

TEACHER
RESOURCE

UNIT 2

From Jacob to the 12 Spies

LEVEL TWO

SON SEEKERS

AGES 7-10

Jacob wrestles with
the Angel



Name: _____

Joshua and Caleb

Spying out the land...

Teacher Resource - Unit 2 Level Two

Teacher Resource

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Teaching Sonseekers ...

Dear Teacher

Teaching young people about God's Word is a great honour and privilege. We note God chose Abraham, a man of faith because he "would teach his children and his household after him, to know the Way of The Lord" (Gen 18:19)

One who undertakes such a task will understand they have accepted a responsibility to become a witness of God's great love and faithfulness. As an example of Christian faith and integrity they have a wonderful opportunity to share their love for God's Word. The tremendous blessing for those who commit themselves to this task is that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and equip you to shine as a light to your class.

Recent trends away from Sunday School structures towards child minding activities have, we believe, been unfortunate as they fail to recognise the impact and effect the message of God's love through Christ has on young people.

Children are the Church's future. As such they are precious and well worth any investment in quality resources and dedicated teachers.

The 'Sonseekers' curriculum offers children Sunday School material that gives them a sound background in Biblical events, people and places. Secondly it offers a pastoral approach for the children to know God is able to help them and change their lives.

Structurally, any program will operate effectively if those teaching are faithful, zealous and committed to a team approach that might include:

- regular prayer and discussion in relation to curriculum issues, student needs and upcoming events and presentations;
- organisation and management of resources;
- training and development needs of teaching staff.

Teaching Sunday School is a rich and rewarding task. May God bless and guide you as you serve in this way.

Yours in Christ

The Sonseekers Team

A teacher's guide to using the Sonseekers materials . . .

Timeline

4000BC	Creation Adam and Eve The Fall
2500BC	Noah The Flood Tower of Babel
2000BC	Abraham
1900BC	Isaac
1800BC	Esau and Jacob
1750BC	Joseph
1360BC	Moses
1280BC	Exodus from Egypt and Journeys
1240BC	Joshua Entry into and Conquest of Land
1220BC	Judges
1100BC	Gideon
1070BC	Samson
1063BC	Samuel
1020BC	Saul as King
980BC	David as King
940BC	Solomon as King
900BC	Kingdom Divided
839BC	Elijah Emerges; Mt Carmel Jehoshaphat
814BC	Elisha's Ministry
749BC	Jonah
662BC	Hezekiah; Isaiah
576BC	Josiah
540BC	Daniel taken to Babylon
527BC	Exile into Babylon
457BC	Restoration from Babylon
4BC	Birth of Jesus
26AD	Baptism of Jesus Call of Disciples
28AD	Feeding of 5000 Parables
29AD	Miracles; Transfiguration
30AD	Raising of Lazarus Parables Palm Sunday Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection Day of Pentecost Peter's Ministry
33AD	Conversion of Paul
45AD	Paul's Missionary Journeys
60AD	Paul as Prisoner to Rome

What are the Sonseekers materials?

The Sonseekers Sunday School materials are a four year course of 128 Bible lessons. The lessons are written with the twin aims of teaching the students an accurate chronology of Biblical events and also drawing from each lesson pastoral points relevant to the age and stage of each child. They are written at four levels to cover from Prep to Year 6 age groups. The 128 lessons are organised into 8 units, each of sixteen lessons. The table below indicates the suitable age group for each level:

Sonseekers Level	Student Age	School Level
Level One	5 - 6	Prep, Year 1
Level Two	7 - 10	Year 2, Year 3, Year 4
Level Three	11 - 12+	Year 5, Year 6

The Sonseekers materials comprise two related elements:

- **Teacher Resource** – including lesson plans & activity masters which can be photocopied;
- **Student Handbooks** – including homework activities.

There is also a Bible timeline showing chronology of major events, with the dates of the current unit's lessons highlighted, included in each Teacher Resource.

What's in my Sonseekers Level Two Teacher Resource?

Each Level Two Teacher Resource contains sixteen lesson plans for the relevant age of your students. Each lesson plan comprises:

- the key thought or focus for the lesson;
- a suggested way to introduce the lesson;
- a summary of the relevant bible story;
- a memory verse for the lesson, together with a suggested way of teaching that verse;
- an activity which can be used in the lesson;
- a number of extra ideas involving fun, practical activities.

Note: The photocopy masters for each activity are included with the lessons in this Teacher Resource book.

.../cont'd

... teacher's guide ...

How do I best use my Teacher Resource?

The art of serving as an effective Sunday School teacher is linked to the degree of diligence in preparing for each lesson. The Sonseekers materials are only designed to assist the teacher in this process. They do not take away from the teacher his or her responsibility to prayerfully consider the needs of the children in the class and to seek God's revelation and wisdom in presenting each Bible lesson. The following suggestions are then made with regard to using this resource.

Prior to the lesson

- ◆ Prayerfully read the Bible passage for the lesson. The reference is provided in the header on the first page of the lesson plan. All Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version (1983 edition).
- ◆ Read through the lesson plan and decide which activities will be most appropriate for the students in your class. Generally, aim for a variety of activities over a unit.
- ◆ Think about how you will combine the various elements of your lesson. Refer to the suggested teaching approach for ideas if necessary. Link the activity to the story so that the significance of the activity is clear to the students.
- ◆ Prepare all activities thoroughly prior to the lesson. Rehearse any planned activity at home to make sure:
 - that you know how to do it yourself;
 - that you have all the relevant materials in the quantities you will need;
 - that you know the length of time that the children will need for the activity.

During the lesson

- ◆ Review the memory verse from the previous lesson with the children. Also check on the completion of the homework activity page.
- ◆ Revise the previous lesson before going on to a new story. You may like to use the timeline to help you do this.

Jacob becomes Israel

Genesis 32 & 33

Storyline

Jacob and his family left Laban to return to Isaac in the land of Canaan. He was afraid when he heard that Esau was coming to meet him. He divided his people and animals into two groups so that one might be able to escape if the other were attacked. Then he prayed for deliverance. He then sent a gift of animals to Esau. That night, Jacob wrestled with the Angel of the Lord and his thigh was put out of joint. The Angel called him Israel - "Prince with God". Esau received him next day with open arms. He settled again in the land of Canaan.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Remind the children why Jacob and Esau were not friendly. Discuss arguments between siblings. What should we do immediately when we fall out with our brothers and sisters? Why is it so important that we do not remain out of relationship?

Theme One

"Meeting with God"

Jacob had known God's presence many times in his life but there was to be a very special meeting with God for him. It was as he wrestled with the Angel of the Lord that he experienced a change from the conniving, fleshly ways of the past to a new way of faith in God. Likewise in our lives. We need always to be confident of the presence of God and yet there are very special times (sometimes pleasant, sometimes not so) when we meet with God in a very special way. If during these times we look to the Lord in faith, we can be confident that a significant change will occur in our lives.

Key Thought

We must meet God in a very real way.

Aim

For the children to realise that God so orders circumstances in our lives that we are given the opportunity to meet with Him in very special, life-changing ways.

Memory Verse

"You meet him with the blessings of goodness." (Psalm 21:3).

Theme Two

"Ask for forgiveness"

It is not good for people to hate one another as Esau and Jacob did. Jacob was afraid of Esau because he had cheated him. Jacob knew that he was responsible for Esau's anger. He went to meet his brother to apologise and make things right. It is important for us to say sorry and ask for forgiveness from others when we hurt them.

Key Thought

God forgives everyone who comes to Him and asks for forgiveness. He expects us to ask for forgiveness when we wrong others. He also expects us to forgive those who wrong us.

Aim

To encourage the children to ask for forgiveness when they sin so that they can know the security and joy that comes with knowing they have been forgiven.

Memory Verse

"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." (Matthew 6:12).

Activity A - Colour In

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/crayons/felt pens.

Steps

- As the children colour the picture, use the time to talk about the story, to reinforce the lesson.



Jacob desired to be reconciled to his brother once again.

Activity B - Jumbled Words

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children read the Bible reference and unscramble the letters to decipher the sentence.

TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED WHEN ESAU MET HIS BROTHER JACOB, UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS BELOW. (GENESIS 33:4)



BUT ESAU RAN TO MEET HIM AND MEBARDEC MIH NDA LLEF NO SHI CRNE NDA SSEDRI MIH.

Jacob becomes Israel

Activity A - Colour In



Jacob desired to be reconciled to his brother once again.

Jacob becomes Israel

Activity B - Jumbled Words

**TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED WHEN ESAU MET
HIS BROTHER JACOB, UNSCRAMBLE THE
WORDS BELOW. (GENESIS 33:4)**



**BUT ESAU RAN TO MEET HIM AND MEBARDEC
MIH NDA LLEF NO SHI CKNE NDA SSEDKI MIH.**

Joseph, the favourite son

Genesis 37:1-24

Storyline

Jacob lived in Canaan. He had twelve sons and his favourite was Joseph because he was born to him in his old age. When Joseph was seventeen, and tending the flocks with his brothers, he brought his father a bad report about them. Jacob made him a special coat and Joseph's brothers hated him because their father loved him more than them. Joseph had two dreams which caused them to hate him more, especially when the interpretation meant that Joseph would rule over them. When Joseph was sent by his father to his brothers at Dothan, the brothers seized an opportunity to try and cause him harm, but Reuben, the eldest, persuaded them not to kill him.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Discuss relational sins (jealousy, envy, hatred, self-centredness, etc) and how it affects members of families. Can the children remember a time when they were jealous, envious, etc of a brother or sister? What happened? Talk about other examples in the Bible and their results, eg. Cain and Abel.

Theme One

"God is in control"

Although Joseph's brothers hated him and devised evil against him and it appeared their plan succeeded, God was at every point watching over Joseph and allowed no harm to come to him as He had a great plan and purpose for Joseph's life. God also has a plan and purpose for us and His deliverance goes far beyond our limited vision. Despite what may happen, we need to remember that God is in complete control of all our circumstances.

Key Thought

God is our protector, therefore our confidence need not be shaken by strained circumstances which can occur in our Christian walk.

Aim

To show that no matter how adverse our circumstances, God is in control. We must learn to trust Him even when we feel betrayed by family or friends because God sees the end from the beginning.

Memory Verse

"If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31).

Theme Two

"The impact of jealousy"

The ten brothers were jealous because Joseph was their father's favourite. They could not say one kind word to Joseph. They hated him so much, they wanted to kill him. It is important that we do not allow ourselves to become jealous of our brothers or sisters or friends, even if things don't seem fair. Jealousy can lead us into further sin. With God's help, we can love others even when things appear to be unfair. God is not interested in what is fair/unfair. He is interested in our heart's response that would trust Him no matter what.

Key Thought

The brothers' jealousy of Joseph lead them further into sin. We should beware that we don't become jealous as this may lead us to commit other sins.

Aim

For children to feel confident in their God-given place in their family, and in the body of Christ and not to envy others in different positions.

Memory Verse

"And the patriarchs, becoming envious, sold Joseph into Egypt." (Acts 7:9).

Activity A - Collage and Colour In

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Small scraps of coloured cloth.
- Glue.
- Colouring pencils, crayons or felt pens.

Steps

- The children glue strips of coloured cloth onto Joseph's coat, then colour the rest of the picture.



Activity B - Unscramble the Words

Unscramble the words in the pit and fill in the spaces.

1. Joseph's brothers took away his beautiful coat.
2. They threw Joseph into a pit.
3. Joseph's brothers were jealous of him.
4. God was watching over him.

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children unscramble the words in the pit and write in the correct word to complete the sentences below.

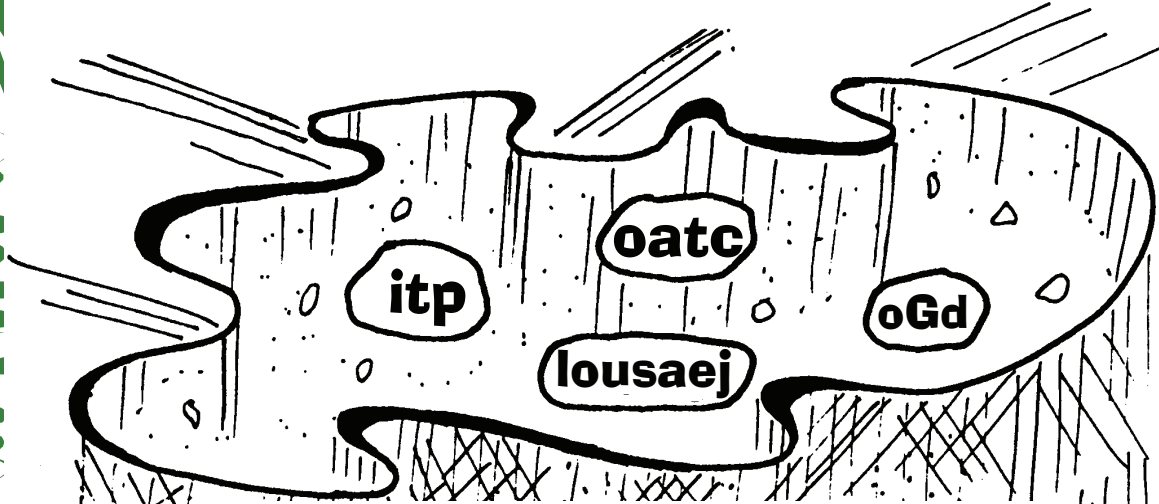
Joseph, the favourite son

Activity A - Collage and Colour In



Joseph, the favourite son

Activity B - Unscramble the Words



Unscramble the words in the pit and fill in the spaces.

1. Joseph's brothers took away his beautiful _____.
2. They threw Joseph into a _____.
3. Joseph's brothers were _____ of him.
4. _____ was watching over him.

Joseph goes to Egypt

Genesis 37:25-36; 39

Storyline

Joseph's father, Jacob, sent him out to Dothan to check on his shepherd brothers. Because they were jealous, they decided to kill him and throw him in a pit. However, Reuben stopped them so they took his coat and sold him to slave traders who in turn sold Joseph to an Egyptian called Potiphar. Although Joseph served Potiphar well, Potiphar's wife told lies about Joseph and he was put in prison. The Lord even blessed Joseph during his imprisonment.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Read the relevant Scriptures from the lesson, highlighting how the Lord is a help through difficult times and can overturn even the most unfair situations. Your personal experiences may be helpful.

Theme One

"God is with us through trials"

Many of the things that happened to Joseph could have seemed unfair. He did nothing to deserve these apparent disasters, but the Lord allowed them to come to his life to test if he would stay true to God. Joseph continued to believe God and trust that the vision he had been given in his dreams would come true. Sometimes God allows us to have problems in our lives just to test our faithfulness to Him in the hard times.

Key Thought

Despite many difficult times allowed by the Lord, Joseph continued to trust God. God has not promised that our lives will be free from difficulty. We need to trust Him when we face difficulties.

Aim

For the children to understand that God can allow problems to come to our lives. Will we trust that the Lord is with us?

Memory Verse

"He will not leave you nor forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6).

Theme Two

"God's plan is sure"

God had a plan and purpose for Joseph's life. Even though Joseph's brothers were planning to kill him, Joseph was in God's hand and nothing could harm him because God turned everything to good for Joseph. God directed his path and he found favour with those he came in contact with. God has a plan for our lives, too, and will watch over us as we commit our way to Him.

Key Thought

God is in control and we need not fear contrary circumstances. No matter what man may plan, God will have His way.

Aim

To show the children that no matter what man may plan, God will have His way.

Memory Verse

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord." (Psalm 37:23).

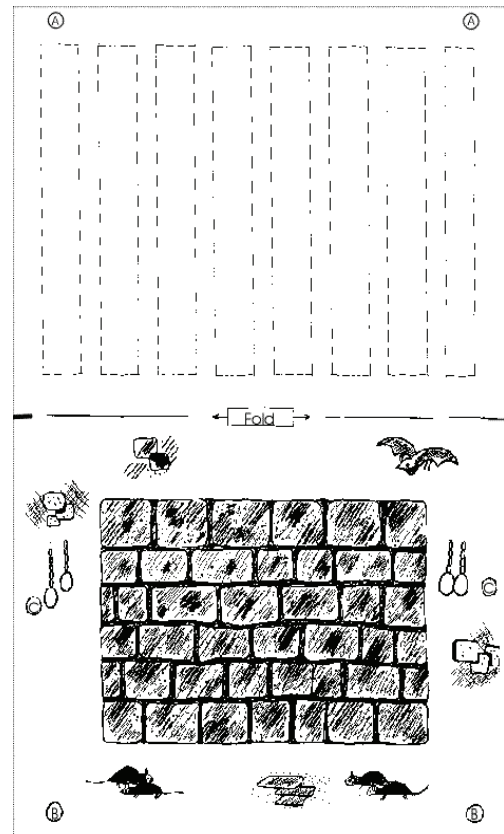
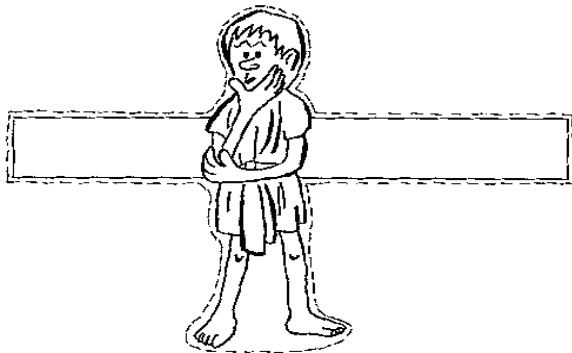
Activity A - Make a Prison

Materials

- 1 'prison' Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 cut out of Joseph per child.
- Scissors.
- Glue.

Steps

- The children cut the prison out along the outside lines and then cut out along the dotted lines to make bars.
- Glue A to B so as to form the cell with bars.
- Cut Joseph out along the dotted lines.
- Pass Joseph through the prison at points C.



Activity B - Quiz

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

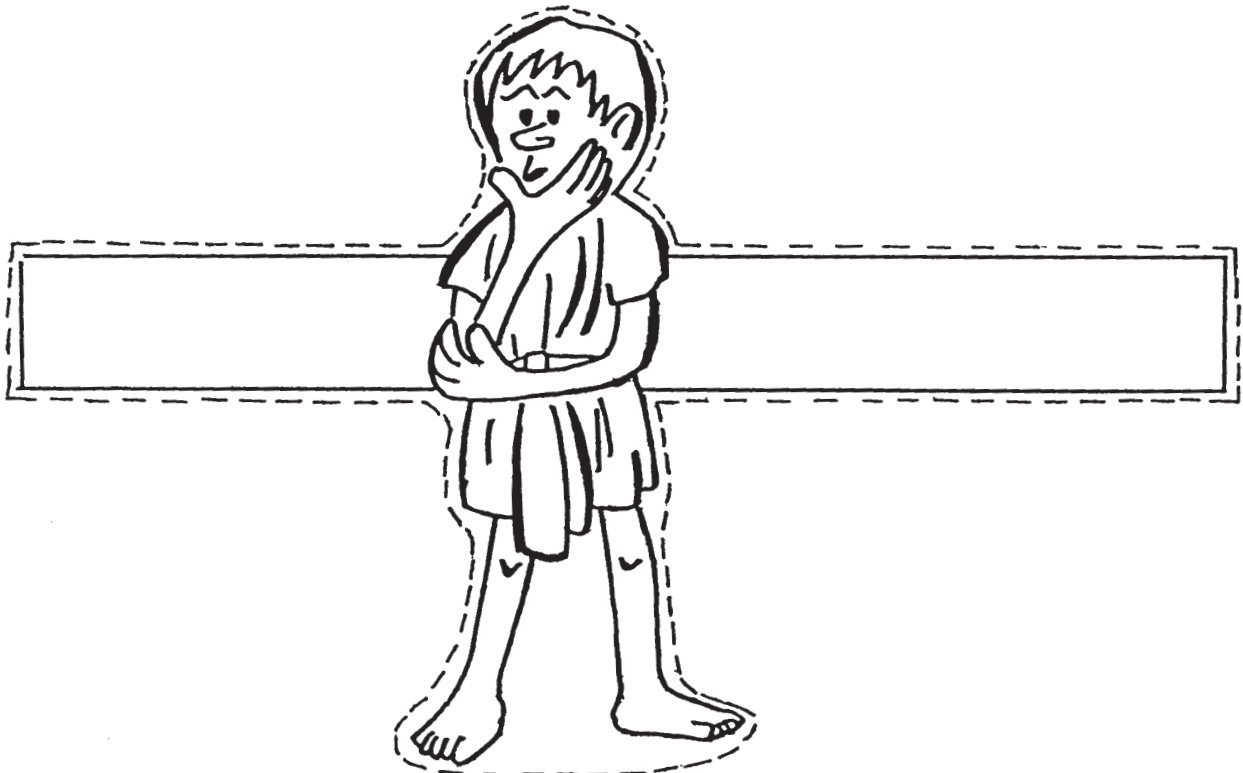
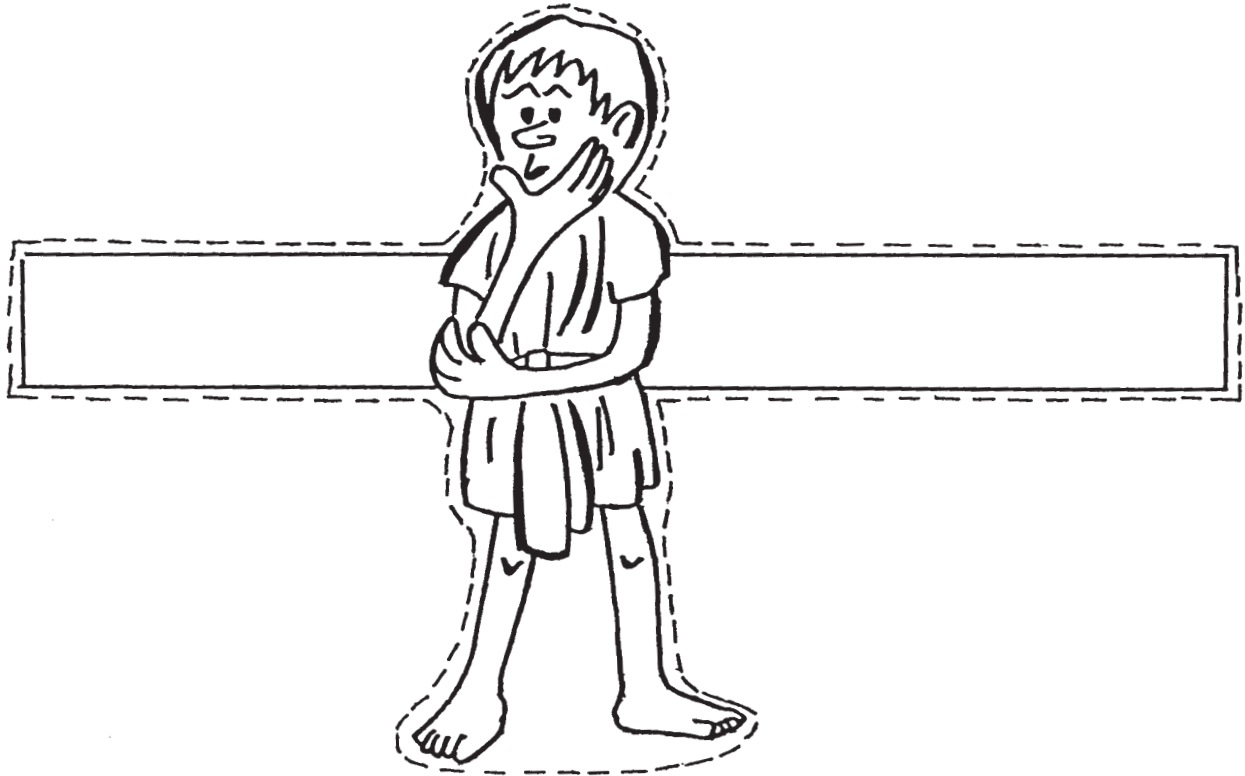
Steps

- The children read the questions, look up the Scripture references and write in the answers.

1. Where did Joseph's brothers put him while they were out in the wilderness? Pit (Genesis 37:22)
2. What was the name of the brother that stopped the others from killing Joseph? Reuben (Genesis 37:21)
3. What were the traders called to whom Joseph's brothers sold him? Ishmaelites (Genesis 37:27)
4. How many shekels did they sell him for? Twenty (Genesis 37:28)
5. What was another name for Joseph's coat of many colours? A tunic. (Genesis 37:32)
6. What did Joseph's father do when he heard what had happened? He wept. (Genesis 37:35)
7. What was the name of the person to whom the traders sold Joseph? Potiphar (Genesis 37:36)
8. What rank did Potiphar have in Pharaoh's army? Captain (Genesis 39:1)
9. What was the name of Joseph's new job given to him by Potiphar? Overseer (Genesis 39:4)
10. What did God show toward Joseph while he was in prison? Mercy (Genesis 39:21)

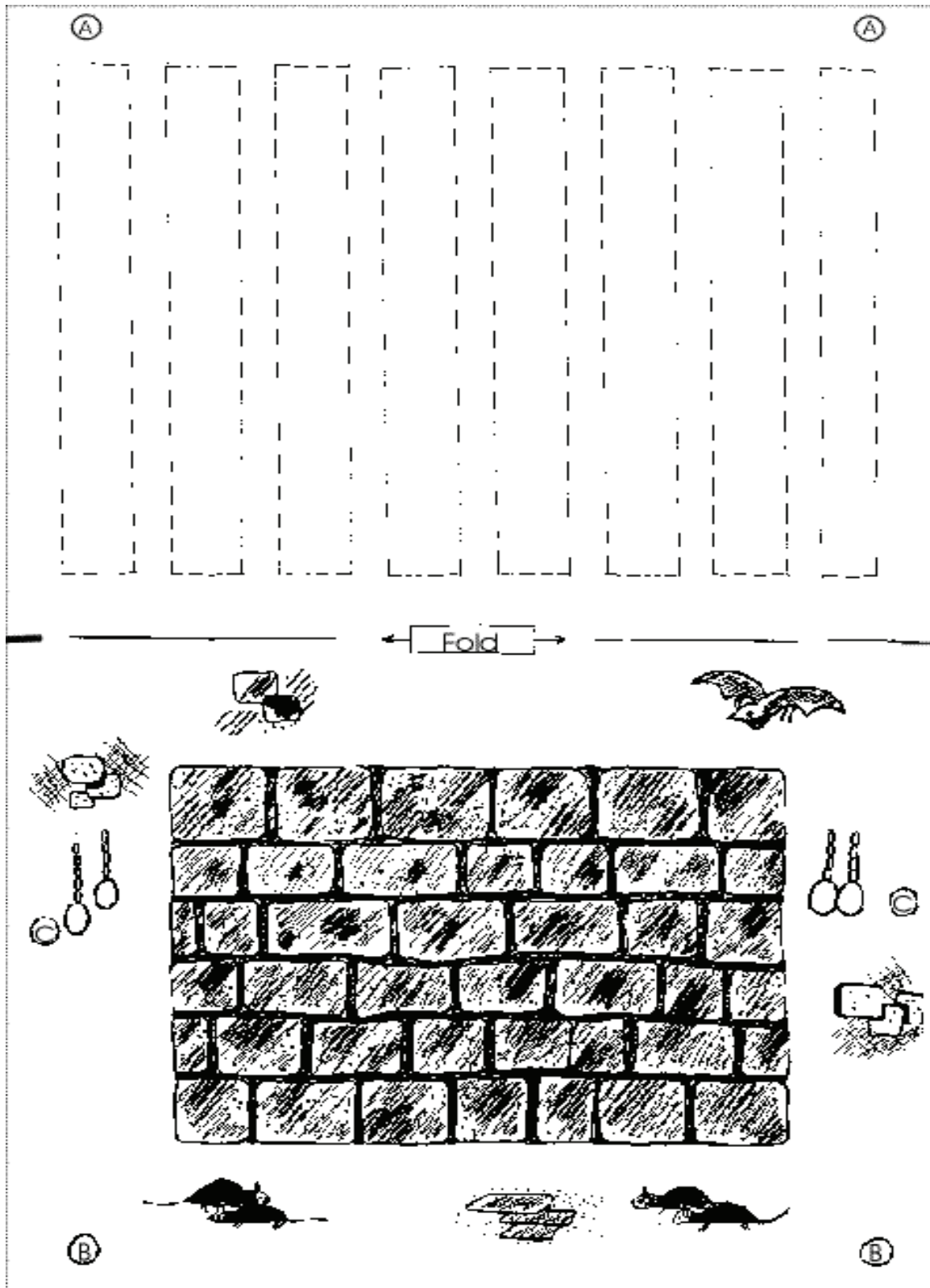
Joseph goes to Egypt

Activity A - Joseph in Prison



Joseph goes to Egypt

Activity A - Joseph in Prison



Joseph goes to Egypt

Activity B - Quiz

1. Where did Joseph's brothers put him while they were out in the wilderness? _____ (Genesis 37:22)
2. What was the name of the brother that stopped the others from killing Joseph? _____ (Genesis 37:21)
3. What were the traders called to whom Joseph's brothers sold him? _____ (Genesis 37:27)
4. How many shekels did they sell him for? _____ (Genesis 37:28)
5. What was another name for Joseph's coat of many colours? A _____ (Genesis 37:32)
6. What did Joseph's father do when he heard what had happened? He _____ (Genesis 37:35)
7. What was the name of the person to whom the traders sold Joseph? _____ (Genesis 37:36)
8. What rank did Potiphar have in Pharaoh's army? _____ (Genesis 39:1)
9. What was the name of Joseph's new job given to him by Potiphar? _____ (Genesis 39:4)
10. What did God show toward Joseph while he was in prison? _____ (Genesis 39:21)

Quiz

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Joseph interprets the dreams

Genesis 40 & 41

Storyline

The chief butler and baker of Egypt offended Pharaoh and were put into the prison where Joseph was. The butler and baker both had a dream that Joseph interpreted for them. Joseph asked the butler to remember him when he was free but unfortunately, the butler forgot all about him. Two years later, Pharaoh had a dream that no one could interpret. The butler remembered Joseph had successfully interpreted his dream while he was in prison and Pharaoh sent for him. After Pharaoh told Joseph the dream, Joseph said that God had shown Pharaoh what He was about to do and that there would be seven years of plenty and then seven years of famine. Pharaoh was so pleased with Joseph that he put him in charge of his house and people.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Start a discussion by drawing comparison between gifts given by men and those given directly by God. 1 Corinthians 12:1-12. Joseph was faithful and trusted God all the years he was in prison. He believed God and used His gifts to help others while in prison, and God blessed him. Talk to the children about things they need to pray about and believe God for eg. bullies at school, making friends, problems with school work, praying for unsaved friends, being obedient to parents and God. Tell them as they pray and believe God to answer their prayers, the Lord will work in their lives and they will know His blessing.

Theme One

“God helps us”

God had given Joseph the gift of interpreting dreams. Joseph was willing to serve to help the butler and the baker. Again, when using his gift to interpret Pharaoh’s dreams, he gave glory to God as the one who had the power to interpret dreams.

Key Thought

God helped Joseph to interpret dreams and Joseph was thankful. God will help us to serve Him at school and at home.

Aim

For the children to know that God as God helped Joseph to serve, so too will He help us.

Memory Verse

“The Lord is my helper; I will not fear.” (Hebrews 13:6).

Theme Two

“God always looks after us”

Joseph had hoped that when the butler was returned to his position as the Pharaoh’s cupbearer, he would speak to Pharaoh who would release him from prison. However it was God’s timing that this was to happen two years later. During those two years, Joseph continued to serve in the prison doing the work he had been called to do.

Key Thought

Joseph faced difficulties, yet he trusted the Lord. He served faithfully knowing that God’s timing was perfect for his life. We can be sure that God is looking after us.

Aim

For the children to know that God is caring for them and they can know God wherever they are.

Memory Verse

“Trust in the Lord, and do good.” (Psalm 37:3).

Activity A - Find God's Gifts - Cut and Paste

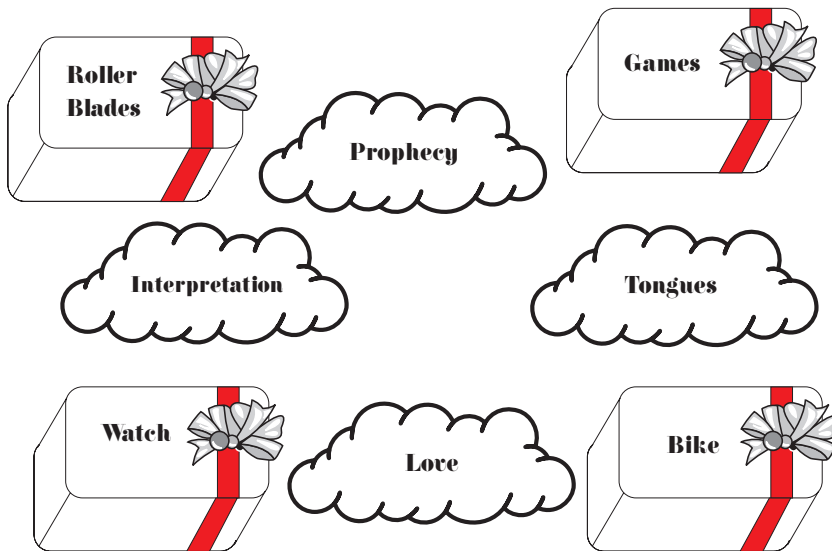
Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Scissors.

Steps

- The children have to decide which gifts come to us from men and which are directly from God, and cut out the gifts and place those from men on the gift boxes, and those from God on the clouds.
- Discuss the differences between the gifts with the children.

Answer



Activity B - Word Search

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children find the words listed in the word search.

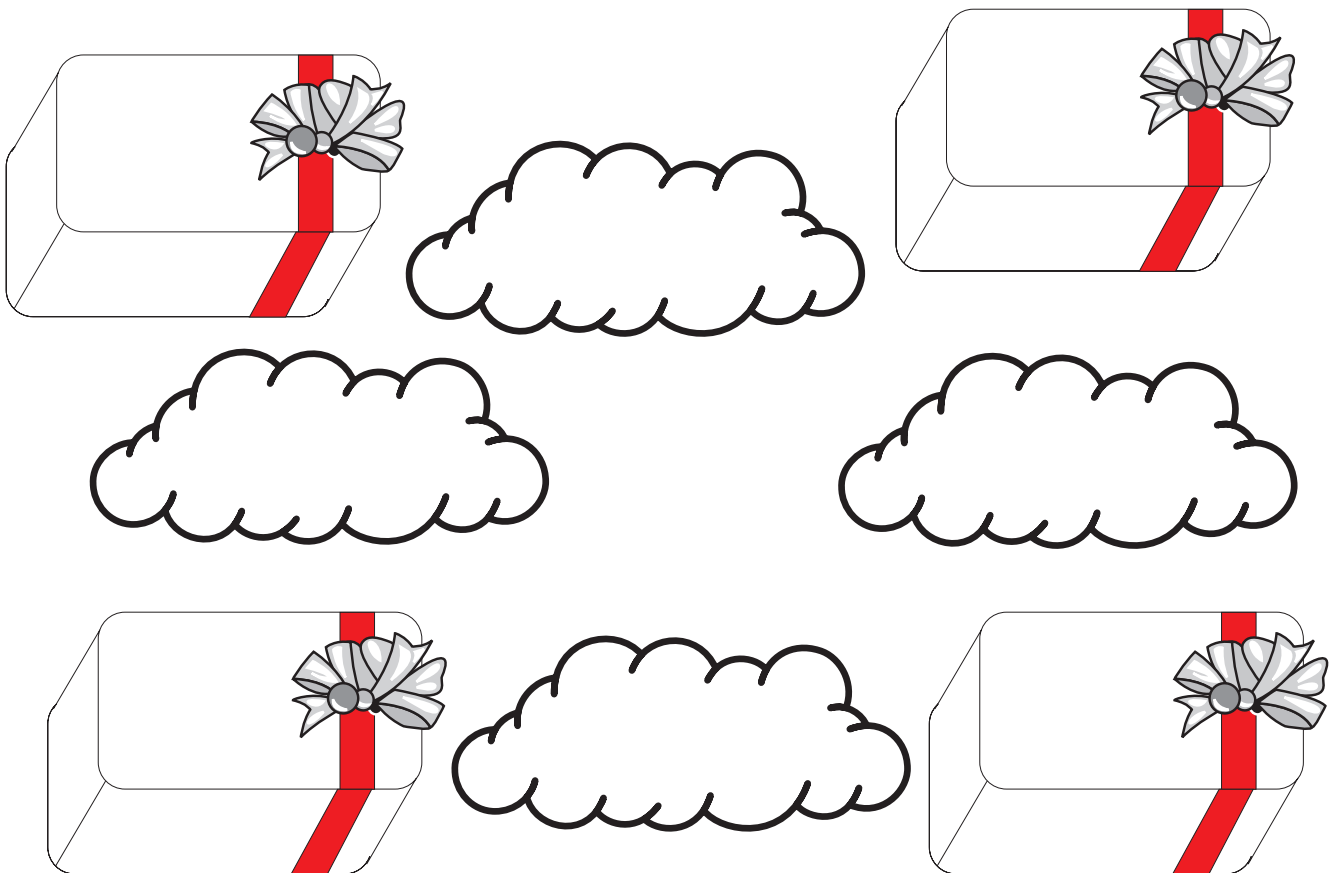
Joseph, Pharaoh, Seven, Cows, Stalk, Plenty, Famine



Joseph interprets the dreams

Activity A - Find God's Gifts - Cut and Paste

There are different kinds of gifts. We can receive gifts from our family and friends and then there are the gifts that God freely gives to all of us who follow Jesus. On the bottom of the page is a list of gifts. Some gifts come to us from men and some come directly from God. Cut out the gifts given by men and stick them on a gift box. Cut out the gifts given by God and stick them on a cloud.



Prophecy	Roller Blades	Love	Bike
Watch	Games	Tongues	Interpretation

Joseph interprets the dreams

Activity B - Word Search

The following words are important in our story.
Find them in the word search below.

Joseph, Pharaoh, Seven, Cows, Stalk, Plenty, Famine



Joseph's brothers

Genesis 42:1 - 45:28

Storyline

Jacob sent all his sons (except Benjamin, who alone of Joseph's brothers shared the same mother as Joseph) to Egypt to buy grain. Joseph recognised them, however they did not know him. Joseph held one of them as prisoner until the others returned again with Benjamin. Joseph wept secretly when he saw Benjamin. Joseph contrived a plan to test his brothers' love for each other and their father. He falsely accused Benjamin of stealing his silver cup, and as a result, said he must become his slave. However, Judah offered to take his place as their father would have died with grief if Benjamin had not returned safely. Joseph revealed his identity to them, and was overcome with weeping. Joseph comforted his brothers and told them that it was not they who had sent him into Egypt, but God so as to save them in the time of famine. He told them to go back and bring Jacob to him and that they would all live together in the best land in Egypt, called Goshen. Jacob was so happy to hear that Joseph was alive.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Enlarge each of the pictures in the Activities to A4 size. Using your enlarged scroll, tell the story emphasizing the relevant points of Theme 1 or 2 and applying them to the children's lives.

The children make their own cartoon scroll or colour in. It may be best for the older students to make a scroll and the younger ones to only colour in.

Theme One

"Forgiveness"

When Joseph's brothers went to Egypt to obtain grain, they stood in front of Joseph, but did not know who he was. He could have refused to help the brothers who had treated him so badly. He still loved his family dearly and wanted to see Benjamin and his father. He had a plan so this could happen.

Key Thought

If we have God's love in our hearts, He will help us to forgive those who wrong us, just as he has forgiven us.

Aim

To encourage the children to be thoughtful and forgiving, no matter how they are treated.

Memory Verse

"Even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."
(Colossians 3:13).

Theme Two

"Believing God's word"

It must have been wonderful for Joseph to see his brothers again. He had trusted God for the family, knowing that his dream had to be fulfilled someday. When the brothers bowed down before him, Joseph rejoiced, not in that he was proven right, but that God had been true to His word and his family were about to be delivered.

Key Thought

What an unexpected direction Joseph's life had to take to allow God's promises to come to pass. We don't know God's plans.

Aim

To encourage the children not to let difficult or unexpected circumstances shake their faith in God and His word.

Memory Verse

"For the word of the Lord is right." (Psalm 33:4).

Activity A - Cartoon Scroll



Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 2 plastic straws, or small round sticks per child.
- Sticky tape, glue or staples.
- Scissors.
- Colouring pencils.

Steps

- The children cut the bottom three cartoons off the sheet and join them onto the end of the top three with sticky tape. This will give them one long strip.
- Attach each end of the strip to the straws or sticks with sticky tape, glue or staples. If glue is used, allow time to dry.
- Wind the two straws or sticks inwards to make a scroll.
- The strip may be coloured if desired.

Activity B - Colour In

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

Steps

- The children colour the picture of Joseph's brother discovering treasure in his sack of grain.



Joseph's brothers

Activity A - Cartoon Scroll



Joseph's brothers

Activity B - Colour In

Colour this picture of Joseph's brother
discovering the treasure in his sack of grain.



Israel in Egypt

Genesis 46 - 49

Storyline

Israel and his family journeyed to Egypt and they took all that they had. God told Israel not to be afraid for He would make him a great nation. Jacob came to Pharaoh and blessed him. They then occupied the land of Goshen. Joseph supplied his father and brothers with food. Some time later, Joseph was told his father was sick. He took his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim to visit him. Jacob told Joseph of God's promise. Jacob wanted to bless the two boys. Joseph took Manasseh to Jacob's right hand and Ephraim to this left hand. Jacob crossed his hands and gave the first-born blessing to Ephraim, the younger, intentionally. Jacob then prophesied over them. Before his death, he instructed his sons to bury him with Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah and Leah. Then he died.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Discuss what is involved in moving from our home to live somewhere foreign and with people who are not like us. This would be very frightening! However, there is no need to be afraid, when God is with us and when it is His will.

Some practical points for discussion:

- What is it like to live in famine for a long time?
- People packing up and moving by foot and donkey etc (no cars, moving vans, planes etc).
- Their motivation (father's heart to be with son, willingness to be a complete family again).
- Trusting God.

Theme One

"The Lord will guide you"

When Jacob's sons convinced him that Joseph was still alive, he wanted nothing more than to see Joseph before his death. Having set out on his journey, he came to Beersheba with his whole family. There he offered sacrifices to God and no doubt he hoped that God would meet with him, as He had on earlier occasions. Jacob was not disappointed. God confirmed that he should go to Egypt and that there his descendants would become a great nation. The nation would eventually return again to the land of Canaan.

Key Thought

As we seek the Lord and offer ourselves to Him, He will meet with us and direct us in the way we should go.

Aim

Encourage the children to seek the Lord's guidance in their decision making.

Memory Verse

"You will guide me with Your counsel." (Psalm 73:24).

Theme Two

"God's ways are not our ways"

It was the custom for the firstborn to receive the double portion and the blessing that went with it. God made an exception in the case of Jacob and now He does so again in the case of Ephraim. God had His own special purposes and guided Jacob in the placing of his hands. His right hand was placed on the younger son, Ephraim's head. Joseph thought his father had made a mistake, but Jacob knew what God wanted.

Key Thought

God does not need to explain everything He does. Rather, He looks to us to trust Him and to know that His way is always best, even though sometimes we may think otherwise.

Aim

Don't worry about things always having to be 'fair', but trust God to know best.

Memory Verse

"Teach me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your truth." (Psalm 86:11).

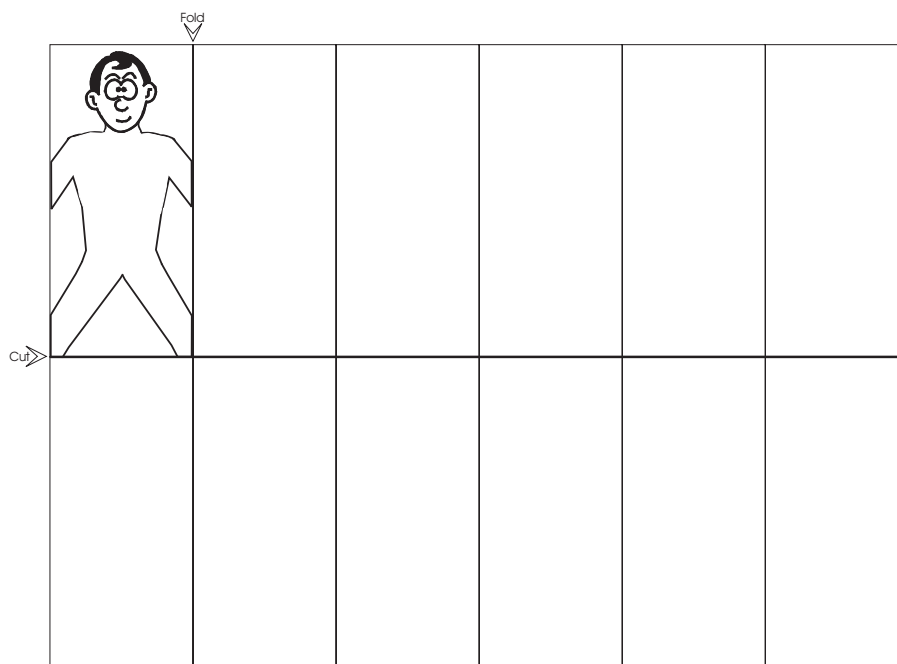
Activity A - Cut-Out Dolls

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Material scraps/felt scraps/coloured paper or anything that can be used for collage work.
- Glue and sticky tape.
- Scissors.
- Colouring pencils.
- Scraps of wool for hair/beards.

Steps

- The children cut the Activity Sheet in half along the thick black line, and join the two strips together with sticky tape to make one long strip.
- Concertina fold the long strip back and forth until it looks like just one frame, the one with the doll on it.
- Cut out the dolls.
- Use material scraps, coloured paper, etc, to dress Joseph and his brothers.
- Use colouring pencils to draw features and also to decorate the clothing.



Activity B - Tangles Game

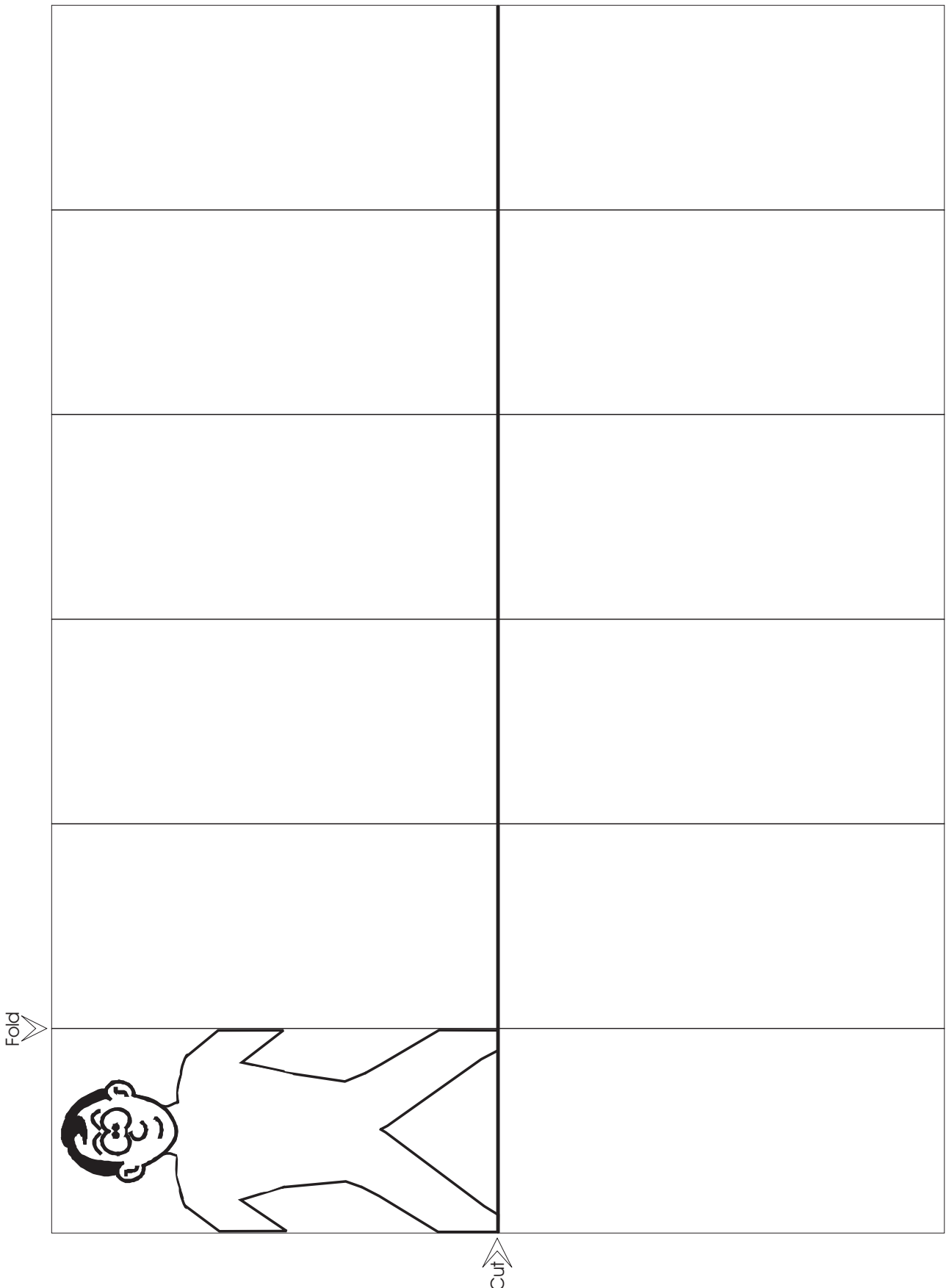
Steps

- Have the children stand in a circle and tell them to reach out and hold hands with two children across from them. This, of course, forms a great tangle.
- Then explain that the knot can be unravelled so that the circle becomes a ring of people holding hands, and that no one should have to let go for this to happen.
- Once the children have formed the unbroken ring, explain that sometimes things happen in families, like Joseph's, that make it look as if nothing will ever be happy and ordered again. But God can restore order and relationships again if we trust Him.



Israel in Egypt

Activity A - Cut-Out Dolls



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Israelites slaves, Moses born

Exodus 1:1 - 2:10

Storyline

Jacob's family numbered seventy persons. They multiplied greatly and grew strong. A new king, who did not know Joseph, arose over Egypt. He ordered the Egyptians to reduce the Israelites to slavery and that the midwives kill the male babies born to the Israelites. The midwives refused so the king ordered all male babies to be thrown into the river. Amram and his wife, Jochebed, of the house of Levi, had a son, a beautiful child. His mother hid him from the Egyptians for three months so he would not be killed by them. Then she built an ark, put the child in it and hid it in reeds by the river. Jochebed sent Miriam, the baby's sister, to watch and when Pharaoh's daughter found the baby in the basket, Miriam asked the princess if she would like a nurse for him. So Jochebed was able to nurse her own baby in the palace. Pharaoh's daughter called the baby Moses because she drew him out of the water.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Make a sample of Activity B. Put numbers on the back of each puzzle piece to help with the order of the story. Tell the story as a progression from the first picture to the last; the object being that with each piece progressively added, God's plan becomes more clear. Each piece is to have a title, eg. 'slavery', etc. Each is to be discussed as a separate short story.

Theme One

"Trust in the Lord"

When Moses' mother, Jochebed, hid her baby in the reeds by the Nile, she was relying totally on God's mercy and faithfulness to look after her child. Jochebed believed in God and acted accordingly. Pharaoh's daughter found Moses, and Jochebed was given the paid task of being a nursemaid to him. The outcome was far better than she could have expected. This is how our trust in God is to work also.

Key Thought

Give all your troubles to the Lord. God can help when we hand over the problem to Him and trust Him with the outcome.

Aim

To show the children how faith works. Our trust in God leads us to act in accordance with the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Memory Verse

"Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him." (Psalm 2:12).

Theme Two

"God keeps His promises"

God promised Abraham that his descendants would be as many as the dust of the earth and the stars in the sky. As the people of Israel grew in number, to the dismay of the Egyptians, God's promise to Abraham began to come true. God has made many wonderful promises to His people. We can be certain He will keep His promises to us just like He kept His promise to Abraham.

Key Thought

As the children of Israel grew in number, God's promise to Abraham began to come true. God will keep His promises to us in the same way.

Aim

For the children to know that they can trust God to keep His promises.

Memory Verse

"He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant." (Deuteronomy 7:9).

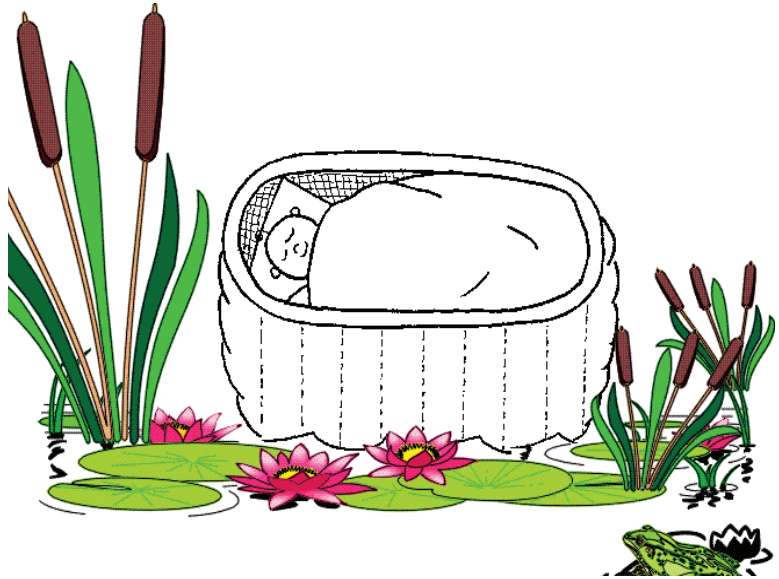
Activity A - Sheet or Basket Weaving

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Cotton wool.
- Coloured paper (cut into 1cm strips).
- Blue cellophane.
- Scissors.
- Colouring pencils.
- Sticky tape.
- Glue.

Steps

- Cut slits in the basket along the dotted lines.
- Weave coloured paper through the basket.
- Stick the coloured paper down on the back of the sheet.
- Use cotton wool for the blanket.
- Cut the cellophane into strips and stick strips on to the page for water.



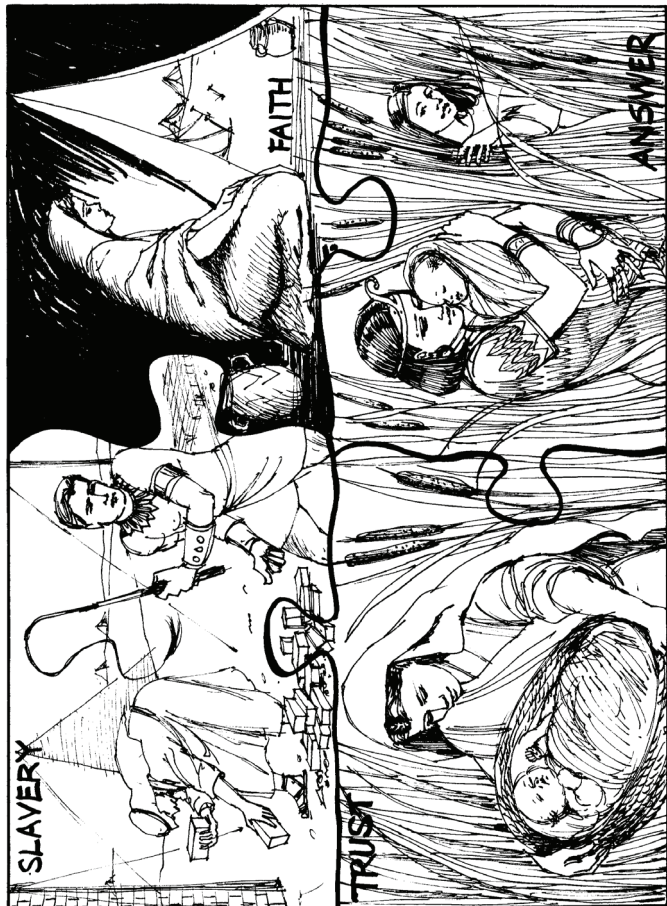
Activity B - Jig Saw

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 A4 piece of cardboard per child.
- Spray on craft glue is best used here because it dries almost immediately, but care must be taken. Glue sticks would be the next best choice.
- Scissors.
- Colouring pencils/crayons/felt pens.
- Envelopes or plastic sandwich bags.

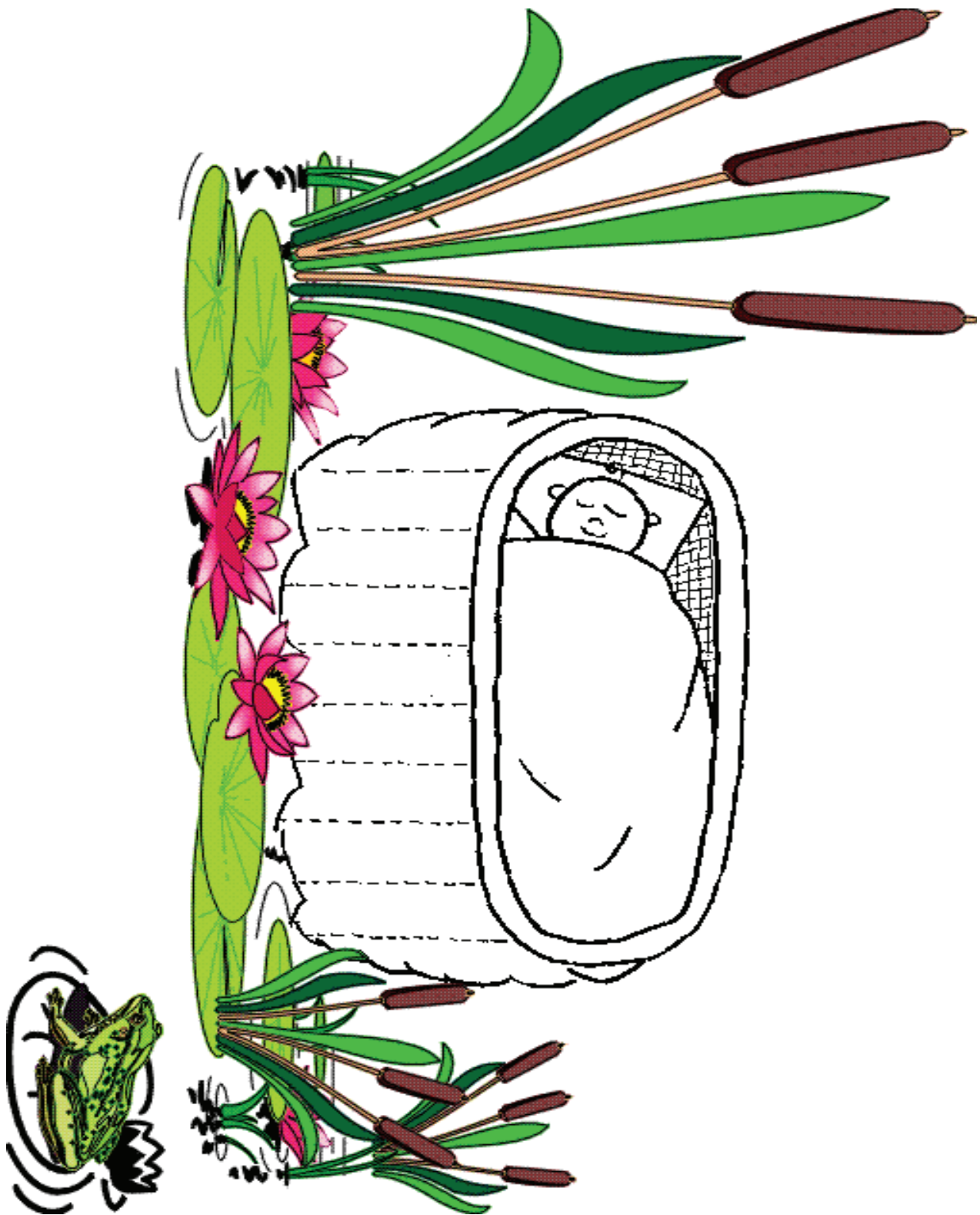
Steps

- The children colour in the jig saw.
- Glue the jigsaw to the cardboard.
- Cut out the jig saw and assemble it.
- The jig saw may be taken home in an envelope or a plastic sandwich bag.



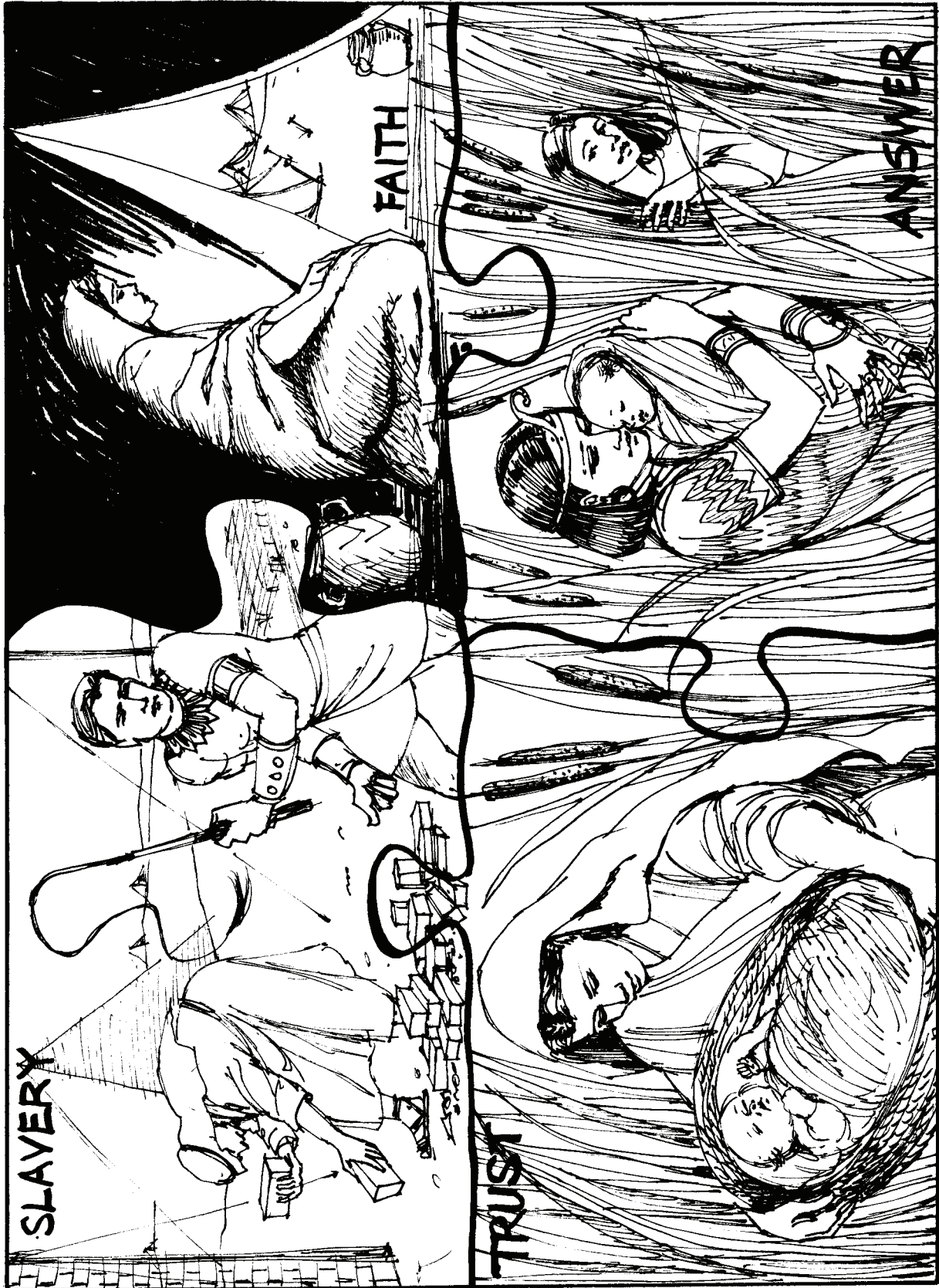
Israelite slaves, Moses born

Activity A - Sheet or Basket Weaving



Israelite slaves, Moses born

Activity B - Jig Saw



Moses flees and returns to Egypt

Exodus 2:11-25; 3 - 4

Storyline

When Moses grew to be a man he killed an Egyptian because he was beating a Hebrew. Moses became afraid of Pharaoh and so he fled to Midian. There he met and married Zipporah, daughter of Jethro. The cry of the Israelites came to God and He remembered his covenant. The Angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in a burning bush and spoke to him saying that he was to go to the Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt. Moses was reluctant and made excuses not to go. However, God gave Moses instructions in what to say and do, and showed him some miracles that would convince the Israelites that he was sent by God to deliver them. Moses took the rod of God in his hand and went to Egypt. Moses' brother, Aaron went with Moses to help him and together they told the Israelites all that God had said and the people believed and they worshipped God.

Suggested Teaching Approach

(Using Activity B)

To emphasise the need for preparation, discuss how God prepared Moses through his many experiences in Egypt and in Midian before God decided he was ready for the deliverance of Israel.

An analogy can be used with the preparation needed to pot a plant. Take children outside and show them what is needed before you are ready to pot a seedling.

Discuss what would happen to the plant if not prepared well!

Theme One

“God enables us to do His will”

In the unfolding of God's plan for His people, there came a point where He required Moses to take a bold course of action. As a result of God's dealings with Moses he felt inadequate for this task, as we often do when God wants us to take a step of faith. Like Moses, we can prove God's grace is sufficient as we step out in obedience, in spite of our own feelings and inadequacies.

Key Thought

God's grace is greater than our doubts and insecurities. He enables us to do what is impossible for us to do on our own

Aim

To show that God is our strength when we acknowledge our weakness and believe for His grace and enabling to do His will.

Memory Verse

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13).

Theme Two

“God speaks to us in many ways”

God really needed to get Moses' attention and so called to him from a burning bush. Being Hebrew, Moses understood when God started talking about His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. When Moses questioned his capability of doing the Lord's work, God gave him many signs that He was with him and could help him. It was hard for Moses to believe that God could work through him and manifest Himself to Pharaoh.

Key Thought

God often wants to get our attention, so that He can tell us what to do. When He shows us what He wants us to do, we should not make excuses. He will never ask us to do something without making it possible for us to do that thing.

Aim

For the children to see that if God could talk to Moses and use him, He can talk to us in our everyday life; and use us too.

Memory Verse

“I will hear what God the Lord will speak.” (Psalm 85:8).

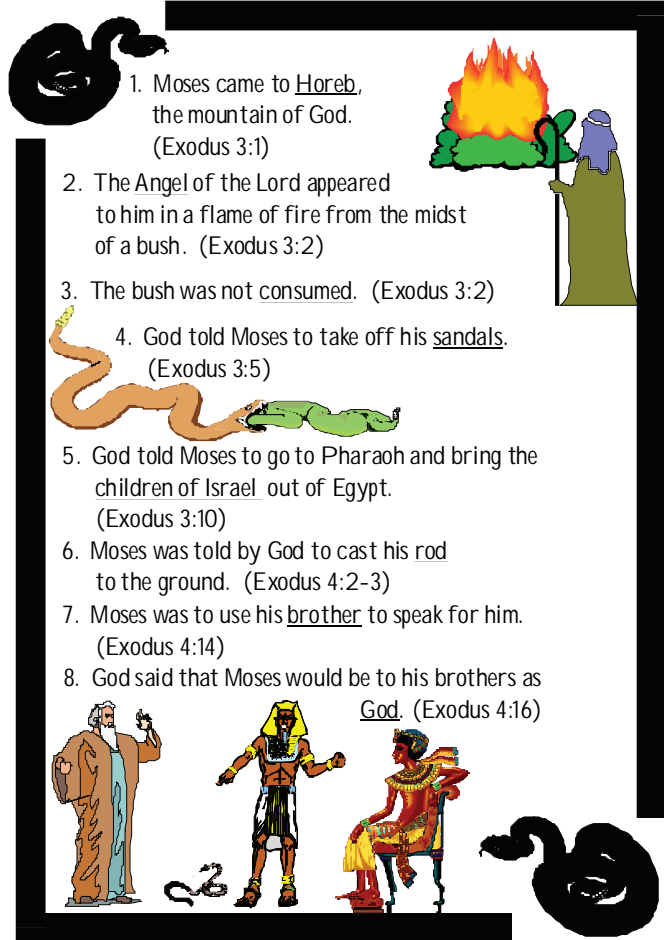
Activity A - Scripture Search

Materials

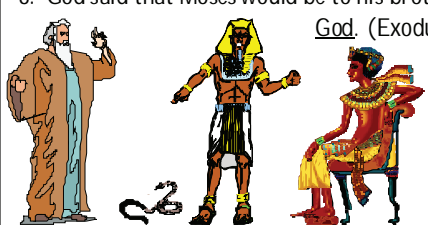
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children look up the Scriptures to complete the questions.



1. Moses came to Horeb, the mountain of God. (Exodus 3:1)
2. The Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. (Exodus 3:2)
3. The bush was not consumed. (Exodus 3:2)
4. God told Moses to take off his sandals. (Exodus 3:5)
5. God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt. (Exodus 3:10)
6. Moses was told by God to cast his rod to the ground. (Exodus 4:2-3)
7. Moses was to use his brother to speak for him. (Exodus 4:14)
8. God said that Moses would be to his brothers as God. (Exodus 4:16)



Activity B - Coded Message

Read the message by using the following code.



“So God heard their groaning
and God remembered His
covenant with Abraham, with
Isaac, and with Jacob.”

“So God heard their groaning
and God remembered His
covenant with Abraham, with
Isaac, and with Jacob.”

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

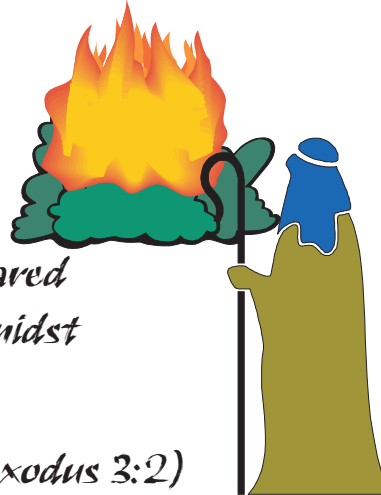
- The children decipher the code and write the message on the lines provided.

Moses flees and returns to Egypt

Activity A - Scripture Search

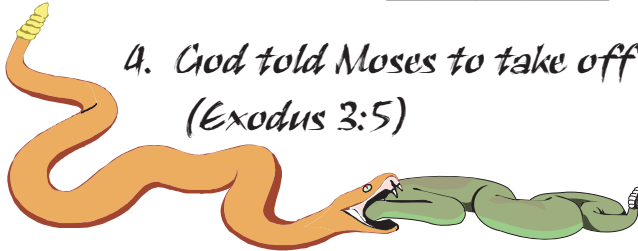


1. Moses came to _____,
the mountain of God.
(Exodus 3:1)



2. The _____ of the Lord appeared
to him in a flame of fire from the midst
of a bush. (Exodus 3:2)

3. The bush was not _____. (Exodus 3:2)



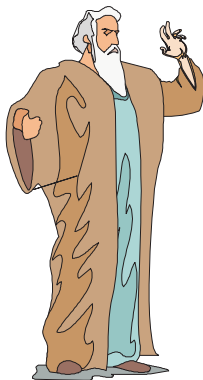
4. God told Moses to take off his _____.
(Exodus 3:5)

5. God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and bring the
_____ out of Egypt.
(Exodus 3:10)

6. Moses was told by God to cast his _____
to the ground. (Exodus 4:2-3)

7. Moses was to use his _____ to speak for him.
(Exodus 4:14)

8. God said that Moses would be to his brothers as
_____. (Exodus 4:16)



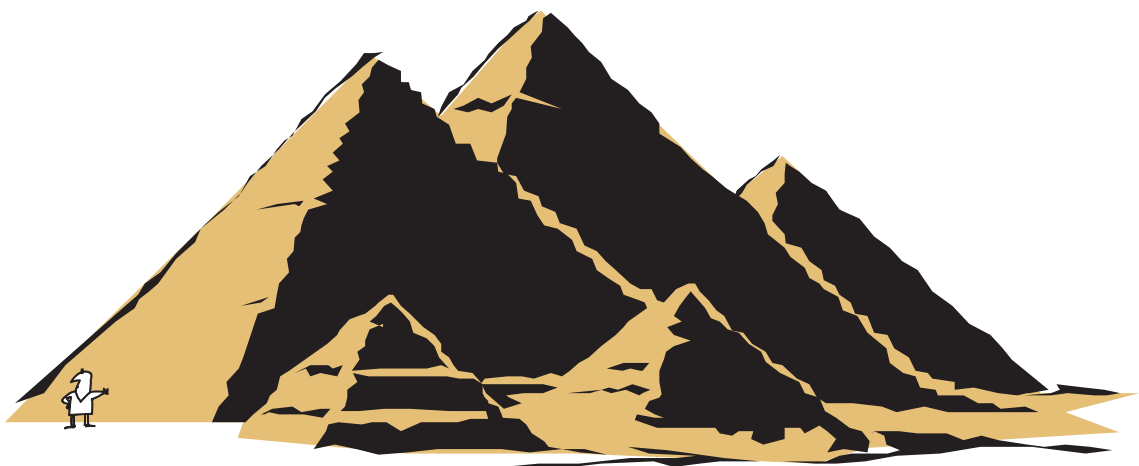
Moses flees and returns to Egypt

Activity B - Coded Message

Read the message by using the following code.



“S^h G^d h^ar^d th^er^e gr^enn^g
and G^d r^em^em^eber^d Hⁱs
c^ov^en^ent wⁱth Abr^oh^om, wⁱth
Is^aac, and wⁱth Jac^ob.”



"Let My people go"

Exodus 5 - 11

Storyline

Moses and Aaron met with Pharaoh to secure the release of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. However, Pharaoh refused their request and in fact caused the workload of the Israelites to be made heavier. The people resented Moses as a result of this. God then spoke to Moses concerning His promise of deliverance for His people. In response to Pharaoh's subsequent refusals to let the people go, God performed a number of miracles through Moses; none of which persuaded Pharaoh, but in fact caused his heart to be hardened. The series of plagues culminated in God's promise of death to the first-born in all of Egypt.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Discuss with the children plagues that occur in this land from time to time – mice, locusts, etc. How would they feel if there were dozens of mice running around their bedroom and over their beds, everywhere in the house and outside?
2. Discuss with the children how hard Pharaoh's heart must have been against God! After nine plagues he still refused to let the people of Israel go.
3. Do you think the Egyptian people thought these plagues were normal? Was God speaking to Egypt as a people that they might turn to Him?

Theme One

"Trust God through trials"

God sent Moses to deliver His people, however, their troubles increased under Pharaoh, and as a result, they no longer believed God would deliver them. Yet God still heard the cries of His people who were oppressed. God wants us to always believe that, despite our troubles, He will deliver us and save us from all things that would enslave us in our lives.

Key Thought

No matter how difficult circumstances seem to be, God always cares for His people and will deliver them.

Aim

To show the children that although God allows trials to come, He will never ask us to endure more than we are able.

Memory Verse

"Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid."
(Isaiah 12:2).

Theme Two

"God is faithful"

Despite Pharaoh's determination to stop the Israelites from leaving Egypt, God demonstrated that He was able to set them free. We can be sure that God will do what He has said He will do. Sometimes God's word takes time to be fulfilled and a series of events have to take place. Knowing this, we can safely put our trust in Him. We can live and relate to Him according to His word.

Key Thought

People often fail to keep their word, either because they forget, or are unable to do what they say, or just don't intend to fulfil what they say. God is well able to do what He says and He will do it.

Aim

To show the children that once God has given His word concerning something, He never forgets and can be relied on to do it.

Memory Verse

"The word of the Lord is proven." (2 Samuel 22:31).

Activity A - Memory Verse Quiz

Materials

- Bibles (New King James version).
- Paper/pens/pencils.
- Lolly snakes for prizes (optional).

Steps

- The quiz is for the children to discover what the Memory Verse is. Each word of the memory verse is found in a different verse in the Bible. The teacher reads out the verse and says what the number of the word in the verse is, eg to discover the first word in the Memory Verse which is “and” tell the children to find the eighth word in Genesis 1:1. Keep going through the words in the Memory Verse one at a time.
- If you wanted to use the snake lollies as prizes, you could give one to the first person to find each word of the memory verse.
- The children will have to have a New King James version of the Bible, so if you don’t have enough to go around they could work in teams.
- As each word of the Memory Verse is discovered, either the children can each write it down, or the teacher can write it on a blackboard/whiteboard.

References

- “**And**”- 8th word of Genesis 1:1; “**being**” – 23rd (last) word of Psalm 104:33; “**fully**” – 17th word of II Timothy 4:17; “**convinced**” – 17th word of Romans 14:5; “**that**” – 3rd word of I John 2:24; “**what**” – 1st word of Psalm 116:12; “**He**” – 2nd word of Luke 22:19; “**had**” – 4th word of Acts 15:4; “**promised**” – 24th word of Deuteronomy 1:11; “**He**” – 9th word of Proverbs 11:25; “**was**” – 4th word of Hebrews 11:18; “**also**” 18th word of Exodus 3:9; “**able**” – 16th word of Job 41:10; “**to**” 15th word of Isaiah 51:1; “**perform**” – 13th word of Jeremiah 28:6; “**Romans**” – 12th word of Acts 16:21; “**four**” – 10th word of Numbers 2:8; “**twenty**” – 21st word of Zechariah 5:2; “**one**” – 5th word of James 5:16.

Activity B - Find the Plagues

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.
- Pens.

Steps

- Ask the children to read the sheet.
- Choose the correct plague from the pictures.
- They can write the answer in the space provided.
- The children can colour the pictures.

Answers

- rivers of blood
- frogs, lice, and flies
- die
- boils
- hail, fire
- locusts
- darkness

1. For the first plague, God turned the rivers into _____.

2. In the next three plagues, God sent _____, _____, and _____ over all the land.

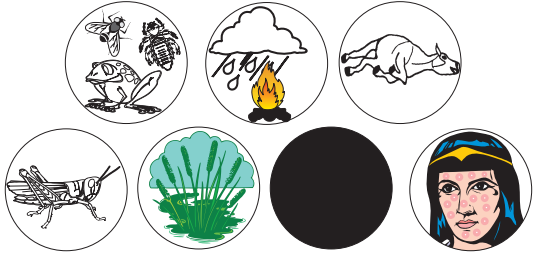
3. The next plague caused all the Egyptian's livestock to _____.

4. Then the Egyptian people broke out in _____.

5. It then rained _____ and _____.

6. Next came a swarm of _____.

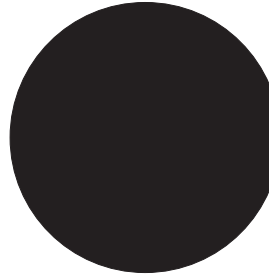
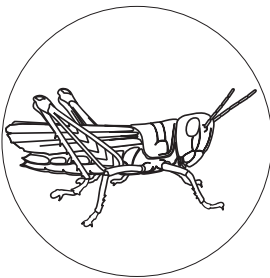
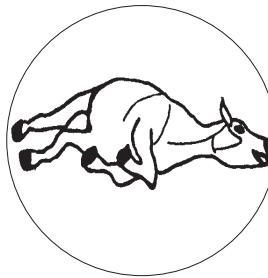
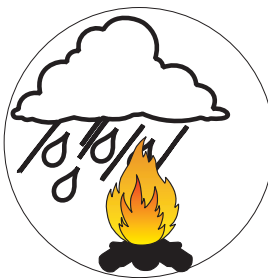
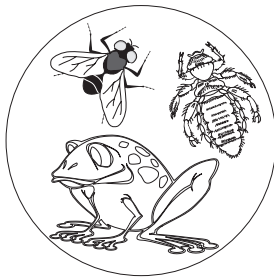
7. The ninth plague was _____ in the land for three days.



"Let My people go"

Activity B - Find the Plagues

1. For the first plague, God turned the rivers into _____.
2. In the next three plagues, God sent _____, _____, and _____ over all the land.
3. The next plague caused all the Egyptian's livestock to _____.
4. Then the Egyptian people broke out in _____.
5. It then rained _____ and _____.
6. Next came a swarm of _____.
7. The ninth plague was _____ in the land for three days.



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The first passover, Israel delivered

Exodus 12

Storyline

God gave the instructions for the Lord's passover to Moses and Aaron. God promised that if the people would follow these instructions, the plague of death would pass over their houses and befall only the Egyptians. God commanded that these procedures be instituted annually as a memorial feast. Israel followed the procedures and the Lord smote the first-born of all Egypt. As a result of this plague, Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and commanded the release of the people of Israel and their flocks and herds. Thus ended 430 years of Israel's dwelling in Egypt.

Suggested Teaching Approach

To give the children an idea of what was ahead for the Israelites, talk about a family getting ready for a holiday - where they are going, for how long, the cost, clothing, the excitement of new clothes, the preparations to see that all is in order with the car, etc. Then compare that with the families preparing for the passover night - the provision from the Egyptians (jewellery, clothes, spices, etc). Point out that the Israelites were not coming back.

Theme One

"Believe and obey"

The Israelites believed God when He issued the instruction for the sprinkling of the sacrificial blood on the doorposts. However, had they believed but not responded in faith, God would not have saved them. We, too, may believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and the saving power of His shed blood. However, we need to respond as His word comes to us in practical day to day living situations.

Key Thought

We need to know how and when to apply the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, in our daily lives.

Aim

For the children to understand that true faith requires a response, on their part, to the word of God.

Memory Verse

"Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people." (Jeremiah 7:23).

Theme Two

"Different, not hard"

God sometimes asks us to do something that we have never done before. When this happens we should be excited and not scared, because He never asks us to do things that are too hard for us. If we trust Him, He will enable us to do what He asks us to do.

Key Thought

To prepare the Passover meal, the children of Israel had to follow God's instructions carefully. Because they did this they were kept safe. Our obedient actions please God.

Aim

For the children to happily follow God's instructions, whatever they may be.

Memory Verse

"Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you." (Isaiah 41:10).

Activity A - Story Crossword - Join the Dots

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children complete the picture and crossword as instructed on the Activity Sheet.

Join the dots to finish this picture.
Can you draw a man putting blood on the door posts?

What can make us free from the power of sin? _____
The blood of Jesus

Are we safe from God's judgment on sin if we shelter behind that blood, by faith? Yes

Story Crossword

1.K	I	2.L	L		3.L				
		A			5.M	O	S	E	6.S
		M		7.D		R			E
8.D		9.B	L	O	O	D		10.L	E
I						O		11.O	
E		12.M	O	R	N	I	N	G	

'A' words go across the puzzle, 'D' words go down.

[5A] told Pharaoh, "The Lord says that one night very soon He will go through your land, and the oldest son of every family will [8D]." But the proud king would not take any notice of this warning. Then the [3D] told Moses what His people must do to be kept safe when this terrible thing happened. Each family had to [1A] a lamb that had nothing wrong with it. They had to put some of its [9A] on the [4D] of the door of their house, and stay inside until [12A]. "I will pass through the land, and when I [6D] the blood [11D] the door posts, I will not hurt you," God promised. So the people of Israel did what God said. Each family painted the blood of a [2D] outside their [7D], and waited. That night, the oldest son of every Egyptian family died, but the Israelites were kept safe. At last Pharaoh gave in. He told Moses to take his people away. So the Israelites [10A] Egypt as fast as they could.

Activity B - Passover Meal Morning Tea

Materials

- Pita bread.
- Chopped herbs.
- Slices of roast lamb.
- Ingredients for scones or damper/aprons/bowls etc.

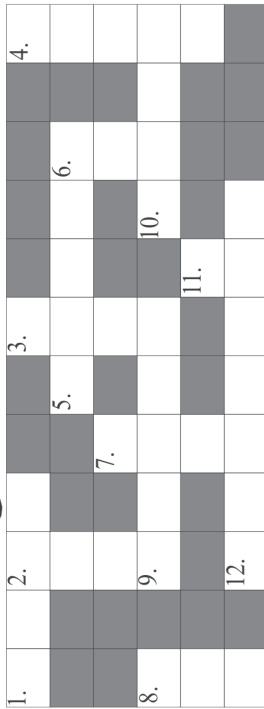
Steps

- Have the children put some chopped herbs and pieces of roast lamb on the pita bread and share it for morning tea.
- If time permits, the children can then make their own 'unleavened bread' (damper or scones) each taking a portion home to cook.

The first passover, Israel delivered

Activity A – Story Crossword and Dot to Dot

Story Crossword

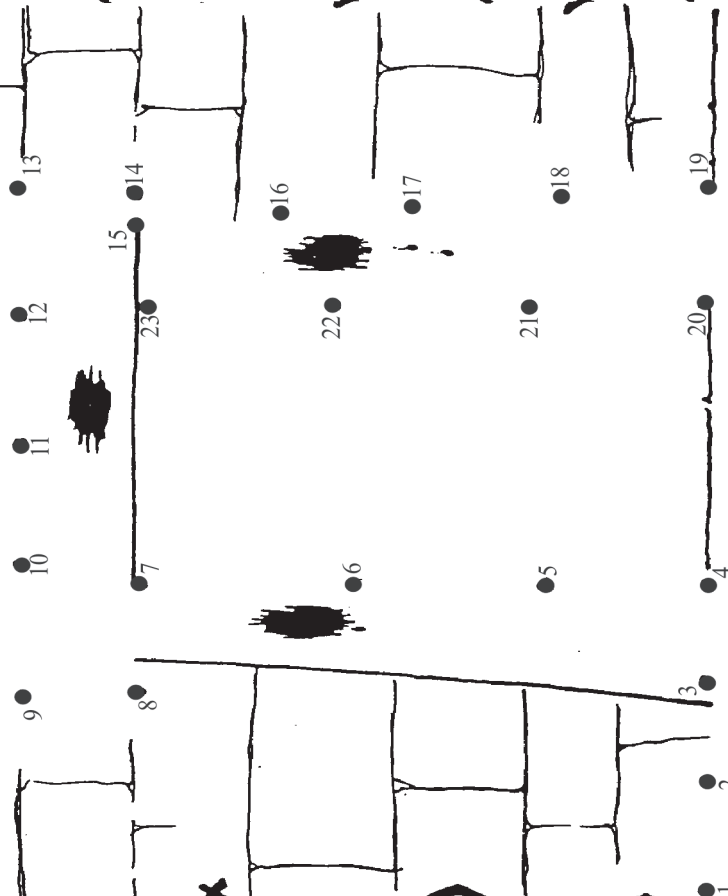


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[5A] told Pharaoh, "The Lord says that one night very soon He will go through your land, and the oldest son of every family will [8D]." But the proud king would not take any notice of this warning. Then the [3D] told Moses what His people must do to be kept safe when this terrible thing happened. Each family had to [1A] a lamb that had nothing wrong with it. They had to put some of its [9A] on the [4D] of the door of their house, and stay inside until [12A]. "I will pass through the land, and when I [6D] the blood [11D] the door posts, I will not hurt you," God promised. So the people of Israel did what God said. Each family painted the blood of a [2D] outside their [7D], and waited. That night, the oldest son of every Egyptian family died, but the Israelites were kept safe. At last Pharaoh gave in. He told Moses to take his people away. So the Israelites [10A] Egypt as fast as they could.

Join the dots to finish this picture.

Can you draw a man putting blood on the door posts?



What can make us free from the power of sin? _____

Are we safe from God's judgment on sin if we shelter behind that blood, by faith? _____

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Crossing the Red Sea

Exodus 13:17 - 15:21

Storyline

God led the people of Israel out of Egypt by way of a wilderness towards the Red Sea. He presented Himself in a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night. Pharaoh reconsidered his decision to let the people go and pursued them with his army. When the Israelites saw them, they were afraid and complained to Moses who assured them of the Lord's faithfulness towards them and the victory He was about to accomplish. As Moses responded in faith, God parted the waters and the Israelites crossed on dry land. The Egyptians, however, were drowned as the Lord caused the waters to return.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Discuss with the children times when they faced any difficult situations and could not find an answer, eg being bullied, struggles at school, struggles with brothers and sisters. How would the children of Israel have felt in their situation, with nowhere to go?
2. Call for testimonies when God made a way, or protected the children.

Theme One

"God will make a way"

With the sea before them, the mountains on either side, and the Egyptian army behind them, all seemed hopeless and lost. But God made a way for His people. God will also make a way for us, even when we cannot see it. If we continue to trust and walk in faith, He will open up His way before us.

Key Thought

No matter how difficult the circumstances seem to be, we can trust God to make a way for us.

Aim

To show the children that, although evil things may come against us and there seems no way out, we can always trust God to deliver us.

Memory Verse

"You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy." (Psalm 16:11).

Theme Two

"The joy of salvation"

God has proved Himself to be faithful. His word shows us many times His amazing miracles that He has performed. He is still the same today and is still doing amazing things in the lives of people who will trust Him and follow Him joyfully.

Key Thought

Just as the children of Israel were excited about the amazing way God saved them, so we too can be excited because we have the same God who saves us.

Aim

For the children to know that there is joy and excitement in going God's way.

Memory Verse

"We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation." (Isaiah 25:9).

Activity A - Puzzle and Drawing

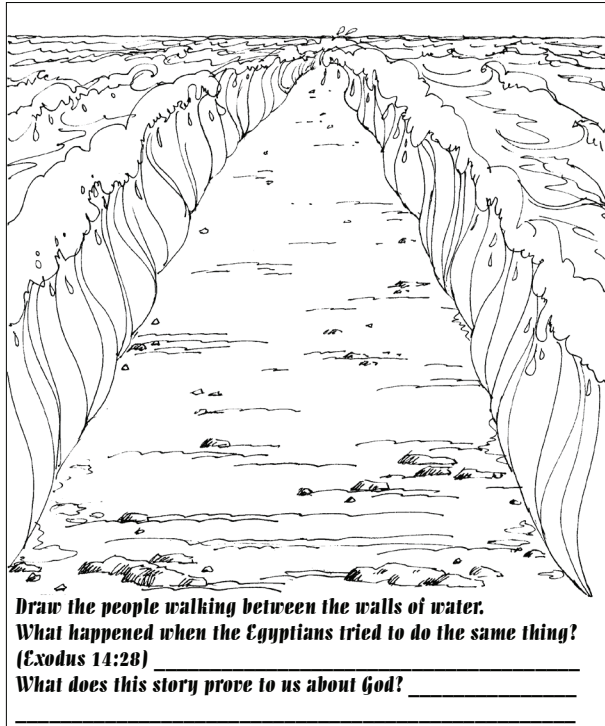
Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/colouring pencils

Steps

- Children solve the puzzles and draw the children of Israel crossing the Red Sea.

Answers



Circle the pictures below which give the right answers.

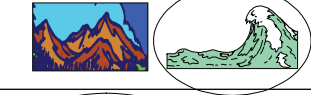
In the daytime God put one of these in front of them to show them where to go.



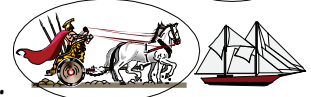
At night they were guided by



Soon they made their camp by



In the meantime, Pharaoh changed his mind. He sent many of these to bring the Israelites back to Egypt.



When the Israelites saw Pharaoh's army coming, they



God told Moses to hold this over the sea to divide the waters.



Activity B - Bible Quiz Game

Materials

- Snakes and Ladders board game, dice and markers.
- Bibles.

Steps

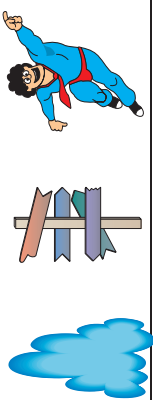
- Combine a quiz on the story with a Snakes and Ladders game. Ask the children a question relating to the story, and the child that answers correctly then gets to throw the dice and move on the number of places on the dice, going up the ladders and down the snakes as appropriate.
- Point out to the children some of the “ups and downs” of the children of Israel’s exodus from Egypt.

Crossing the Red Sea

Activity A - Puzzle and Drawing

Circle the pictures below which give the right answers.

In the daytime God put one of these in front of them to show them where to go.



At night they were guided by



Soon they made their camp by



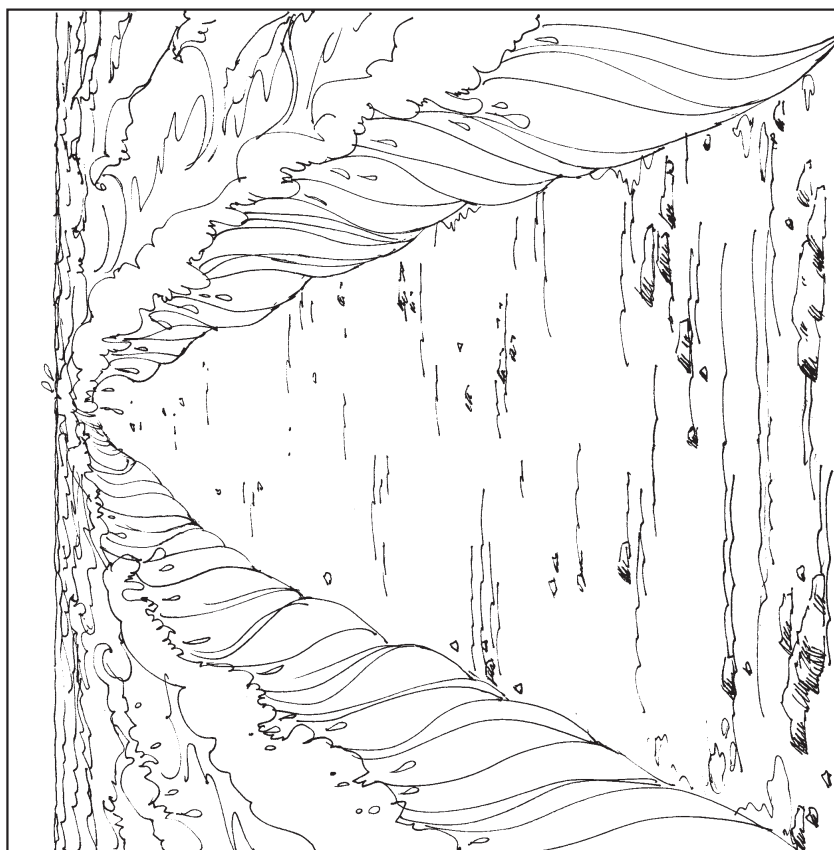
In the meantime, Pharaoh changed his mind. He sent many of these to bring the Israelites back to Egypt.



When the Israelites saw Pharaoh's army coming, they



God told Moses to hold this over the sea to divide the waters.



Draw the people walking between the walls of water.
What happened when the Egyptians tried to do the same thing?
(Exodus 14:28)

What does this story prove to us about God?

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Manna, water from the rock

Exodus 16; 17:1-7

Storyline

The people of Israel took up their customary complaining against Moses and Aaron when they faced further hardship. This time it concerned a lack of food. God answered their cry by providing a flock of quails in the evening. He also provided manna for them each morning for six days out of every seven. Yet again the people revolted against Moses, this time over a lack of water. The Lord provided by causing water to flow from the rock as Moses struck it.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

After reading the story, ask the children if they can remember a time when they or someone they knew had very little money. Does the Lord allow us to go without things sometimes? How can this help us?

Theme 2

How does grumbling show that we are not believing God? Does it ever help us? What should we do instead?

Theme One

“God supplies our needs”

The children of Israel needed to trust in God for their needs. Had He not always looked after them? Their experiences of His loving provision should have encouraged them to continue trusting in Him. We all have lots of things that we want, things that we would like to have. We only actually need some of the things which we want. The Lord has promised to supply our needs, but not necessarily our wants.

Key Thought

We can rest assured that God will always provide everything that we need. He encourages us to tell Him about our needs.

Aim

To show that, as God’s children, we should not fear lack.

Memory Verse

*“Those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.”
(Psalm 34:10).*

Theme Two

“Thankful in every circumstance”

Sometimes we can be very self-centred. Even when God is meeting the needs in our lives, we can still find things to complain about. We must learn to realise that the Lord will always provide whatever is best for us even when what He gives is not what we would have chosen.

Key Thought

When the Israelites complained to Moses they were really blaming God. We must remember that all complaining is really whingeing about God’s provision.

Aim

To encourage the children to have a thankful heart at all times at what God provides for them.

Memory Verse

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.” (Psalm 118:29).

Activity A - Puzzles and Colouring

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

Steps

- Children solve puzzles.
- If time permits they can colour the picture and draw some manna in the baskets and water coming from the rock.

What did the people do after they left Elim? (Exodus 16:2)
They murmured against Moses and Aaron.

What did they wish had happened? (Exodus 16:3)
They wished they had died in Egypt.

What did they say about Moses? (Exodus 16:3)
He had brought them out to die of hunger.

What did the Lord promise them? (Exodus 16:4)
He would rain bread from heaven for them.

Can you read this important promise the Lord has given to those of our day who love Him? Repeat with the bottom letter of the last column. Read up that column, down the next, up the next, and so on. Write the words on the lines below.

SOYPUDO
DULPSSG
ERLLLHY
ENAYLAM

My God shall supply all your needs.

Colour this picture and draw some manna in the baskets and water coming from the rock.

Activity B - Collecting Manna (Outdoor Activity)

Materials

- Several slices of white bread.

Steps

Before Class

- Cut the white bread into enough small pieces, so that each child can collect 3 or 4.

In Class

- Arrange for a helper to go outside and spread the bread around on the ground. If there is no helper, ask the children to sit quietly for a few minutes while you run outside and do it yourself.
- Bring the children outside to collect 'manna'.
- Sit the children down with the 'manna' and tell them what the children of Israel had said of their manna.
- Ask the children how they would feel if they had to eat just bread for every meal, even though it would provide all their physical needs.
- Talk about complaining when we don't get what we want, and how we should be thankful for whatever God provides.

Manna, water from the rock

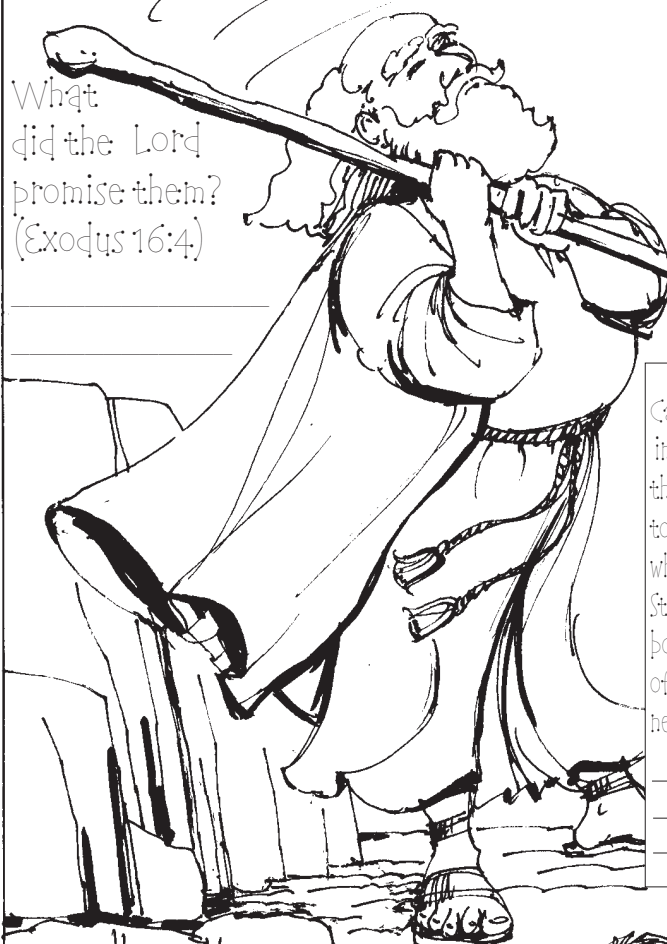
Activity A - Puzzles and Colouring

What did the people do after they left Elim? (Exodus 16:2)

What did they wish had happened? (Exodus 16:3)

What did they say about Moses? (Exodus 16:3)

What
did the Lord
promise them?
(Exodus 16:4)

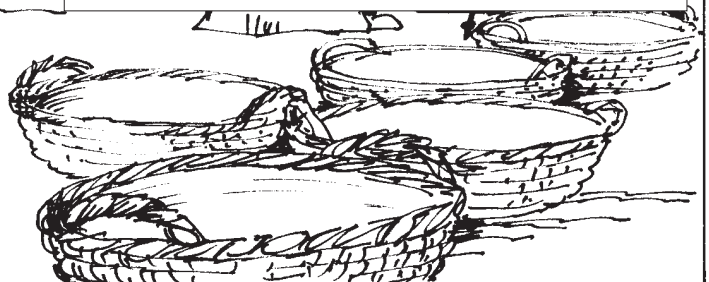


Can you read this
important promise
the Lord has given
to those of our day
who love Him?
Start with the
bottom letter

SOYPUDO
DULPSSG
ERLLHY
ENAYLAM

of the last column. Read up that column, down the next, up the
next, and so on. Write the words on the lines below:

Colour this picture and draw some
manna in the baskets
and water coming from the rock.



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Sinai and the ten commandments

Exodus 19 & 20

Storyline

Three months after leaving Egypt, the children of Israel came to the wilderness of Sinai and camped there before the mountain. Moses went up Mt Sinai and God told him that if His people would learn to keep His covenant, they would be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. They said they would do as the Lord had commanded. The Lord descended upon Mt Sinai and told Moses His commandments regarding His people. The people saw God's power and trembled. Moses drew near to God. The Lord told Moses to tell the people that He had spoken to him

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Discuss with the children how they live at home with their parents. It is sometimes difficult to obey the rules your parents have set down at home. We realise that to be obedient to our parents is to be obedient to our heavenly Father. Stress the importance of our heavenly Father who wants to help us to be obedient.
2. Discuss with the children how the Holy Spirit wants to help us obey God and our parents. Discuss with them how prayer and asking God can play a big role in this matter.

Theme One

"Living by the Spirit"

Sinai was a fearful place for the children of Israel. They saw God's power in the lightning and the fire. God was showing Himself to be a holy God. God wanted them to be a holy people. In the same way, God wants us to be a holy people. We need not be fearful as the Israelites were, for the Holy Spirit has now come to help us live holy lives.

Key Thought

Holiness is a way of life that we can live if we allow the Holy Spirit to have His way in our lives.

Aim

To help the children to understand that living a holy life is not impossible.

Memory Verse

"For this is the will of God, your sanctification."
(1 Thessalonians 4:3).

Theme Two

"God speaks clearly to His people"

After the children of Israel left Egypt, God wanted to instruct them on how to live. He gave them His word, including the ten commandments, by Moses. God today gives to us His word through the Scriptures and our parents and leaders in the church. As with Israel, God wants us to be obedient to His word. God never leaves us unclear as to what He requires of us.

Key Thought

The Lord will speak to you through your parents, the leaders in the church, and the Scriptures and you will know what He wants of you.

Aim

To show the children that we can be aware of what God wants us to do. He gives clear instruction.

Memory Verse

"I will hear what God the Lord will speak." (Psalm 85:8).

Activity A - Road Rules

Materials

- Cardboard.
- Scissors.
- Felt pens.
- Pins (or paddlepop sticks and glue, if children are to hold signs).

Steps

- Give each child a role to play eg. truck, car, stop sign, pedestrian etc.
- Have each child make up a sign saying what they are.
- Either pin these onto the children's clothing, or have them glue paddlepop sticks to the bottom of the signs, so they can hold them up.
- Set up a road system. If inside, use desks, chairs etc. If outside, use garden paths, or draw with chalk on cement.
- Have the children act out two different sets of circumstances:
 - What happens when rules are obeyed.
 - What happens when rules are not obeyed.

Activity B - Picture Story and Quiz

















Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.
- Bibles.

Steps

- Children colour the right drawings in the picture story, then look up the Bible verses and answer the quiz.

Colour the right drawings:

At last the children of Israel came to the  of
Sinai near a high  . Soon they set up their   
at the foot of the   and Moses went up to talk to
 . The Lord wanted to show that He was really there,
so three days later a strange dark   came down on the
mountain. There was also bright   and crashing thunder and the
sound of a loud  . Exodus 19 & 20



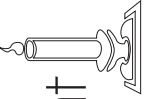
Quiz time:

Were the people afraid? (Exodus 19:16) Yes.
Who answered Moses when he spoke? (Exodus 19:19) God.
How far up did Moses go? (Exodus 19:20) To the top of the mountain.
Why did Moses have to go back to the people? (Exodus 19:21) To warn them not to break through
and gaze upon the Lord.
God spoke to the people from the mountain (Exodus 20:1). What do we call what He gave them?
The Ten Commandments.

Sinai and the ten commandments

Activity B – Picture Story and Quiz

Colour the right drawings:

At last the children of Israel came to the  of  Sinai near a high . Soon they set up their  and Moses went up to talk to  at the foot of the . The Lord wanted to show that He was really there,  so three days later a strange dark  came down on the mountain. There was also bright  and crashing thunder and the sound of a loud .

Exodus 19 & 20

Quiz time:

Were the people afraid? (Exodus 19:16) .
 Who answered Moses when he spoke? (Exodus 19:19) _____
 How far up did Moses go? (Exodus 19:20) _____
 Why did Moses have to go back to the people? (Exodus 19:21) _____
 God spoke to the people from the mountain (Exodus 20:1). What do we call what He gave them? _____

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Moses and the tabernacle

Exodus 24 - 30

Storyline

Moses sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. He took the Book of the Covenant and read to the people. They promised to be obedient. The Lord told Moses to come to Him on the mountain and He would give him the law and commandments so that Moses could teach the people. Moses was forty days and nights on the mountain. God told Moses to build Him a sanctuary so that He could dwell among them. He gave clear instructions on what it was to contain and how the people and priests were to conduct themselves. When He had finished speaking on Mt Sinai, God gave Moses two tablets of the testimony written with the finger of God

Suggested Teaching Approach

Discuss what we do when we are preparing to build our homes to live in. We draw up a plan with exact dimensions, we paint it to suit our taste, we decorate it, we furnish it, we make it exactly how we want it, and as a result, it reflects our nature and personality. Because of God's holy nature, God's dwelling place had to be a home where there was no sin. So He left exact instructions on how to build such a place.

Theme One

"God's dwelling place"

God wanted to dwell amongst the children of Israel. That's why they had to build the tabernacle. The tabernacle was a sacred place where God could presence Himself among His people. God's people are the true tabernacle, built by God, not man. God dwells amongst us and He wants us to be a suitable place in which He can dwell.

Key Thought

God's desire is to dwell in His people. That is why He desires us to be holy as He is holy.

Aim

To show the children that God wants to live in their hearts.

Memory Verse

"For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."
(1 Corinthians 3:17).

Theme Two

"True worship"

The centre of the worship of the children of Israel was the tabernacle. We gather as God's family to worship Him, but we can worship God every day when our hearts are committed to living and serving Him.

Key Thought

Just as the tabernacle was in the centre of the camp, and the centre of the lives of the people of God then, so Jesus is the head of the church and the centre of our lives today.

Aim

To help the children realise that true worship is an everyday thing for God's people. The way we live shows how important God is to us.

Memory Verse

"Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." (Psalm 96:9).

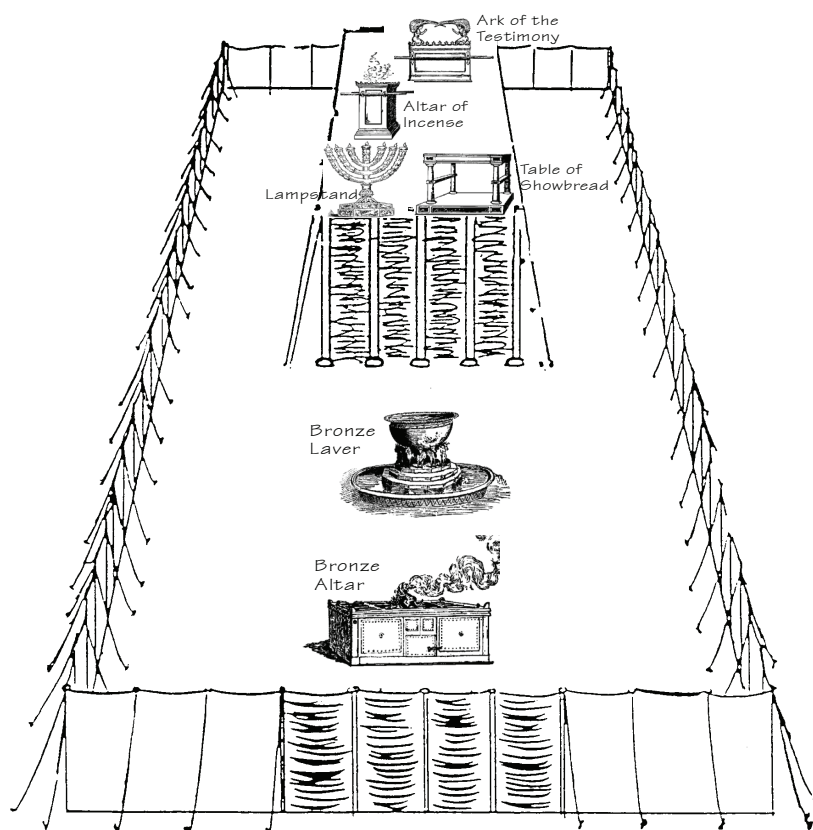
Activity A - Cut Out and Paste Tabernacle and Furniture

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- Pencils.

Steps

- The children cut out the furniture (this does not have to be cut out in detail).
- Glue it in the right place.
- Write the name of each piece, under or next to it.



Activity B - Word Search

Materials

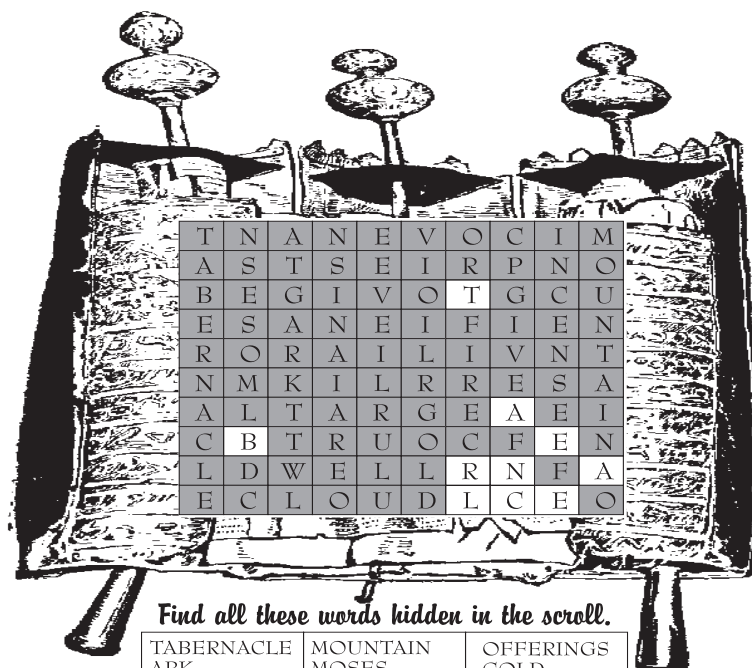
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- Children find all the hidden words, then make a word out of all the remaining letters.

Answer

- TABERNACLE



Find all these words hidden in the scroll.

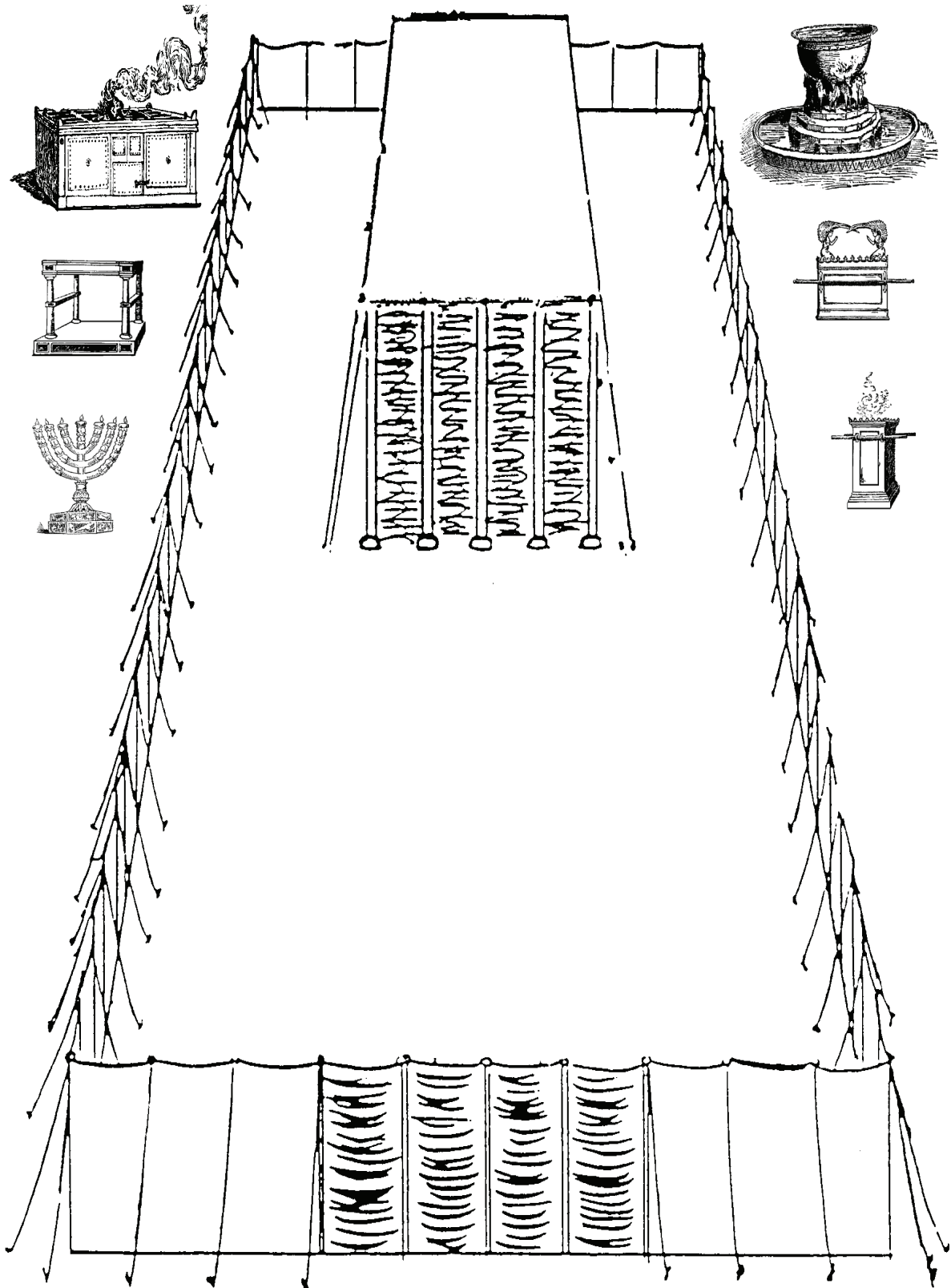
TABERNACLE	MOUNTAIN	OFFERINGS
ARK	MOSES	GOLD
PRIESTS	VEIL	ALTAR
DWELL	SINAI	OIL
FIRE	COURT	CLOUD
INCENSE	COVENANT	GIVE

Now make a word out of the remaining letters.

Moses and the tabernacle

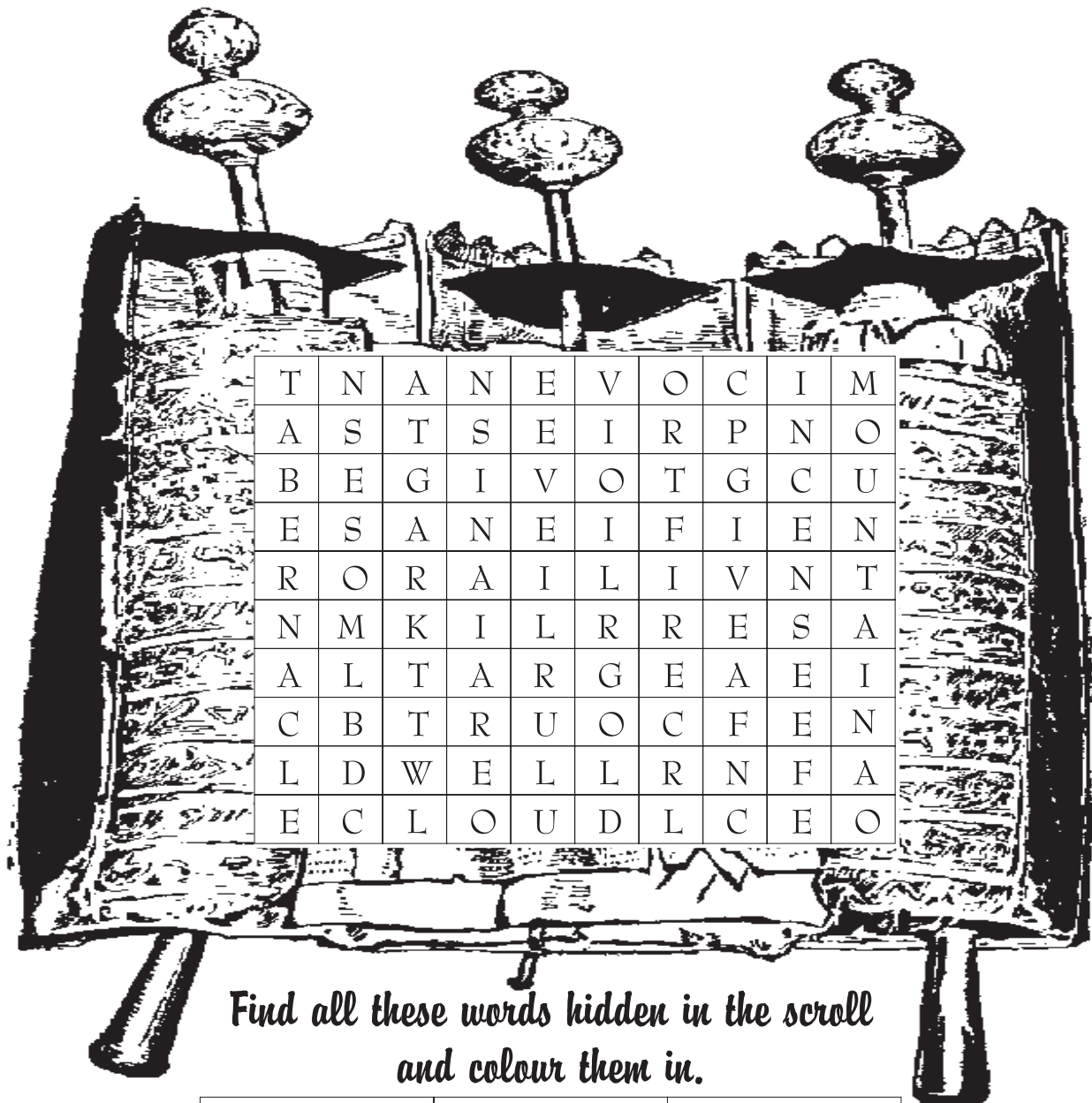
Activity A – Cut Out and Paste Tabernacle Furniture

Cut out the furniture and paste it into the correct place in the tabernacle.
Write the name of each piece of furniture beside or under it.



Moses and the tabernacle

Activity B – Word Search



TABERNACLE	MOUNTAIN	OFFERINGS
ARK	MOSES	GOLD
PRIESTS	VEIL	ALTAR
DWELL	SINAI	OIL
FIRE	COURT	CLOUD
INCENSE	COVENANT	GIVE

Now make a word out of the remaining letters.

The golden calf

Exodus 32

Storyline

Because Moses stayed up on the mountain for a long time, the people grew impatient waiting for him. They asked Aaron to make gods to go before them and lead them. He collected all the gold from the people and made a golden calf. He then built an altar and proclaimed a feast day for the Lord. The Lord saw all this and told Moses to go and correct these “stiff-necked people”. God was very angry and promised to destroy them, however, Moses pleaded with God not to do so. As Moses came down the mountain, he cast the two tablets, on which God had written, out of his hands and broke them.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Discuss the many ways in which the Lord blesses us.
2. Discuss idols that could take our children’s lives and minds - TV, computer, sport, etc.
3. Discuss what an idol is. Develop a simple definition eg something that is more important to us than God; something we worship - give worth to.

Theme One

“Trust God and be patient”

How quick the children of Israel were to forget the miraculous way in which the Lord delivered them from Egypt. They found it easier to put their trust in what they could do themselves, so they made an idol. It is important for us to continually give thanks to the Lord. We should praise Him for what He has done for us, showing that we trust Him at all times, and do not trust in our own ways.

Key Thought

Trust God and be patient when things do not happen as you expect, and do not try to work things out for yourself.

Aim

For the children to realise they either trust in the Lord or in their flesh, that is, their own strength. To encourage them to learn to recognise where they place their trust.

Memory Verse

“Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him.” (Psalm 37:7).

Theme Two

“Pray for others”

Upon learning that the children of Israel had made an idol to worship, Moses came before the Lord and confessed the sin of the people. He asked the Lord to forgive them and even asked the Lord to punish him instead of them. The Lord relented and did not destroy the people. Prayer is a powerful weapon that God has given us. It is our privilege to pray for those we know.

Key Thought

God hears our prayers.

Aim

To encourage the children to develop and maintain a devotional time where they pray to God.

Memory Verse

“Therefore we also pray always for you.” (2 Thessalonians 1:11).

Activity A - Make a Schmoo

Materials

- 1 coloured balloon per child
- Flour
- A funnel
- A Wooden skewer
- Spoon
- Coloured plastic tape
- Scissors

Steps

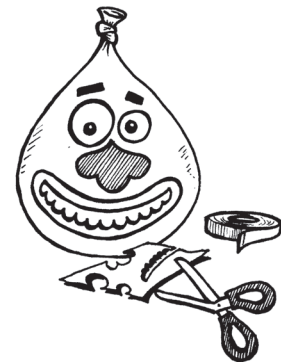
Stretch the balloon by blowing some air in it and then let it out.

Fit a funnel in the neck.

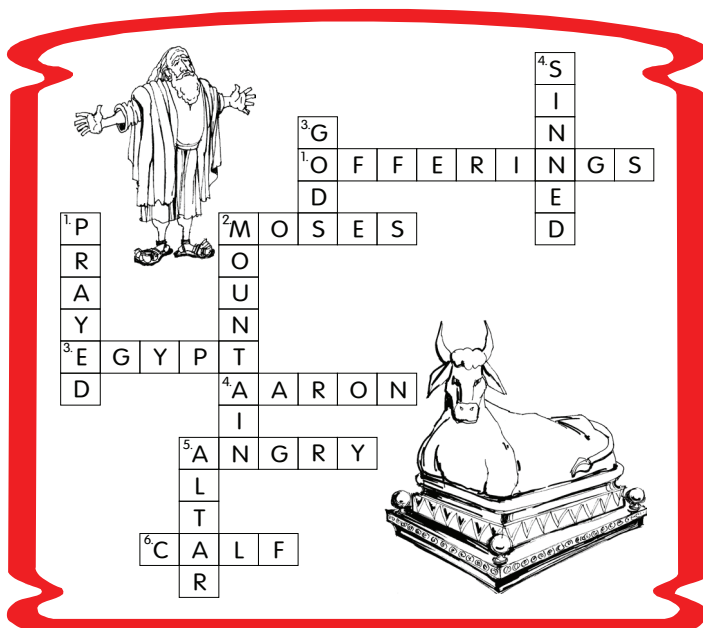
Spoon flour into the funnel and carefully poke the flour into the balloon.

When filled tie a knot in the balloon.

Cut out some eyes, nose and mouth from the plastic tape and decorate the 'Schmoo'.



Activity B - Crossword



Materials

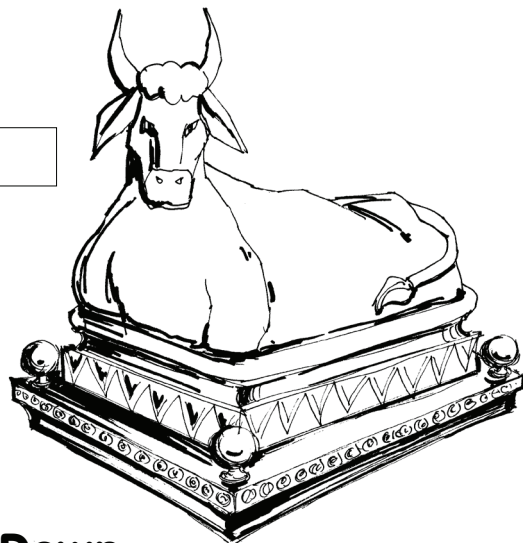
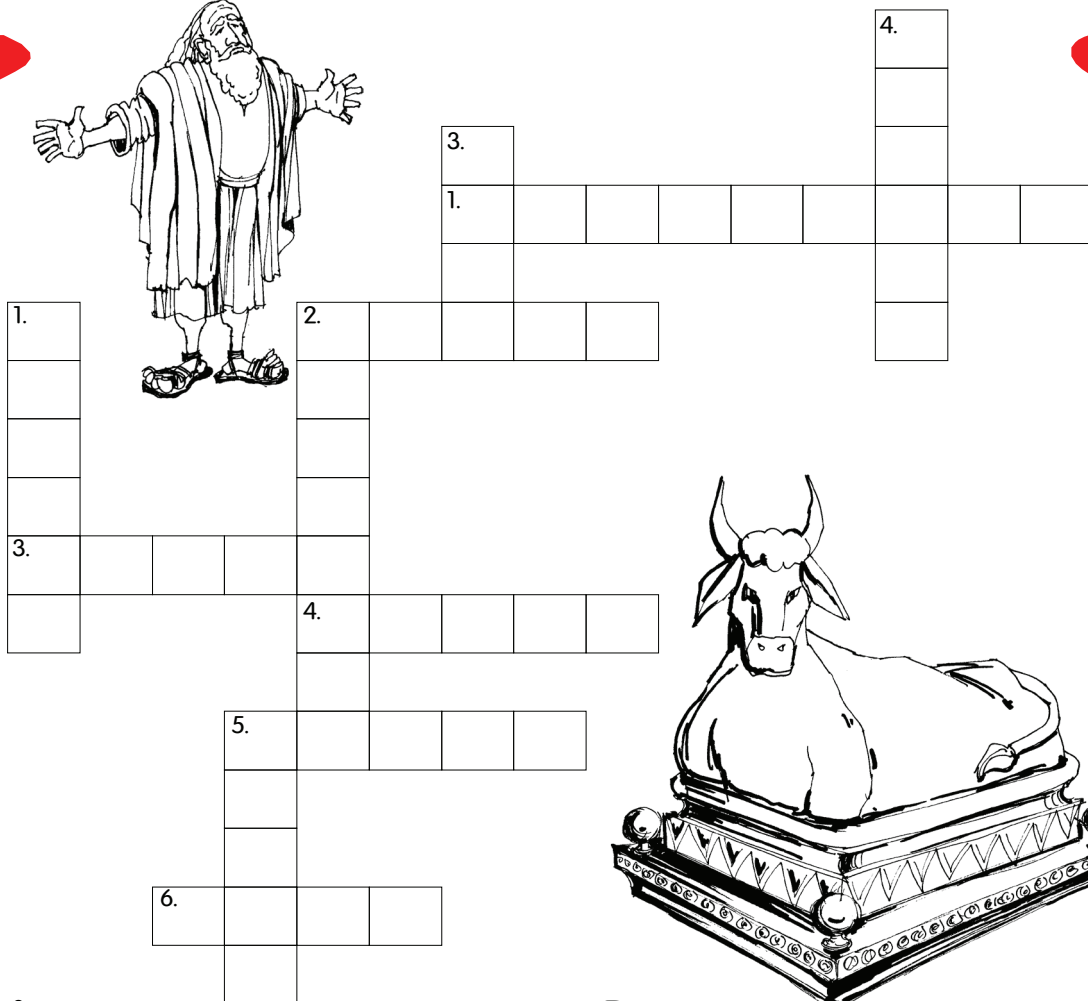
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- Children look up Bible verses to solve the crossword.

The golden calf

Activity B - Crossword



Across

1. The people brought _____ to the Lord. (Exodus 32:6).
2. _____ delayed coming down from the mountain. (Exodus 32:1).
3. God brought them out of the land of _____. (Exodus 32:1).
4. The people brought earrings to _____. (Exodus 32:3).
5. Moses was very _____. (Exodus 32:19).
6. Aaron made a golden _____. (Exodus 32:4).

Down

1. Moses _____ for the Lord to forgive the people's sins. (Exodus 32:31,32).
2. Moses was up the _____. (Exodus 32:1).
3. The people said, "make us _____." (Exodus 32:1).
4. The people _____ against the Lord. (Exodus 32:30).
5. Aaron built an _____. (Exodus 32:5).

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Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering

Numbers 13 - 14:10

Storyline

Moses sent twelve spies to spy out the land of Canaan. They returned after forty days. Ten spies reported that the land was good but that the people were giants and they could not take the land. Two spies, Joshua and Caleb, reported that God would give them the land. Because of their unbelief, the children of Israel had to wander in the wilderness for forty years.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Discuss the story of the twelve spies and the response of the ten as opposed to the response of Joshua and Caleb. Talk about what it means to believe God's word.
2. Show the way God blessed Joshua and Caleb and give some practical examples of how God blesses us when we are obedient - answers our prayers, gives us the fruit of the Spirit, changes us to be more like Him.

Theme One

"Believing God's word"

God had promised the land to the children of Israel. However, when the twelve spies went to spy out the land of Canaan, ten of them were frightened when they saw giants. Joshua and Caleb were not frightened. They knew that their God would look after them so they put all of their trust in Him. When we are sick or worried or frightened we can trust God just like Joshua and Caleb did. God blessed and honoured Joshua and Caleb for their faith and He blesses us with love, joy and peace in our hearts when we put our faith in Him.

Key Thought

God has made wonderful promises to us. He will fulfil these promises if we put our trust in Him.

Aim

To show the children that we can trust God to help us overcome any obstacle that stands in the way of His promise.

Memory Verse

"All things are possible to him who believes." (Mark 9:23).

Theme Two

"Our faith is tested"

As the spies went into the promised land, they discovered what they thought were powerful obstacles to their receiving what God had promised to give them. Yet God had sent them, so that they would know what was ahead, and could arm themselves in faith. What they saw became a real test of their faith, as to whether they would believe in the Lord's promise or not. The lack of faith of the ten, robbed them of God's promise. The two who believed entered into the promised land.

Key Thought

As our faith is tested through challenges and difficulties, one real enemy is our unbelief.

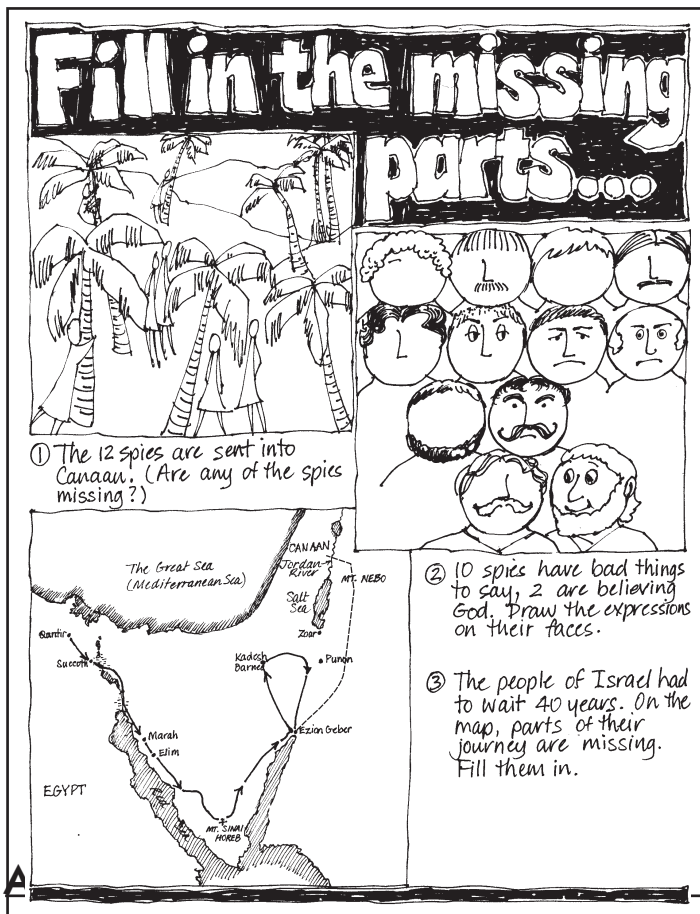
Aim

To help the children understand that when circumstances get difficult it does not mean God has left them. He allows these things to strengthen their faith in Him.

Memory Verse

"The testing of your faith produces patience." (James 1:3).

Activity A - Fill in the Missing Parts of the Drawing



Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pencils and colouring pencils.

Steps

- Children draw in the missing parts, then colour the pictures.

Materials

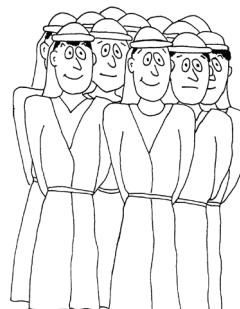
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps


- The children use the clues to help them fill in the missing dialogue.

Answer

- God will give us the land of Canaan even though there are giants.



Clues:

1. We trust Him.
2. Numbers 14:11. "The Lord said to Moses 'How long _____ these people reject Me?'"
3. Numbers 14:8. "He will bring us into this land and _____ it to us."
4.  H L
5. The name of the land God promised to Israel. (Numbers 13:2).
6. Opposite of odd.
7. Put 'oh' in thug.
8. Numbers 13:33. "We saw _____."

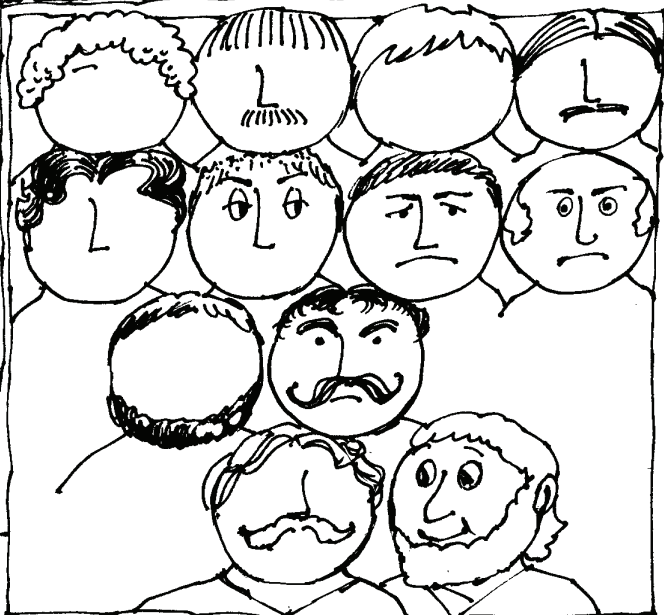
Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering

Activity A – Fill in the Missing Parts of the Drawing

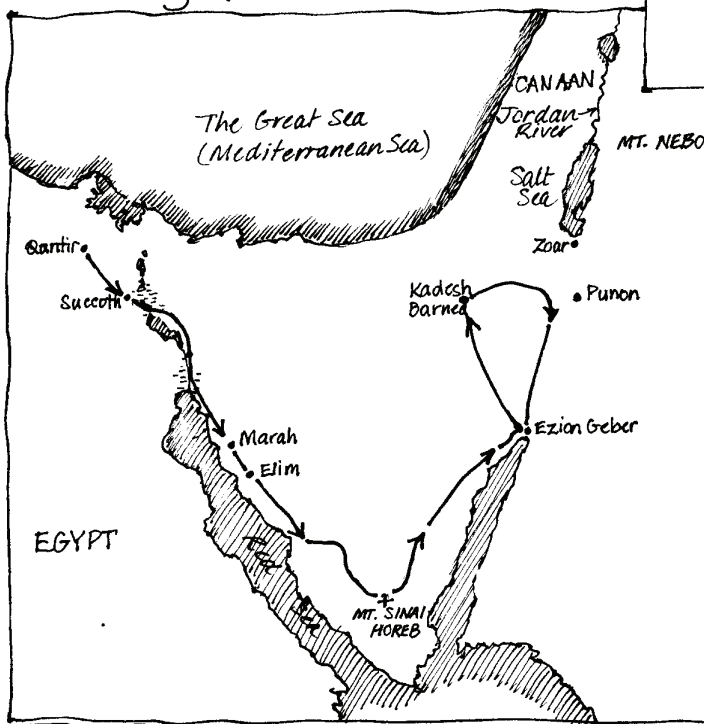
Fill in the missing parts...



① The 12 spies are sent into Canaan. (Are any of the spies missing?)



② 10 spies have bad things to say, 2 are believing God. Draw the expressions on their faces.



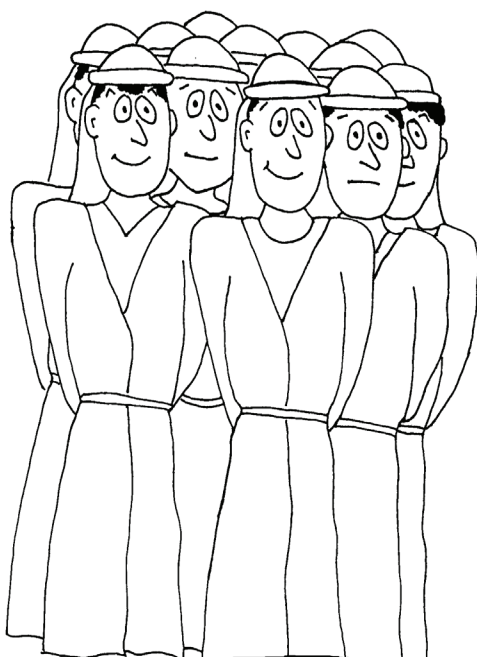
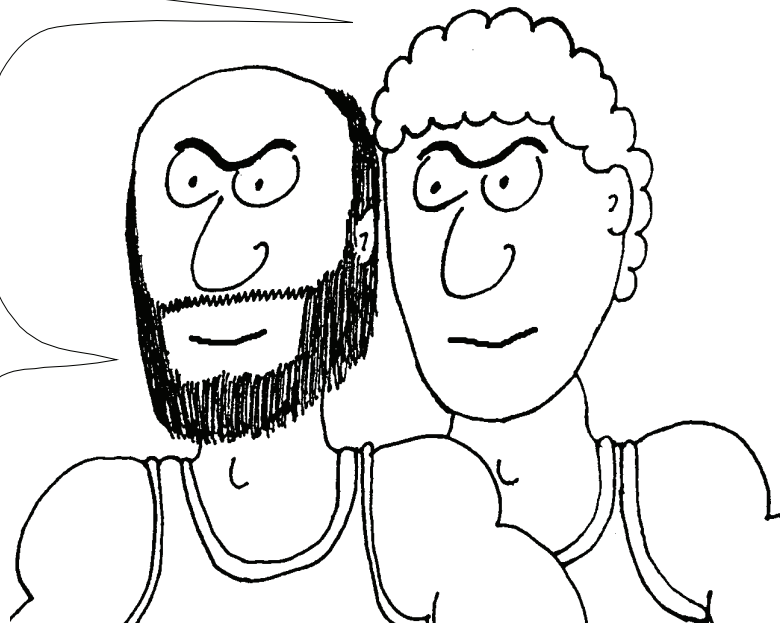
③ The people of Israel had to wait 40 years. On the map, parts of their journey are missing. Fill them in.

Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering


Activity B – Word Puzzle

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
- us the
4. _____ of
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
- there are
8. _____.

FIND OUT WHAT
JOSHUA AND CALEB ARE
SAYING TO THE PEOPLE!



Clues:

1. We trust Him.
2. Numbers 14:11. "The Lord said to Moses 'How long _____ these people reject Me?'"
3. Numbers 14:8. "He will bring us into this land and _____ it to us."
4.  H L
5. The name of the land God promised to Israel. (Numbers 13:2).
6. Opposite of odd.
7. Put 'oh' in thug.
8. Numbers 13:33. "We saw _____."

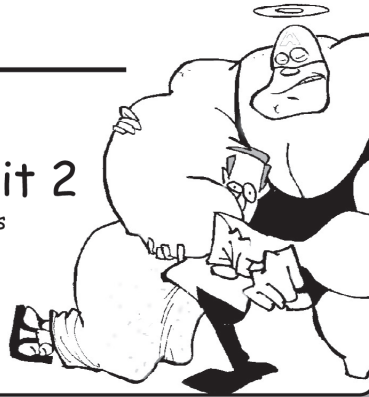
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Well Done!



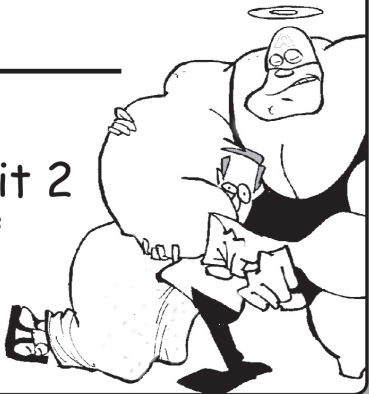
for completing
SonSeekers Unit 2
From Jacob to the 12 Spies



Well Done!



for completing
SonSeekers Unit 2
From Jacob to the 12 Spies



Sonseekers Curriculum

Unit One	Unit Two	Unit Three	Unit Four
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Creation 1 Creation 2 Adam and Eve The fall Cain and Abel Noah builds an ark The flood, Noah and his sons The tower of Babel Abram called, Abram and Lot The covenant with Abraham Ishmael and Isaac Sodom and Gomorrah The sacrifice of Isaac Rebekah, Isaac's bride Jacob and Esau Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob becomes Israel Joseph, the favourite son Joseph goes to Egypt Joseph interprets the dreams Joseph's brothers Israel in Egypt Israelite slaves, Moses born Moses flees and returns to Egypt "Let My people go" The first passover, Israel delivered Crossing the Red Sea Manna, water from the rock Sinai and the ten commandments Moses and the tabernacle The golden calf Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Aaron's rod Moses hits the rock The bronze serpent Balaam and his donkey Joshua and Rahab Crossing the Jordan, Jericho The sin of Achan The sun stands still Gideon's fleece Gideon and his army Samson Samson and Delilah Ruth, Naomi and Boaz Hannah Samuel hears God speak Eli, Hophni and Phinehas 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Saul chosen Saul and the Amalekites David chosen David and Goliath David and Jonathan David and Saul David crowned David and the ark Absalom Solomon becomes king Solomon's temple Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam Elijah and the widow Elijah on Mount Carmel Good King Jehoshaphat Elisha and the double portion
Unit Five	Unit Six	Unit Seven	Unit Eight
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The widow's oil, a boy raised Naaman Famine in Samaria Jonah The captivity of Israel (the northern kingdom) Hezekiah and Sennacherib Isaiah Josiah Jeremiah The captivity of Judah (the southern kingdom) Daniel interprets the king's dream The fiery furnace The writing on the wall Daniel in the lions' den Esther Restoration 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary and John The birth of Jesus Jesus in the temple John the Baptist Jesus baptised and tempted The call of the disciples Water turned to wine The temple cleansed, Nicodemus The woman at the well Healing of the paralysed man The house built on the rock Jesus stills the storm The feeding of the 5000 The centurion's servant Forgiveness in Simon's house The sower and the seed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jairus' daughter, a woman touches Jesus Jesus walks on the water Miracles of healing The transfiguration A boy is healed The unmerciful servant A man born blind The good Samaritan Prayer The raising of Lazarus The lost sheep, coin and son Attitudes of a servant The marriage of the king's son The ten lepers The ten virgins The talents 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Palm Sunday The last supper and Gethsemane The crucifixion The resurrection Peter restored The risen Christ and His ascension The day of Pentecost Peter and John Peter and the Gentiles Stephen Philip Paul's conversion Paul's first missionary journey Paul's second and third missionary journeys Paul's capture and imprisonment Paul's final journey

