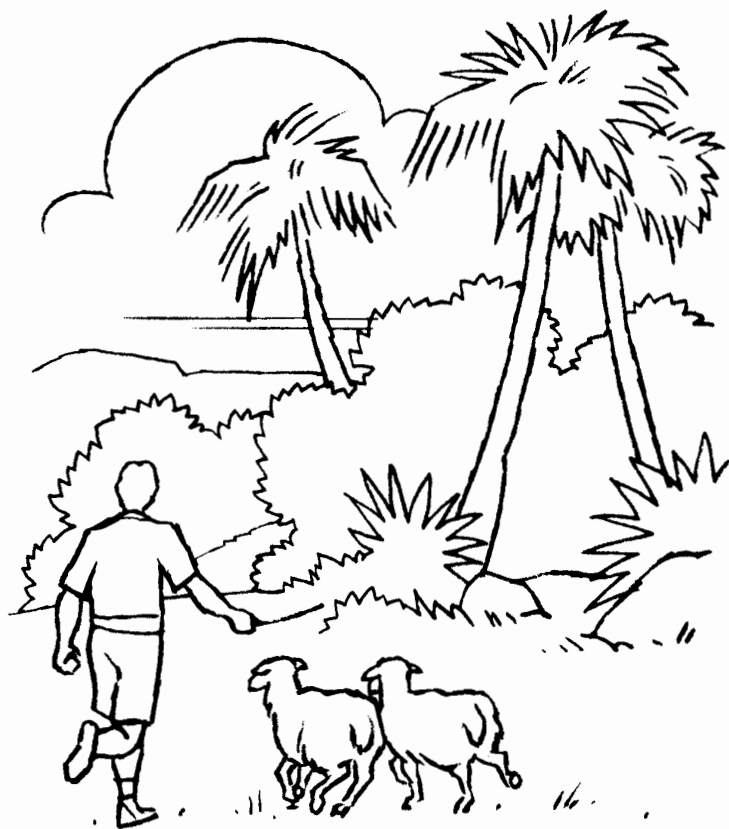


while Jacob and his family packed up and continued their trip (Genesis 31:25-55).

### **JACOB'S NAME CHANGED TO ISRAEL**

Nearing the land of Canaan, Jacob worried about meeting Esau whom he had not seen for twenty years. Do you remember how angry Esau was then? He wanted to *kill* Jacob because of the trick he played on him!

Jacob was afraid that Esau might still be angry, so he sent messengers on ahead to find out.



Jacob told the messengers to tell Esau that his brother had much wealth and that he hoped they could meet as friends.

When the messengers returned, they told Jacob that Esau and four hundred of his men were on their way to meet him.

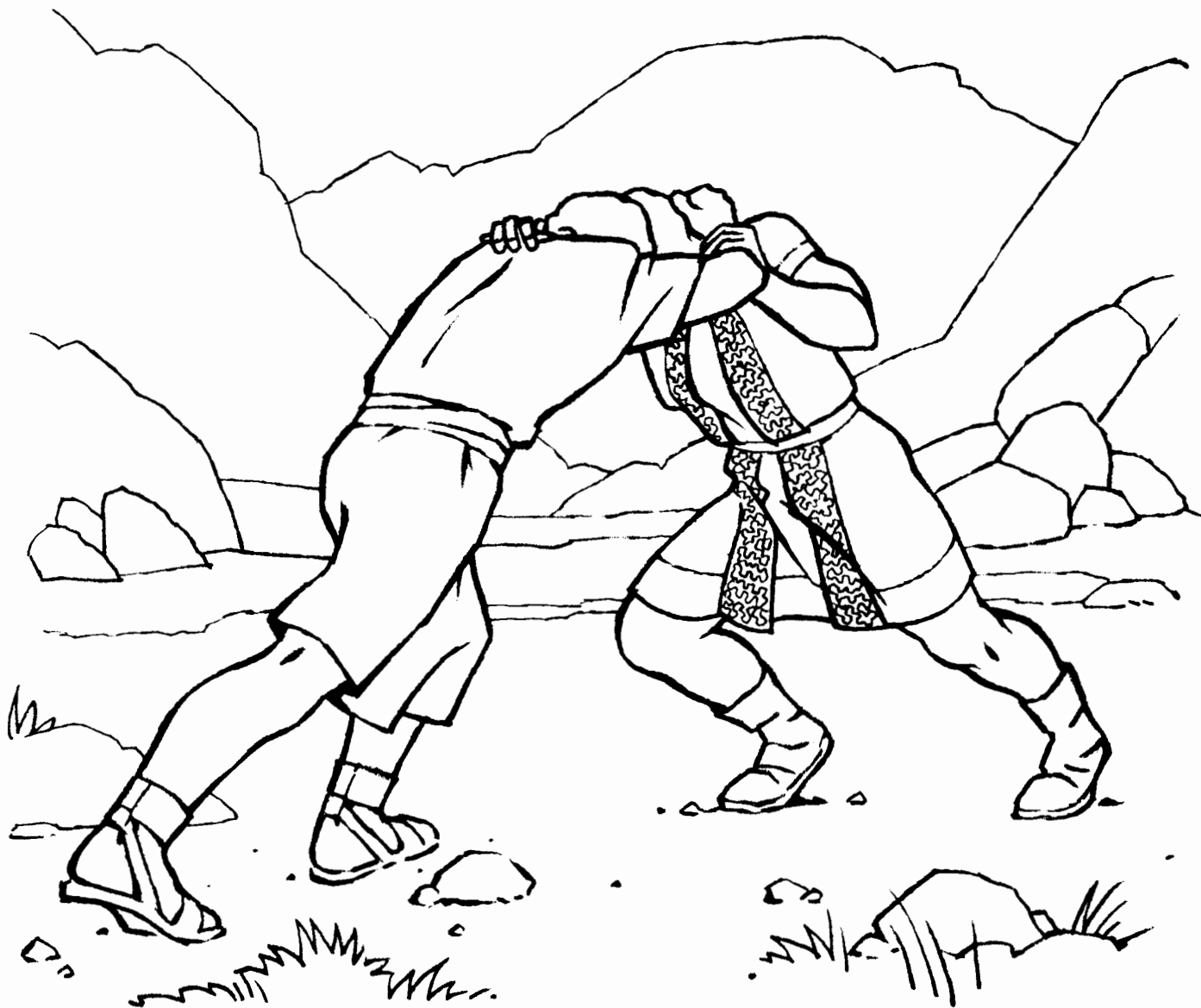
Jacob was shocked! He ordered his caravan and flocks to divide into two groups. Jacob did this because he thought that if one group were attacked by Esau's men, the other could escape.

Jacob then did the most important thing. He asked God to protect them from an attack. God always wants us to look to Him to help us. He will help us, but we must also do what we can to avoid harm.

Jacob thought that giving Esau a present might help. So he picked out five hundred and fifty of his best animals. He chose cattle, goats, sheep, burros and camels for Esau. These he sent out in groups. Each group was a separate gift. Jacob sent Esau these gifts hoping that Esau would be friendly to him (Genesis 32:3-21).

Before they met, both groups camped for the night. While his caravan was setting up camp, Jacob stayed a short distance behind to pray.

Suddenly someone seized Jacob



and a wrestling match began. This match went on throughout the night. It was not an easy struggle for Jacob, for he was not wrestling with a human being. Later we are told in the Bible that the Being Jacob wrestled with was the One who later became Jesus Christ!

The two struggled all night long.

But Jacob would not give in. He would not let go until God blessed him.

As God put an end to the match just before dawn, He changed Jacob's name to Israel. Israel means, "he who overcomes" or "proves to be a champion." Jacob, now called Israel, proved to be a

champion with God. God was pleased with Jacob because he was not a quitter. We, like Jacob, should not be quitters either. We should always try to finish the jobs we start.

In the morning Jacob had a very sore hip. This reminded him of the struggle he just went through to receive God's blessing (Genesis 32:24-32).

### JACOB MEETS ESAU

Looking up, Jacob saw a cloud of dust rising across the desert. Esau was coming!

Jacob put Rachel and their son Joseph behind the others in the caravan. This was because they were his favorite wife and son and he did not want them to get hurt.

Then he went forward to meet Esau. As he came closer to his brother, Jacob bowed seven times. This was the custom when one wanted to show respect.

Esau came closer and closer, and then rushed toward Jacob and hugged him! They were happy to be together again. God answered Jacob's prayer.

After Esau met Jacob's family and accepted Jacob's gifts, each went their separate way (Genesis 33:1-17).

After Jacob arrived in Canaan,

his twelfth son was born. Jacob named him Benjamin. Unhappily Rachel, his mother, died at the time. Jacob was very sad because she was the wife he especially loved (Genesis 35:16-19).

From what we have just learned, Jacob (now called \_\_\_\_\_) had \_\_\_\_ sons. (Fill in the blanks.) Can you name them? If you need help, ask your parents to find their names in the Bible and then write them on the lines below.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_

The families of each of these twelve sons would later be called the *Twelve Tribes of Israel*. This is because the families of each of Jacob's sons grew larger and larger over many years. And since Jacob's name was changed to *Israel*, the families of his twelve sons are called the tribes of *Israel*. Today these "tribes" have become large *nations*!

## BIBLE MEMORY

Twelve Tribes  
of Israel

Reuben  
Simeon  
Levi  
Judah

Zebulun  
Issachar  
Dan  
Gad

Asher  
Naphtali  
Joseph (Ephraim, Manasseh)  
Benjamin

## WORD MEANINGS

In the blank next to each word in the left-hand column, write the number of the drawing or written meaning which describes the word. The first one is done for you as an example.

trudged 10

custom \_\_\_\_\_

daughter \_\_\_\_\_

diligent \_\_\_\_\_

champion \_\_\_\_\_

quitter \_\_\_\_\_

reminded \_\_\_\_\_

accepted \_\_\_\_\_

sought \_\_\_\_\_

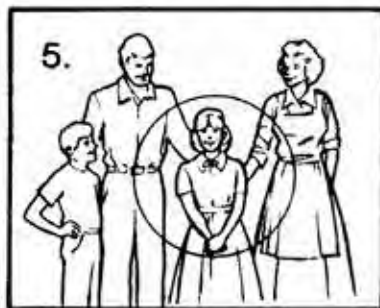
shirk \_\_\_\_\_

1. tried to find out (looked for)

3. caused to remember  
(told again)

4. way of doing things

5.



6. hard working

7. one who doesn't  
finish doing something

8. one who does his best

9. not doing what you say you will

10. walked



Find these ten words in the lesson. Write out on a separate piece of paper the sentences in which they are used.



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# YOUTH

LEVEL 3

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# BIBLE

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# LESSONS

LESSON 6

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Joseph

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# JOSEPH

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Joseph was the firstborn son of Rachel, Jacob's favorite wife. He was Jacob's favorite son because he was born when Jacob was an older man. Jacob loved Joseph so much that he gave him a beautiful coat of many colors.

His brothers became very jealous when they saw that their father loved Joseph more than he loved them. They were filled with hatred against Joseph and refused to speak kindly to him.

When Joseph was seventeen years old, he was helping his brothers feed their father's flocks. When he returned home he gave his father a bad report about his brothers. This only made them angry and their hatred for Joseph grew even more.

## **JOSEPH'S DREAMS**

One day Joseph told his brothers about a dream he had. "In my dream," he said, "we were in the field tying up sheaves, or bundles of grain. My sheaf stood up very

straight, while yours bowed down to mine."

His brothers replied angrily, "So you think you're going to rule over us?" And they hated Joseph even more.

Then Joseph had another dream which he told his father and brothers about.

"In this dream the sun and the moon and eleven stars bowed to me."

Jacob scolded him and said, "Shall I and your mother and your brothers bow down to you?"

Joseph's brothers hated him even more now.

## **JOSEPH SOLD BY HIS BROTHERS**

Sometime later, Joseph's brothers went out to feed their father's flocks. When they had been gone for several days, Jacob called Joseph and said, "Go see how your brothers are doing."

When the brothers saw Joseph coming, they said, "Here comes

that dreamer. Let's kill him."

But Reuben, the oldest brother, said, "No, let's not kill him. Let's just put him into a pit."

When Joseph reached his brothers, he was very happy. But they ripped off his special coat and dropped him into a deep pit.

Reuben planned to rescue Joseph later. But while he was off tending the flocks, his brothers saw a caravan of Midianite traders coming by. "Let's sell Joseph to these traders," they said.

The Midianite traders pulled Joseph out of the pit. He called to his brothers for help, but they just

stood by and divided up the twenty pieces of silver they had been paid. Then Joseph was carried off to Egypt.

When Reuben returned and discovered that Joseph was gone, he was so upset that he tore his clothes. He then ran back to tell his brothers, but of course they already knew!

To hide what they had done, the evil brothers put goat's blood on Joseph's coat and pretended to be very sad when they returned home with it.

When Jacob saw Joseph's blood-stained coat, he thought that his



favorite son had been killed by a wild animal. He was very upset and mourned for many days. His sons tried to make him feel better, but they did not tell him the truth.

### **JOSEPH A SLAVE IN EGYPT**

The Midianites sold Joseph to an Egyptian named Potiphar. He was an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard.

Joseph was put to work in Potiphar's house doing many different tasks. He was the best worker there because he followed God's laws. Potiphar soon put Joseph in charge of his entire household.

Then Potiphar's wife started to like Joseph as much as she liked her own husband. She wanted him to spend time with her, but Joseph told her it would be wrong.

One day she became very angry at Joseph and pulled off his jacket.

"Servants," she cried, "Joseph has been very rude to me. He ran away after I called out for help, but I have his jacket in my hand."

She told her husband the same untrue story. Potiphar became very angry, and had Joseph put in prison. But Joseph had not done wrong.

It wasn't long before the man in

charge of the prison noticed that Joseph was very different from the other prisoners. He obeyed the rules and could be trusted. God caused Joseph to be put in charge of the prison under the head jailer.

### **THE PRISONERS' DREAMS**

Then the chief butler and chief baker who served Pharaoh were put in prison. Joseph looked after these men.

While in prison, both the chief butler and baker had dreams.

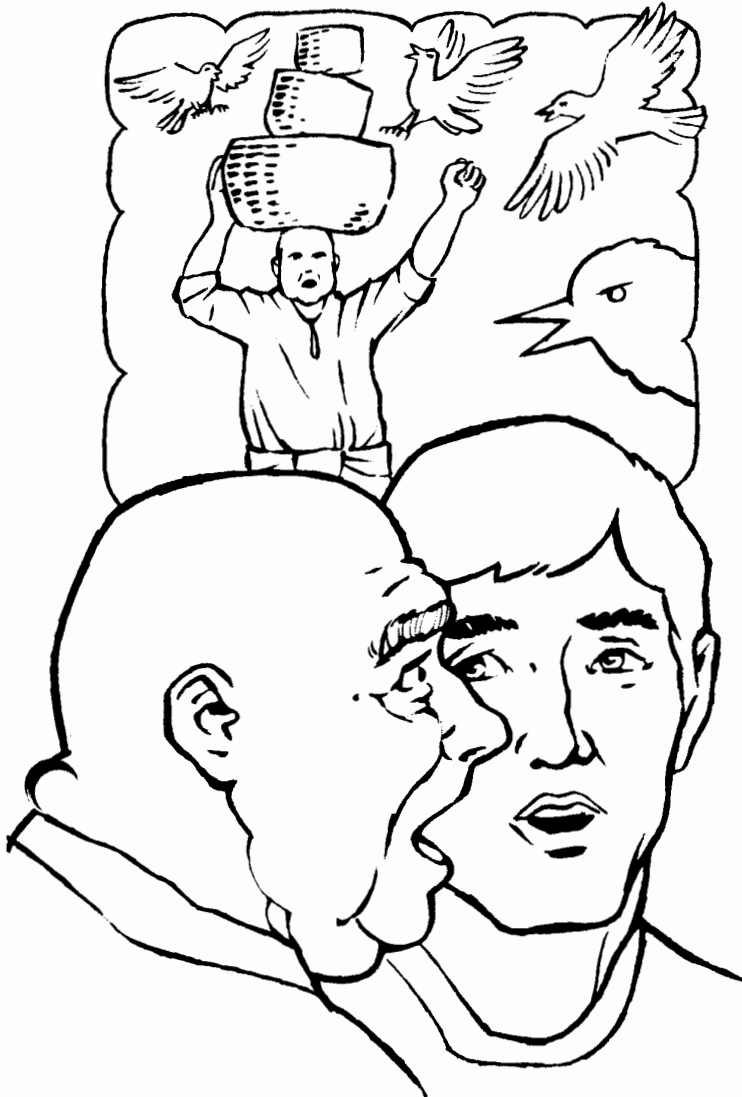
The chief butler told Joseph, "I dreamed of a vine with three branches that blossomed and produced ripe grapes. I pressed the grapes into a cup and then gave the cup to Pharaoh."

Joseph said that only God could reveal the meaning of dreams. God then revealed the meaning to Joseph. "Within three days," Joseph said, "you will be free and back in your office as chief butler."

The chief baker was anxious to hear the meaning of his dream.

"I was carrying three baskets of food to Pharaoh on my head," the chief baker said. "Suddenly birds swooped down and ate up all the food in the baskets."

Joseph realized the terrible



meaning of the dream. "Within three days you will be hanged," he told the frightened baker.

Three days later, the baker was hanged, and the butler was freed—exactly as Joseph had said.

Joseph asked the butler to tell Pharaoh of his innocence, but the butler was so happy to be free that he forgot. So Joseph was in prison for two more years.

## PHARAOH'S DREAMS

One night Pharaoh had two dreams. The next morning, he called for his magicians and wise men to explain what the dreams meant. But they could not.

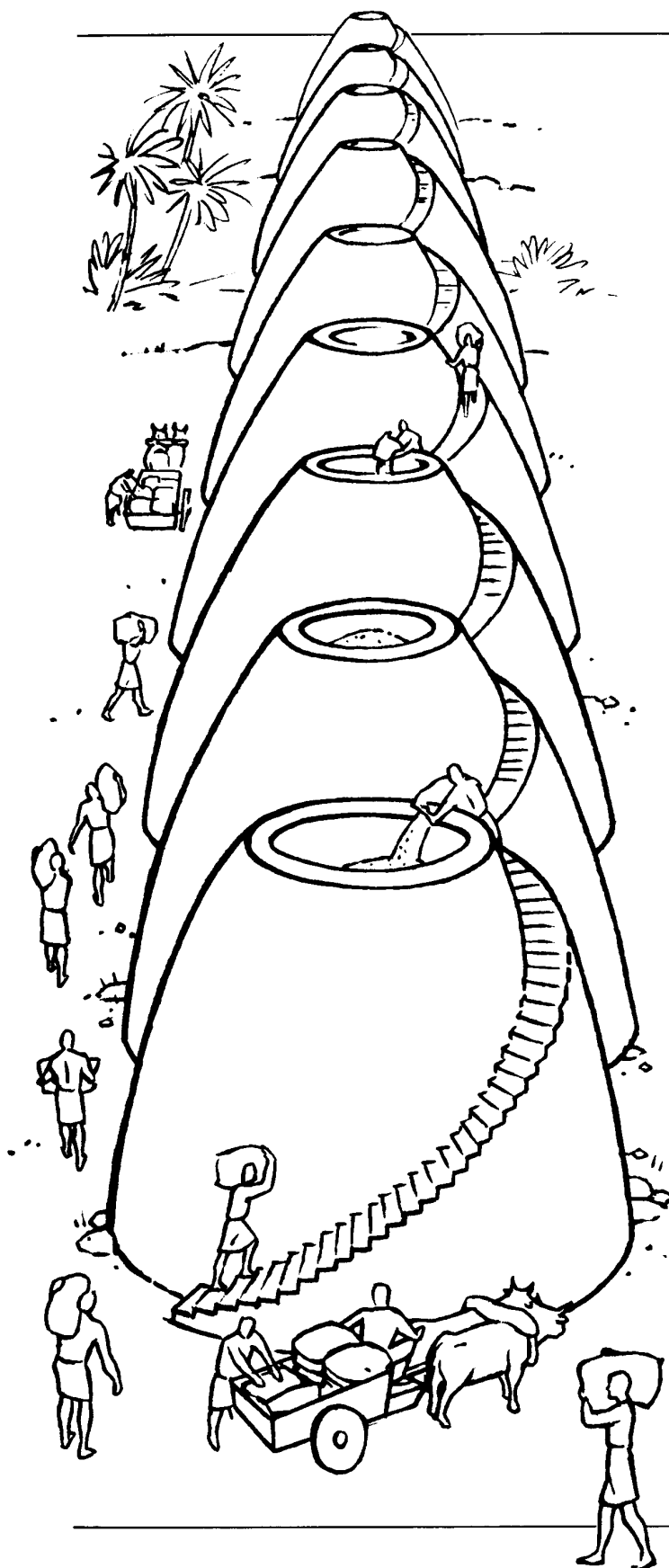
Then the chief butler remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him. "Bring Joseph to me at once," Pharaoh ordered.

Joseph was very thankful for the opportunity to get out of prison. He now stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt.

"In the first dream," Pharaoh said, "I was standing by the Nile River when suddenly seven fat cows came up out of the water and fed on the grass by the riverside. As they were eating, seven thin cows came up out of the water and ate up the seven fat cows. But the thin cows were just as thin as before.

"Then I saw seven plump heads of grain growing out of one stalk. Seven thin, withered heads of grain grew out of the same stalk and ate the plump heads."

Because he received help from God, Joseph was able to tell Pharaoh that his dreams meant there would be seven years of plenty in the land of Egypt. But after the seven good years, there would be seven years of famine.



(Famine means there is very little food to eat.)

### **JOSEPH BECOMES A RULER**

“You should know how we can best prepare for the famine. So I now put you in charge under me,” said Pharaoh.

Pharaoh then gave Joseph special gifts, and a wife, who was the daughter of an important man in Egypt.

Joseph was now thirty years old. Thirteen years had passed since he was sold as a slave at age seventeen. (How much is 17 and 13? \_\_\_\_\_.)

The seven years of plenty soon came upon the land, just as God had promised. During this time, Joseph gave orders to build granaries, or big storage houses to put some of the crops in. The stored food would be eaten during the famine.

Also during this time, Joseph became father of two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.

### **JOSEPH'S BROTHERS GO TO EGYPT**

The seven plentiful years came to an end. The weather changed. There was not much rain now, and hot winds blew very often. The seven years of famine had begun.

It wasn't long before the people

began to run out of food. Joseph then ordered the storehouses opened. People came to Egypt to buy grain. At this time Joseph's father, Jacob, was still living in Canaan. Jacob heard that the Egyptians were selling grain.

"Go to Egypt and buy us some grain," he told his sons. When they arrived in Egypt, they bowed down before the governor and then asked him for grain. They had no idea who this governor really was—that he was Joseph, their younger brother!

But Joseph immediately recognized them. When they bowed, he

remembered the dreams that he had when he was younger.

Joseph wanted to welcome them, but decided to be harsh and stern with them for a while to help them learn a lesson.

"You say you've come to buy food," he said harshly. "I think you are spies!"

"We are not spies, sir. We are the sons of an elderly man who had twelve sons," they answered. "The youngest is at home, and one is dead."

Joseph wanted to find out more about the youngest son, but he remained stern.





“All of you should go to jail!”

After three days, Joseph had them brought out. “I will give you grain, but one of you will stay here until you return with the younger brother you speak of,” he said.

The brothers were frightened. “All this trouble is coming upon us because of what we did to Joseph,” they said among themselves.

“Didn’t I tell you it was wrong to do what you did?” said Reuben.

The brothers didn’t realize that Joseph understood every word they said among themselves. He felt so sorry for them that he left the room and cried.

When Joseph returned, he said, pointing to Simeon, “Take that man to the dungeon!”

The brothers knew that God was having a part in this.

“Go now and get your grain,” said Joseph.

Later, on their way home, they opened their sacks and found the exact amount of money they had paid for the grain. They were worried!

“God is dealing with us for what we did to Joseph many years ago,” one of the brothers said.

Jacob was very happy when his sons returned home, but was sad to hear that Simeon was being held in jail.

“We must take Benjamin so the governor will believe us,” said Reuben.

“I don’t intend to let Benjamin go,” replied Jacob. “If anything should happen to him, I’d die of sorrow.”

## **THE RETURN TO EGYPT WITH BENJAMIN**

The months passed and the famine became worse. Soon Jacob’s food supply was so low that he had to send his sons back to Egypt for more grain.

“Unless we take Benjamin with us, there is no use returning for more food,” Judah said.

“Then go,” Jacob finally said, “but take gifts to the governor. Take packages of choice dates and nuts, honey, spices and perfumes. Also, be sure to return the money that you found in your sacks.”

Soon the sons were standing before the governor again. Joseph was very pleased to see Benjamin, but didn’t show how he felt. He had a special meal prepared for them.

The brothers were afraid. They told Joseph’s chief servant about the money they found in their grain sacks and offered to return it.

“Don’t worry,” said the servant. “Go make yourselves comfortable.”



Simeon was soon brought in. Then Joseph entered, and the brothers bowed and gave him their gifts. Joseph asked about their father and how he was doing.

Joseph was so happy to be with his brothers that he left the room and cried. He then returned a short time later.

Much food and drink was brought in for the brothers. Benjamin was given all kinds of special food.

The next morning the brothers happily set out for home, their animals loaded with grain.

Suddenly, they saw men on

horses coming toward them! The leader was the governor's chief servant.

"Why have you stolen the governor's silver cup?" he demanded.

"We aren't thieves," they explained.

But after a search was made, the cup was found in Benjamin's sack! The brothers didn't know that Joseph had the cup put there before they left.

The chief servant now took them all back to appear before the governor.

When Joseph saw how sorrowful

the brothers were and heard that their father, Jacob, would die of sorrow if Benjamin didn't return, he could no longer hold back his feelings.

### **I AM JOSEPH**

"I am Joseph, your brother," he told them as they stared in amazement and disbelief!

"Don't be unhappy for having sold me as you did so many years ago," Joseph said. "God caused events to work out so that I would be here to help prepare for the famine. Tell our father that I want him and his family to come to Egypt. I will provide for them during the famine."

Then the brothers returned to Canaan and told their father all that had happened to them. When Jacob heard that Joseph was still alive and was the governor over all the land of Egypt, he was so surprised and overjoyed from the news, he fainted.

### **JACOB AND HIS FAMILY MOVE TO EGYPT**

Soon Jacob and his family were on their way to Egypt.

The reunion of a loving father and a son, whom he had thought to be dead, was a joyous occasion. Jacob was very happy and God



gave him several more years to live and enjoy his family.

Pharaoh gave Joseph's family the land of Goshen to live in. It was located in the northeastern part of Egypt and was the best of the land.

### **JACOB ADOPTS JOSEPH'S CHILDREN**

Jacob lived seventeen years in Egypt. During this time, his children's families grew larger and larger.

Thinking that his life was about over, Jacob called for Joseph and his two sons, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

"I want to adopt your sons as mine and bless them," said Jacob. He then placed his left hand on Manasseh's head and his right hand on Ephraim's. Thinking that his father was too blind to see which boy was which, Joseph gently tried to reverse Jacob's hands. Manasseh was the older and the custom was that the right hand be on the firstborn.

"I know what I'm doing," said Jacob. He then asked God to cause mighty nations to come from each of the two boys. "A great nation will come from Manasseh, but his younger brother Ephraim shall be even greater. His descendants shall become a multitude of nations."

Jacob then called the rest of his sons around him and told each of them what their families would be like in the future.

After Jacob finished blessing his sons, he died at the age of 147.

Joseph's brothers began to worry that he might now punish them after their father's death. But Joseph spoke kindly to them. He told them that he had forgiven them of what they had done to him many years ago.

Joseph died at the age of 110. Just before his death, Joseph reminded his brethren that God would give their descendants the

land he had promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

In the next lesson, we will continue to learn how God fulfilled His promises of national greatness to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

### FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. How old was Joseph when he was sold by his brothers? \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Which brother did not want to harm him? \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Describe Joseph's two dreams.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Who was the captain of the guard in Egypt? \_\_\_\_\_.
5. What does famine mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### TRUE OR FALSE

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Potiphar's wife didn't like Joseph.        | T | F |
| 2. Joseph was first in command of Egypt.      | T | F |
| 3. The baker was restored to his office.      | T | F |
| 4. The brothers bowed to Joseph.              | T | F |
| 5. Jacob was happy to send Benjamin to Egypt. | T | F |

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**BIBLE MEMORY**    Psalm 23:1-6

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### WHO ARE THEY?

Unscramble the letters in each of the following names below. Then write each name in the blank next to the scrambled one.

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. NAD _____    | 7. HUJDA _____     |
| 2. DAG _____    | 8. LUUBNEZ _____   |
| 3. REASH _____  | 9. SAASCHIR _____  |
| 4. VEIL _____   | 10. PAANTHLI _____ |
| 5. BEERNU _____ | 11. HEPSJO _____   |
| 6. NEOMIS _____ | 12. INNEBJMA _____ |
- 

### DRAW THESE PICTURES

Draw the following pictures on separate pieces of paper.  
Be sure to keep them with this lesson.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Joseph in his coat of many colors.          | 5. Joseph second in command of Egypt.                      |
| 2. Joseph being dropped into a pit.            | 6. Joseph storing grain in one of the many granaries.      |
| 3. Joseph being sold to the Midianite traders. | 7. Joseph meeting his brothers and telling them who he is. |
| 4. Joseph in the prison.                       |  |
- 

### WORD HUNT

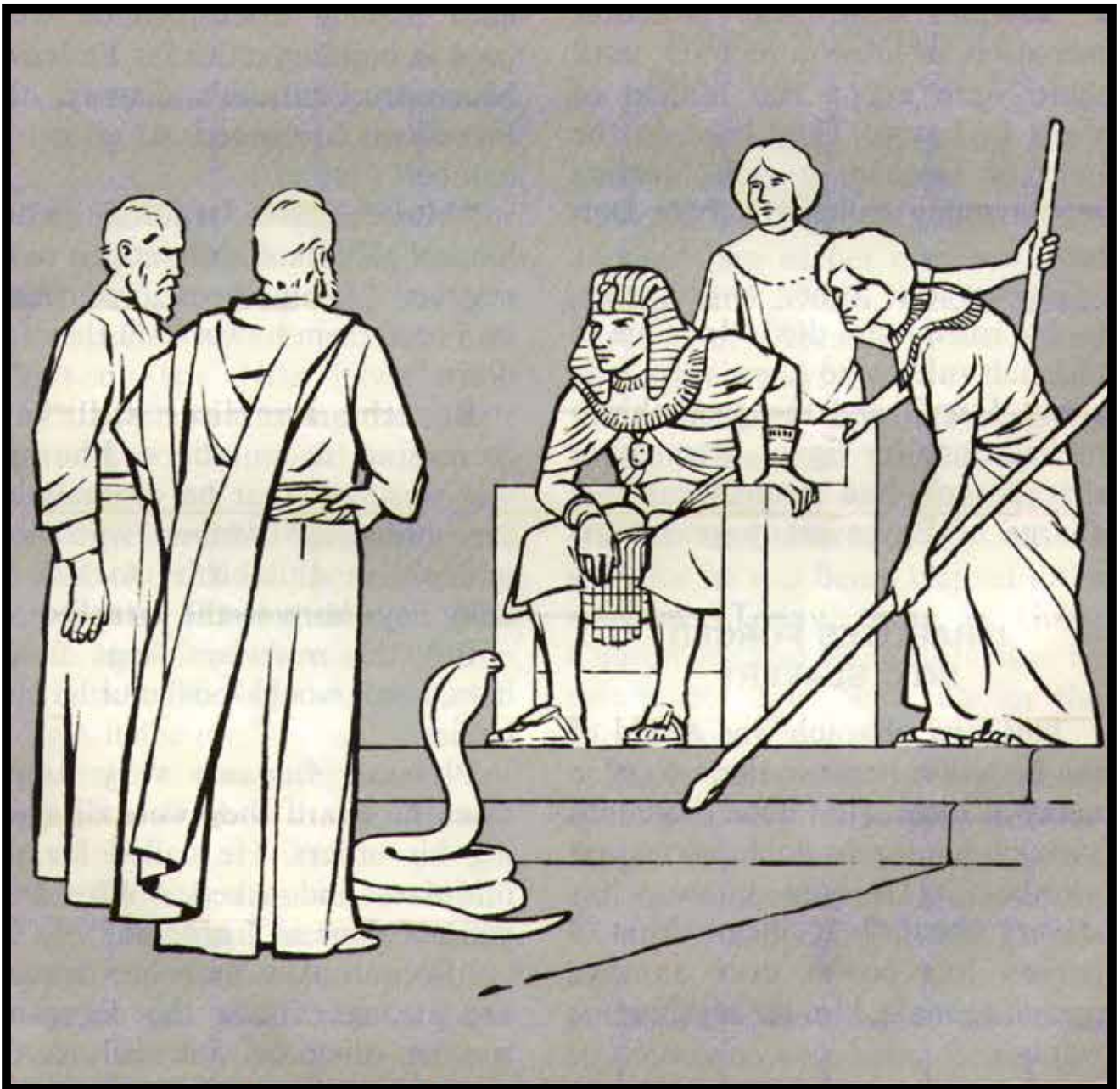
Find the following words in the lesson and circle them. Then write their meanings on a separate piece of paper. Use a dictionary if you do not know what they mean.

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. sheaves     | 5. jealous   |
| 2. multitudes  | 6. harsh     |
| 3. descendants | 7. plentiful |
| 4. stern       | 8. innocence |

# YOUTH BIBLE LESSONS

LEVEL 3

LESSON 7



Moses and the Plagues on Egypt



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# MOSES AND THE PLAGUES ON EGYPT

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For two hundred years after Joseph's death, the Israelites increased, or grew in number, until there were about two million of them in Egypt. They lived in the land of Goshen, a rich farming region today called the Nile Delta.

During this time, several pharaohs ruled and died. In time a pharaoh ruled who knew very little about Joseph and the good things he had done for Egypt. Remember that Joseph had been second in charge of Egypt many years earlier.

## **ISRAELITES FORCED INTO SLAVERY**

This new pharaoh was afraid of the Israelites because there were so many of them. He forced them into *slavery*, hoping to hold down their numbers. (Do you know what slavery means? It means that a person has power over another person to make him do anything he wants.)

The Israelites had to work very hard making bricks, which were used in building cities for Pharaoh. Much to Pharaoh's dismay, the Israelites continued to grow in number!

"Make those Israelites work harder!" Pharaoh ordered his taskmasters. "Whip them if you have to. Force them to work till they fall down."

But the Israelites still kept increasing in numbers. Pharaoh was so angry that he commanded the midwives (women who help mothers in childbirth) to kill all baby boys born to the Israelites.

But the midwives kept God's laws, and would not murder the babies.

Pharaoh became very angry when he heard they were disobeying his orders. He called for the midwives and asked, "Why have you not done as I ordered?"

"Because the Israelite women are stronger than the Egyptian women, they do not call us for

Illustrations by Ken Tunell



help,” replied the midwives.

Pharaoh was going to punish the midwives, but changed his mind.

Pharaoh then commanded all the people to watch for newly born Israelite boy babies. They were to take the babies and throw them into the Nile River.

### **THE BIRTH OF MOSES**

At this time a baby boy was born to a father and mother of the tribe of Levi. (Levi is one of the twelve t — — — — of Israel.)

The parents hid their baby for three months. Then, fearing that he might be discovered, they put him in a special basket and set him afloat on the Nile River. The baby’s sister went along the river’s edge to see what would happen to the baby.

When Pharaoh’s daughter came to wash herself at the river, she noticed the floating basket. She said to one of her servants, “There is a basket floating out there. Go and get it for me.”

Pharaoh’s daughter was very happy to find a baby in the basket!

“I will need a nurse for him,” she said. Just then the baby’s sister stepped up and said, “I know someone who would be a good Israelite nurse.” (She was talking

about the baby’s mother!)

“Good,” said Pharaoh’s daughter, “bring her to me.” When the woman arrived, Pharaoh’s daughter said, “Please take this child away for a while and nurse him for me.”

Soon the baby was back in his home with his family.

### **MOSES ADOPTED BY PHARAOH’S DAUGHTER**

After a while, the young boy’s parents finally gave him back to Pharaoh’s daughter, who then adopted him as her own son. She named him Moses which means “drawn out”, because he was taken out of the water.

As he grew up in Pharaoh’s court, Moses was taught by the best teachers in the country. He studied and learned his lessons well, for he was being trained to be a ruler. (Today, those in God’s Church are also being trained to be rulers, but they will rule in the World Tomorrow.)

Many years went by, and Moses became a very important man in Egypt. When he was forty years old, he became very interested in what was happening to the Israelites.

One day Moses tried to save an Israelite who was being beaten by

an Egyptian guard. Moses killed the guard. When he learned that others knew about what he had done, Moses fled to the mountains in the land of Midian. He was afraid of being arrested for murder.

When Moses arrived in Midian, he sat down by a well. Soon some women who were tending sheep came up to the well to water their flocks. The women were daughters of a man named Reuel. Moses helped them water the sheep.

Later, when the daughters returned home, they told their father about Moses. "Go find the man and bring him home," Reuel told his daughters. "I would like to meet him."

When Reuel saw Moses, he offered him a shepherd's job. Moses accepted.

There Moses married Zipporah, one of Reuel's daughters, and later they had two sons.

### **GOD CALLS MOSES**

It was now forty years since Moses fled Egypt. Life had become more and more difficult for the Israelite slaves in Egypt. They cried out to God for help.

One day while Moses was on a mountain he saw a very strange sight. A bush was on fire, but it



was not burning up! As he came closer to get a better look, he had another surprise!

A voice coming from the bush said, "Moses, Moses!"

"Here I am," Moses replied.

"Do not come any closer Moses," said the voice. "You are standing on holy ground. Take off your shoes and listen to what I have to say." *God* was speaking to Moses!

"Go to Egypt," God said, "and tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go."

"You want *me* to do that?" Moses stammered. "Why me?"

Pharaoh will not listen to me. I am only a shepherd.”

God then showed Moses some of His power. “Throw your shepherd’s rod on the ground,” God said.

To Moses’ surprise, it became a snake. “Now pick it up by its tail.” Moses reached down and grabbed the snake’s tail. The snake turned back into a r — —.

Next, God told Moses to put his hand inside his jacket. “Now take your hand out of your jacket,” God said. Moses was horrified! His hand had become leprous—a white and decayed stub!

“Now put your hand back into your jacket,” said God. Moses obeyed and his hand became normal again.

“If some people still do not believe you, take some water from the Nile River and pour it on the ground. It will turn into blood,” said God.

But Moses still did not want to go. “I’m not a good speaker,” he told God. “Please send someone else.”

God became angry with Moses. “I will send your brother Aaron to go along with you,” He said. “Aaron shall speak for you. I will help both of you. Aaron is now on his way to meet you. Take your rod with you so that you can perform

miracles with it later.”

So Moses did as God commanded. He said good-bye to his father-in-law and set out toward Egypt.

On the way, Moses met his brother Aaron. They were very happy to see each other. When they reached Egypt, they told the Israelite leaders what God had said, and showed them God’s miracles. The Israelite leaders believed what they heard and saw. They were very thankful God was going to answer their prayers.

### **MOSES APPEARS BEFORE PHARAOH**

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh with God’s message. “The God of Israel says to let His people go,” they told Pharaoh. “We must keep a feast in the desert to honor our God.”

“Who is this God that I should listen to Him?” Pharaoh demanded. “I do not know Him, nor will I let the Israelites go!”

Pharaoh was very angry! He told his guards to send Moses and Aaron from the court. He then commanded the taskmasters, “Make the Israelites work harder! They must now gather the straw to make the bricks. We will not give it to them anymore. But they must

still make as many bricks as before!”

When the Israelites heard Pharaoh’s order, they became very discouraged. Now they seemed to be worse off than before! Since they had the extra work of gathering the straw, they began to fall behind in their brick-making. The taskmasters beat them with whips. The Israelites complained and blamed Moses for what had happened. Moses was disappointed and unhappy. He prayed to God for help.

“Why did you send me to Pharaoh?” he asked. “Look what has happened.”

“You shall see what I will do to Pharaoh,” replied God. “After the many plagues I will send, he will be anxious to send the Israelites out of Egypt.”

Moses felt better. A short while later, God told him to go before Pharaoh again.

When Pharaoh saw Moses and Aaron coming, he was amused. “How do I know you are messengers from God? Show me some proof.”

“Throw your rod on the floor,” Moses told Aaron.

Aaron did as he was told and the rod suddenly turned into a s — — — — !

Pharaoh called in his magicians. They threw their rods down and they became snakes, too.

“I don’t think your God can do any more than our gods,” said Pharaoh boastfully.

Then something unexpected occurred. The snake that came from Aaron’s rod darted around and gulped up the magicians’ snakes!

“We have shown you a sign,” Aaron said. “Now will you let our people go?”

“I will not!” Pharaoh retorted, as he left the court.

Moses and Aaron were again very disappointed.

## FIRST PLAGUE **BLOOD**

God then said to Moses, “Tomorrow morning Pharaoh will go to his bathing pool. Meet him there and tell him that because he has refused to let the Israelites go, I will turn the Nile River into blood. Tell him the fish will die and the people will not be able to drink the water.”

The next morning as Pharaoh stepped into his pool, he was startled to hear a voice that was now becoming familiar to him.

Aaron repeated to Pharaoh what God had spoken to Moses. Then

Aaron stepped forward with his rod and struck the surface of the water. It became blood!

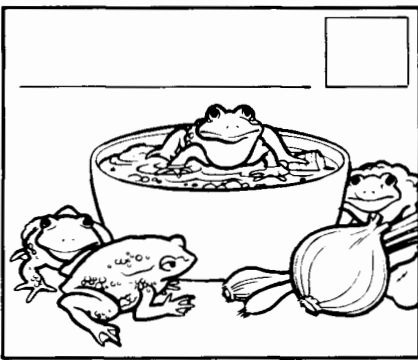
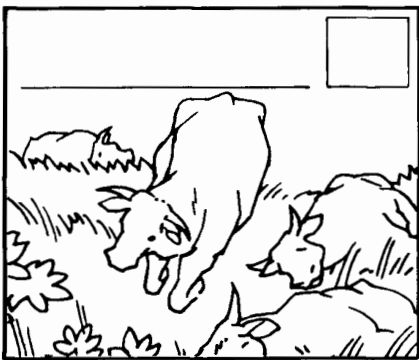
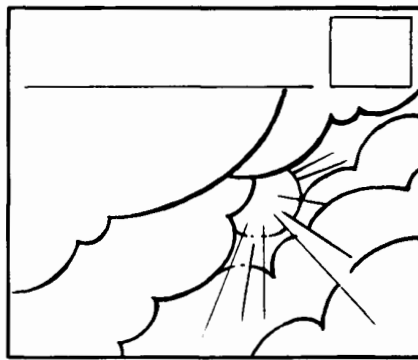
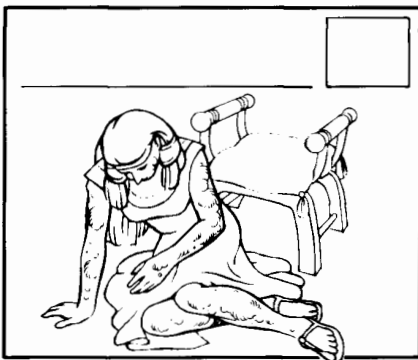
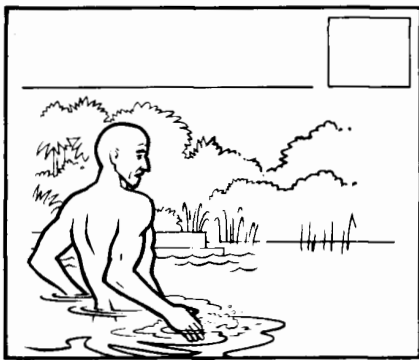
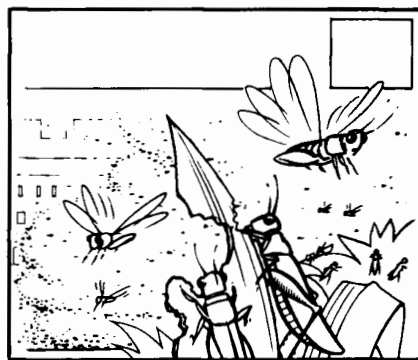
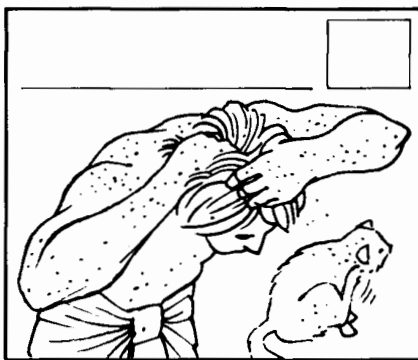
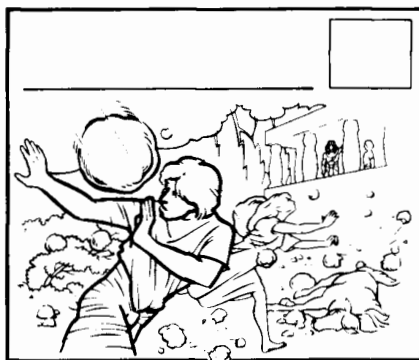
When Pharaoh and his servants saw the water turn to blood, Pharaoh shouted, "Call my magi-

cians!" When he saw that his magicians appeared to do the same, Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go.

For seven days, the whole country was in misery because the water

## THE PLAGUES ON EGYPT

Each box shows a picture of one of the nine plagues we will learn about in this lesson. But the pictures are mixed up. Put them in the right order by writing the correct number in the upper right-hand corner of each box. On the line inside each box, write the name of the plague.



was now blood! The fish that were in the river died, the river stank and the Egyptians could not drink the water. They had to dig all around the river to find fresh water for themselves and their animals.

On the eighth day, however, the waters of Egypt became clear again. There was great rejoicing.

Water is very important to us. Without it, we would not live. On the lines below, write down some of the many ways you and your family use water.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

To learn more about water and how necessary it is, find a book on the subject at your local library.

## SECOND PLAGUE **FROGS**

God then told Moses, "Go to Pharaoh again and tell him to let my people go so they can worship me. If he refuses, tell him I will cover the country with frogs."

Pharaoh again refused to let the Israelites go. Early the next morning frogs were seen everywhere!

All of Egypt suffered a great deal during this plague of frogs. Great numbers of frogs hopped

everywhere. Soon there were many piles of dead frogs, which smelled terrible!

Convinced that he must do something about the frogs, Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron.

When they arrived, Pharaoh said, "Ask your God to take away these horrible frogs, and I will let the Israelites go."

This is what Moses wanted to hear! He asked God to stop the plague of frogs. On the following day God stopped the plague. This made Pharaoh and the people of Egypt very happy.

But now that the plague of frogs was over, Pharaoh again changed his mind and decided not to let the Israelites go.

## THIRD PLAGUE **LICE**

God now told Moses to tell Aaron to strike the ground with his rod. Aaron did this, and the bits of dust and dirt changed into tiny lice.

The Egyptians were still burying dead frogs when this plague of billions of biting, blood-sucking insects came upon them. Within a short time, people and animals were crying in pain.

Even the magicians now said to Pharaoh, "God has done this." But

Pharaoh was very stubborn and would not free the Israelites.

## FOURTH **FLIES** PLAGUE

God again told Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and tell him that if he refuses to let my people go, his country will be overrun by swarms of flies tomorrow."

Moses and Aaron once again appeared before Pharaoh.

"Your houses will be full of flies and the ground will be covered with them," Aaron said. "God will do this because you refuse to let the Israelites go."

God now did something very special. He separated, or set apart, the Israelites so they would not suffer from this plague and the ones that were to come.

The biting flies caused the Egyptians so much pain that Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. "Sacrifice to your God here in Egypt," he said.

"No," said Moses. "Your people would be so offended by our ways of worship that they would probably stone us. We must go three days' journey into the wilderness to sacrifice unto God."

"I will let your people go," said Pharaoh.

The next day God removed the

flies from Egypt. Then Pharaoh, seeing they were gone, again changed his mind. He would not let the Israelites go!

## FIFTH **DEATH** PLAGUE **OF ANIMALS**

Moses and Aaron warned Pharaoh of an even worse plague that would come the following day.

The fifth plague struck suddenly! Soon the land was strewn with farm animals which died from a deadly sickness.

During this plague, God did not allow any of the animals belonging to the Israelites to die.

Exodus 9:3 lists the animals that died during the plague. Fill in the missing letters of the following words to find out what they were.

h \_ \_ s \_ \_

c \_ t \_ \_ \_

c \_ m \_ \_ \_

a \_ \_ e \_

sh \_ \_ \_

o \_ e \_

## SIXTH **BOILS** PLAGUE

Pharaoh still would not let Israel go. So God told Moses and Aaron to go before Pharaoh again. God told Moses to take ashes and sprinkle them toward the sky in Pharaoh's sight.



A little while later, Pharaoh saw two familiar figures carrying a bag filled with ashes from one of the brickdrying furnaces.

Moses did as God said and sprinkled the ashes into the air. The wind then carried the ashes all over Egypt.

Wherever the ashes touched the skin of the Egyptians and their animals, large and very painful boils broke out. Even Pharaoh's magicians were covered with boils. The Egyptians were in great pain—they found it hard to sit, stand, or lie down. Still Pharaoh would not listen to Moses and Aaron.

## SEVENTH PLAGUE **HAIL**

Again God told Moses to warn Pharaoh. "Tell him that I will send a terrible hailstorm upon Egypt tomorrow."

Moses warned Pharaoh of what would happen. Some of Pharaoh's servants believed this warning. They had their servants and animals come in from the fields to protect them from what would otherwise be certain death.

The next day, lightning streaked through the sky. Thunder rumbled and roared and the Egyptians ran for shelter.

Huge hailstones fell from the

sky, smashing the gardens and buildings. The Egyptians who were outside in the fields had no protection.

Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. He said, "I have sinned. My people and I have been wrong in refusing to let the Israelites go. Please ask your God to stop this horrible storm. Your people may leave Egypt."

But after the storm stopped, Pharaoh again changed his mind!

## EIGHTH PLAGUE **LOCUSTS**

After warning Pharaoh of the next plague, Moses held his shepherd's rod up to the sky. A strong wind started blowing from the east.

The following morning locusts were everywhere! They gnawed plants and devoured every green leaf. There were so many of them that they spread over the ground like a blanket!

"Send for those two Israelites!" shouted Pharaoh. When Moses and Aaron arrived, Pharaoh said, "I have sinned against God. Ask God to forgive me and to take away this terrible plague!"

God soon sent a strong west wind which blew the locusts into the Red Sea where they drowned. But again, Pharaoh would not let the

Israelites go. Egypt now looked terrible! Not a single green leaf was left.

## NINTH PLAGUE **DARKNESS**

After the plague of locusts ended, God again told Moses to hold his rod toward the sky. The Egyptians soon noticed a strange gloom in the sky. The sun slowly disappeared and left Egypt in total darkness.

It was so dark, people could not see each other and it was too dangerous to even go outside. The people stayed in their homes because they felt safest there.

They hoped the sky would lighten at sunrise, but it did not. The darkness continued for three days. But in the land of G — — — — —, where the Israelites lived, there was light.

Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. When they arrived, he said, "The Israelites may leave. But I will not let you take your animals."

"But we must take our animals with us for sacrifices," said Moses.

"You can't go unless you leave them behind," said Pharaoh, once again refusing to let the Israelites go.

"Get out of here!" Pharaoh ordered. "If I see you two here again, I'll have you killed!"

"You will not see us again," said Moses.

When daylight returned, Pharaoh was very relieved. But he would have been very troubled had he known what was soon to come.

God was to send one final plague upon the Egyptians. After this plague, Pharaoh would let the Israelites go.

In our next lesson we will learn about the tenth plague—the death of all Egyptian firstborn—and how the Israelites were finally able to leave Egypt.

### **MATCHING**

Match the following words with their meanings.

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. gulped      | sad               |
| 2. retorted    | swallowed quickly |
| 3. discouraged | answered back     |
| 4. devoured    | very surprised    |
| 5. gnawed      | ate up            |
| 6. startled    | chewed            |

Now find each of the numbered words in the lesson. Write the sentences in which they are found on a separate piece of paper. Also, write down any other words which may be new to you. With help from your parents, look them up in a dictionary and write down what they mean.

**BIBLE MEMORY** Ephesians 6:1-3

## PLAGUES ON EGYPT WORD SEARCH

Each of the following plagues were discussed in this lesson. Find them in the word search below. Words may be found horizontally (across), vertically (up and down), or diagonally (at an angle). One is done for you as an example.

**BOILS** ✓  
**DARKNESS**  
**DEATH OF ANIMALS**  
**FLIES**  
**FROGS**  
**HAIL**  
**LICE**  
**LOCUSTS**  
**WATERS BECOME BLOOD**



M	C	L	T	B	R	D	X	Z	C	A	P	G	L	Q	X	B	T	R	C	Z	W
P	P	V	R	X	C	O	M	B	B	W	Z	L	T	R	D	D	F	H	Y	J	M
H	A	I	L	G	P	O	T	T	C	H	J	L	B	R	X	K	W	Q	Y	L	N
D	D	Z	K	E	I	L	C	E	Q	L	P	O	U	T	U	R	C	X	V	N	W
W	O	C	U	M	N	B	W	I	O	W	D	C	J	F	D	S	J	K	L	S	D
F	D	S	A	M	K	E	L	K	J	U	I	U	I	O	P	Z	R	X	C	T	L
Y	T	I	O	U	N	M	O	W	I	C	V	S	M	N	C	X	I	L	K	M	E
I	L	K	I	A	R	O	S	D	F	J	K	T	L	H	G	M	N	B	V	C	X
F	X	C	V	B	O	C	M	D	B	N	M	S	L	K	H	J	G	F	D	S	R
Q	R	W	E	R	O	E	T	Y	E	U	I	O	P	V	C	X	S	E	I	L	F
T	R	O	E	W	T	B	L	K	J	A	N	M	B	C	W	C	E	F	F	G	X
Z	X	C	G	C	S	S	M	N	M	B	T	P	O	I	U	Y	T	R	E	W	Q
M	B	V	N	S	R	R	B	V	C	X	Q	H	W	T	P	O	Q	P	R	E	I
F	J	F	P	U	I	E	T	Y	O	I	P	Q	O	B	N	C	X	E	U	O	P
C	X	M	B	U	F	T	Y	T	R	P	I	O	Q	F	D	D	R	X	Z	Y	C
B	Y	X	C	U	F	A	T	T	S	S	E	N	K	R	A	D	D	R	W	Q	C
M	B	X	A	S	O	W	D	F	L	K	J	H	G	B	M	N	R	X	C	L	L
T	X	R	L	C	H	N	Z	Q	Q	A	S	D	J	F	K	L	I	R	C	C	K
K	B	I	L	K	T	X	L	S	L	I	O	B	F	D	S	A	K	M	M	N	C
D	C	I	R	I	A	M	N	D	S	D	G	H	H	B	Z	K	I	Z	A	X	E
E	P	P	C	W	E	V	U	E	W	L	M	N	D	E	F	Z	X	Y	B	L	D
R	T	U	V	Y	E	L	C	D	X	Y	B	V	I	E	P	W	T	R	J	S	S

# YOUTH BIBLE LESSONS

LEVEL 3

LESSON 8



Israel's Deliverance from Egypt

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# ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE FROM EGYPT

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Moses and Aaron had spoken with Pharaoh for the last time. They told him that God would bring one final plague upon the Egyptians. Moses and Aaron then returned to Goshen, where the Israelites lived.

## THE LAST PLAGUE— DEATH OF THE FIRSTBORN

Moses gave the Israelites God's instructions concerning the last plague and how they could be spared from it. "A man from each family is to select a healthy, male lamb on the tenth day of the first month [Abib]. You are to keep the lamb penned up until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then it is to be killed in the evening and its blood smeared on the doorposts of your houses.

"The lamb is to be roasted whole and eaten with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. You are to eat it quickly," Moses continued.

"You are to be dressed as though you were about to take a long

journey. Your shoes are to be on your feet and your staff in your hand. But no one is to leave his house until the morning.

"That night is the Lord's Passover. God will send an angel through the land of Egypt to kill all the firstborn of man and animals.

"But the angel will not harm the firstborn of your families, if you do as God has commanded. When the angel sees the blood on the doorposts, he will *pass over* your houses.

"This day shall be kept as a *memorial* throughout all your generations," instructed Moses.

### WORD STUDY

Write the meanings of the following words on the lines below. Use a dictionary if you need help.

1. UNLEAVENED \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. MEMORIAL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Illustrations by Ken Tunell





On the fourteenth of Abib, each Israelite family roasted and ate the lamb as God had commanded. At midnight, the death angel went throughout the land of Egypt killing all the firstborn who were not protected, from Pharaoh's son to the firstborn of animals.

The land of Egypt was filled with great sorrow and crying. But, all was quiet in Goshen where the Israelites lived.

That night, Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, "Get out, all of you! Go and worship

your God. Take your sheep, your goats and your cattle!"

Pharaoh and the Egyptians were afraid they would die next. Now they wanted the Israelites to leave quickly.

### THE EXODUS BEGINS

The Israelites went to the Egyptians, who gave them gold, silver and clothing. Then they loaded their animals with all they could carry. The people carried their unleavened dough with them.

Many other people, who were not Israelites, wanted to leave Egypt too. About two and one-half million people left that night (the fifteenth of Abib). They took all their belongings with them. They also took the bones of Joseph who had died many years before while in Egypt.

The Israelites held a joyous celebration that night as God had instructed. What is the name of this celebration? \_\_\_\_\_

The next morning God provided a pillar of a cloud to lead the Israelites. When the cloud moved, the people followed. When it stopped, they stopped.

At night, the cloud became a pillar of fire which gave them light.



## CROSSING THE RED SEA

The Israelites noticed that the cloud was leading them toward the Red Sea. Many of them were concerned. It appeared that they would be blocked by the sea and mountains that were ahead.

Back in Egypt, Pharaoh was sorry for having allowed the Israelites to leave. He wanted them back as slaves.

“Send our fastest chariots after the Israelites and bring them back!” Pharaoh ordered. “They are trapped between the mountains and sea, and can be easily overtaken.”

The Israelites saw the advancing army as it neared their camp by the Red Sea. Fear quickly spread throughout the camp. The people began complaining to Moses.

“We never wanted to leave Egypt. We’d be better off there than to be murdered here!” they said. Were the Israelites trusting God? \_\_\_\_\_.

“Don’t worry,” said Moses. “God has promised to take care of us!”

Moses prayed to God for help and God told him what to do. Moses told the Israelites that they had seen the Egyptians for





the last time!

That night, the pillar of fire gave light to the Israelites, but to the Egyptians it was a cloud of darkness. The Egyptians could not see the Israelite camp.

As God had instructed, Moses held out his rod toward the Red Sea. Suddenly, a strong east wind began to blow. It grew stronger and stronger! It blew on the waters with a force that divided the sea! To the left and right were very high walls of water.

The next morning the Israelites were able to cross the Red Sea on dry ground!

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## **FREEDOM AT LAST!**

The Egyptian army followed the Israelites into the Red Sea. They charged in, but soon their chariot wheels were jammed. The army became confused.

"Let's go back," said some of the Egyptians. "God is for Israel and against us!" But it was too late.

The Israelites, now safely on the opposite shore, watched Moses as he held out his rod toward the sea. The waters suddenly came crashing together! The Egyptians were crushed by the walls of water and were covered by the Red Sea.

After seeing this great miracle that God performed, Moses and the children of Israel sang a song. It was a song of praise to God for all the mighty things He had done to deliver them from the Egyptians.

Then Miriam, the sister of Moses and Aaron, took a timbrel and all the women joined her in dancing and singing. There was much celebration and happiness on this last (seventh) Day of Unleavened Bread.

The Israelites then traveled for three days and came to a place called Marah. They were very thirsty and began to drink the water there.

*Continued on page 92*

# ISRAEL IN THE WILDERNESS GAME

**Object of the game** Lead the Israelites from Pharaoh and slavery in the land of Egypt by taking them through the Red Sea, on through the desert of the Sinai Peninsula and finally to Mt. Sinai where God gave them His Ten Commandments.

**Setting up the game** First, cut out the playing cards (white) and tokens (gray) from the bottom of pages 6 and 7. Then place the tokens on the playing board in their proper squares and place the playing cards in a container (cup or bowl). Each person may use any small object (coin or button) as a playing piece to represent the children of Israel. (The game may be played by one to four players.)

**Playing the game** Before starting the game, each person must draw a playing card. The person with the highest number goes first, followed by the person to his left and so on around the board. Each person takes his or her turn by drawing a card and then returning it to the container.

To begin play, draw a playing card and move your playing piece the number of spaces shown on the card. When you land on a numbered space, answer



## Questions and Statements

1. Pharaoh ruled the land of \_\_\_\_\_ where the \_\_\_\_\_ were in captivity.
2. The Israelites kept the \_\_\_\_\_ before leaving Egypt. God's people are to keep it today as a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. What happened on the night of the Passover?
4. The Israelites followed a pillar of a \_\_\_\_\_ during the day and a pillar of \_\_\_\_\_ by night.
5. God parted the \_\_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_\_ held out his rod.
6. Moses led the people of Israel through the sea on dry \_\_\_\_\_.
7. After crossing the Red Sea, the Israelites celebrated the last day of \_\_\_\_\_.
8. At Marah, God sweetened the bitter water after Moses threw a \_\_\_\_\_ into the water.
9. God was leading Israel to the \_\_\_\_\_ Land.
10. At Elim, there were twelve wells of \_\_\_\_\_ and seventy \_\_\_\_\_.
11. In the wilderness, God sent \_\_\_\_\_, which means, "\_\_\_\_\_?"
12. The people were not to gather manna on the \_\_\_\_\_ day.
13. At Rephidim, what did God tell Moses to do to obtain water for the people?
14. Before reaching Mt. Sinai the Israelites were attacked by an army of \_\_\_\_\_.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ was given the responsibility of leading Israel's army against the Amalekites.
16. What did Moses do to help them win the battle?
17. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ held up the arms and hands of Moses.
18. Mt. Sinai is located in the \_\_\_\_\_ Peninsula.
19. You are not far from Mt. Sinai, but because you have complained about not receiving water you must go back two spaces.
20. God wrote the Ten Commandments on two tables of \_\_\_\_\_.
21. God led the Israelites to Mt. Sinai where He gave them His Ten Commandments. In your own words, name the commandments.

**STOP**  
MUST HAVE  
PILLAR OF  
AND FIRE  
TO CROSS RE  
IF NOT, GO  
3 SPACES

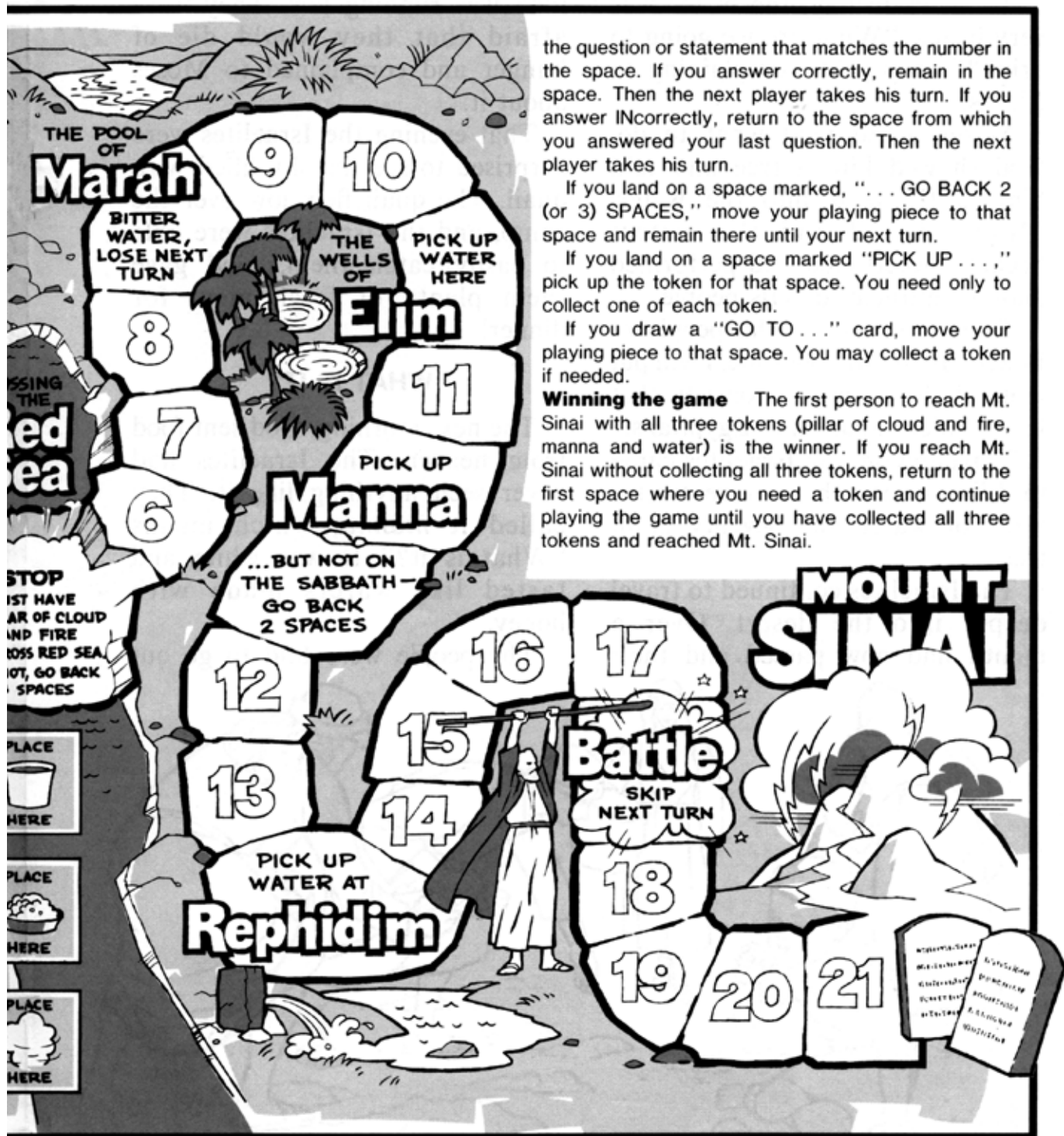
PLACE  
HERE

PLACE  
HERE

PLACE  
HERE

6

MOVE <b>1</b> AHEAD	MOVE <b>1</b> AHEAD	MOVE <b>1</b> AHEAD	MOVE <b>2</b> AHEAD	MOVE <b>2</b> AHEAD	MOVE <b>2</b> AHEAD	MOVE <b>3</b> AHEAD	MOVE <b>3</b> AHEAD	GO TO MANNA	GO TO REPHIDIM	WATER	W
---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	----------------	-------------------	-------	---



the question or statement that matches the number in the space. If you answer correctly, remain in the space. Then the next player takes his turn. If you answer INCORRECTLY, return to the space from which you answered your last question. Then the next player takes his turn.

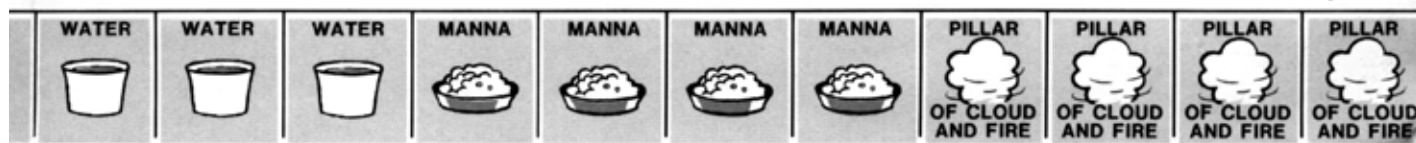
If you land on a space marked, "... GO BACK 2 (or 3) SPACES," move your playing piece to that space and remain there until your next turn.

If you land on a space marked "PICK UP ...," pick up the token for that space. You need only to collect one of each token.

If you draw a "GO TO ..." card, move your playing piece to that space. You may collect a token if needed.

**Winning the game** The first person to reach Mt. Sinai with all three tokens (pillar of cloud and fire, manna and water) is the winner. If you reach Mt. Sinai without collecting all three tokens, return to the first space where you need a token and continue playing the game until you have collected all three tokens and reached Mt. Sinai.

7



To their dismay, the water was very bitter. "What are we going to drink?" they said, complaining to Moses.

Moses asked God what to do. God showed him a tree and told him to throw it into the water. Moses obeyed and the waters became sweet! God had performed another miracle for His people.

Then God said to the people of Israel, "If you will obey me, I will put none of the diseases upon you that have fallen upon the Egyptians."

Traveling on, the Israelites came to Elim where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees.

The Israelites continued to travel deeper into the desert. Over a month had now passed and their

food was running low. They were afraid that they would die of hunger and complained to Moses about it.

That evening the Israelites were surprised to see the sky filled with quail. The quail flew low over the camp, and the Israelites were able to easily catch them. God gave them plenty of fresh meat for dinner!

### WHAT IS IT?

The next morning, God sent food from heaven. The Israelites had never seen anything like it. They called it *manna*, which means "What is it?" It was white and tasted like wafers made with honey.

The people were told to go out



each morning and gather the amount of manna they could eat in one day. However, they were not to save any for the following day. But on the sixth day of the week, they were to gather enough for two days because God would not send any on the Sabbath, the seventh day. God wanted them to rest on the Sabbath.

Do you think everyone followed God's instructions? \_\_\_\_\_.

Some of the Israelites saved manna in their tents overnight.

"What is that terrible odor?" they asked the next morning. The manna had rotted and was full of worms. Everyone who disobeyed had this terrible odor in their tents.

But when the Israelites kept the manna overnight on the Sabbath, it did not have a bad odor. On the morning of the Sabbath, the manna was just as fresh as it had been when it was gathered on the morning of the sixth day.

Some people disobeyed God's instructions by going out to gather manna on the Sabbath. But there was none to be found.

Then God said to Moses, "How long will the people refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?" God was very angry with the people because of their disobe-

Draw a picture of a quail in this box.

dience, but He was also very merciful to them.

God commanded the Israelites to put some manna in a container and keep it. Their descendants would be able to see how God fed them in the wilderness.

### **WATER FROM THE ROCK**

The Israelites traveled to a place called Rephidim. But there was no water there for them to drink! What do you think they did? \_\_\_\_\_.

"Why did you bring us here to kill us by thirst?" they demanded of Moses.



Moses became discouraged. He did not know what to do with these complaining people. He talked to God about the problem. God told him to take his rod and strike a large rock. When he did, clear water began pouring out for all to drink.

### **THE AMALEKITES ATTACK**

While the Israelites were camped, they were being spied on by the Amalekites. These people came from the family of Esau. Who was Esau? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Since the Israelites came from

Jacob, the Amalekites were their distant cousins.

Joshua was given the responsibility of leading the army against the Amalekites. The Amalekites attacked the next morning. The battle lasted most of the day.

During the battle, Moses stood on a nearby hill, holding his rod high in the air. The battle went in favor of the Israelites as long as Moses' arms were held toward heaven. But whenever his arms became tired and he lowered them, the Israelites did poorly.

Moses' arms grew weary, so Aaron and Hur each held up one of



his arms and kept them steady until sunset. God caused the Israelites to win a great victory over the Amalekites.

Soon the Israelites would reach Mt. Sinai where God was to give them the Ten Commandments, written on two tables of stone. Our next lesson will describe what occurred at Mt. Sinai.

### Do You Remember?

1. Passover is on the fourteenth day of the month of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Days of Unleavened Bread last \_\_\_\_\_ days.

3. What did God have Moses do at Marah to make the bitter water sweet? \_\_\_\_\_.
4. There were \_\_\_\_\_ wells and \_\_\_\_\_ palm trees at Elim.
5. What food did God send from heaven? \_\_\_\_\_.
6. When were the Israelites to gather this food? \_\_\_\_\_.
7. What happened if this food were kept overnight? \_\_\_\_\_.
8. But did that happen on the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Who were the Amalekites? \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Who held up Moses' arms? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### SCRAMBLED PLACES

Unscramble the following sets of letters to form names of some of the places where the Israelites had been.

NEHSOG

DER ESA

HARAM

LIME

MIDPREHI

### Words

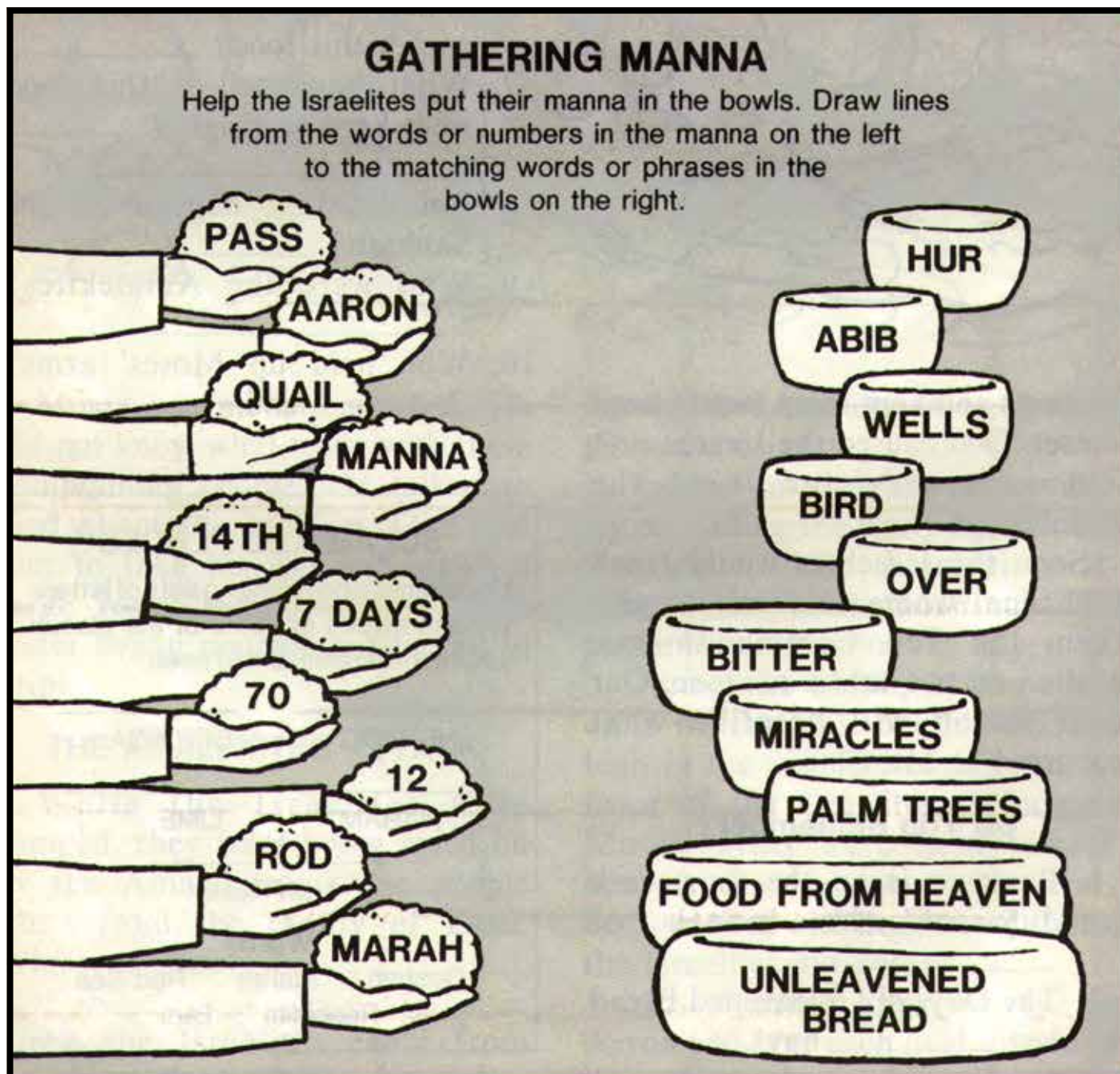
Goshen    Marah    Red Sea  
Rephidim    Elim



## BIBLE MEMORY

You shall have no other gods before God.  
You shall not make any graven image of God.  
You shall not take His name in vain.  
Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.  
You shall honor your father and mother.

You shall not murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not lie.  
You shall not covet what is your neighbor's.



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# YOUTH

LEVEL 3

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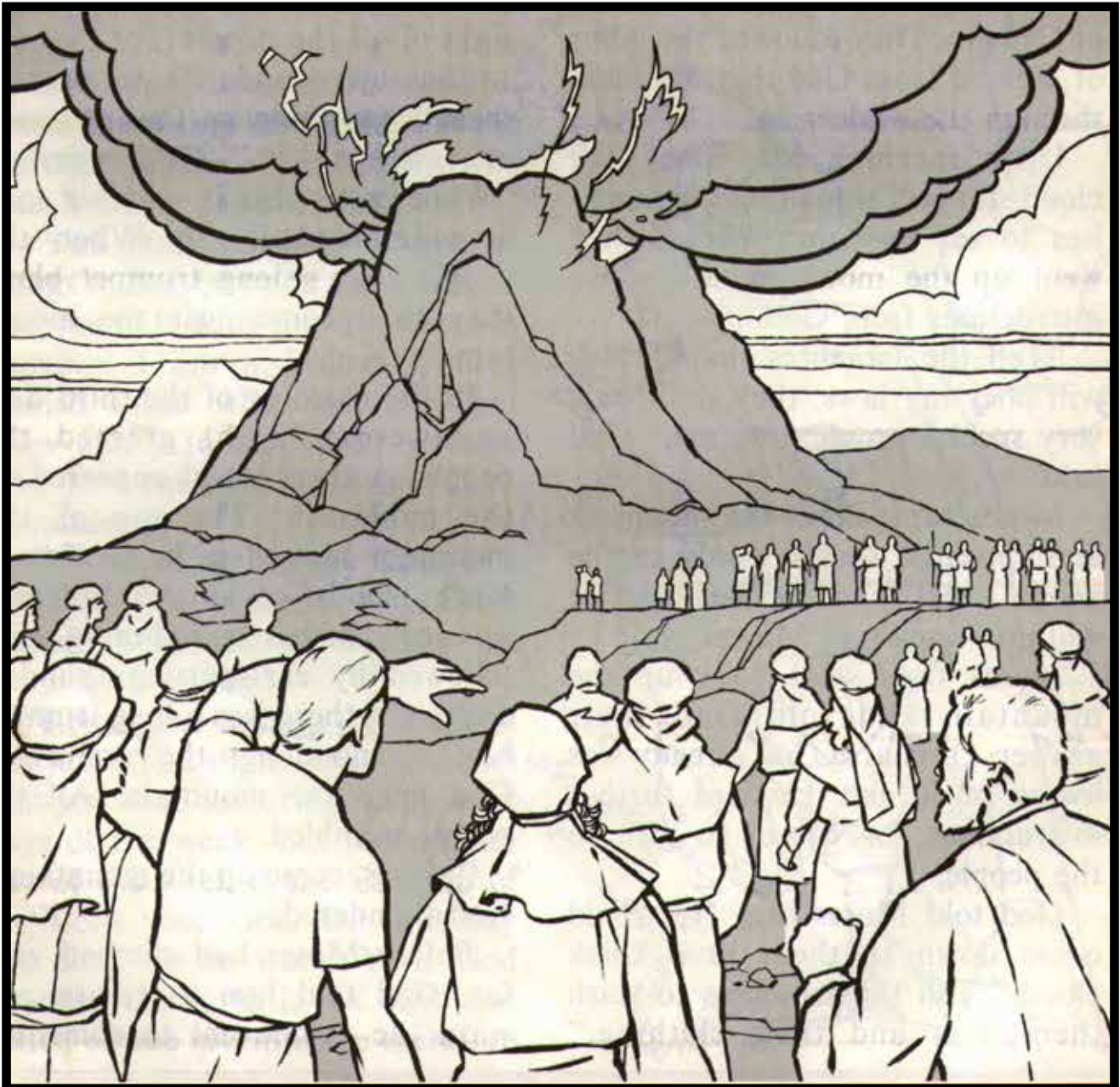
# BIBLE

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# LESSONS

LESSON 9

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Israel at Mount Sinai

# ISRAEL AT MOUNT SINAI

The Israelites continued their journey from Egypt to the land of Canaan. They followed the pillar of a cloud from God that led them through the wilderness.

Upon reaching Mt. Sinai, the cloud stopped, signalling the Israelites to set up camp. Moses then went up the mountain to receive instructions from God.

“Tell the Israelites that if they will obey my laws, they shall be a very special people unto me,” God said.

Moses came down the mountain and repeated God’s words to the people. “All that God has said we will do,” they told Moses.

Moses then went back up the mountain and told God their answer. Of course God already was aware of it, but He had further instructions for Moses to give to the people.

God told Moses that He would come down to them in a thick cloud. “Tell the Israelites to wash themselves and their clothing,”

God said. “In three days I will come down to Mt. Sinai in the sight of all the people.

“Set up boundaries to prevent them from going up the mountain or touching it,” God warned. “Whoever touches it, whether man or animal, shall die. When the people hear a long trumpet blast, they shall come near the mountain.”

In the morning of the third day, an awesome sight greeted the people. A thick cloud appeared on the mountain. The top of the mountain seemed to be on fire as large clouds of smoke billowed upward. Flashes of lightning were followed by ear-splitting thunder! Suddenly, there was a long trumpet blast, announcing the arrival of God upon the mountain. All the people trembled.

“Moses, come up the mountain!” God thundered.

Before Moses had climbed very far, God told him to return and warn the people not to come too



close to the mountain. After Moses warned the Israelites, God thundered out the Ten Commandments. These are God's laws that show the way to happiness, good health, protection and prosperity.

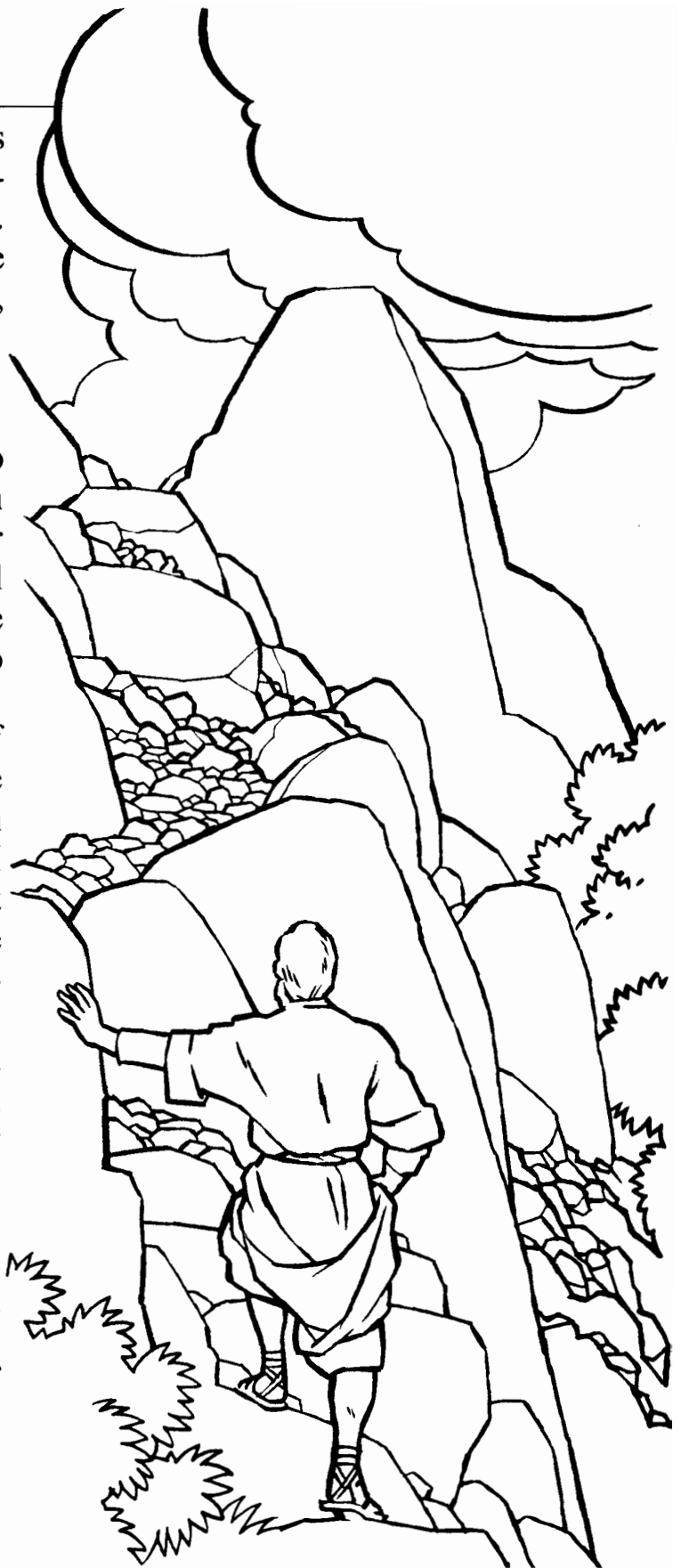
### **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of slavery in Egypt. You shall have no other gods but me!" boomed the powerful voice. The Being who spoke was the member of the God Family who later became Jesus Christ.

"You shall not make images of things in heaven or on earth for the purpose of bowing down to them in worship! I am a jealous God. I punish those who hate me, but show mercy to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

"You shall not use my name in a careless or disrespectful way. I will punish those who do not use my name with respect!

"Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy! You shall work and do all that you need to during the first six days of the week. But the seventh day of the week is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. On that day you shall do no work. Your God renewed the earth in six days and rested on the seventh. He therefore



made the seventh day holy time!”

These first four commandments show man’s duty to God. They show how we are to love God. The remaining six commandments show our duty to other people. They show us how to love one another.

“Show special honor and respect to your parents,” God continued. “If you honor them, you will live a long and happy life.” This commandment means that we should listen to our parents and do what they tell us. (On a separate sheet of paper, list some of the many nice things your parents do for you.)

“You shall not murder!” God commanded. This also means that we should not even hate other people. We should be kind and friendly to everyone.

“You shall not commit adultery!” God’s voice echoed. This means that a man should have only one wife and be loyal to her. It also means that we should be modest in our conduct toward others.

“You shall not steal!” God continued. Have you ever taken something that did not belong to you? Taking something that is not yours is stealing. A person who steals often ends up breaking some of the other commandments as well.

“You shall not lie!” When

caught doing something they should not be doing, some will say, “I didn’t do it!” That is lying and must not be done. God wants us to always tell the truth, even if we don’t want to.

God then concluded the Ten Commandments by saying, “You shall not covet [wrongfully desire to have] things that are not yours.” Have you ever wanted a friend’s toy, game or doll so much that you wanted to take it? God says you should be happy that your friend has them, and be satisfied with what you already have. Your friend may let you play with his toys, but you should not want to take any of his things from him.

On the lines below, list some of the nice things God has given you.

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You may have forgotten you had so many blessings! Are you thankful to God for them?

### **ISRAEL AGREES TO OBEY GOD**

After God spoke the Ten Commandments, the people moved away from the mountain. They were fearful of God’s closeness and awesome display of power.

“You speak to us,” the Israelites said to Moses, “and we will listen. But don’t let God speak to us anymore, lest we die.”

God heard their plea. He called Moses to come near. After telling the people they could return to their tents, Moses went up Mt. Sinai.

It was then that God gave other laws to Moses. These are called judgments. They are rules that further define the rights, responsibilities and duties God wanted the people to have toward one another. They include how to deal with murderers, thieves, sorcerers and the disorderly; how to settle various charges and claims; how to observe God’s annual Sabbaths (God’s Holy Days); and even how to handle vicious animals.

When Moses returned to the Israelites in the valley below, he repeated God’s words to them. “All the words which God has said we will do,” the people said. Moses then wrote down all the words God had spoken to him in what is called the Book of the Covenant.

In the morning Moses built an altar at the bottom of Mt. Sinai. Around the altar were placed 12 stone pillars. Each pillar stood for one of the 12 tribes. On the altar were offered animal sacrifices.

Moses then read the Book of the Covenant to the people. When he finished, the people agreed together, “We will do all that God has said, and we will be obedient!”

Moses then took some of the blood from the slain animals and sprinkled it on the people. This act ratified (made official and binding) the covenant, or agreement, between God and the nation of Israel. The Israelites agreed to obey God’s laws, and God promised to, in turn, bless them for their obedience.

### **THE GOLDEN CALF**

The cloud continued to cover the upper part of Mt. Sinai. God told Moses to come up the mountain and receive the tablets of stone upon which He had written the Ten Commandments. Knowing that he might be gone for a long time, Moses left Aaron and Hur in charge of the people. He chose only Joshua to go up the mountain with him.

For six days Moses and Joshua waited in the heavy vapor of the cloud. On the seventh day, God told Moses to climb higher up the mountain. Joshua would stay where he was and wait for Moses to return.

*Continued on page 104*

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# ISRAEL AT MOUNT SINAI GAME

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**Object of the game** Help Moses climb down Mt. Sinai to the camp of Israel. As he moves along the mountain paths and through the cave to the camp, you must recite each of the Ten Commandments written on the two tablets of stone Moses is carrying.

**Setting up the game** A coin, piece of paper and pencil are needed to play the game. In addition, each player will need a playing piece or token (button, pebble or other small object) to represent Moses.

**Playing the game** Players should place their tokens on the space marked "MOSES," and then decide who begins the game. Play goes clockwise around the gameboard starting with that person. Each player takes his turn by flipping the coin and moving his token the appropriate number of spaces. (One side of the coin represents a move of one space, and the other side two spaces.) The token may be moved in any direction.

If you land on a blank space, answer a question from the list below. If you land on a numbered space, recite from memory that commandment (use the exact wording from the King James Version). A commandment must be recited each time you land on a numbered space—even if you have landed there before.

If you answer a question incorrectly or recite a commandment incorrectly, stay on that space until you are able to do it correctly. (You may

review Exodus 20 or this lesson while the other players take their turns.)

When you recite a commandment correctly, write the number of it on the sheet of paper until all ten are recited. At that point head for the camp of Israel, taking the shortest route during each of your following turns. You no longer have to recite commandments or answer questions.

**Special spaces** When you land on spaces 3, 7, and 8 you must stop and recite the commandment. However, on your next turn, a flip of the coin will determine which direction to move your token.

When on spaces 3 or 8 (openings to a long cave through the mountain), and the flip of the coin on your next turn indicates a move of one space, move your token to the numbered space at the *opposite* end of the tunnel and recite the commandment. If the coin requires a move of two spaces, move your token along the path two spaces, *without* going through the tunnel.

When on space 7, and the flip of the coin indicates a move of one space, jump down to space 8 and recite the commandment. If the coin requires you to move two spaces, continue along the path. However, you may not jump up from space 8 to space 7.

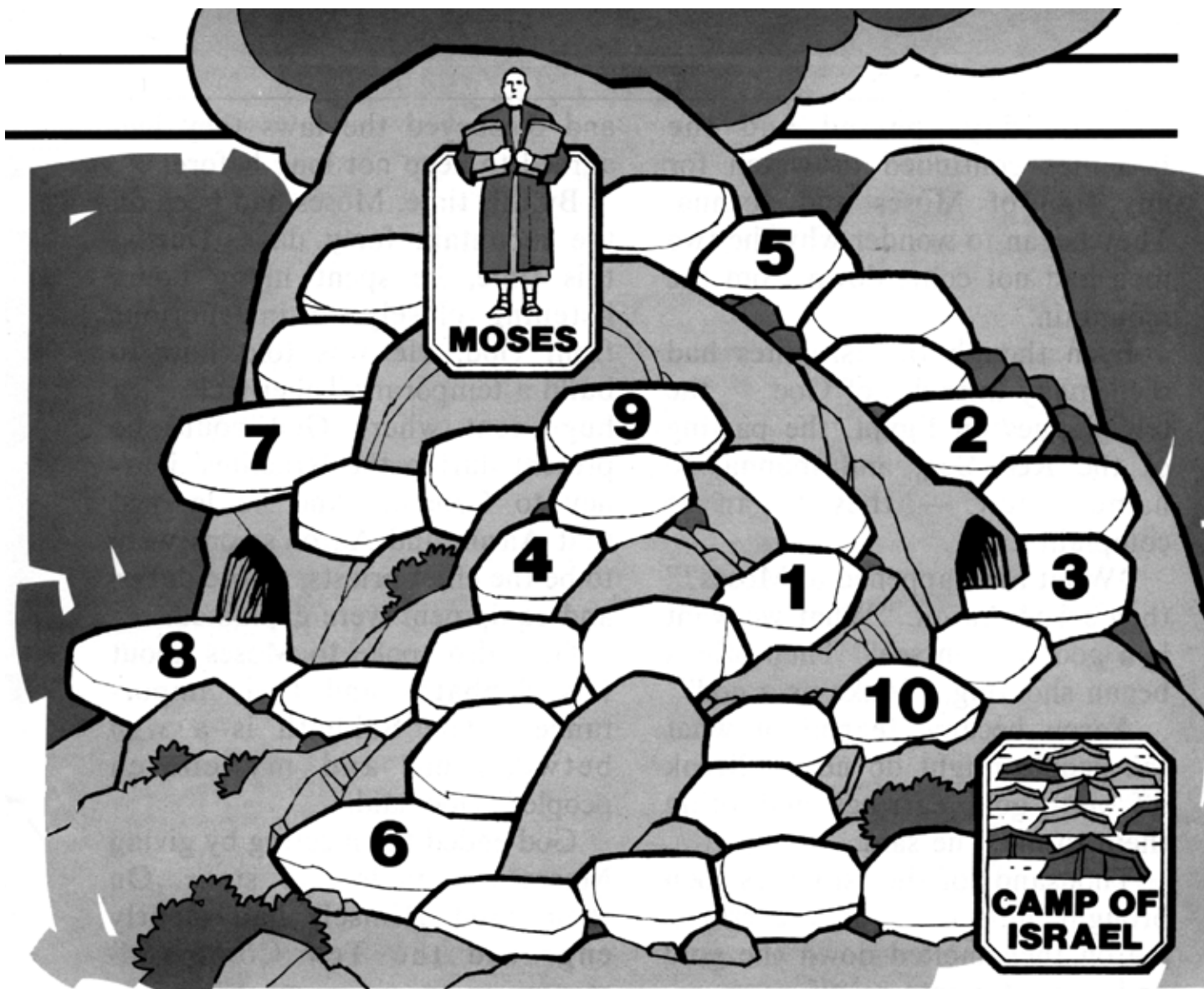
**Winning the game** The first player to reach the space marked "CAMP OF ISRAEL," after having correctly recited the Ten Commandments, is the winner!

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## Questions and Statements

1. The cloud leading the Israelites through the wilderness stopped at Mt. \_\_\_\_.
2. God told Moses that He would come down upon the mountain in a \_\_\_\_.
3. When God came to Mt. Sinai, there were flashes of \_\_\_\_ and ear-splitting \_\_\_\_.
4. While the people trembled, God spoke the \_\_\_\_.
5. The Being who spoke was the member of the God Family who later became \_\_\_\_.
6. The first four commandments show man's duty to \_\_\_\_.
7. The last six commandments show us how to \_\_\_\_ one another.
8. Does God want us to have any other gods?
9. Should we make images of things on earth or in heaven for the purpose of worshipping them?
10. We are not to use God's \_\_\_\_ in a careless or disrespectful way.
11. We are to remember the \_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_ day of the week, and keep it \_\_\_\_.
12. What is God's promise to those who honor their parents?
13. We should not murder, nor should we \_\_\_\_ other people.
14. What does God's command against committing adultery mean?





15. If we take something that does not belong to us, we are \_\_\_\_.
16. God commands us to tell the truth. If we do not, we are \_\_\_\_.
17. We are not to wrongfully desire something that is not ours. If we do, we are \_\_\_\_.
18. God called Moses up the mountain and gave him other laws called \_\_\_\_.
19. Moses wrote the judgments down in the \_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_.
20. What did God promise the Israelites if they obeyed Him?
21. Later, God again told Moses to come up Mt. Sinai. God then gave him two \_\_\_\_ of stone on which He had written the \_\_\_\_.
22. God told Moses that the Sabbath was to be a \_\_\_\_ between God and His people.
23. Moses was on the mountain for \_\_\_\_ days.
24. What did the Israelites begin to do after Moses had been gone for many days?
25. The Israelites worshipped the \_\_\_\_ that Aaron made.
26. What did Moses do in anger when he saw the golden calf and the people dancing wildly around it?
27. Moses ordered the calf to be melted down and \_\_\_\_ into fine powder.
28. Why did God not destroy the Israelites for their disobedience?
29. God had Moses \_\_\_\_ two stone tablets and bring them up the mountain. On these God wrote the \_\_\_\_.
30. Why were the Israelites frightened by Moses when he returned from Mt. Sinai?

Many days passed and the Israelites continued to watch for any sign of Moses and Joshua. They began to wonder why the two men had not come down from the mountain.

Even though the Israelites had seen many miracles of God — the ten plagues on Egypt, the parting of the Red Sea, and manna, to name a few — they began to complain.

“What has happened to Moses?” they asked Aaron. “What we want is a god we can see!” Then others began shouting, “Make us a god!”

Aaron became fearful of what the people might do next. “Break off your gold earrings and bring them to me,” he said.

Thousands of the Israelites soon brought him their gold earrings. Aaron then melted down the gold and formed it into a calf.

Seeing the golden calf, the people shouted, “This is the god that brought us out of Egypt!”

Aaron then built an altar before the golden calf. “Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord!” he announced.

Early the next morning, many of the people sacrificed animals before the golden calf. They sat down to a big feast, and conducted themselves in a very indecent manner. They forgot about God

and disobeyed the laws they had agreed to keep not long before.

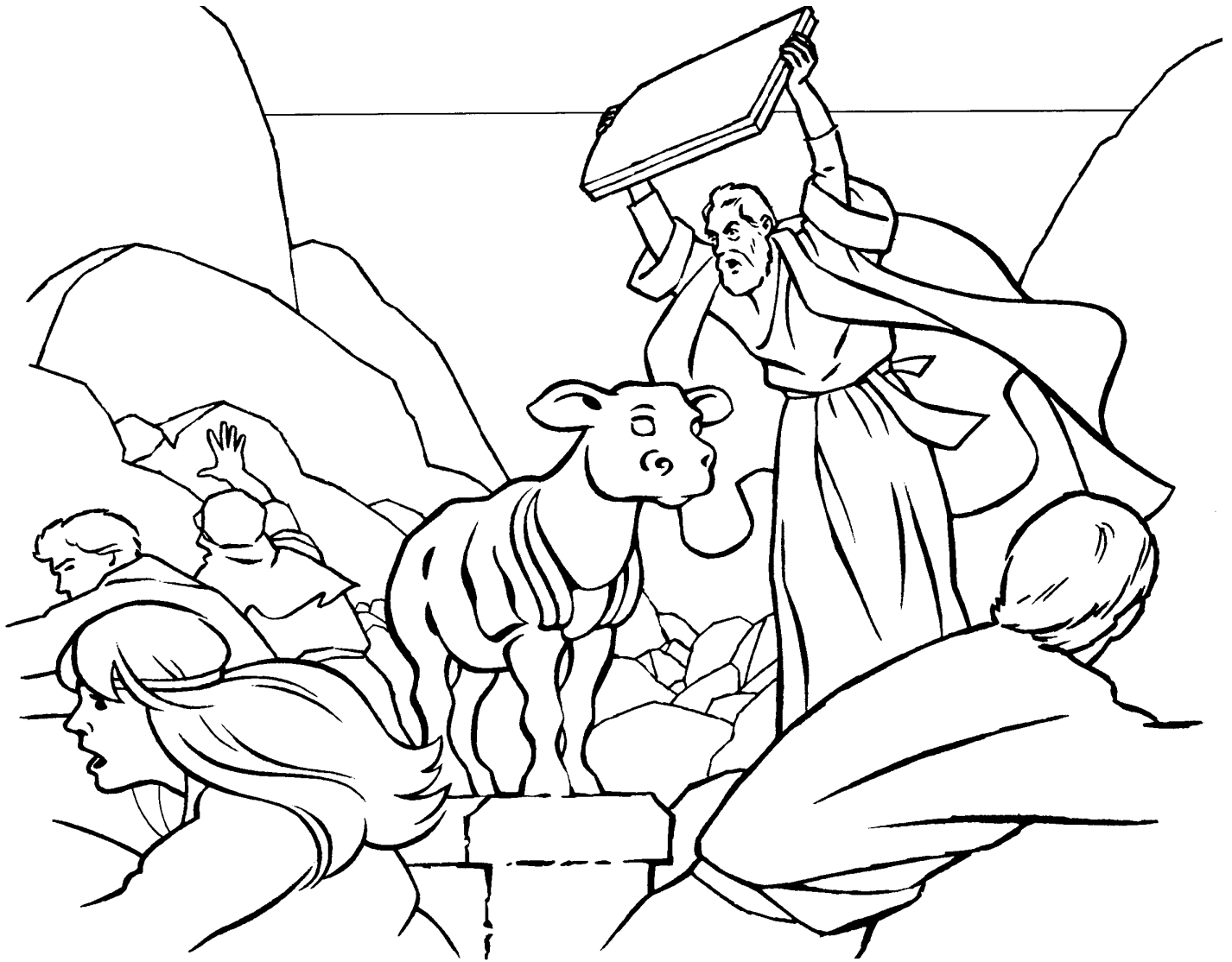
By this time, Moses had been on the mountain forty days. During this time, he spent many hours listening closely to instructions from God. He was told how to build a temporary Tabernacle — a huge tent where God could be present during the Israelites’ journey to Canaan. And he learned that Aaron and Aaron’s sons were to be the chief priests, whose duties and equipment were explained.

God also spoke to Moses about His Sabbaths and their importance. “The Sabbath is a *sign* between me and my chosen people,” God said.

God ended the meeting by giving Moses two tablets of stone. On them God Himself had clearly engraved the Ten Commandments.

“Return quickly to the camp,” God said. “The Israelites are breaking my commandments. They have made an idol which they are worshipping and sacrificing to. Now let me alone, for I am angry with them. I will destroy them and make of you a great nation!”

“Why are you angry with your people whom you brought out of Egypt with great power?” Moses



pleaded. "If you destroy them, the Egyptians will say you took your people out into the wilderness to kill them. Please turn from your anger and don't harm your people." So God decided not to destroy Israel.

### **ISRAEL PUNISHED FOR DISOBEDIENCE**

Moses then hurried down the mountain to where Joshua was patiently waiting. As he and Joshua went further down the moun-

tain, they heard the noise of the people.

Moses was shocked and angry when he saw them dancing wildly around the golden calf. In a fit of anger, he hurled the two tablets of stone to the ground with such force that they broke in pieces!

"Build a roaring fire at once!" Moses loudly commanded. "Melt down the golden calf and then grind the gold into fine powder. Put the powder into the water for everyone to drink!" This would

remind the people of their sin as they drank the water.

The Levites, people of the tribe of Levi, remained obedient to God and had not worshipped the golden calf. So God had them punish many of the Israelites who had worshipped it.

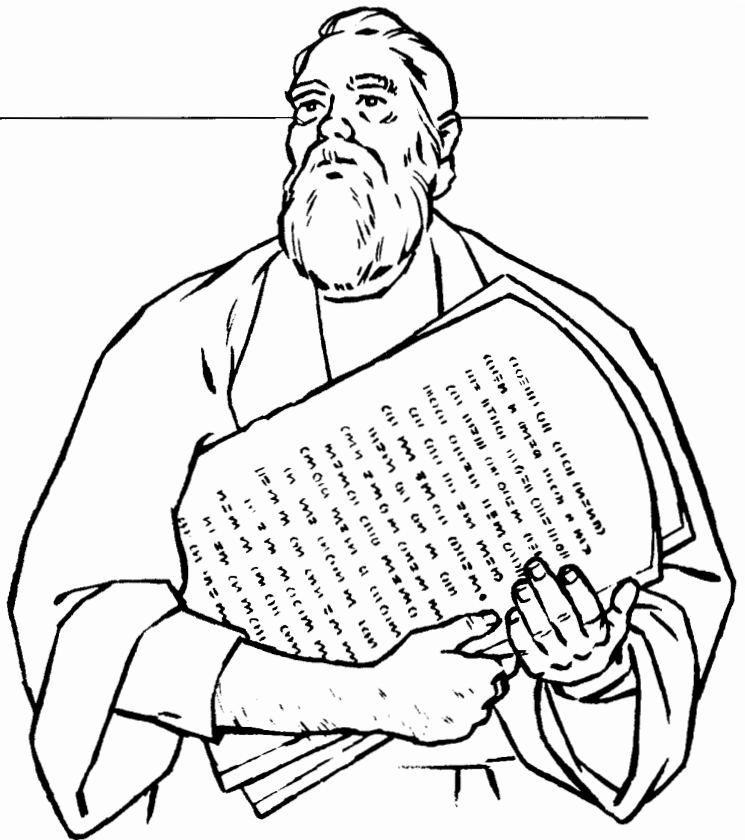
After this, Moses once again asked God to spare the people and not destroy them because of their rebellion. Since the Israelites were sorry for what they had done, God decided to be merciful and spared them. He also said that He would continue to guide the nation.

### **MOSES RETURNS TO MOUNT SINAI**

“Cut two stone tablets and bring them with you when you come up the mountain,” God instructed Moses. “I will write out the Ten Commandments again.”

Moses asked God if it would be possible to see Him. “You cannot see my face, for no person shall see it and live. But I will show you my back,” God told Moses. “I will pass very near you so that you can see my glory. Remain in a cave on the mountain until I pass by.”

Early the next morning, Moses went up Mt. Sinai with the two stone tablets. As he looked out of



the cave where he was waiting, Moses heard God's voice boom out like thunder. Suddenly, a dazzling light appeared. It became so bright that it nearly blinded him. Moses then caught a glimpse of the back of the brilliant figure of God as He passed by the cave.

“I am merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,” God proclaimed.

Trembling and overawed at the spectacular sight, Moses bowed his head and worshipped.

God then renewed His covenant, or agreement, with Israel. He also wrote once again the Ten Commandments on the stone tablets Moses brought with him.

After 40 days and nights on the mountain with God, Moses returned to the camp in the valley below. When the people saw him, they were startled and backed away. "Look at his face!" they said fearfully.

Moses did not know that his face was shining from having been so close to God. He covered his face with a veil, so as not to frighten the Israelites — especially the children.

Moses then told the people what God had spoken to him. He reminded them how important it is to obey God's Commandments and keep all of His Sabbaths.

### Do You Remember?

Fill in the answers to the questions below. Then use a separate sheet of paper for the drawings you will be asked to make. Be sure to keep them with this lesson.

1. Who spoke the Ten Commandments from Mt. Sinai?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. How many commandments are there? \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Draw a picture of you and your family keeping the Fourth Commandment.
4. In the Fourth Commandment, God says we are to work

\_\_\_\_\_ days and rest on the  
\_\_\_\_\_ day.

5. Draw a picture showing a way to honor your parents.
6. What does God say not to do in the Second Commandment?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
7. How should we use God's name? \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Draw a picture of someone breaking the Eighth Commandment in school. Then draw a large X over it!
9. Who waited on Mt. Sinai while Moses went up higher?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
10. What happened in the valley while Moses was on the mountain? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### FIND THE WORDS

Find the words below in the lesson and circle them. Then write their meanings on a separate sheet of paper. Use a dictionary if you need help.

covenant	dazzling
images	vapor
respect	ratified
boundaries	gracious
longsuffering	spectacular

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**BIBLE MEMORY**    Deuteronomy 30:15-16

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**DRAW THE PICTURES**

Follow the instructions in the squares below by drawing pictures of some of the things you read about in this lesson. Be sure to color the pictures when you have finished.

Draw a picture of the mountain where Moses received the two tablets of stone.

Draw a picture of the pillar of a cloud that led the Israelites through the wilderness.

Draw a picture of the two stone tablets on which God wrote the Ten Commandments.

Draw a picture of a roaring fire around the golden calf.



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# YOUTH

LEVEL 3

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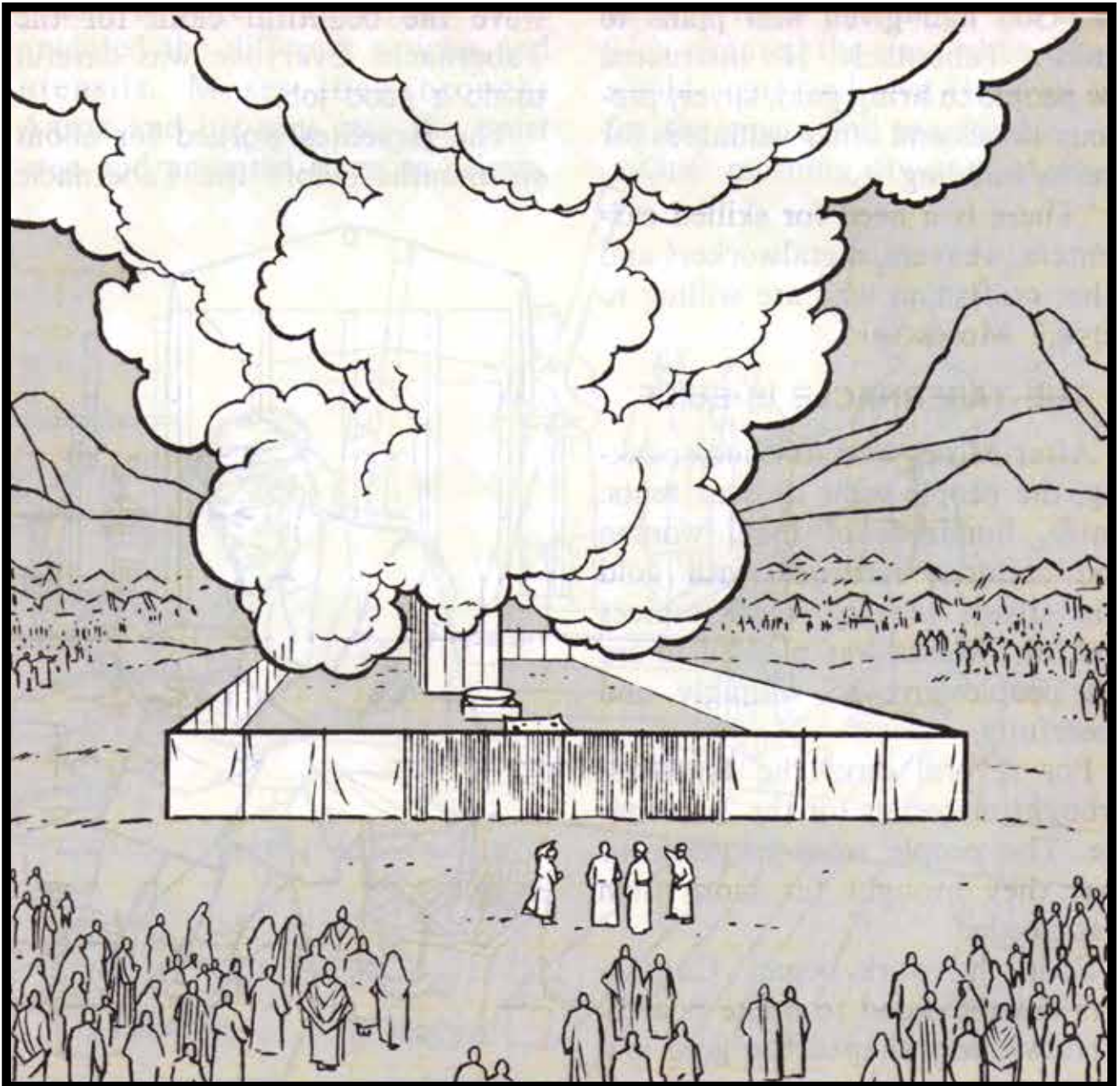
# BIBLE

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# LESSONS

LESSON 10

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Lessons at Mount Sinai



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# LESSONS AT MOUNT SINAI

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Moses told the Israelites that God had given him plans to build a Tabernacle. He instructed the people to bring gold, silver, precious stones and other valuables for use in building it.

“There is a need for skilled carpenters, weavers, metalworkers and other craftsmen who are willing to serve,” Moses said.

## THE TABERNACLE IS BUILT

After Moses had finished speaking, the people went to their tents. Later, hundreds of men, women and children returned with gold and silver, jewelry, cloth, spices and oils. Moses was very pleased to see the people give so willingly and cheerfully.

For several days the Israelites brought materials for the Tabernacle. The people were so generous that they brought far more than was needed.

Soon the work began. Carpenters cut the wood to make boards, metalworkers shaped the gold and

silver and many of the women wove the beautiful cloth for the Tabernacle. Everyone was careful to do a good job.

The Israelites worked for about six months before the Tabernacle



was finished. At that time, Moses gathered the workers together and thanked them for their help in building the Tabernacle. He also asked God to bless them.

God is very pleased with us and will bless us if we obey Him and do the very best we can.

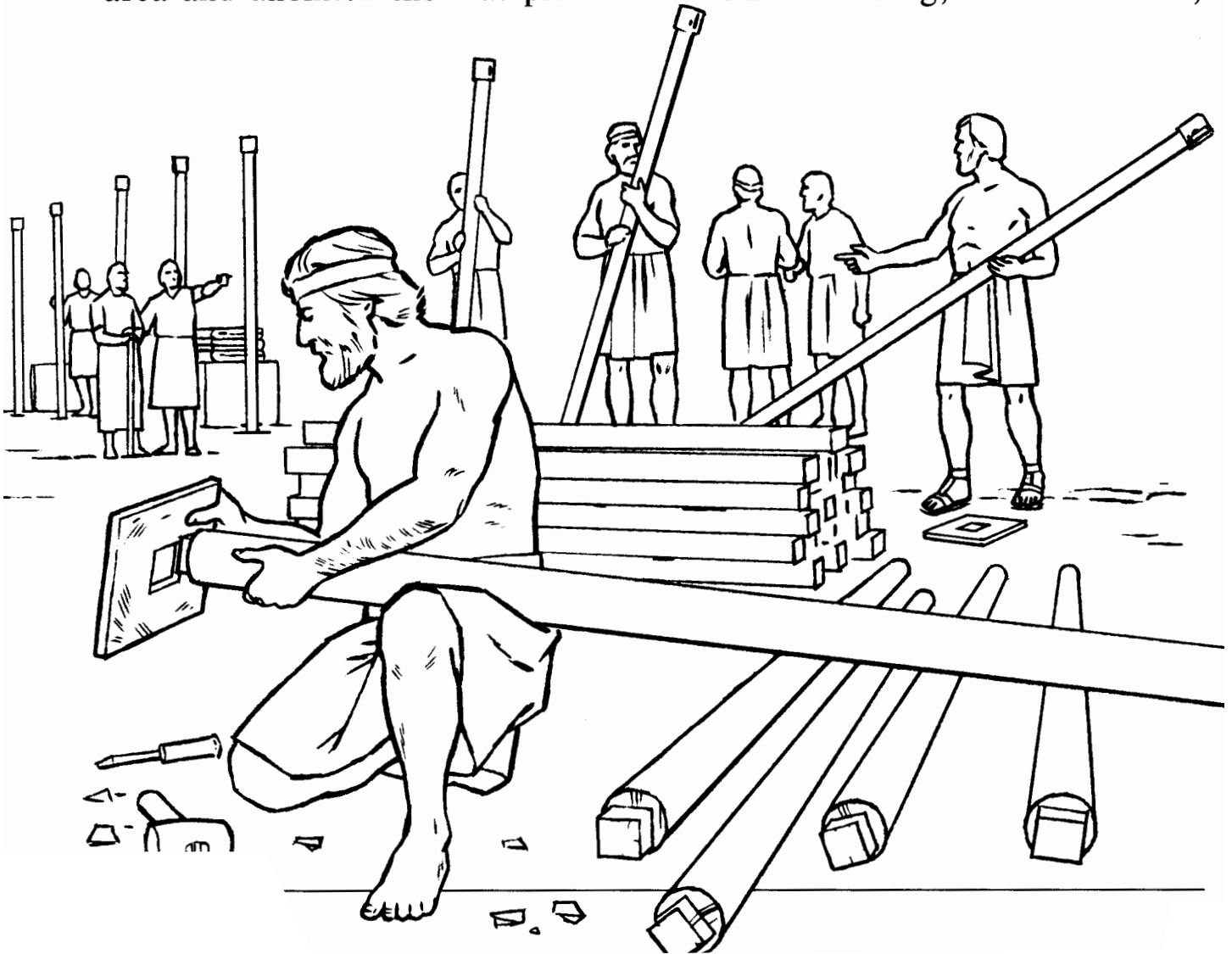
Moses was the first to enter the court of the Tabernacle. He anointed the different articles and utensils. Moses then brought Aaron and his sons into the court area and anointed them as priests.

When he had finished, the cloud which surrounded Mount Sinai moved down to cover the newly built Tabernacle.

### **AARON'S SONS REBEL**

Aaron and his sons were to serve as priests at the Tabernacle. Twice each day they would sacrifice a healthy lamb or calf on the altar. This pictured the time when Christ would come and give His own life for the sins of all mankind.

One morning, Aaron's sons,



Nadab and Abihu, went to the Tabernacle. While there, they placed hot coals from a nearby fire into their censers. This was a careless mistake. They did not use the hot coals from the altar by the Tabernacle.

Then Nadab and Abihu made another mistake. They decided to take their censers into the Tabernacle. Slowly they walked through the curtained entrance.

While standing inside, they suddenly became fearful. They quickly turned to run outside. It was too late. Hissing blades of fire came from the inner room, striking them both dead.

Aaron arrived later to perform his priestly duties. He was shocked when he saw the lifeless bodies of his two sons.

Just then Moses arrived at the Tabernacle. He instructed Aaron not to show his sadness in front of the people. If he did, it would show that Aaron thought God was unjust.

Now, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's other sons, would take over the duties of Nadab and Abihu.

### **Do You Remember?**

1. What did God want the Israelites to build? \_\_\_\_\_.

2. What were some of the things the Israelites brought for building the Tabernacle? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Did the Israelites give willingly and cheerfully? \_\_\_\_\_.
4. How long did the Israelites work to build the Tabernacle? \_\_\_\_\_.
5. True or False. God wants us to do the very best we can.
6. Aaron and his sons were anointed by Moses to serve as \_\_\_\_\_ at the Tabernacle.
7. True or False. Nadab and Abihu obeyed God by taking hot coals from a nearby fire into the Tabernacle.

### **GOD GIVES LAWS OF HEALTH**

After the deaths of Nadab and Abihu, God instructed Moses and Aaron about which meats are good to eat and which are not. In the Bible they are called clean or unclean. To keep us healthy, God wants us to eat good food.

Have you ever been to a zoo? If you have, you may have seen many different kinds of animals. Some of them may have been good for food. Others were not. That is because God made it that way!

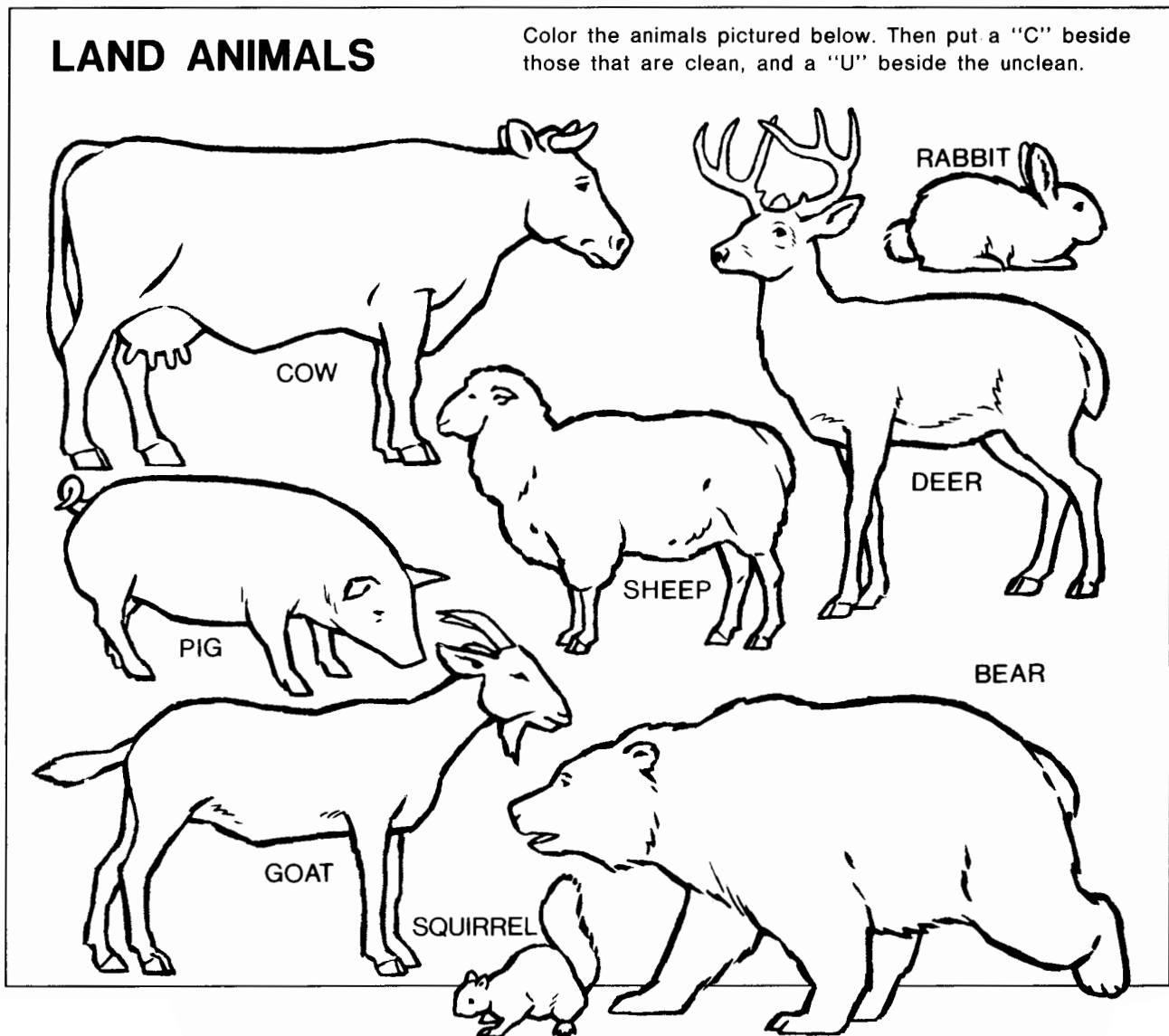
You could wash some meats very

well, but they still would not be good for food. This is because God made some animals unfit to eat. Their meat could make us sick if we ate them. When we are sick, we cannot do the work God wants us to do.

God shows us in the Bible what to eat so we can be healthy. Before the Flood, Noah knew which animals could be eaten. God told him to take the animals into the ark by pairs—male and female.

Noah took seven pairs of each “clean” animal (ones that we can eat), and one pair of each “unclean” animal (ones we should not eat).

Why did Noah and his family take seven pairs of clean animals onto the ark? Write your answer on the lines below. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.



## CLEAN AND UNCLEAN MEATS

God gave us two simple rules to know which animals are good to eat and which are not. These rules can be found in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14.

“You may eat any animal that has a parted hoof and chews a cud,” God said to Moses and Aaron.

What is a cud?

Have you ever seen a cow slowly chewing on something? It keeps chewing and chewing.

Cattle, along with other kinds of animals, do not take a long time to chew their food. They swallow it quickly.

Later, cattle will bring up bits of this swallowed food back from their stomachs. Then they will chew it again. This food is called cud.

God made the cow so that the food it eats takes a long time to digest. As it does, the parts of food that are not good for us are taken out. The best parts of the food go into its meat and milk.

What else must an animal have in order to be good to eat? It must have a divided or parted hoof.

Look at the picture of the cow’s hoof on page 5. You will see that it is divided or parted. Besides

chewing the cud, every clean animal must have a divided hoof.

Sheep are also clean animals. What do we get from sheep?

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Other clean animals include the deer, goat and antelope. Can you name some others? You may want to ask your parents for help.

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Unclean animals include an animal that many think is good to eat. But it is not! It does not chew a cud or have a divided hoof. It is the pig.

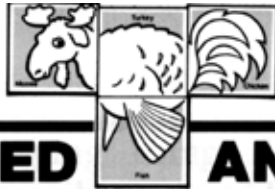
This is a dirty animal, rolling in mud and digesting its food in a very short time. A pig is dirty inside and out!

The reason an animal is unclean is that God never made it to be eaten in the first place! It was made for a different purpose.

The purpose of the pig is to help keep our surroundings clean. Other animals were created by God for their beauty. Some were made for work. Not all were made to be eaten.

Other unclean animals are the horse, rabbit, squirrel, monkey

*(Continued on page 9)*



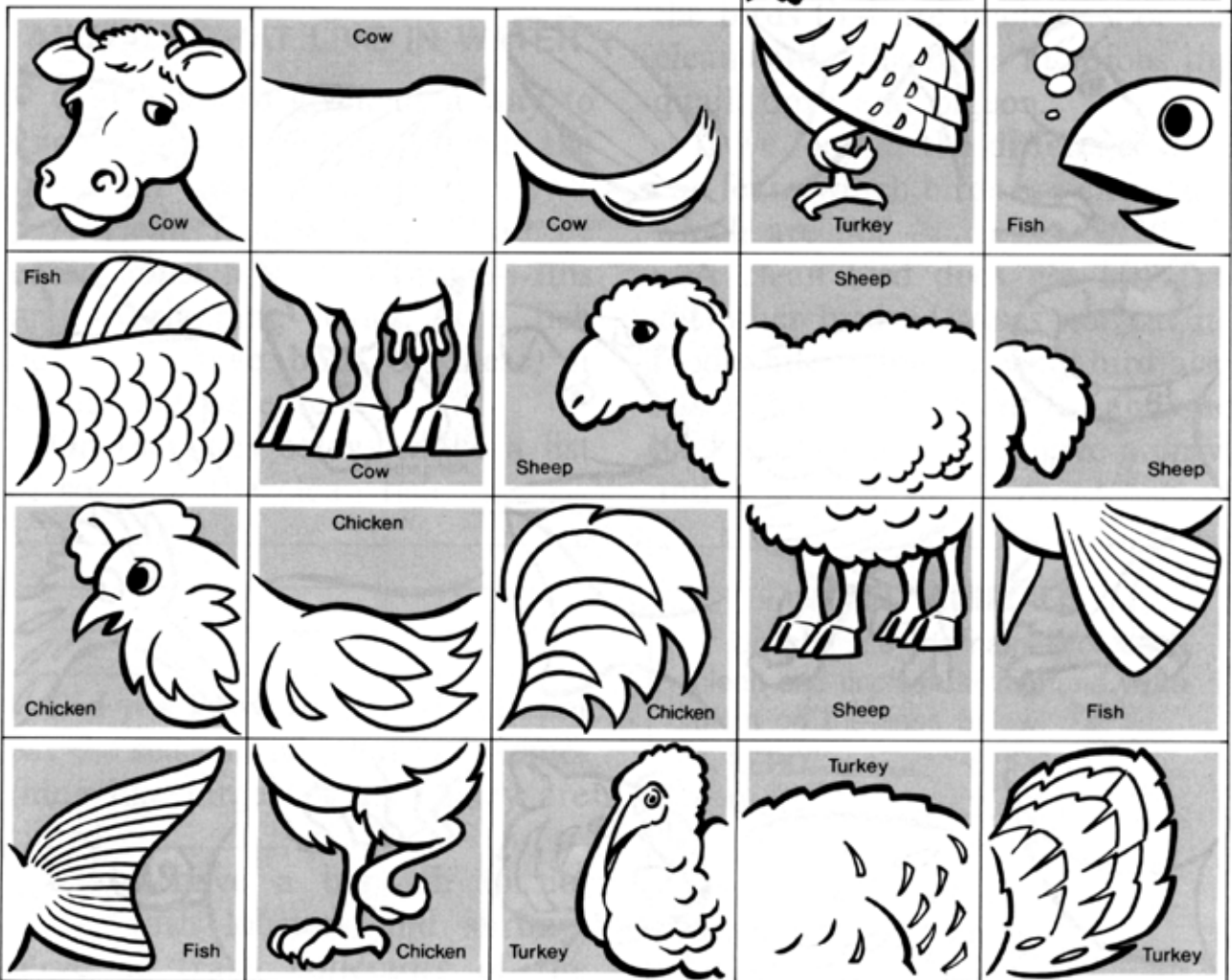
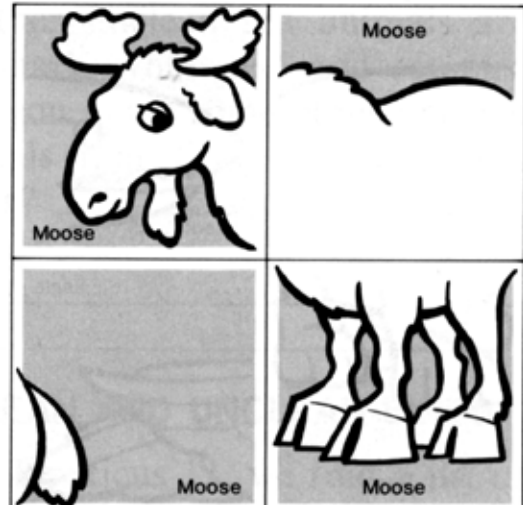
# SCRAMBLED ANIMAL GAME

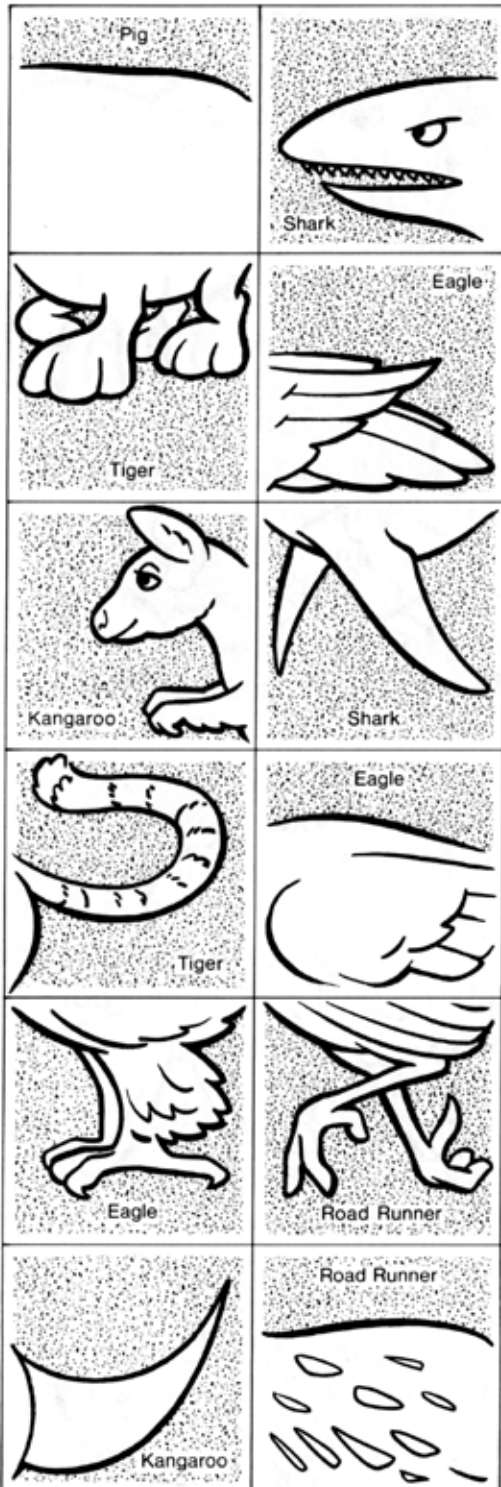
**Object of the game** Make an animal using the 24 different cut-out cards in this lesson. There are 12 different animals in all.

**Setting up the game** First, carefully cut out the cards along the lines. Then shuffle the cards and place them in a neat stack.

**Making an animal** The player who shuffled the cards now draws four cards from the top of the stack. He then tries to make a complete animal by using either side of the cards. If the player draws two or more of one body part (for example, two tails), he must keep one and put the other(s) at the bottom of the stack. The same player continues to draw until he has four different parts. He may have only four cards at a time

(Continued on page 8)

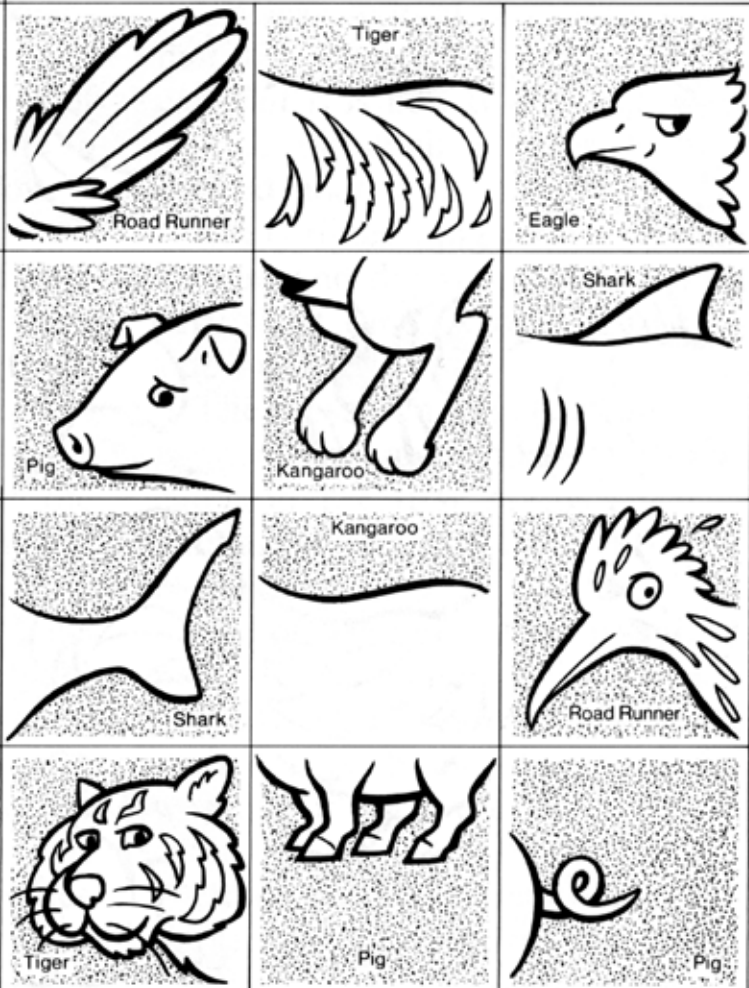




(head, body, legs and tail). Each player (moving around to the left) takes his turn drawing four cards. When everyone has four parts, play may begin.

**Playing the game** The first player draws one card from the top of the stack. He may trade it with one card in his hand or return it to the bottom of the stack. If he makes a trade, he must return the unused card to the bottom of the stack. Play then passes to the left and continues until one player makes an animal with all its own body parts (for example, a cow with a head, body, legs and tail).

**Scoring** Each time a player makes a clean animal, he scores two points. For each unclean animal he scores one point. The first person to reach three points is the winner.





and skunk. Creeping things like snakes, worms, snails and spiders are also unclean.

Can you name some other unclean animals? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

God is our Creator. He knows what our bodies need to be healthy. That is why He has given us these laws of clean and unclean meats.

### **ANIMALS THAT LIVE IN WATER**

God has also given us a way to know which animals that live in the water are good for food.

A clean fish, one that can be eaten, must have two things—fins and overlapping scales. If a fish does not have both of these, it should not be eaten.

On the lines below, make a list of some of the clean fish. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Did you know that we should not eat the big spiders of the sea? Do you know the name of these sea spiders? They are called c \_ \_ \_ \_.

Crabs have a big job to do. They, with lobsters and shrimp, serve as trash collectors of the oceans. They eat the bodies of dead

fish and other sea life.

Other unclean sea animals are the shark, whale, eel and octopus. Can you name some other unclean animals that live in or near the water? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### **CLEAN AND UNCLEAR BIRDS**

In Leviticus 11, we find a list of the birds that are unclean. For the clean birds, the Bible mentions the quail, dove and pigeon.

If we look at the differences, we can learn which birds are clean and which are not.

A clean bird does not kill and eat other birds. It does not eat its food while flying. A clean bird also has a long middle front toe and back toe. And, it must also have a craw and a double-lined gizzard.

### **MIXED ANIMALS**

Unscramble the names of each clean and unclean animal and write them on the lines below.

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. EERD _____  | 6. IPG _____   |
| 2. WOC _____   | 7. BRAE _____  |
| 3. EEHSP _____ | 8. TAOG _____  |
| 4. NIOL _____  | 9. GORF _____  |
| 5. OSRHE _____ | 10. VODE _____ |

Clean birds include the chicken, quail, turkey, duck, goose and all songbirds. Can you list some others on the lines below? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you know what the unclean birds are? Birds that are unclean do not have one or more of the characteristics of clean birds. Some of the unclean birds are the eagle,

crow, ostrich, owl and stork. The roadrunner, woodpecker, penguin and parrot are also not good to eat.

On the lines below, list some of the other unclean birds. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

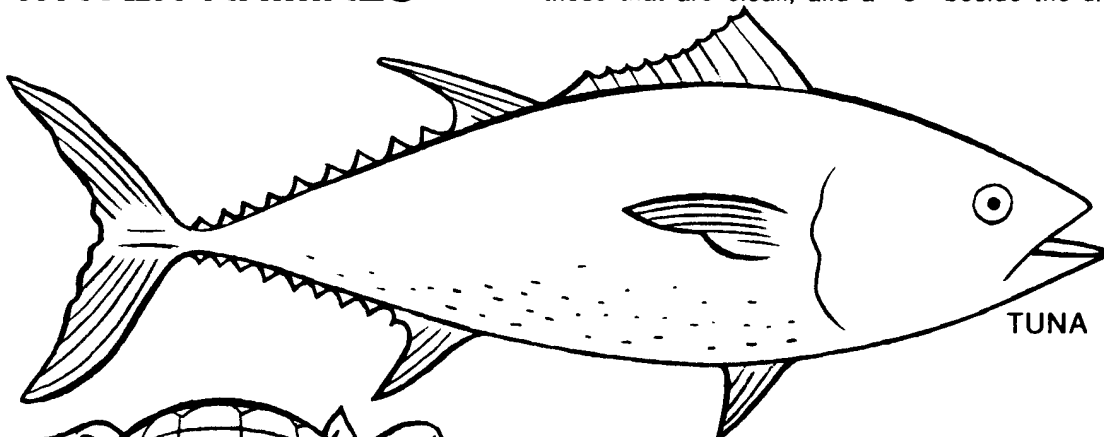
\_\_\_\_\_

God does not want us to eat these unclean birds.

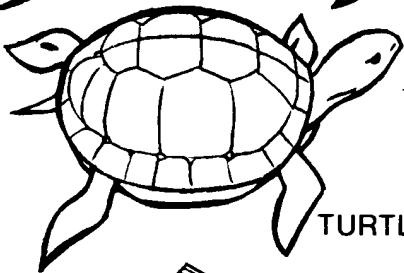
In our next lesson, we will learn more about the Israelites as they

## WATER ANIMALS

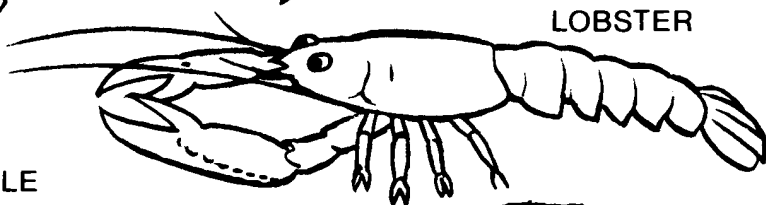
Color the animals pictured below. Then put a "C" beside those that are clean, and a "U" beside the unclean.



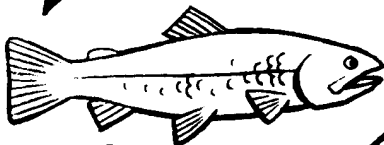
TUNA



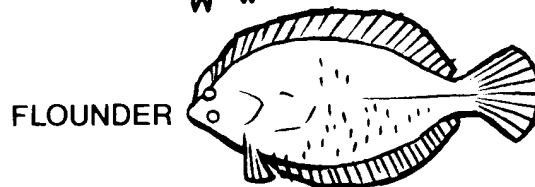
TURTLE



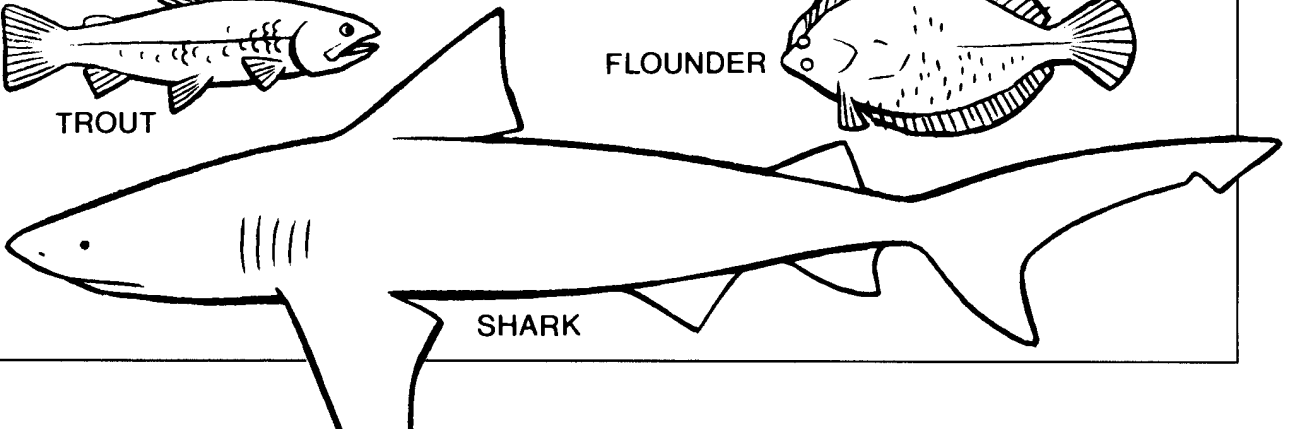
LOBSTER



TROUT



FLOUNDER



SHARK

wandered in the wilderness.

### Question and Answer

1. Which birds would you find in your yard or on the farm?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which would you see near the ocean or on a lake? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

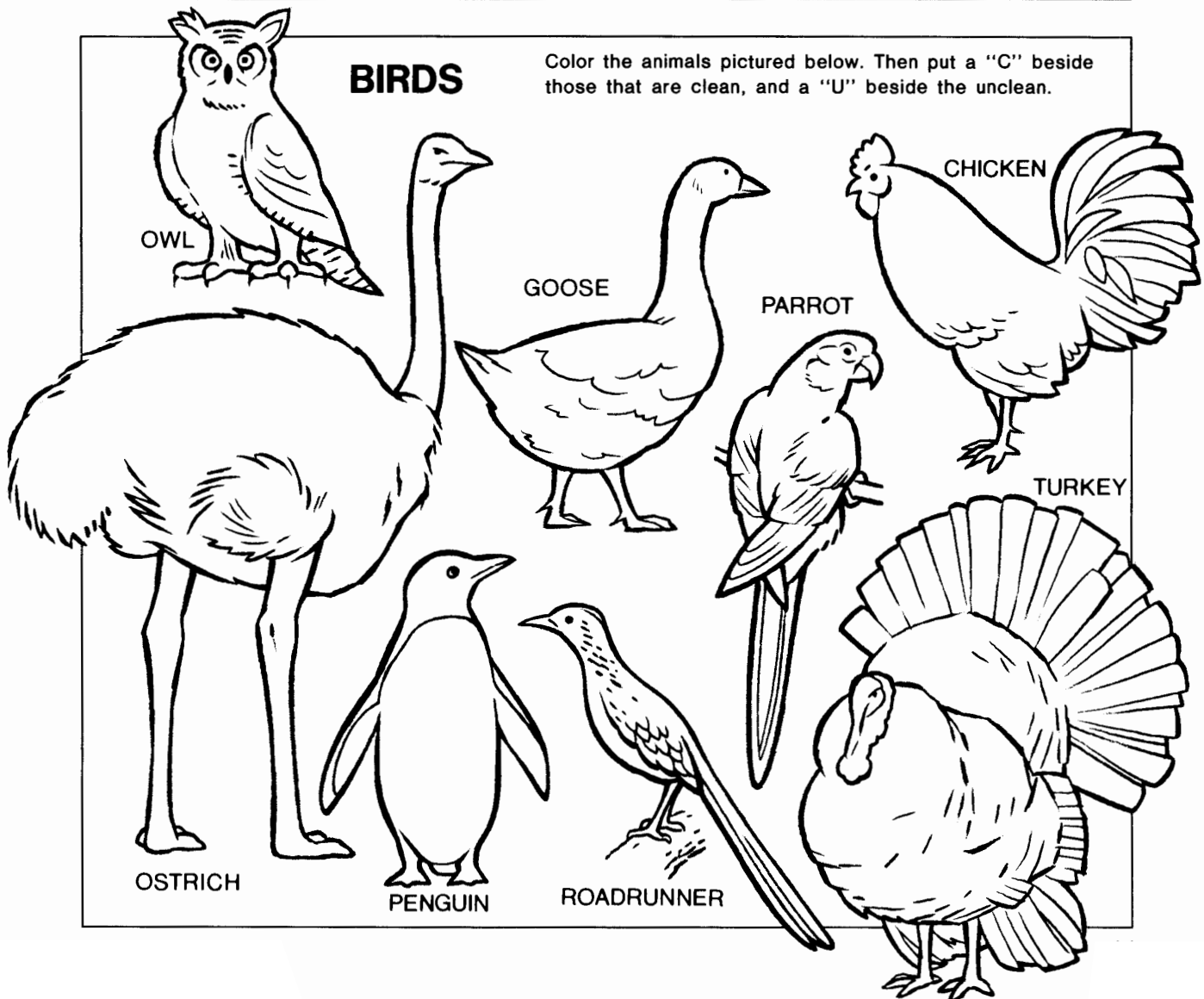
3. Which birds live in the desert? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What bird would you find at the South Pole? \_\_\_\_\_

5. How do birds help us and our surroundings? \_\_\_\_\_

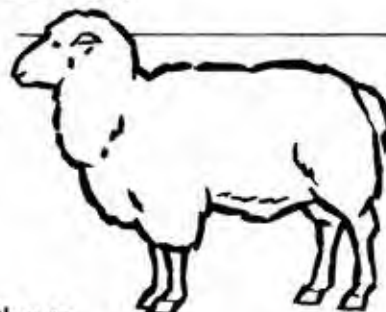
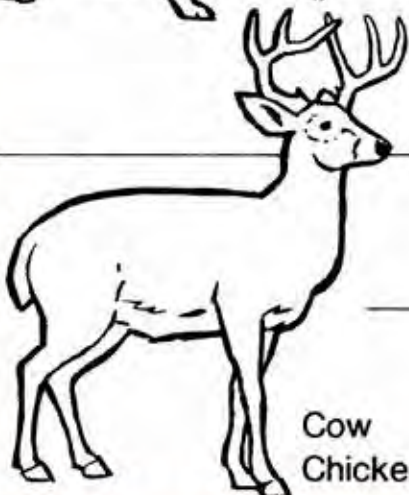
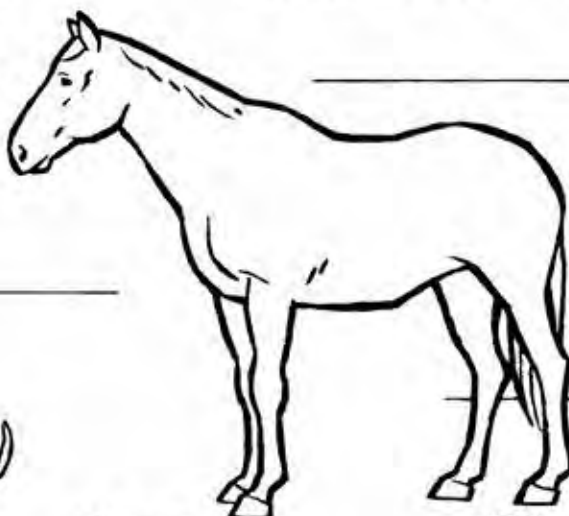
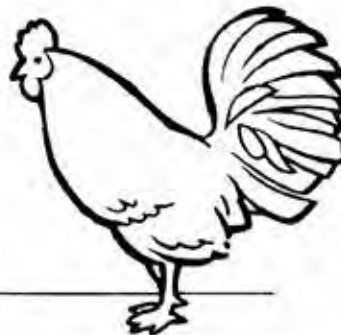
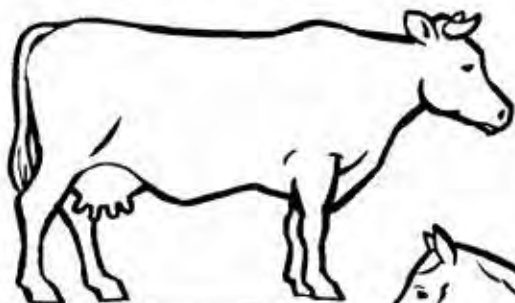
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**BIBLE MEMORY** Psalm 103:1-3  
James 5:14-15

## NAME THE ANIMALS

Match the animal with its name by writing the correct name from the Word Bank below on the lines next to each picture.



### Word Bank

Cow  
Chicken

Dog  
Horse

Duck  
Pig

Sheep  
Deer



# YOUTH BIBLE LESSONS

LEVEL 3

LESSON 11



Forty Years in the Wilderness

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# FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS

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**T**he Tabernacle was now finished. The pillar of a cloud that was over Mount Sinai was in the camp of Israel. The time had now come for the Israelites to continue their journey into Canaan, the Promised Land.

For many more years the Israelites would wander through the wilderness. They would have to learn many harsh lessons because of their disobedience toward God.

## **COUNTING THE ISRAELITES**

Soon after the Tabernacle was finished, God told Moses to count the number of Israelites. God chose able men from each tribe to help Moses and Aaron. When they finished, they had counted more than 600,000 Israelite men. If we add the women and children, there may have been over two million Israelites in all!

Moving all these people from place to place was a lot of work. The Israelites, however, knew when to leave. The pillar of a cloud

that was over the Tabernacle would rise and begin to move.

God also told Moses how to give jobs to the different families. There was also a certain order in which each tribe left camp when it was time for the Israelites to travel.

## **THE ISRAELITES WANT MEAT**

God had miraculously taken care of the Israelites, giving them water when they were thirsty and food when they were hungry. But the Israelites were not always thankful for their many blessings. Now many of the Israelites wanted more than manna.

“Give us meat to eat!” the people demanded. “We had fish, fresh fruits and vegetables in Egypt. All we ever have in this wilderness is manna!”

Moses heard all the complaining in the camp and went to God for help.

“Why have you given me all these problems?” Moses asked God. “Am I to be their father and

carry them as a little child to the Promised Land? They are all shouting for meat! Where will I get meat?"

"Bring me 70 of Israel's elders," God told Moses. "I will take some of my Spirit that is on you and give it to them. Then they will be able to help you care for all the people.

"As for meat," God continued, "I will give it to the people. Not just for a few days, but enough for a whole month. They will become sick of meat and not want it anymore. I will do this because they have rejected Me and want to return to Egypt!"

The next morning, God caused a strong wind to blow from the sea. Soon the sky was filled with quail. Even the ground was beginning to be covered with the birds. As you learned in the last lesson, quail are good to eat.

For two days the people gathered the quail. Many of them were quickly cooked for a great feast. But God was angry with the Israelites and sent a plague that killed many of the people.

Why did God send the plague?

The Israelites were only thinking about the quail. They quickly began to eat as many as they could. They wanted it so much, they for-





got about God. The Israelites learned that they should never complain or rebel against God.

### **MIRIAM AND AARON LEARN A LESSON**

One day, Moses' brother Aaron and his sister Miriam complained about Moses. They thought that they should be in charge, too.

"God has not worked only through Moses," they said. "We should also lead and direct the people of Israel."

God heard what Aaron and Miriam were saying and became very angry. He spoke to Moses, Aaron and Miriam and told them all to meet at the Tabernacle. God had something to say to Aaron and Miriam.

When they arrived at the Tabernacle, God appeared before them in a pillar of a cloud. God then called for Aaron and Miriam to step forward.

"Listen carefully!" God angrily told them. "I am the One who chooses the leader of the people. I have chosen Moses to be my servant. And I speak to him. Why were you not afraid to speak against Moses?"

After God had finished speaking, the pillar of a cloud quickly lifted from the Tabernacle. Then

Miriam saw that something had happened to her skin. It was white as snow. Aaron quickly turned to see that Miriam had become a leper.

Aaron and Miriam knew they had sinned and angered God. They cried to Moses for help.

"Help us, Moses," Aaron pleaded. "Do not hold this foolish sin against us. Ask God to heal our sister Miriam."

Moses prayed to God to heal Miriam. "Be merciful and heal her of this disease," Moses prayed.

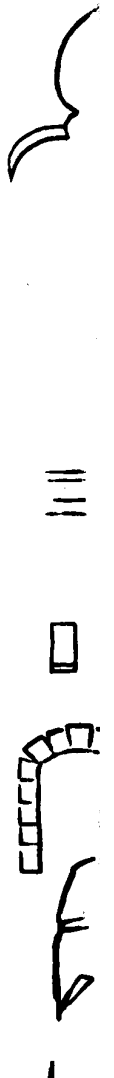
God answered Moses' prayer and said that He would heal Miriam. But she would have to spend seven days outside the camp. After that time she would be healed.

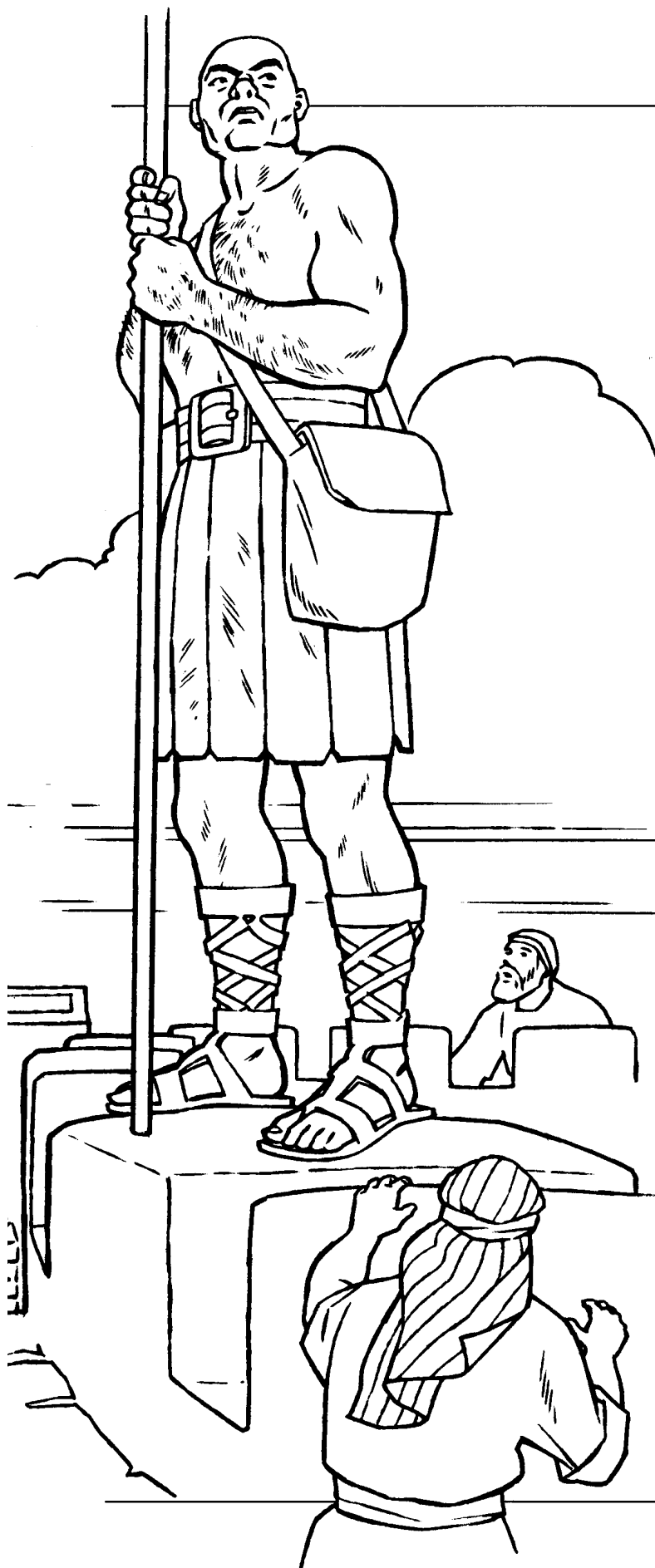
Miriam did stay outside the camp for seven days. During that time, she and her brother Aaron thought about their sin against God. They knew that by saying wrong things about God's servant, they had rebelled against God. It is the same as saying wrong things about God.

Aaron and Miriam learned their lesson, and at the end of the week Miriam was healed.

### **SCOUTS ARE SENT TO CANAAN**

After Miriam had returned to camp, God led the Israelites to a





place near the land of Canaan. Now God was ready to give His people the land He had promised them.

God next told Moses to send 12 men to scout the land of Canaan.

"You are to go into Canaan as scouts," Moses told the men. "Find out what kind of people live there. If the land has good crops, bring back some of the food that grows in the land. Also, see what kinds of buildings they have in their cities. Be brave and courageous, for God is with you!"

The scouts were very happy when they reached the land of Canaan. The land was beautifully green with plants, trees and many different crops.

As the scouts walked through some of the cities, they looked to see how many people lived there. When they came into the city of Hebron they were surprised to find men almost twice their size!

As they returned from Canaan, the scouts cut a large cluster of grapes to take back to show Moses and the people. The grapes were so big that they were hung on a thick pole and carried by two men! They also brought back pomegranates, figs and many other fruits from the land.

After scouting for 40 days, they

returned to the camp to tell everyone about the Promised Land.

Joshua and Caleb, as leaders of the group, spoke first. They told Moses that it was a good land and that God had blessed it. They showed him some of the grapes and figs they had gathered. Moses was very happy.

When Joshua and Caleb finished speaking, the other scouts gave their reports. "The land is good as Joshua and Caleb have told you," said one of the scouts. "But the people who live there are strong. The cities are large and have very high walls. We also saw giants in the land. We should not go there or we will be killed!"

Then Caleb spoke up, and said, "We should leave at once and take the land. We can do it with God's help!"

"We cannot go into the land. They are much stronger!" the scouts replied.

"If only we had died in Egypt," the Israelites began to complain. "Why did God bring us to this land to be killed? It would be better to return to Egypt."

The Israelites forgot the lesson God had taught them through Aaron and Miriam. They wanted a new leader who would take them back to Egypt. They did not want

Moses—the one God chose as their leader.

Moses and Aaron quickly fell face down and prayed to God. Then Joshua and Caleb again talked to the people.

"If God is pleased with us, He will give us the land!" they shouted to the people. "Do not rebel against God, and do not be afraid of the people in the land. God will drive them out!"

But the Israelites would not listen. Some of them wanted to throw stones at Moses and Aaron. This made God very angry.

Suddenly, there was a bright flash of light from the Tabernacle.

"How long will these people anger me?" God's voice boomed. "How long will they refuse to believe me, after all the miracles I have shown them?"

Then God told Moses He would destroy the nation of Israel. Instead, He would make a great nation from Moses and his family.

Moses asked God not to destroy the Israelites. "I know that your mercy is great," Moses said to God. "Please forgive the people of their sins."

God was merciful and heard Moses' prayer to save the Israelites. But they would still have to be punished. God told Moses

that even though they were near the Promised Land, they could not enter. They would now have to wander in the wilderness for many more years.

By the time the Israelites would reach the Promised Land, it would be 40 years since they left Egypt. Only after this time in the wilderness would God give the land to His people.

But some of the Israelites did not listen to God's words. They tried to go into the Promised Land. When they did, they were attacked by the Amalekites and many of the Israelites were killed or wounded.

### **Do You Remember?**

1. What did God want Moses to do before leaving Mount Sinai? \_\_\_\_\_
2. The Israelites complained because they had no \_\_\_\_\_ to eat.
3. God sent \_\_\_\_\_ into the camp of Israel.
4. What happened after the Israelites ate the quail? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Miriam became a \_\_\_\_\_ because she and Aaron complained about \_\_\_\_\_.
6. How long did Miriam have to stay outside the camp? \_\_\_\_\_.
7. How many scouts were sent into the land of Canaan? \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The scouts found a large cluster of \_\_\_\_\_ that had to be carried on a \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ men!
9. Which two scouts gave a good report? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
10. How many years would the Israelites have to wander in the wilderness? \_\_\_\_\_.

### **KORAH DISOBEYS GOD**

Later, as the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, a man named Korah started complaining about Moses. He and others thought that Moses and Aaron should not be the leaders of Israel. Korah, Dathan and Abiram and several other men had also forgotten the lesson of Aaron and Miriam. Now they would have to learn that lesson.

Korah soon caused many of the leading men to believe that Moses and Aaron should not be leaders. They wanted to be the leaders themselves. So one morning they all gathered in front of Moses' tent.

"You are not better than we are," Korah told Moses. "Why do

you put yourselves over the people as leaders?"

Moses was saddened to hear this from Korah. He told Korah and the others to go to their tents. "Tomorrow morning God will show who He has chosen as the leader of His people," Moses added.

The next morning, Moses told the people to stay away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. The people obeyed and hurriedly ran for safety. Then the earth began to tremble. A deep hole opened in the ground next to the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. Then the three men and their families fell into the shaking hole and the ground closed over them. But God was merciful and saved the children.

Then bolts of fire struck and killed all those who followed Korah. Once again, God showed the people that He had chosen Moses to lead the Israelites.

### **WATER FROM A ROCK**

After the death of Korah, the Israelites continued to wander in the wilderness. God continued to protect the Israelites and keep their clothes and shoes from wearing out.

Many years passed, and the Israelites finally returned to a place

near the land of Canaan. When the Israelites camped there years earlier, there was plenty of water. But now the water was gone.

"What will we do?" the people complained. "We will all die without water!"

The people soon became angry at Moses and gathered outside his tent. Moses and Aaron knew that they would need God's help. They quickly went to the Tabernacle to ask God what to do.

"Take your rod," God told Moses. "Then you and Aaron gather the people together, so they may see you speak to the rock. It will then pour out its water."

But Moses and Aaron had become angry with the people. Instead of speaking to the rock, Moses hit the rock twice with his rod. When he did, God brought water out of the rock.

Soon there was a stream of pure, cool water rushing beside the camp. But Moses and Aaron knew they had disobeyed God.

"I told you to speak to the rock," God said to Moses. "But you disobeyed. Instead, you struck the rock with your rod."

"Since you have failed to give honor to Me for the miracle," God continued, "I will not allow you

and your brother Aaron to enter the Promised Land.”

Moses and Aaron were very sad, but they knew that God was right. They had sinned.

A few months later, Aaron died. Before his death, God told Moses to go with Aaron and Aaron’s son, Eleazar, up to a nearby mountain top. There God made Eleazar the new High Priest.

### A PLAGUE OF SNAKES

The Israelites were almost finished with their journey. But they were still making the same mistakes they were making when their long journey began nearly 40 years earlier.

As they traveled along, they again began to complain. “Why have you brought us out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread or water! We do not want this manna for food!”

God was angered by their complaining and sent poisonous snakes into the camp. The snakes went into people’s tents and throughout the camp. Many Israelites died from the bites of the snakes.

The people soon realized their mistake and came running to Moses for help. “We have sinned by speaking against God and against you, Moses,” the people said. “Ask God to take these snakes away from us!”



Moses prayed and asked God to take away the snakes. God then told Moses to have a large, bronze snake made and put on a pole in the middle of camp. Anyone who looked at the bronze snake would be healed of the snake bites.

### **GOD GIVES ISRAEL A NEW LEADER**

Moses knew that he would not be able to go into the Promised Land. Moses also knew that the people would need a good leader, one who would look to God for help.

God told Moses that He had already found such a man. It was Joshua—one of the two scouts who had given a good report about the Promised Land. Joshua had been loyal to God and Moses for many years. Moses knew Joshua would be a good leader.

Now Moses had only to give the Israelites final instructions from God. Moses told the Israelites what God wanted them to do once they entered the Promised Land. He also reminded the people to stay close to God and to keep His commandments.

One day, God told Moses to go to the top of a high mountain that overlooked the Promised Land. From there Moses could see where

the Israelites would soon be living.

“This is the land I promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,” God said to Moses. “I have let you see it, but you will not go into the land.”

Soon after this, Moses died. Joshua now became God’s chosen leader over the Israelites. In our next lesson, we will learn what happened to Joshua and the Israelites as they began to enter the Promised Land.

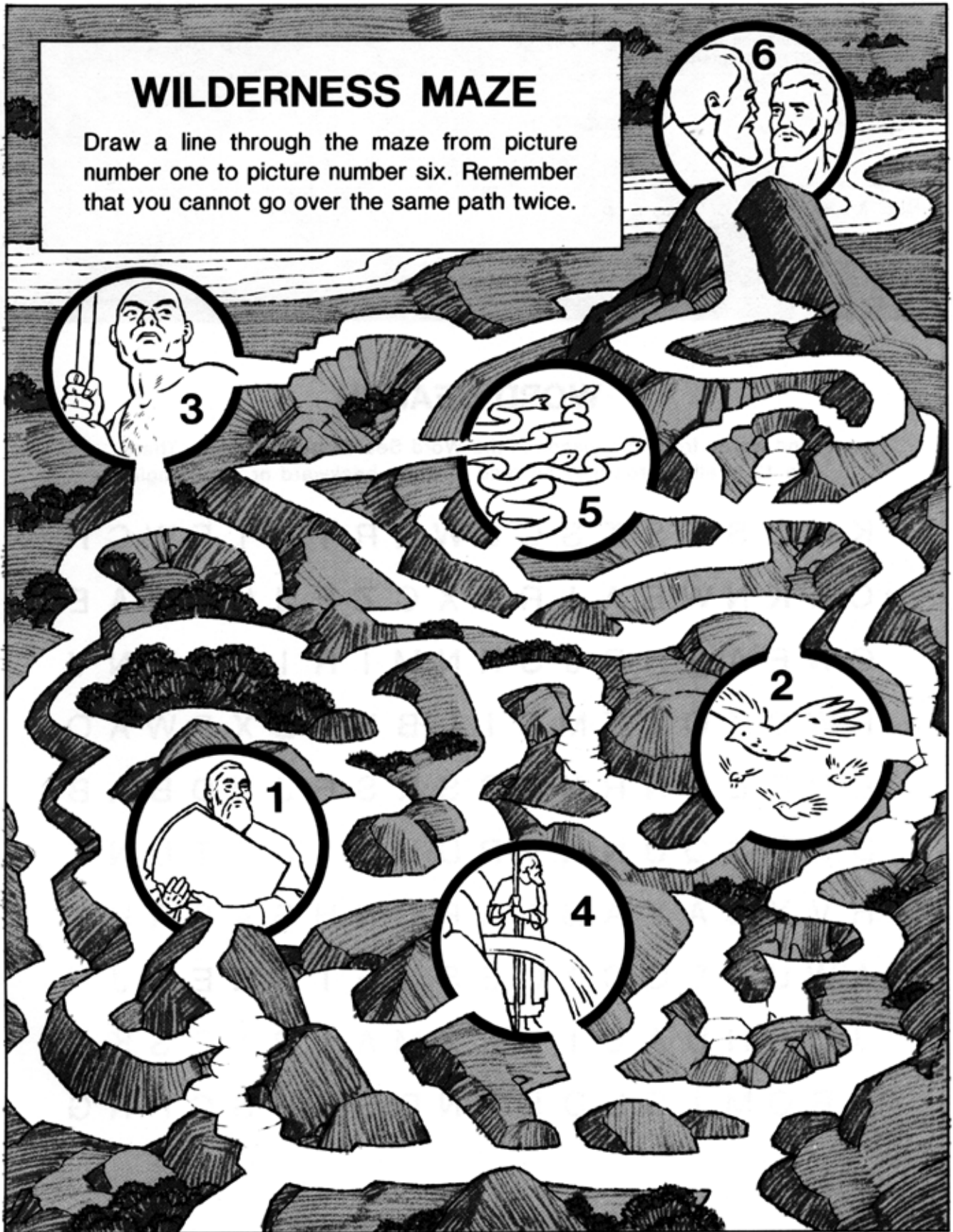
### **Do You Remember?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ started many Israelites complaining about Moses.
2. God commanded Moses to \_\_\_\_\_ to the rock.
3. What did Moses do after God told him to speak to the rock?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. What came out of the rock?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. God sent poisonous \_\_\_\_\_ into the camp of Israel.
6. What did God tell Moses to make so the people would be healed of the snake bites? \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Who became the leader of the Israelites after Moses’ death?  
\_\_\_\_\_.



## WILDERNESS MAZE

Draw a line through the maze from picture number one to picture number six. Remember that you cannot go over the same path twice.



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**BIBLE MEMORY** Galatians 5:14-15

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## WORD SEARCH

Find words from this lesson in the Word Search puzzle below. There are 12 in all. Words may be read forward, backward or at an angle.

K M O S E S T S C S W Q R Y P I E W C P  
C K K N W E A I R N X C Z F J H W O A E  
O W E A E H B J S K N M I R I A M W N V  
R W O K O I E M S I L B N V Z X P W A Q  
B H G E Q N R N C S S K S F J H D B A B  
D Z B S Q U N N V R D U W I E P T U N T  
H V X C A Y A B A A R O N H G A S R U I  
A W U I E G C I O E S J E I U W E O J H  
J O S H U A L I L L X M A I R I C S K J  
P R O M I S E D L A N D G Y U S C F R G

# YOUTH BIBLE LESSONS

LEVEL 3

SPECIAL FEAST  
LESSON



The Spring Feasts

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# THE SPRING FEASTS

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**D**uring the long, cold winter many of God's creatures and plants have been asleep. But as spring approaches, the earth begins to receive more sunlight. The days become longer and the nights shorter. The soil becomes warmer and seeds which are in the ground begin to sprout or grow.

According to God's way of counting time, a new year has begun. The first month of God's calendar begins during the spring when new life appears everywhere!

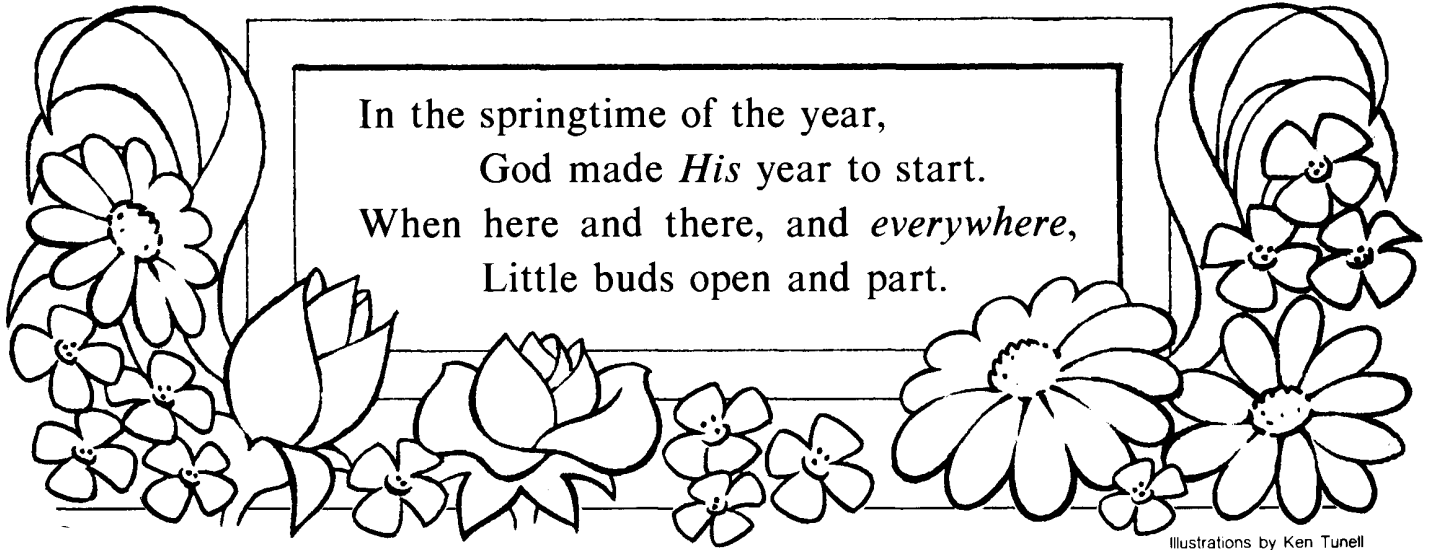
During this time each year, God's people observe the spring festivals. They are the Passover,

the Days of Unleavened Bread and Pentecost. These festivals picture the first three steps in God's great plan for mankind.

God wants everyone who has ever lived to become members of His Family. This is His great purpose for creating man! And God's plan, pictured by the annual, or yearly festivals, shows *how* we may come into God's Family. Let's learn about the spring festivals.

## THE FIRST PASSOVER

Long ago in the land of Egypt, the children of Israel were slaves of the Egyptians for several hundred

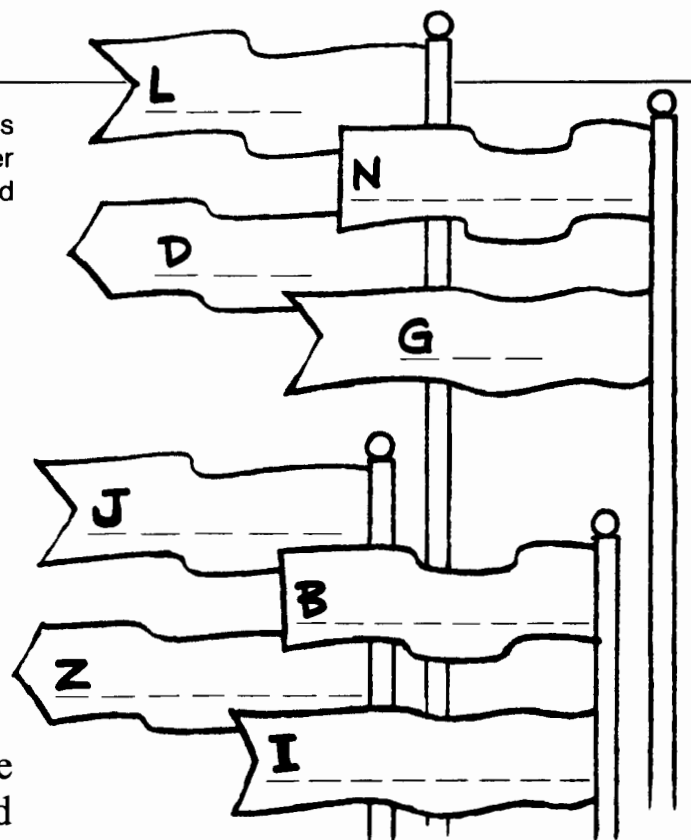
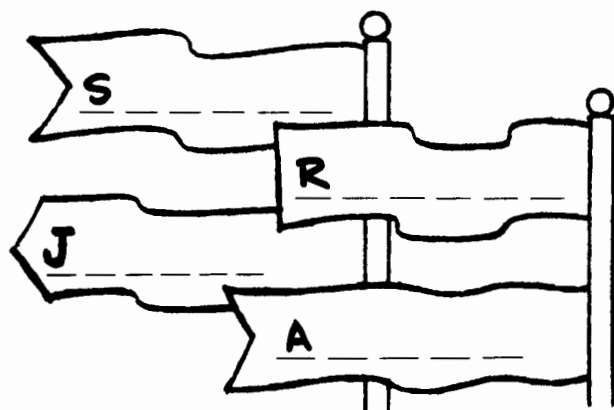


In the springtime of the year,  
God made *His* year to start.  
When here and there, and *everywhere*,  
Little buds open and part.

Illustrations by Ken Tunell



Do you remember the names of the Twelve Tribes of Israel? Write each name on its correct banner and color it. The first letter of each name is filled in for you.



years. As slaves, they lived terrible lives. The Egyptians beat them and made them work very, very hard.

God knew about their suffering. He had promised many years before that He would bring His people out of Egypt. It was now the time for Him to keep His promise. So God chose a man named Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

God sent Moses and his brother Aaron to speak to Pharaoh, king of Egypt. They told Pharaoh to let the Israelites go. But Pharaoh would not let them go. Instead he made them work harder!

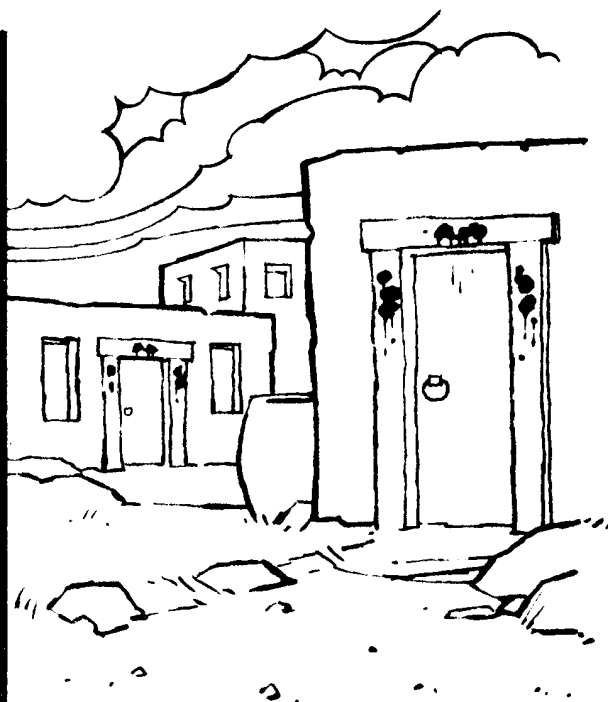
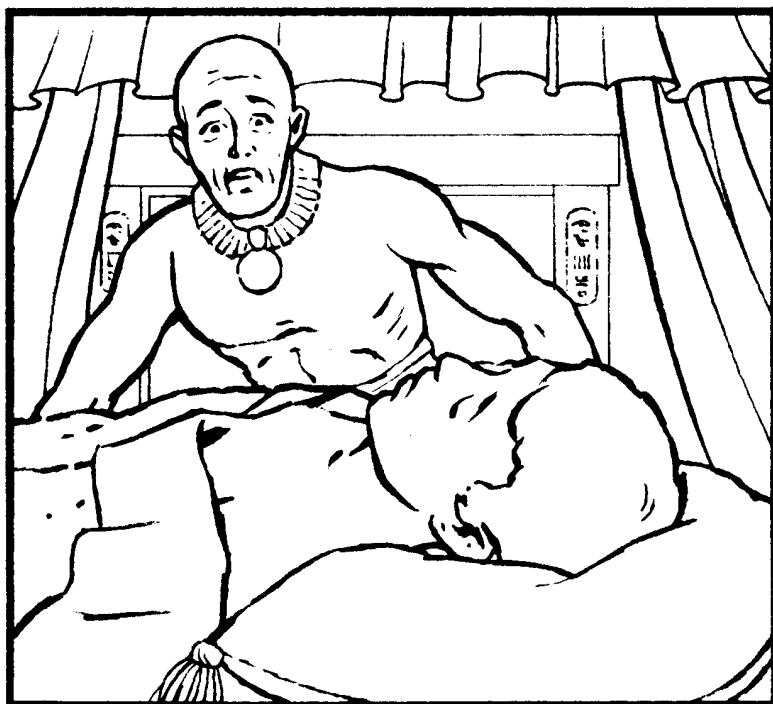
Next, God instructed Moses and Aaron to warn Pharaoh of the terrible plagues He would send upon the land of Egypt if Pharaoh would not let the Israelites go. But Pharaoh still refused. So God sent

plague after plague upon the Egyptians until their land was ruined. But Pharaoh still would not free the Israelites!

Nine plagues had now been sent. God told Moses He would send one more plague upon Egypt.

God protected the Israelites from most of the other plagues. But to be protected from the tenth plague, they would have to do something special. God told Moses to instruct the Israelites what they must do.

Moses then gave God's instructions to the people. "On the tenth day of the first month [Abib]," Moses began, "each man is to select from his flocks a beautiful,



healthy, young male lamb for his family. The lamb should be less than a year old, and must not have bruises or marks on it.

“He should take care of this lamb until the beginning of the fourteenth day. At sunset he should kill it and smear some of its blood upon the top and sides of the doorposts of his house.

“Roast the whole lamb, including its head, legs and inner parts,” continued Moses. “Be sure not to eat it either raw or boiled. If one family is too small to eat the whole lamb, they should share it with a neighbor.

“When it is time to eat the lamb, everyone should be dressed for a journey. But no one should go

outside the house—everyone is to stay inside all night.

“Eat the lamb quickly, and with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. Any part of the lamb that is not eaten should be burned. Be careful not to let any of it remain until morning,” Moses instructed.

Then Moses explained what the people who followed these instructions would be protected from.

“On that night God will send an angel to kill all the firstborn of both man and animals in the land of Egypt,” said Moses. “But the angel will not kill the firstborn of your families if they are inside the houses marked with blood. When the angel sees the blood, he will *pass over* you. This day will be

called the Lord's Passover.

"We are to keep the Passover every year in the springtime so that we will not forget how God protected our firstborn from death" (Exodus 12:1-14).

That night the death angel passed through the land of Egypt, killing all the firstborn of the Egyptians. Even Pharaoh's first-born son was killed!

At last Pharaoh changed his mind. After the terrible tenth plague, he did not know what other plagues God might send next if he did not free the Israelites. So he sent a messenger to Moses to tell him that they were now free to go.

In the morning, Moses told the Israelites to ask the Egyptian people to give them of their gold, silver and clothing. The Egyptians gave the people whatever they wanted. They were anxious to have the Israelites leave. They were afraid of what might happen to them next!

### **THE PASSOVER TODAY**

As we have seen, God commanded the Israelites many years ago to observe the Passover. He commanded them to keep it from generation to generation.

Today, thousands of years later,

God's people are also commanded to keep the Passover. But it is kept in a manner much different from the way the ancient Israelites kept it.

Little did the Israelites who kept that first Passover know that the Passover was to picture the very first step in God's great plan for mankind. The Passover lamb that they killed pictured Jesus Christ. Jesus is called the "Lamb of God" (John 1:29) and "our passover" (I Corinthians 5:7). He came to earth hundreds of years later to be killed to pay for our sins and the sins of all mankind.

Jesus was about 33 years old when He was killed. But before His death, He kept the Passover that spring just as He had every year before. While Jesus was eating the Passover meal with His disciples, He showed them a *new way* to keep the Passover from that time forward. No longer were they to kill a lamb as the Israelites had been instructed to do.

The first thing Christ did was to wrap a towel around His waist. Then He poured some water into a basin. One by one He washed the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel. Then He explained the lesson He wanted them to learn from this special footwashing ser-



vice—that we should *love* and *serve* one another!

Jesus then took unleavened bread, broke it in pieces and told His disciples to eat it. After they had eaten the bread, He gave them a cup of wine to drink.

### **MEANING OF BREAD AND WINE**

Passover is a very solemn, or serious day. It was on this day that Jesus was crucified, or killed. He was killed in a very painful way. First, He was beaten and then He was nailed to a stake and left to die. Why did this have to happen?

In the Bible, God tells us that everyone has sinned, or disobeyed His Ten Commandments. God says that unless our sins are forgiven, we will suffer the punishment of sin, which is death (Romans 6:23). The death would be *forever*—eternal death! However, God has a plan to save us from the punishment of sin. That plan also makes possible the opportunity to *live forever* as a part of God's Family!

But only Jesus could pay the penalty for our sins and for the sins of all who have ever lived. This is because Jesus was God before He came to earth as a human being. He was the other member of the God Family. He also was the Creator of all life. Therefore His

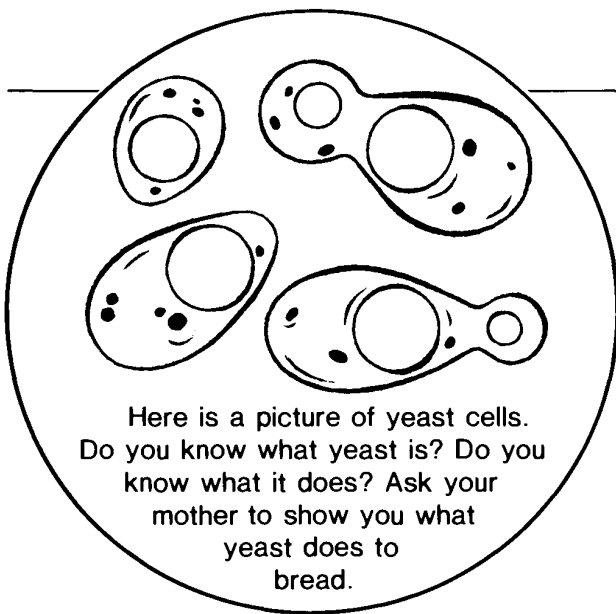
life was worth more than the rest of all mankind put together. But also, Jesus Christ never sinned—He was perfect—and as a result, did not deserve to die. This is why as the “Lamb of God,” His sacrifice could pay for the sins of all mankind. His death makes it possible for God to forgive us of our sins when we repent of them.

And so the broken, unleavened bread eaten during the Passover service stands for Christ's body that was cut and bruised. This reminds us that God will heal us when we are sick (I Peter 2:22, 24). Jesus suffered very very much to pay for our sins which cause sickness and disease. The wine taken during the Passover service stands for Jesus' blood which poured out from His body, causing His death. It reminds us that Christ's death makes possible the forgiveness of our sins.

### **THE DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD**

The Days of Unleavened Bread begin on the day after the Passover. For seven days we are to eat unleavened bread, a flat bread that is made without leavening.

What does yeast or leavening do to foods like bread, cake and cookies? You probably already



know that it puffs them up! Draw a picture of unleavened bread in the empty box on this page. Then draw some leavened bread.

God commands us to put out all leavening and food made with leavening from our houses before the Days of Unleavened Bread begin. This is why you and your

parents are busy putting out leavening before the first of the Days of Unleavened Bread.

List all the places you might find leavening in your home. \_\_\_\_\_

But what does all this have to do with God's plan? God commands us to put all the leavening out of our houses at this time because leavening is used in the Bible to picture *sin*. Leavening does to bread what sin does to us. It puffs us up! Once you have committed one sin or wrong action, it leads to other sins. For example, you might end up not telling the truth when you are asked about something you shouldn't have done. This is how

sin spreads—just like leaven.

The seven Days of Unleavened Bread are a special time to *remind* us that we should be busy getting all the sin out of our lives. Just as we try to get all the leavening out of our houses, we must also try to get rid of all sin or wrong-doing in our lives. We must try to do what is right by obeying God's commandments.

After much hard work in removing leaven from your home, you are now ready to celebrate the "Night to be Much Observed," which marks the beginning of the Days of Unleavened Bread. How will you observe it this year? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

Do you know what this night pictures? It reminds us about what happened to the Israelites on this night thousands of years ago. Remember that during the daylight part of the fourteenth of the first month, the Israelites received precious things from the Egyptians.

That evening, the night of the fifteenth of Abib, under a beautiful full moon, the Israelites left Egypt with great happiness and joy. They were free from slavery! This event is also called the *exodus* from Egypt.

God commanded His people to

celebrate this night each year forever so they would remember how He rescued them from slavery in Egypt (Exodus 12:42). Today God's people celebrate this same night every year. This night is the beginning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the next spring festival following the Passover, and the second step in God's plan for mankind.

The first day of unleavened bread is a Holy Day and so is the seventh day. These are the first Holy Days of the year. God commands us not to work, but to attend special Sabbath services on these two holy days. His people are to keep these Holy Days forever (Exodus 12:17).

## PENTECOST

The third festival picturing the third step in God's plan is Pentecost. Did you know that we must be able to count in order to figure out the day on which this feast is to be kept? We must be able to count to fifty! That's what Pentecost means—"fiftieth (day)." It is the only Holy Day that is set by counting.

Pentecost is the anniversary of God beginning His Church. God's Church began on the day of Pentecost in 31 A. D., exactly fifty

days after the Sabbath that came during the Days of Unleavened Bread. And it was on the Day of Pentecost that God sent His Holy Spirit to the disciples of Christ.

The Holy Spirit is a wonderful gift from God. It is a special help that He puts in the minds of those who have repented (turned from their disobedience to God) and been baptized, and have had hands laid on them by one of God's ministers. The Holy Spirit makes one a member of God's Church. It helps those who have it to overcome

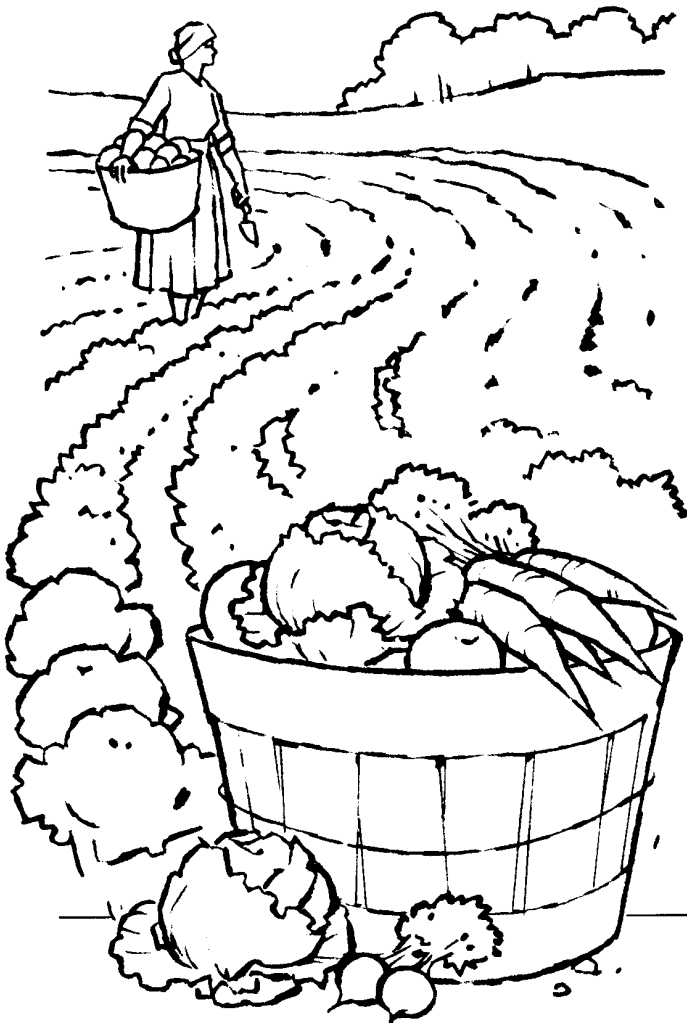
sin, to understand God's truth and to grow in God's character.

In the part of the world where Jesus lived, which is often called the Holy Land, there are two harvests each year. First is the spring grain harvest, which is the early or small harvest. Second comes the great fall harvest.

Pentecost, which comes at the time of the spring harvest, pictures the "firstfruits," or the *first spiritual* "harvest" of people who will become members in the Family of God. The firstfruits include all past, present and future members of God's Church *before* Christ returns to earth.

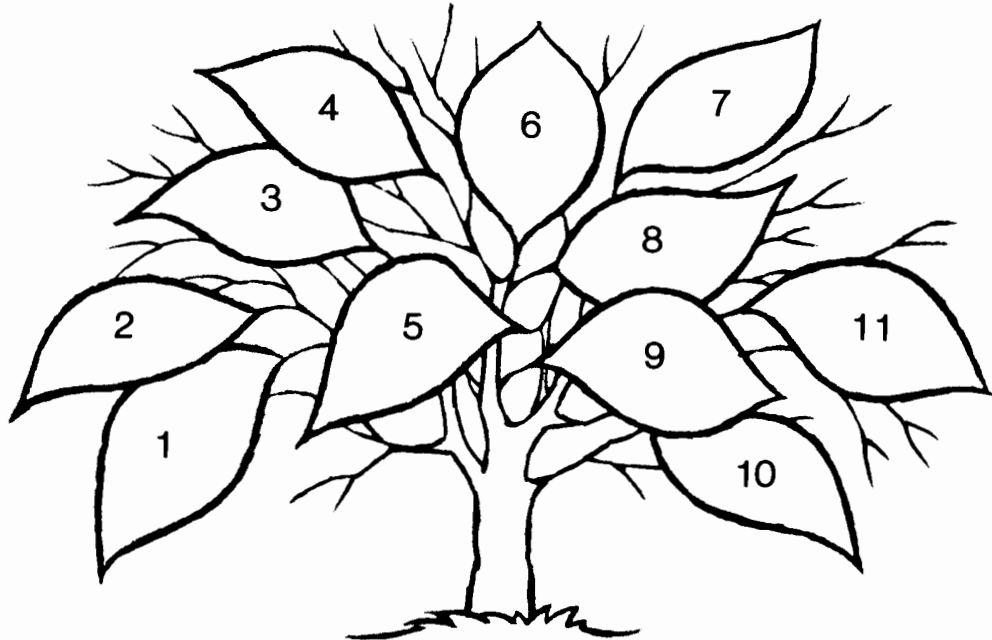
Those in God's Church are among the first few He has called out of this big world, which to God is like a large field or garden. Part of this field is to be harvested at Christ's return. The "firstfruits" will be the *first ones* to be resurrected as spirit beings, born into God's Family.

As we will learn in the Fall Festival Lesson, the rest of the world will then have their chance to become members of God's Family after Christ returns to earth. During this period, pictured by the big fall harvest, the biggest part of mankind will learn God's truth and be "harvested" into His Family!



## COLOR THE LEAVES

Color each "green ear" on the tree that has the same number as the statement you completed. When you have filled in all blanks correctly, the tree will look like it should in the spring of the year.



1. God's year begins in the S \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
2. God calls the first month of the year A \_ \_ \_.
3. The Israelites were told to select a perfectly healthy L \_ \_ \_ on the 10th day of the first month.
4. On the \_ \_ th day of the first month is the P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
5. On the first Passover, the Israelites were to put lamb's B \_ \_ \_ \_ on the top and sides of the doorposts of their houses.
6. If the Israelites followed God's instructions, the D \_ \_ \_ \_ A \_ \_ \_ \_ would P \_ \_ \_ over them.
7. Today, God's people eat unleavened B \_ \_ \_ \_ and drink W \_ \_ \_ during the Passover service.
8. The Israelites left Egypt on the N \_ \_ \_ \_ to be Much Observed, the \_ \_ th of Abib.
9. During the Days of Unleavened Bread, T \_ \_ annual holy days occur.
10. Pentecost means F \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (day).
11. Pentecost pictures God's people as the F \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ of those to become members of His Family.

# SCRAPBOOK

## UNSCRAMBLE AND MATCH

Unscramble the letters below and write the words in the spaces to the right. Then match each word with its meaning by placing the correct letter in the numbered space at the left. The first one is done for you!

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <u>D</u> 1. BBAI <b>ABIB</b> _____ | A. Crossed by the Children of Israel                     |
| ___ 2. BMAL _____                  | B. Occurs on the Night to be Much Observed               |
| ___ 3. EEPNOTTCS _____             | C. Fourteenth day of God's first month                   |
| ___ 4. AAHHROP _____               | D. First month of God's year                             |
| ___ 5. SODEUX _____                | E. Pictured by the annual feast days                     |
| ___ 6. SSVROEAP _____              | F. Animal killed by Israelites for the Passover          |
| ___ 7. LLUF OONM _____             | G. Contains no leavening (or yeast)                      |
| ___ 8. SOGD ALPN _____             | H. Leaving Egypt   |
| ___ 9. VNEEALDUEN DEARB _____      | I. Ruler of Egypt  |
| ___ 10. EATSY _____                | J. Causes to rise or puff up                             |
| ___ 11. "IIFTFETH (YDA)" _____     | K. Need small basins for                                 |
| ___ 12. OOTF HSAIGNW _____         | L. Jesus Christ  |
| ___ 13. MLAB FO ODG _____          | M. Pentecost   |
| ___ 14. SSEOM _____                | N. Leader of the Israelites                              |
| ___ 15. DRE EAS _____              | O. Third festival picturing the third step in God's plan |

Fill in the rest of the letters of the names of the feasts we studied in this lesson.

1. P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
2. D \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
3. P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

## ASSIGNMENT

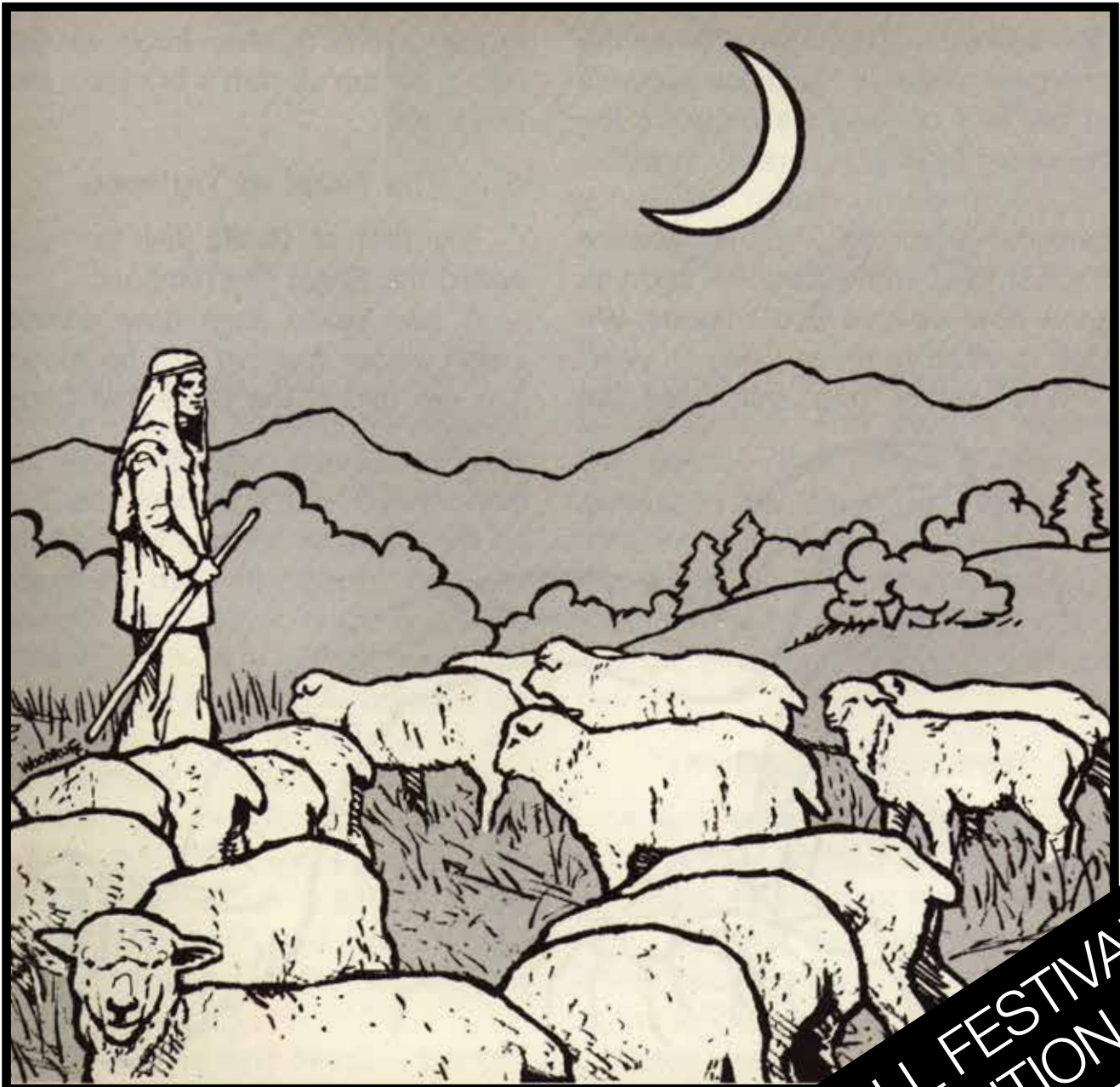
On a separate piece of paper, write a story about the first Passover in Egypt. Remember to begin each sentence with a capital letter and put a period at the end. Then draw pictures to go with your story.



# YOUTH BIBLE LESSONS

LEVEL 3

SPECIAL FEAST  
LESSON



The Fall Feasts

FALL FESTIVAL  
EDITION

# THE FALL FEASTS

A long, long time ago when the young shepherd David was out tending his sheep, he loved to watch the beautiful night sky (Psalms 8:3).

When we look up at the night sky in the early fall of the year, it seems especially wonderful to those of us in God's Church. This is why: When the *crescent* shape of the moon appears at this time of year, we know it's the beginning of God's *seventh* month.

The seventh month in God's calendar is special. This is because it's just filled with feasts — and you know how we love God's feasts! We look forward to these times all year.

Well, when that thin crescent

shape called the new moon appears, the first of the fall feasts has begun!

In David's time a shofar was blown to tell the people it was time for the first feast. A shofar is a ram's horn. A ram is a male in the sheep family. Here is one. Look at that ram's horn! The ram's horn is blown like a trumpet.

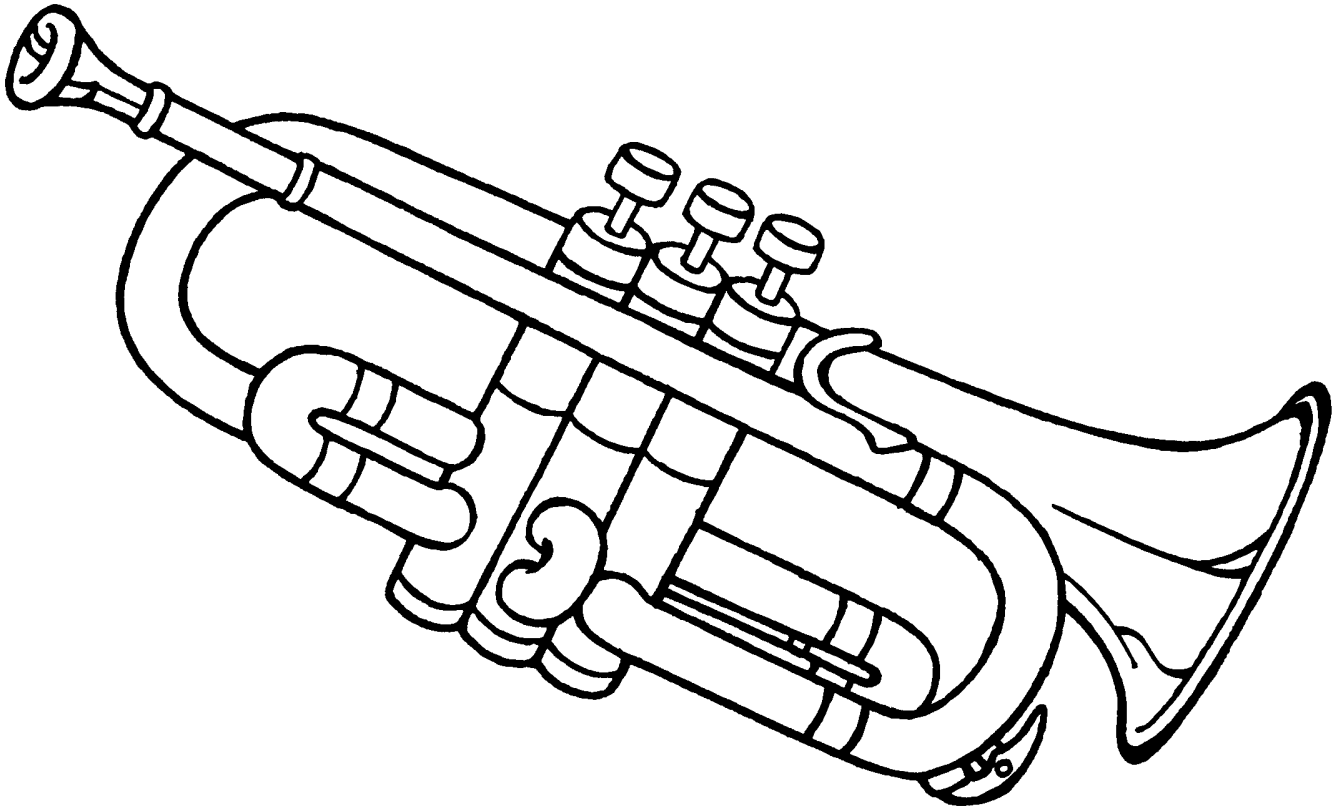
## The Feast of Trumpets

The first of God's fall feasts is called the Feast of Trumpets.

A few years from now another *much louder* trumpet will be blown. We are told in the Bible that Christ



Illustrations by Michael Jon Woodruff



will come again, this time with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God (I Thessalonians 4:16). This trumpet will be blown so loudly that it will be heard all over the earth! And the people who have died in God's Church from very early days until that time will be resurrected then! Do you know what it means to be resurrected? It means to live again, but this time forever. The Bible also tells us that all of God's people alive at the time Jesus returns will be changed to spirit and live forever! This will happen as fast as we can blink our eyes.

Has anyone ever heard a trumpet

call like that? No, certainly not! This one is special. This trumpet will tell the people that Jesus Christ is coming to rule the world. That is the meaning this Holy Day has for us. We do not do any work on this day, and there is no school for us either. We go to church on this important day.

### **The Day of Atonement**

After Jesus Christ is here the world will not be as it is now. People will learn to be happy by obeying God. But first God will get rid of Satan because he is the real cause of the world's problems.

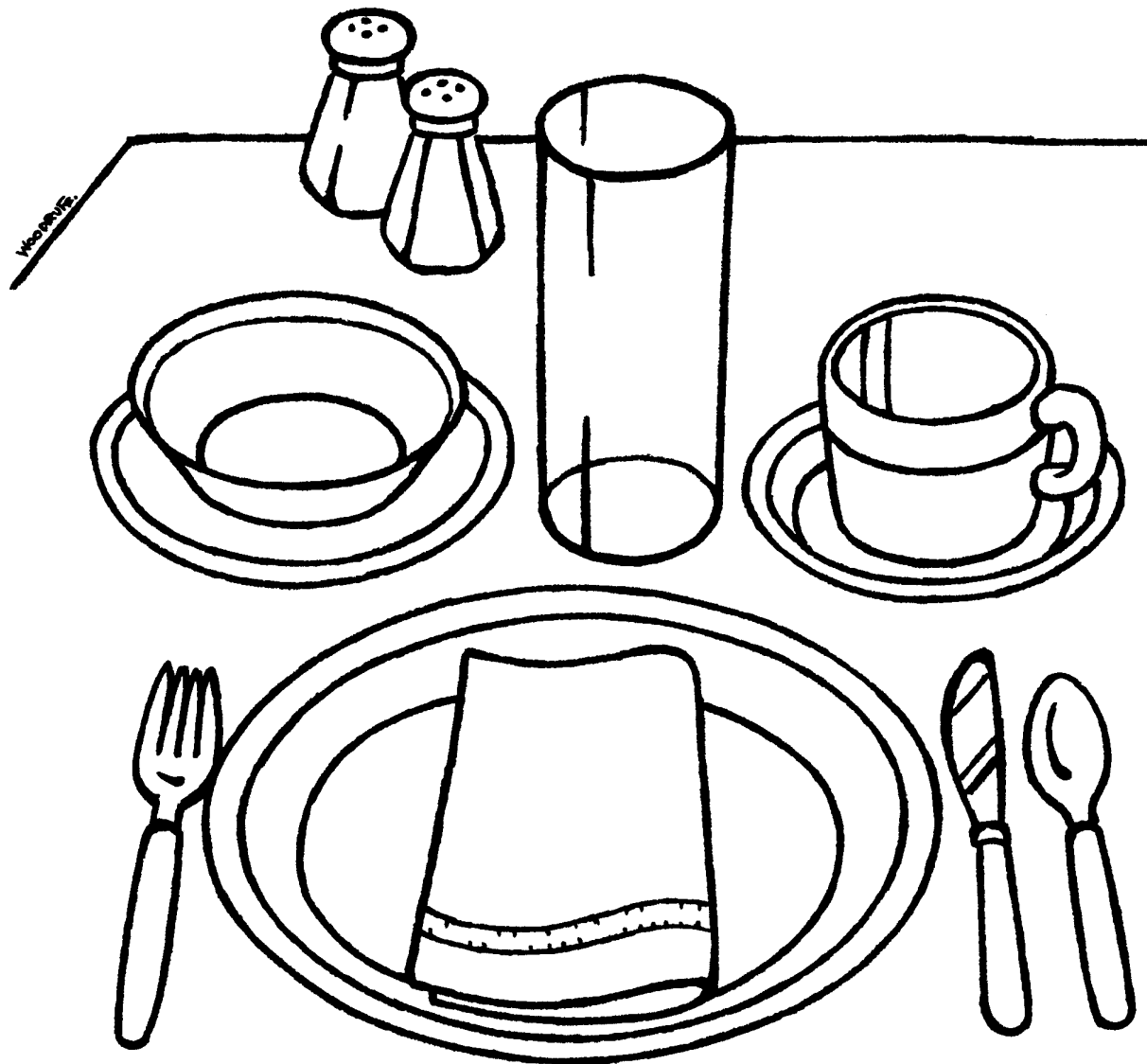
Satan used to be called Lucifer

and had an important job in God's government on earth. But then he turned wicked and God changed his name to Satan. Satan is still around. He can put wrong ideas and feelings in our minds. If we follow what he suggests, we get into trouble. That is why we must learn right from wrong and always do the right thing, even if we don't *feel* like it!

The Day of Atonement pictures

the time when God will make sure that Satan cannot cause any trouble for 1,000 years. God is going to take hold of Satan and put him in a place where he can't cause trouble. When Satan is gone, people will become truly close to God. They will obey Him and therefore become "at one" with Him. This is what the Day of Atonement shows us will happen.

We do not eat any food or drink

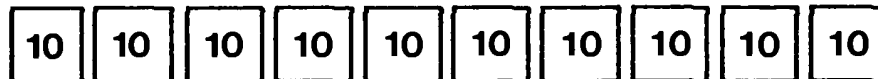


any water on the Day of Atonement. Our bodies feel this. Our stomachs call for food and sometimes growl. Have you heard your stomach growl? It shows us how much we need God Who gives us the food we need to stay alive.

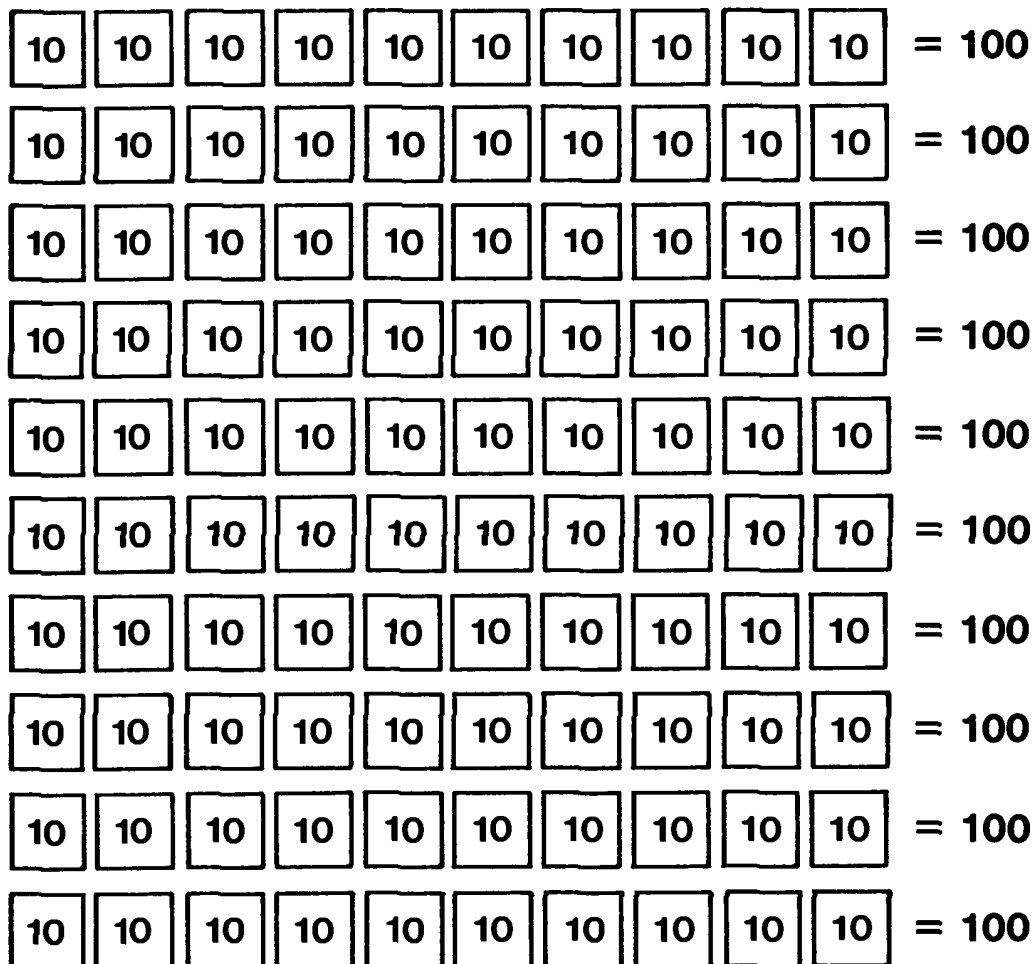
## The Feast of Tabernacles

When Jesus Christ returns to earth, it will be time for the Millennium to begin. The Millennium will last a long time. It will go on for a thousand years! Do you know how long that is?

How many tens make 100? 10? That's right.



Now take another 10 tens, then another 10 tens. Do this 10 times.



**Total 1000**

Now you have 1,000. One thousand years is a long time, isn't it?



During this time children will grow up, get married and have children. Everyone will be happy because they will be obeying God. It will be a wonderful world with plenty of food and good things for everyone. People won't be doing evil things anymore. The wild animals will become peaceful and tame. Boys and girls will play in beautiful parks next to these animals and will pet them. We see this pictured by the

Ambassador College seal. It will be a lovely time. The Feast of Tabernacles reminds us each year of this coming time of peace, happiness and plenty.

The Feast is seven days long. Seven is God's number to show that things are complete. The first day is a Holy Day. It begins on the fifteenth day of God's seventh month. Since this is the middle of the month, the moon is now round and full.

You know the special things you do as a family at the Feast. You may go to parks, museums, go swimming or do many other things.

Write down your favorite Feast activities:

I like to \_\_\_\_\_

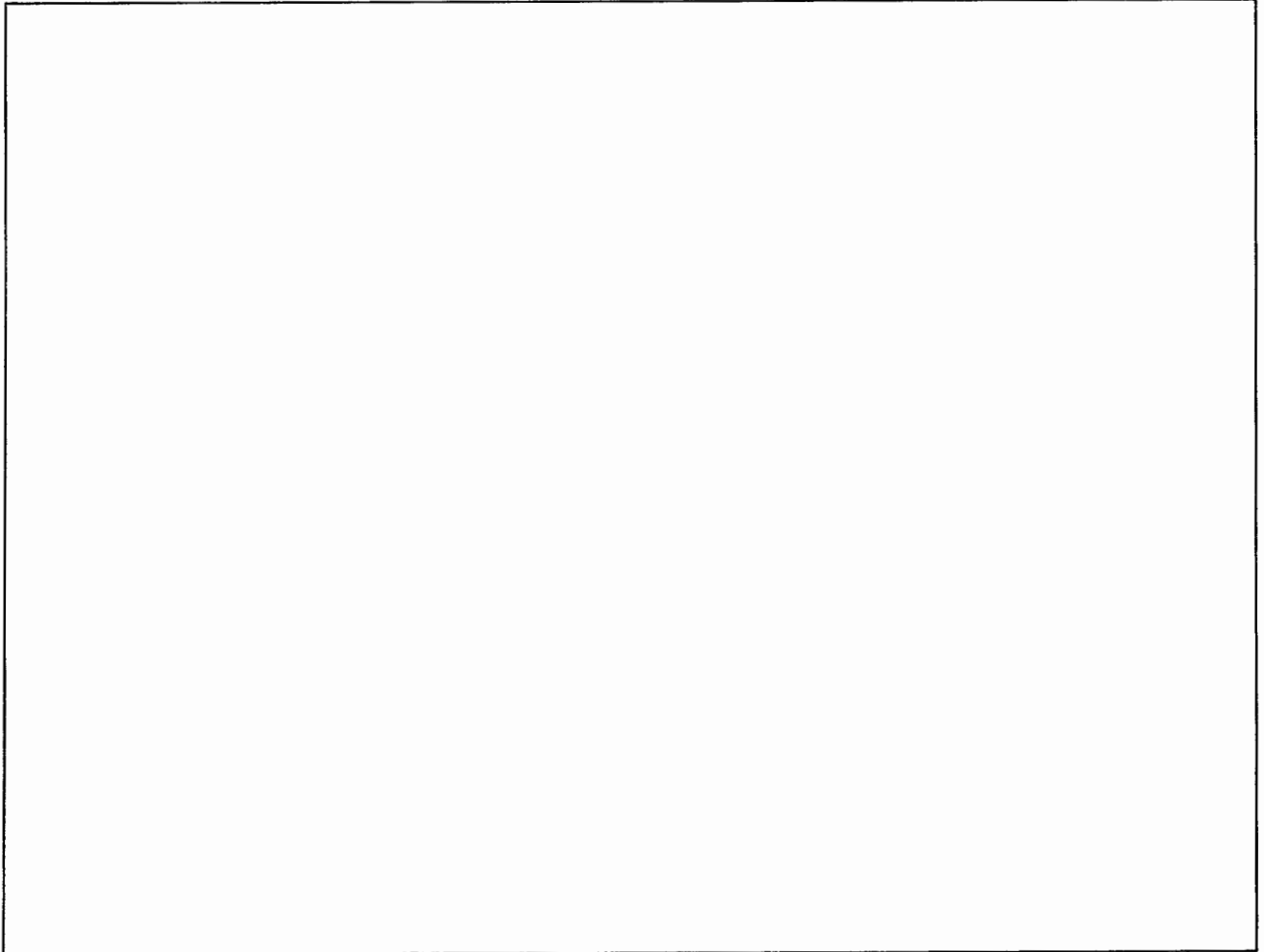
\_\_\_\_\_

We often go \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

Draw some pictures of the things you like to do.

While at the Feast draw a picture of where you are staying this year. Below, draw a picture of your room.



When Jesus Christ is here and the Millennium has begun, people will be learning His truth each day.

Do we learn God's truth daily at the Feast? Yes, we do at each service.

What are some of the things you are learning at this Feast?

On a separate sheet of paper write a story. Don't forget to start each sentence with a capital letter and put a period at the end.



## First Tithe and Second Tithe

At the Feast we spend the second tithe we have been saving all year. Do you know how we save this?

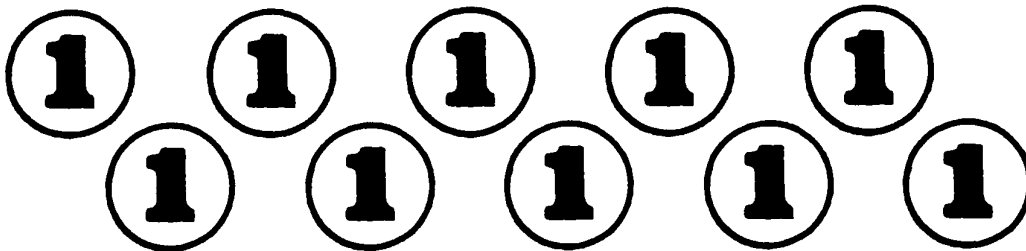
If you have earned 10 cents, how would you know how much to tithe? One out of every 10 belongs to God. This is the *first* tithe. We give this to God's Church to be used in His Work. Put a purple ring around the

first penny. This one belongs to God to do His Work.

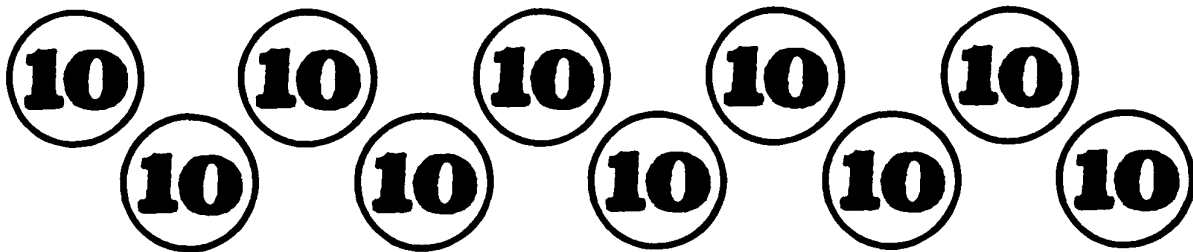
Draw a green ring around the second penny. This one is your second tithe and is to be used at the Feast of Tabernacles.

Ten pennies make \_\_\_\_\_ dime.

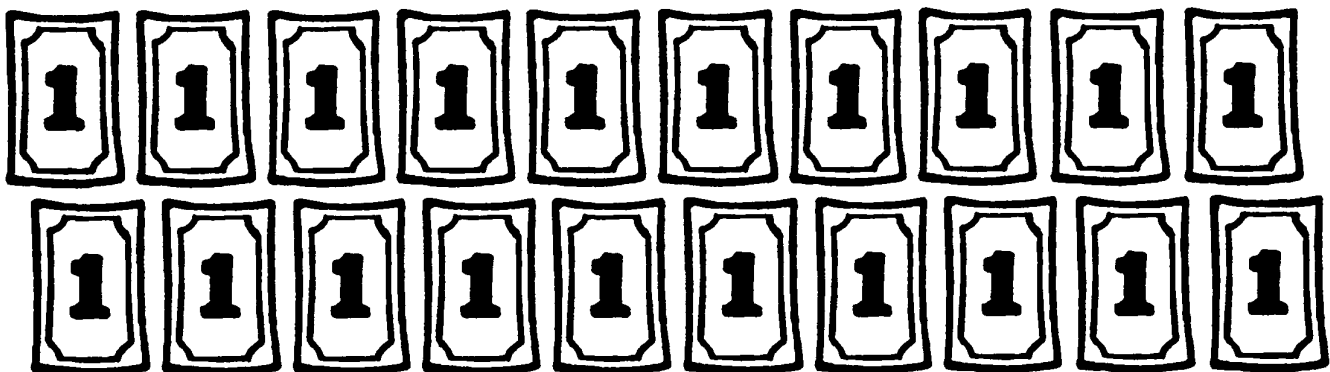
\_\_\_\_\_ dimes make \_\_\_\_\_ dollar, or \_\_\_\_\_ pennies (cents).



Here are some dimes. Put a purple ring around God's first tithe and a green ring around the second tithe. How much money has this child to spend at the Feast? \_\_\_\_\_



This child has \$20 that he earned during the year. How much second tithe should he have? Put a green ring around the second tithe.



The second tithe is one tenth of his money. One tenth is one out of 10.

You have already learned about one half (one out of two) and one third (one out of three) in school. One tenth is one out of every 10. The second tithe is the second one out of every 10. God tells us to put this money in our hands or pockets and take it to the Feast.

What have you used your second tithe for? Draw a picture below to

show how you used it.

### **Offerings**

God tells us not to appear before Him empty (Deut. 16:16). This means we should give Him a gift, or offering, at each feast. This can be any amount we can give. But we should be very happy when we give it (II Cor. 9:7). This is because God is so good to us and gives us so many things that we are happy to give some back to him for His Work.

Thank God, too, for your brothers

go on and on.

This image shows a full page of blank primary-ruled paper. It features five sets of horizontal lines across the page. Each set consists of a solid black line at the top, a dashed black line in the middle, and another solid black line at the bottom, creating four equal-sized writing areas. The paper is white and contains no other markings or text.

## The Last Great Day

Sometimes we think this last feast is part of the Feast of Tabernacles, but it is not! It is another one. This feast is called “the last day, that great day of the feast” (John 7:37) — the Last Great Day. It pictures the coming Great White Throne Judgment period.

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after the Millennium when all who have ever lived and were not in God's Church will be resurrected. After these people are made alive once more, they will be taught the truth about God's way of life.

Isn't this marvelous? Can you think of all the people you know who have died? Perhaps it is a grandparent or aunt or uncle or friend. You will see them again during this time!

Every year we think of this when we keep the Last Great Day.

When sunset comes and this day is over, we have finished keeping all of God's feasts for the year. All together they show us God's complete plan for all people.

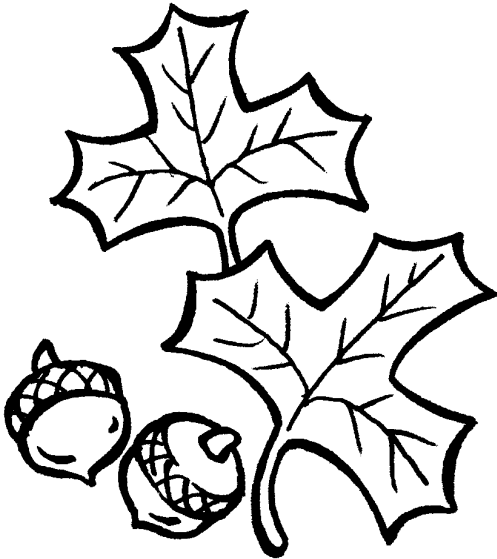
Then we go into the winter season and await the spring feasts. Each year God has us keep His Holy Days again so we will not forget them.



In the spring of each year  
As the ground begins to thaw  
God sends His special feasts  
And we learn about His Law.



Passover, Days of Unleavened Bread,  
Then Pentecost comes too.  
After summer's heat and rain  
The fall feasts we review:



The Feast of Trumpets, number four;  
Atonement, number five;  
Tabernacles, number six —  
Then *all* will come alive!

For the Last Great Day is number seven  
When all on earth will stand.  
What a happy time it'll be  
With God's truth throughout the land.

Who can say which feast is best?  
Each one of them needs all the rest!  
They all go together to tell the whole story  
Of the cycle of life which displays God's glory.

# FILL IN THE BLANKS

(after you and your parents have read this lesson)

The fall feasts begin with the \_\_\_\_\_.  
This is the \_\_\_\_\_ day of God's \_\_\_\_\_ month.  
Draw a picture of the moon at that time.

The next fall feast is the \_\_\_\_\_. We  
do not \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ on that day. It is the \_\_\_\_\_  
day of God's \_\_\_\_\_ month.

The feast that lasts \_\_\_\_\_ days is called the \_\_\_\_\_.  
It begins on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of God's  
\_\_\_\_\_ month. The moon is full that night. Draw a picture of it  
as we begin God's holy day.

The Feast of Tabernacles lasts for \_\_\_\_\_ days.  
The \_\_\_\_\_ is another feast. It  
comes right after the \_\_\_\_\_.

# Fulfilling Matthew 24:14 and Matthew 28:19-20



*Continuing Church of God* [www.ccog.org](http://www.ccog.org)  
*Daily Bible News Prophecy* [www.cogwriter.com](http://www.cogwriter.com)

**CCOG.ASIA** This is a website focused on Asia. It has articles in Mandarin Chinese as well as some in English, plus some items in other Asian languages.

**CCOG.EU** This is a website targeted towards Europe. It has materials in many European languages.

**CCOG.IN** This is a website targeted towards those of Indian heritage, and includes materials in Hindi.

**CCOG.NZ** This is a website targeted towards those in New Zealand.

**CCOGCanada.CA** This is a website targeted towards those in Canada.

**CDLIDD.ES** La Continuación de la Iglesia de Dios. This is the Spanish language website for the Continuing Church of God.

**PNIND.PH** Patuloy na Iglesia ng Diyos. This is the Philippines oriented website with items in English and Tagalog.



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The *Continuing Church of God* also uses printed and electronic magazines, books, and weekly letters to the brethren to also support Matthew 24:14 and Matthew 28:19-20.