

# Little Dwellers

## Light in the Darkness

### Week 3

Welcome to week 3 of Light in the Darkness. As you may have noticed over the past two weeks, there isn't "one right way" to spend time in the word within your home every day. You may find it best to do it over breakfast, right before bed, or even outside – enjoying the beautiful weather we had. It may be as simple as reaching for one of the children's bibles in place of another book. One of the things we've noticed is that the kids are grabbing The Beginner's Bible and asking for "more, more, more" stories. For week 3, we also included the stories from The Jesus Storybook Bible in case you find your Little Dweller wanting to hear more about God's word.

Please watch for the Little Dweller's weekly information to be loaded on our platforms. Be sure to stay in contact with The Dwelling:

1. Website: [www.thedwellingtx.org](http://www.thedwellingtx.org)
2. Facebook page: [The Dwelling TX](https://www.facebook.com/TheDwellingTX)
3. The Dwelling App: Download the ShareFaith App and Select "The Dwelling"
4. Email: [thedwellingtx@gmail.com](mailto:thedwellingtx@gmail.com)

# Topic: Exodus, God Delivers His People from Slavery

## Day 1 – A Baby in a Basket

- We will be mimicking Little Dwellers during our normal Sunday service. Please watch the video with your little dweller:  
<https://youtu.be/ZCC9Clgvij0> The images from The Beginner's Bible are listed on pages 5 – 7.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
  - What is a pharaoh? **He's the super important guy who's in charge**
  - What did Moses' mom put him in a basket and into the river? **She wanted to save him from the Pharaoh.**
  - Who found baby Moses in the river? **A princess from the palace – Pharaoh's daughter.**
- Craft: pages 26 – 27
- Song: <https://youtu.be/7GFH294pYFw>

## Day 2 – The Burning Bush

- Please watch the video with your little dweller:  
<https://youtu.be/j4rx-3BYBXs> The images are on pages 8 – 10.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
  - Who was talking to Moses through the burning bush? **God.**
  - Even though the bush was on fire, were the leaves burning? **No**
  - How do you think Moses felt when God told him to go talk to the mean Pharaoh? **Probably scared!**
- Coloring page: 28
- Song: <https://youtu.be/5PkMC7O1lq0>
  - Song motions: <https://vimeo.com/37776060>
- Optional reading page: 37

## Day 3 – Ten Plagues

- Ask your little dweller what yesterday's story was about.

- Please watch the video with your little dweller:  
<https://youtu.be/BJSlyL6E6iY> The images are on pages 11 – 14.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
  - Who sent the ten plagues to Egypt? **God**
  - Why did God send such bad things to Egypt? **God told Pharaoh to let God's people (the Israelites) out of Egypt, but Pharaoh kept saying no.**
  - Did Pharaoh finally let the Israelites free? **Yes**
- Activity page: 29
- Optional reading pages: 38 – 40

#### Day 4 – The Red Sea

- Please watch the video with your little dweller:  
<https://youtu.be/ayDT7hq14HA> The images are on pages 15 – 17.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
  - Why were the Israelites mad? **Pharaoh's army was chasing them and they didn't know what to do.**
  - What happened with Moses raised his staff? **The Red Sea opened and made a path for the Israelites to cross.**
  - After the Israelites crossed the Red Sea, how were they feeling? **So very happy! They were singing praises to God because God had set them free from the Pharaoh.**
- Crafts: pages 30 – 33
- Song: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=HboALKQxbNY>
- Optional reading pages: 41 – 44

#### Day 5 – Ten Commandments

- Please watch the video with your little dweller:  
<https://youtu.be/3hHo-F1BEo8> The images are on pages 18 – 19.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
  - What is another way to describe the ten commandments? **God's rules**

- Why did God give us rules? **Because he loves us, to keep us safe, and to teach us right from wrong.**
- Whenever the cloud moved, what did the Israelites do? **They followed the cloud.**

- Craft: 34
- Additional reading pages: 45 – 48

## Day 6 - Twelve Spies & Joshua and the Spies

- Please watch the video with your little dweller:  
<https://youtu.be/kbvhTuHTzOo> The images are on pages 20 – 23.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
  - Why were the Israelites scared of going into the promised land? **Because the people were big and strong.**
  - God punished the Israelites for not believing that God would take care of them. What was their punishment for not trusting in God? **God's people wandered in the desert for 40 years.**
  - Where did Rahab hide the men so they wouldn't get caught by Jericho's soldiers? **On her roof.**
- Coloring page: 35

## Day 7 – The Battle of Jericho

- Please watch the video with your little dweller:  
<https://youtu.be/xw9O1OdjSM0> The images are listed on pages 24 – 25 .
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
  - On day 7, how many times did the Israelites march around the city? **Seven**
  - What happened to Rahab and her family when the great walls of Jericho tumbled down? **Her whole family was saved**
- Craft: 36
- Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dpWJVyKjaRU&app=desktop>
- Additional reading pages: 49 – 52



## A Baby in a Basket

Exodus 1-2:10

Many years passed. A new pharaoh ruled over Egypt. He did not know about the good things Joseph had done. By now there were many people in Jacob's family. They were called *Israelites*.

92



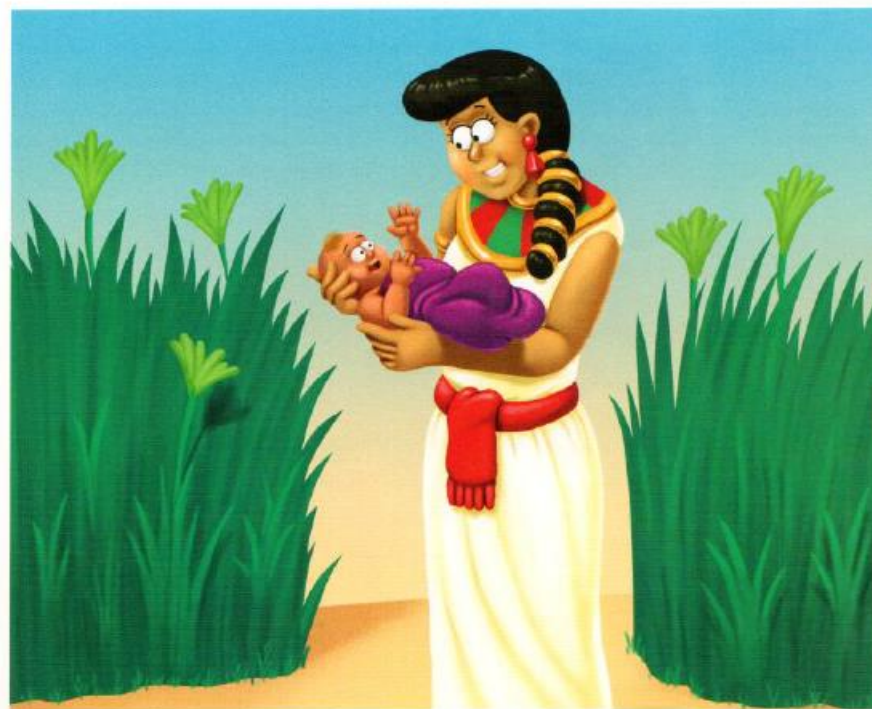
Pharaoh did not like the Israelites. He made them work hard. One day, Pharaoh decided to get rid of all the Israelite baby boys.

93





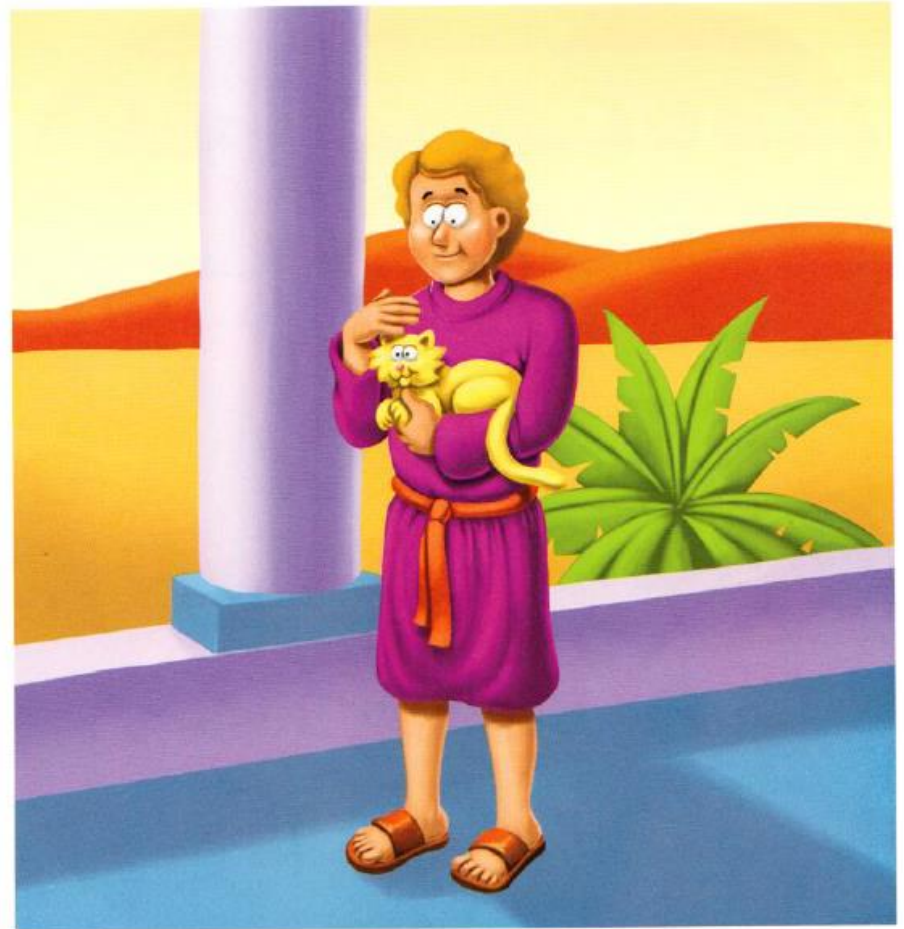
A woman named Jochebed had a baby boy. She wanted to save him. So she gently laid her baby inside a basket and placed him in the river. The baby started to cry.



Pharaoh's daughter saw the basket and opened it. She gently picked up the baby and hugged him. "I want to keep you," the princess whispered. She named him Moses because she pulled him out of the water.



Miriam, the baby's big sister,  
had been watching nearby.  
She said to the princess, "I know a woman  
who can help you take care of the baby."  
So Miriam ran to get her mother.  
Jochebed was so happy!



When Moses was a young boy,  
Jochebed returned him to the princess.  
He grew up in the palace.





## The Burning Bush

Exodus 3

When Moses was a man,  
he left the palace.  
Pharaoh was still being mean  
to the Israelites.  
Moses tried to protect them,  
so Pharaoh tried to kill Moses.

98



Moses escaped from Egypt.  
He went to a place called Midian  
and became a shepherd.

99





One day, while Moses was watching his sheep, he saw something strange. A bush was on fire, but it wasn't burning up. From inside the bush, God spoke, "Moses, bring my people out of Egypt. Take them to a new land that I will show you. This new land is called Canaan."

100

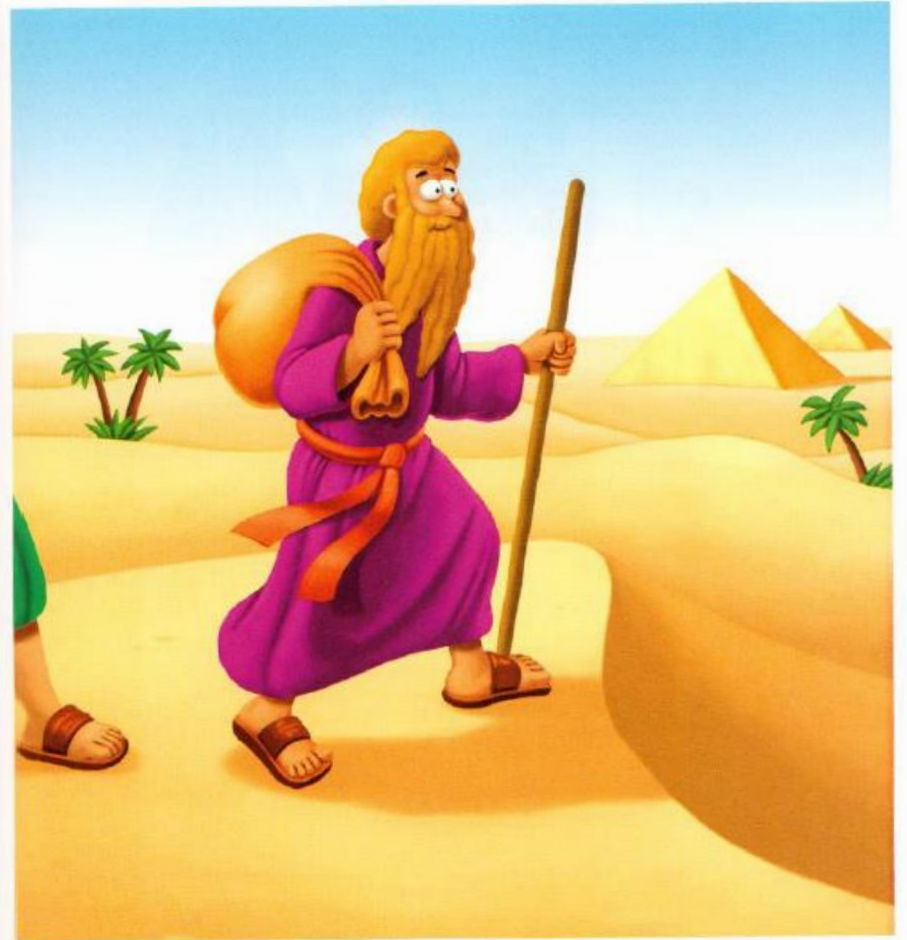


Moses was worried that Pharaoh would not listen. God told Moses to throw his staff on the ground. When he did, the staff became a snake! God told Moses to reach down and grab the snake. It became a staff again! God said, "I will use signs like this to show Pharaoh I have sent you."

101

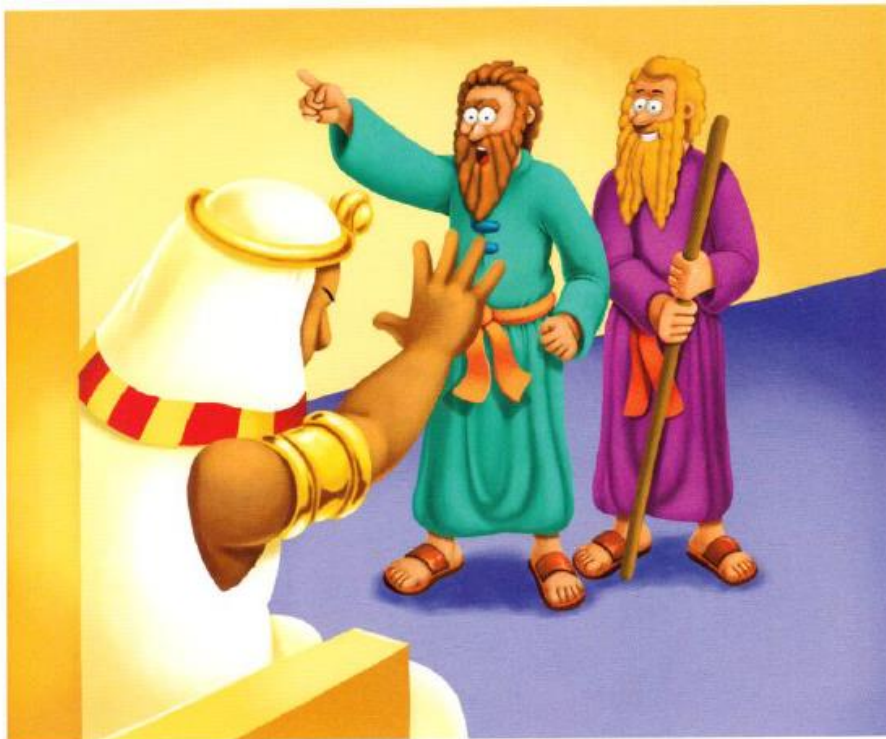


“But I cannot speak very well,”  
complained Moses.  
God said, “Do not worry.  
Your brother Aaron is a good speaker.  
I will send him with you.”



So Moses returned with Aaron to Egypt.  
When they arrived, Moses told the  
Israelites what God had said.





## Ten Plagues

Exodus 7-12

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh's palace. They said, "You must let the Israelites go free. If you do not, God will punish you."

104



Pharaoh said, "No! I do not know your God!" Then he made the Israelites work even harder.

105





God was not pleased.  
So he changed the main river to blood.  
Pharaoh did not care. "I will never  
let the Israelites go," he said.

106



Then God sent frogs to Egypt.  
They were sitting in chairs, hopping up  
stairs, and jumping all over the beds.  
Pharaoh said, "Take the frogs away, and  
I will let your people go."  
So God took the frogs away.

107



But Pharaoh changed his mind  
and said, “No.”  
God sent more plagues on Egypt.  
First were the pesky gnats.  
Then came a frenzy of flies.  
Next, all the animals got sick.  
Then the Egyptians’ skin broke  
out in sores.



Damaging hailstorms came,  
and then swarms of locusts ate the crops.  
Then darkness covered everything.  
Sometimes Pharaoh said he would  
let the people go.  
But after God took away each plague,  
Pharaoh changed his mind and said, “No.”





Moses had one last message from God  
for Pharaoh: “If you do not let my  
people go, the firstborn son in each  
Egyptian family will die.”  
Pharaoh refused to listen.  
So God kept his promise.  
Pharaoh finally said, “Go now!”





## The Red Sea

Exodus 14

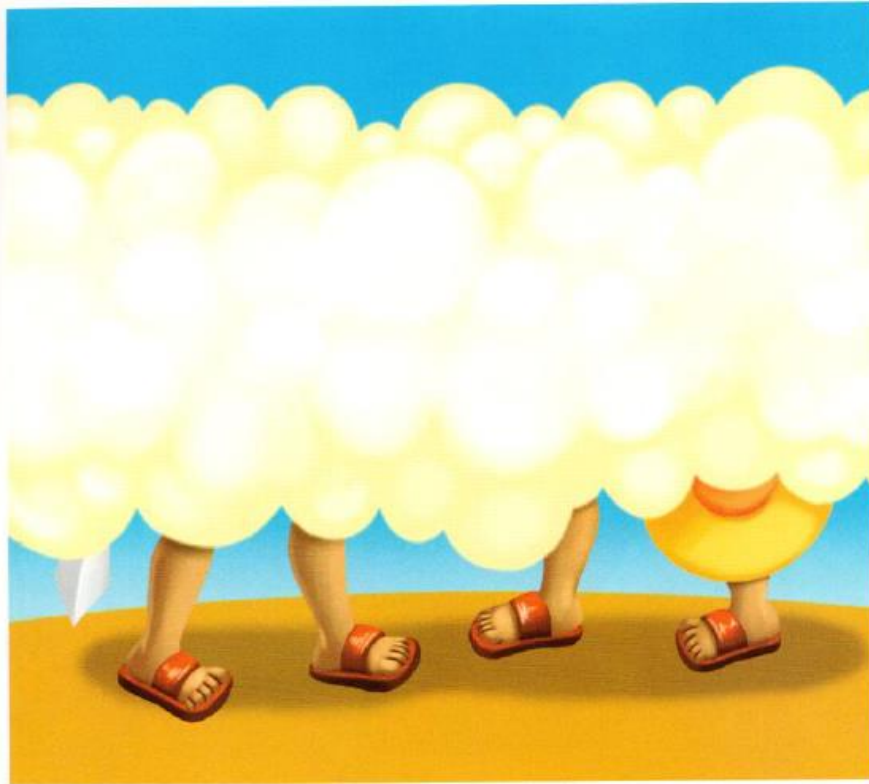
Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt.  
During the day, God went ahead of them  
in a pillar of cloud. During the night,  
God went ahead of them in a pillar of fire.

111



God led the Israelites to the  
edge of the Red Sea.  
Pharaoh and his army were close behind.  
The Israelites did not know what to do.

112



They screamed, “We are trapped!  
What have you done to us, Moses?”  
Moses said, “Do not be afraid.  
God will protect us.” God’s cloud came  
between the Israelites and Pharaoh’s army.  
They could not see anything!

113



God told Moses, “Raise your staff  
over the sea.” Then the Lord pushed  
back the sea to make a path.  
Moses and the Israelites followed the path  
through the sea and to the other side.  
But Pharaoh’s army followed close behind.

114





Moses raised his staff again, and  
the sea swept away Pharaoh and his army.  
Moses and all the Israelites sang praises  
to God. They were free!  
They weren't slaves anymore!





## Ten Commandments

Exodus 19–20

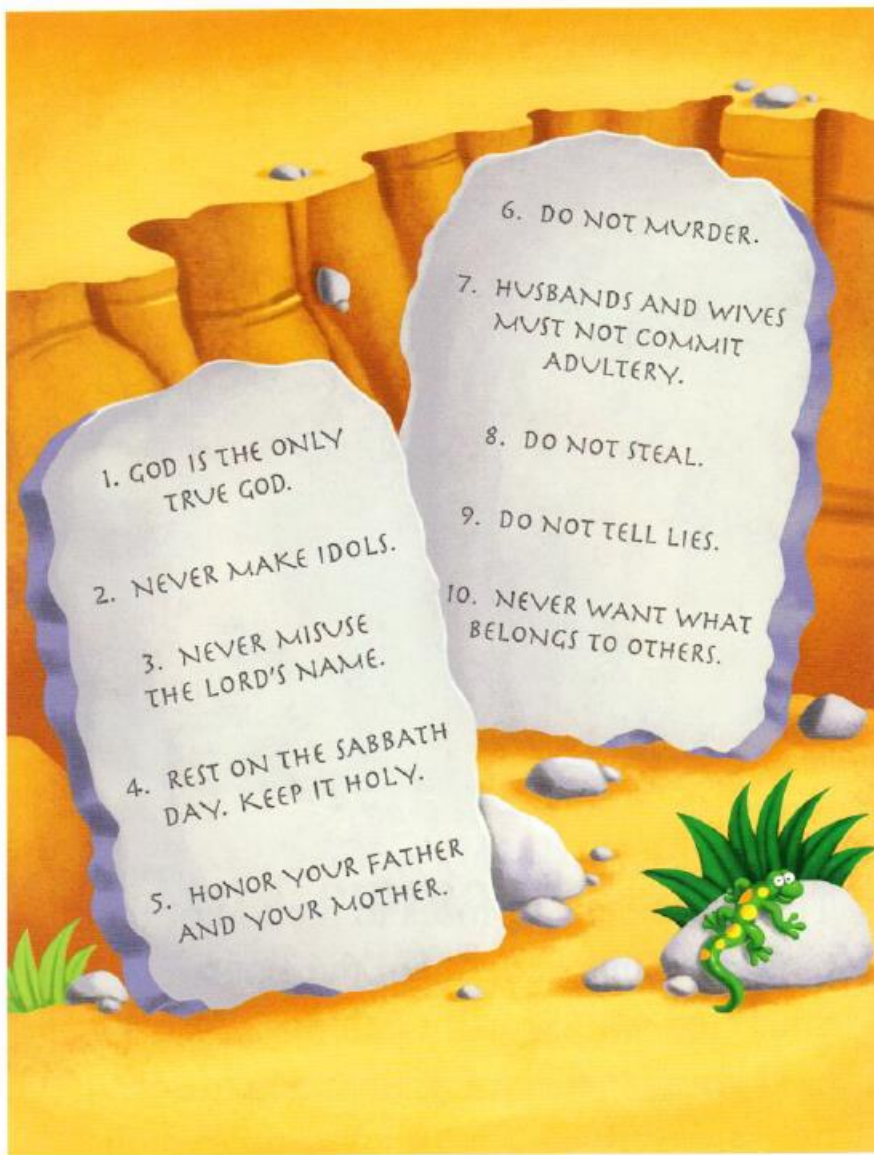
God led the Israelites to a mountain.  
Thunder roared and lightning flashed.  
The people heard a loud trumpet blast.

120



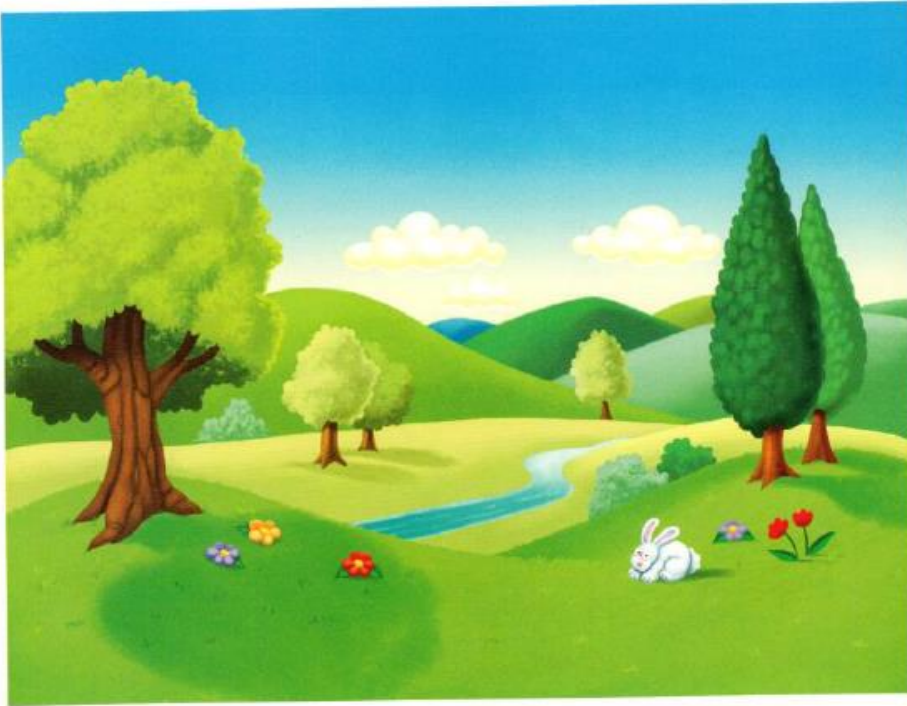
Then God called Moses to the top of the  
mountain and said, “I am the LORD  
your God who brought you out of Egypt.”  
God wrote the Ten Commandments on  
two stone tablets for all his people to obey.

121



The Israelites needed a place to worship. God showed them exactly how to build a special tent. It was called a *tabernacle*. God placed a cloud over the tent. Whenever the cloud moved, the Israelites packed up and followed it.





## Twelve Spies

Numbers 13

Finally, the Israelites arrived near the promised land. God told Moses to send spies there. Moses picked 12 men. He told them, "Find out what the people are like. See if the land is good."

124



The spies returned and said,  
"The land is beautiful.  
It is filled with plenty of food!  
But the people there are big and strong!"

125

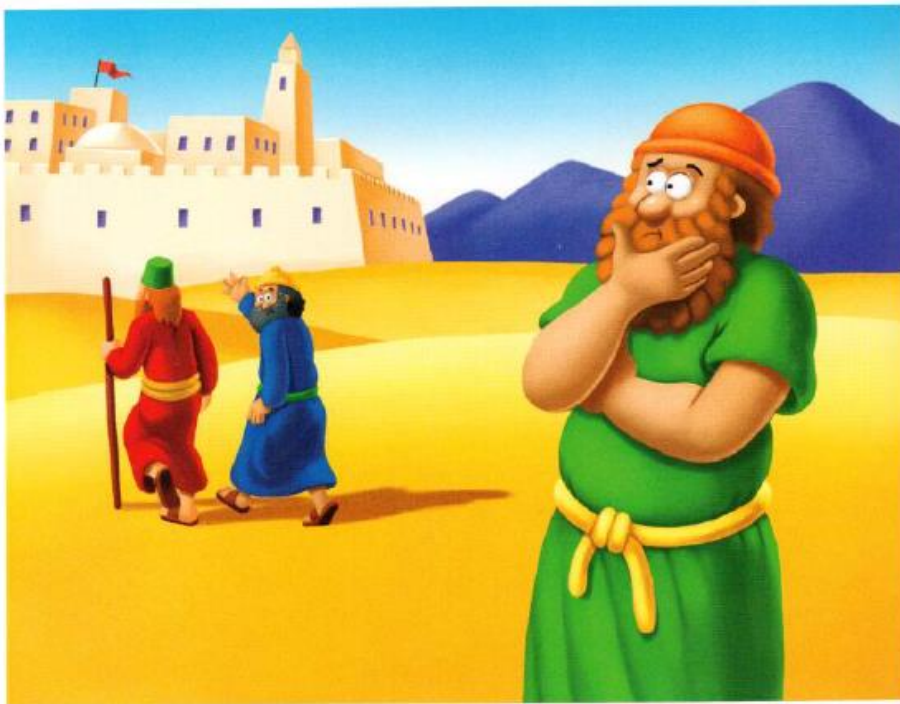




Joshua and Caleb said, “Do not worry.  
God has promised us this land.  
He will give it to us.”



The rest of the Israelites did not  
agree with Joshua and Caleb.  
Then God said to Moses,  
“The people do not have faith in me.  
They cannot enter the land.”  
So for the next 40 years,  
God’s people wandered in the desert.



## Joshua and the Spies

Joshua 2

After Moses died, Joshua became the leader of the Israelites. God led them into the promised land. He led them to a city called Jericho. The city was protected by high walls.

128



Still, two spies found a way into the city. They went to Rahab's house. The king of Jericho ordered his soldiers to capture the men.

129





Rahab hid the men on her roof.  
When the soldiers arrived, she said,  
“The spies have already gone.  
If you hurry, you may catch them.”  
So the soldiers ran off to find them.

130



“Thank you for helping us,” the spies  
told her. “When we come back,  
we promise to save you and your family.”  
Then Rahab helped the spies escape.

131



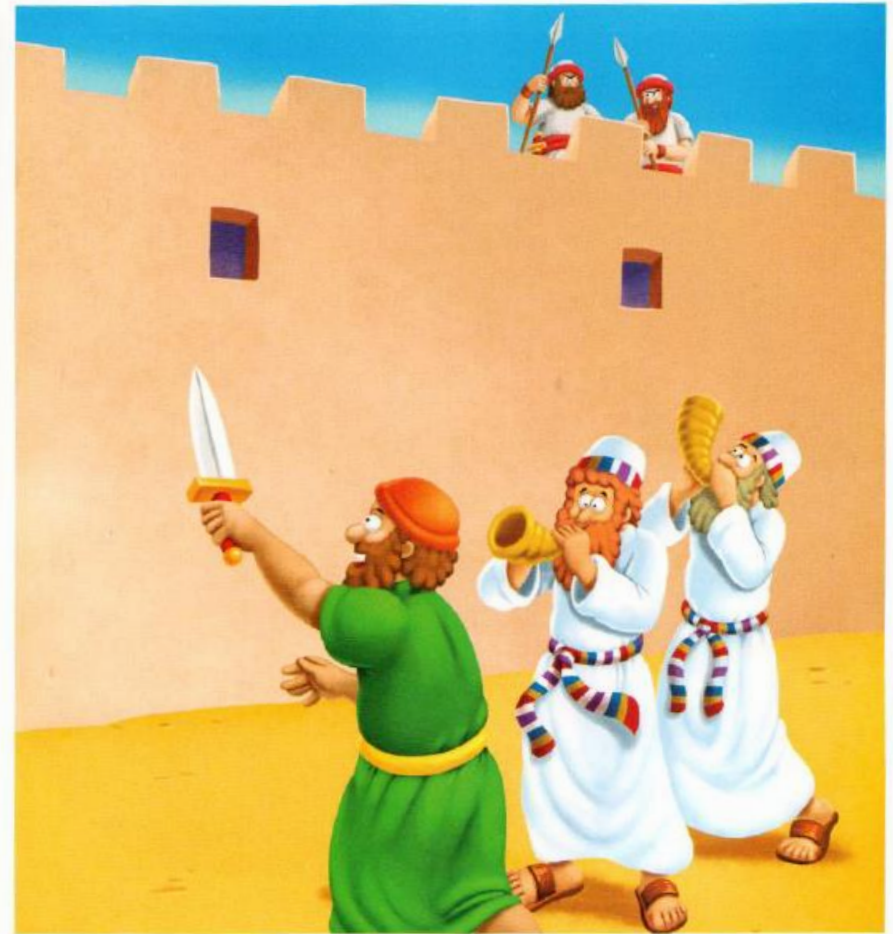


## The Battle of Jericho

Joshua 6

After the spies were safely home,  
God told Joshua,  
“March your army around Jericho  
with the *priests* blowing their horns.  
Do this once a day for six days.

132



“On the seventh day, have your army  
march around the city seven times.”  
Joshua did exactly as God said.

133



The priests blew their trumpets.  
The soldiers shouted as loud as they could.  
Then the great walls of Jericho  
came tumbling down!

134



The Israelite army rushed in  
and took over the city.  
The spies kept their promise to Rahab.  
Her whole family was saved!

135

# Baby Moses Craft

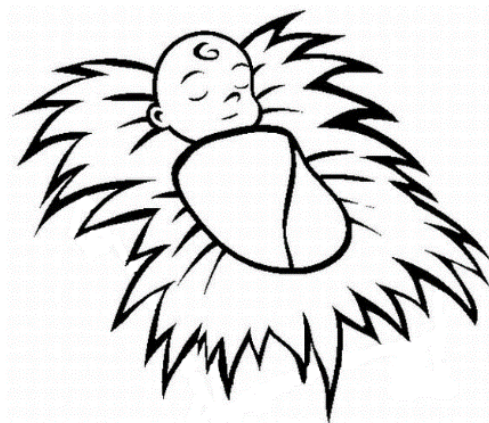
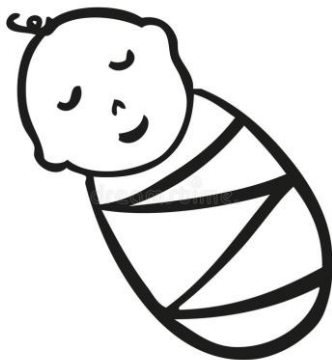
## Materials:

- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- River printout (below)
- Baby Moses printout (below)
- 1 cupcake liner
- Glue stick

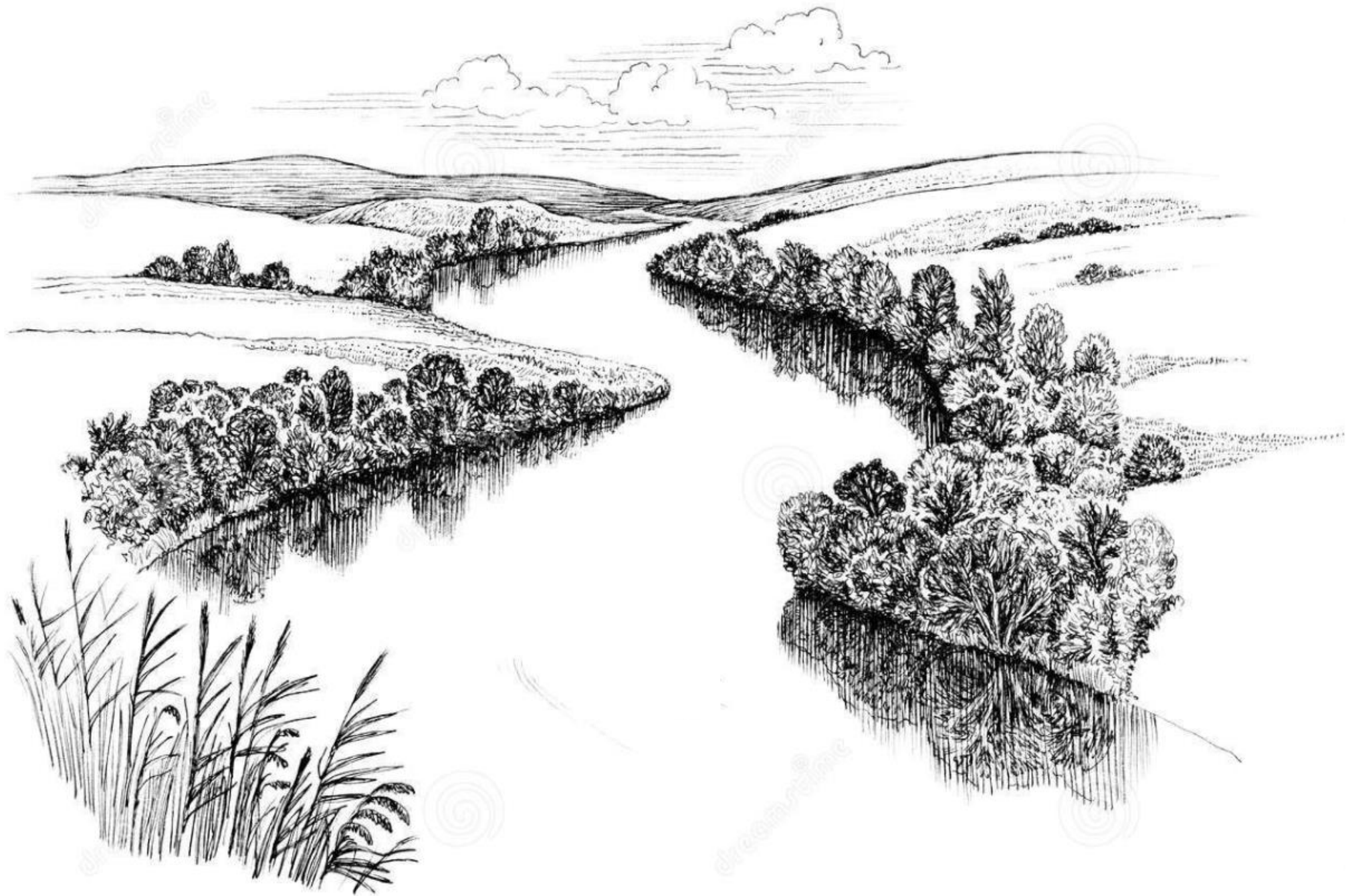
## Instructions

- Print out baby Moses and the river
- Cut out baby Moses
- Color baby Moses and the river
- Glue baby Moses into the cupcake liner
- Glue the cupcake liner into the river

Choose your baby Moses:

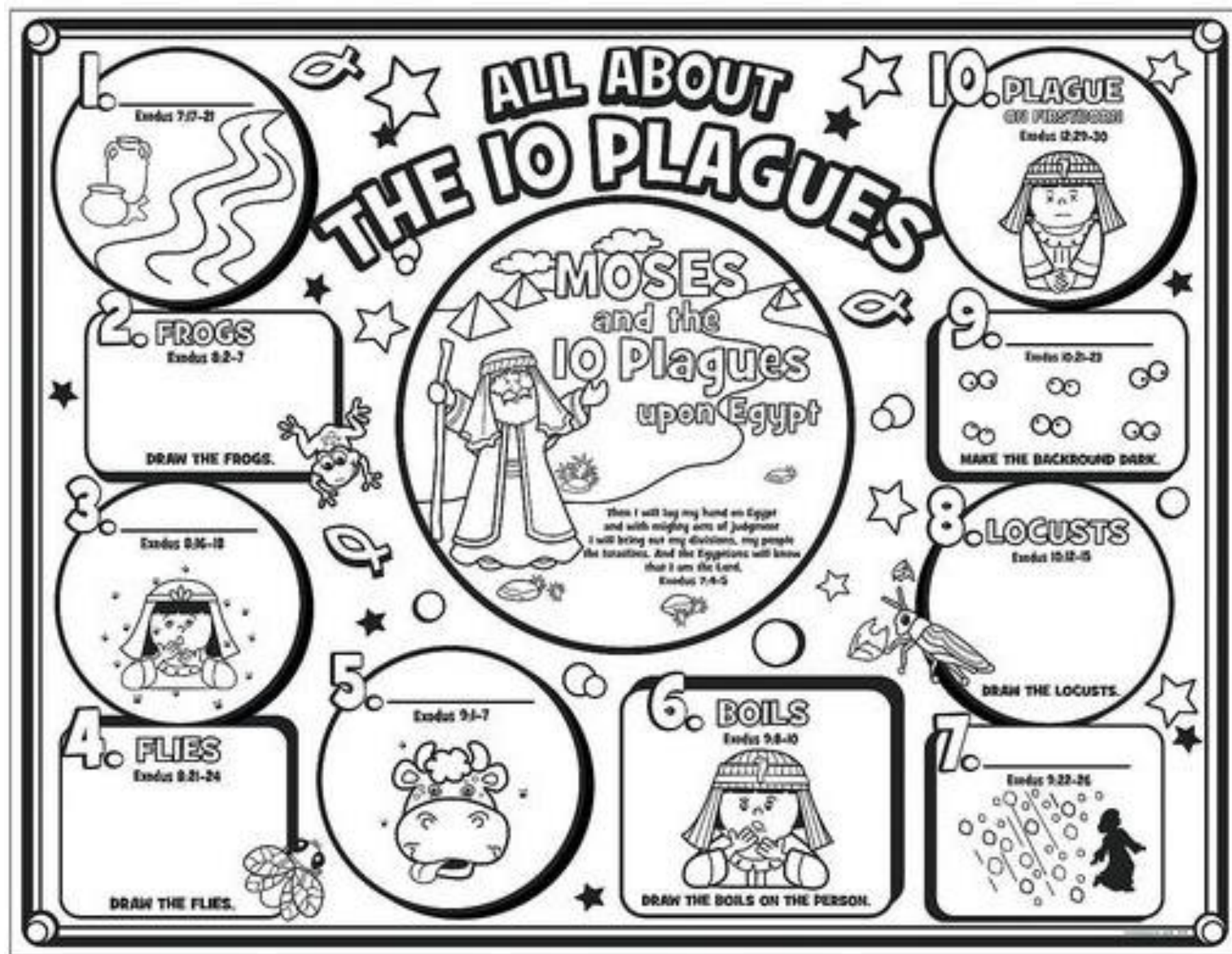






Jochebed gently laid her baby inside a basket and placed him in the river. The baby started to cry. Pharaoh's daughter saw the basket and opened it. She gently picked up the baby and hugged him. "I want to keep you," the princess whispered.







# Moses' Special Staff



## Materials:

- 2 paper towel rolls per child (or one long roll from gift wrap)
- several different colors of finger paint (I just used the basic six)
- a LARGE sheet of paper per child
- a smock for each child

## Instructions:

- Tape the paper to the table and smock the kids
- Give each child a small dollop of paint in each color; put the dollops in a row
- Give each child a paper towel roll and have them finger paint it, if they would like.
- Then roll the paper towel roll over the paint on the paper to rub the colors together.
- Repeat with the second paper towel roll.
- Let the rolls dry overnight, then tape them together to make a staff (I used masking tape and put their names on the tape)



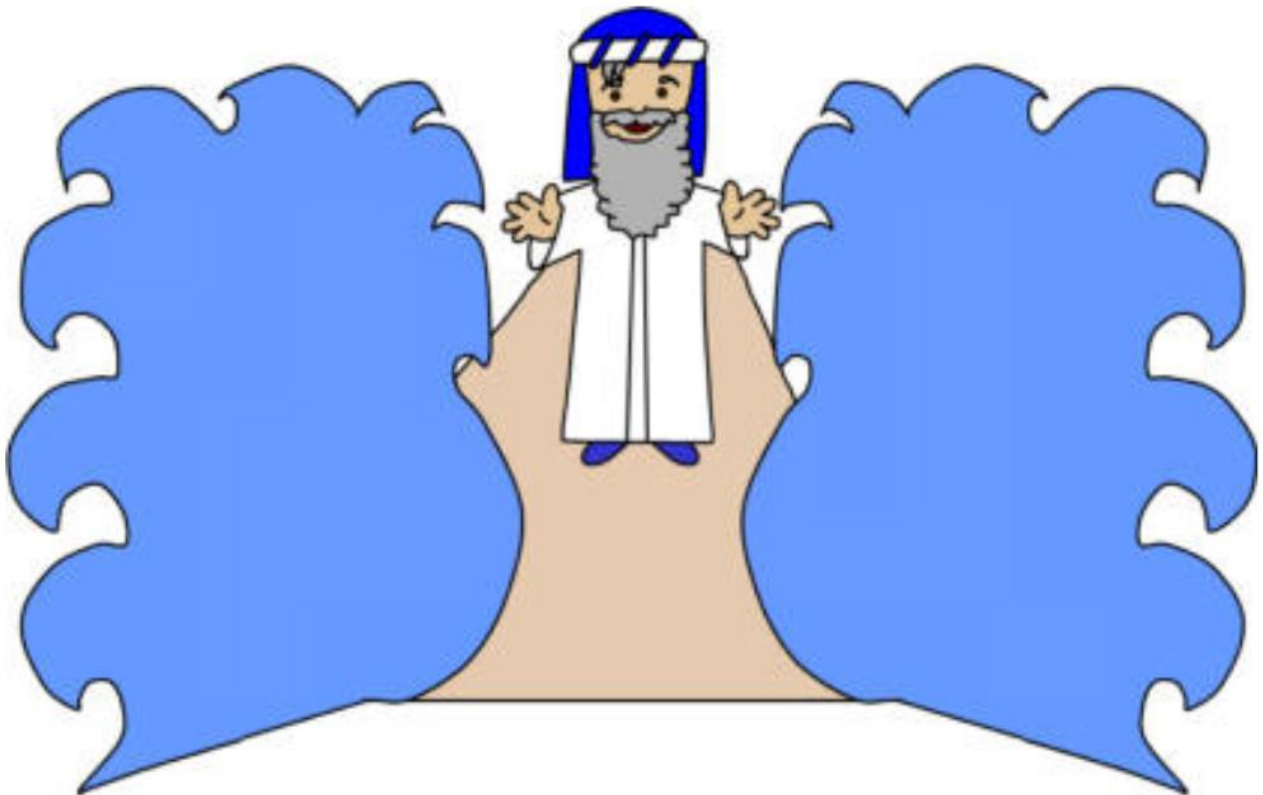
# Moses and the Red Sea

## Materials:

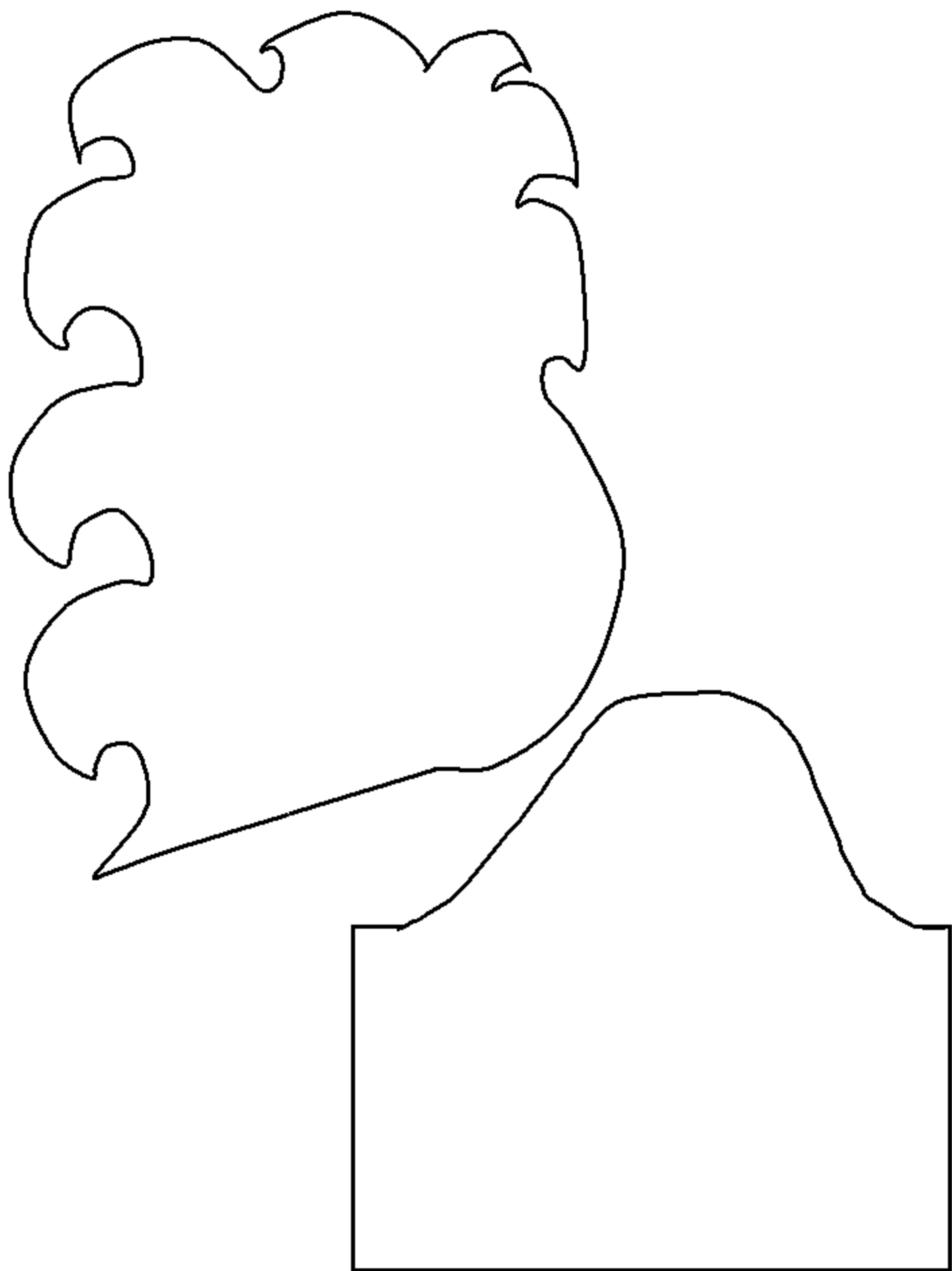
- Paper & printer
- Scissors
- Glue
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers

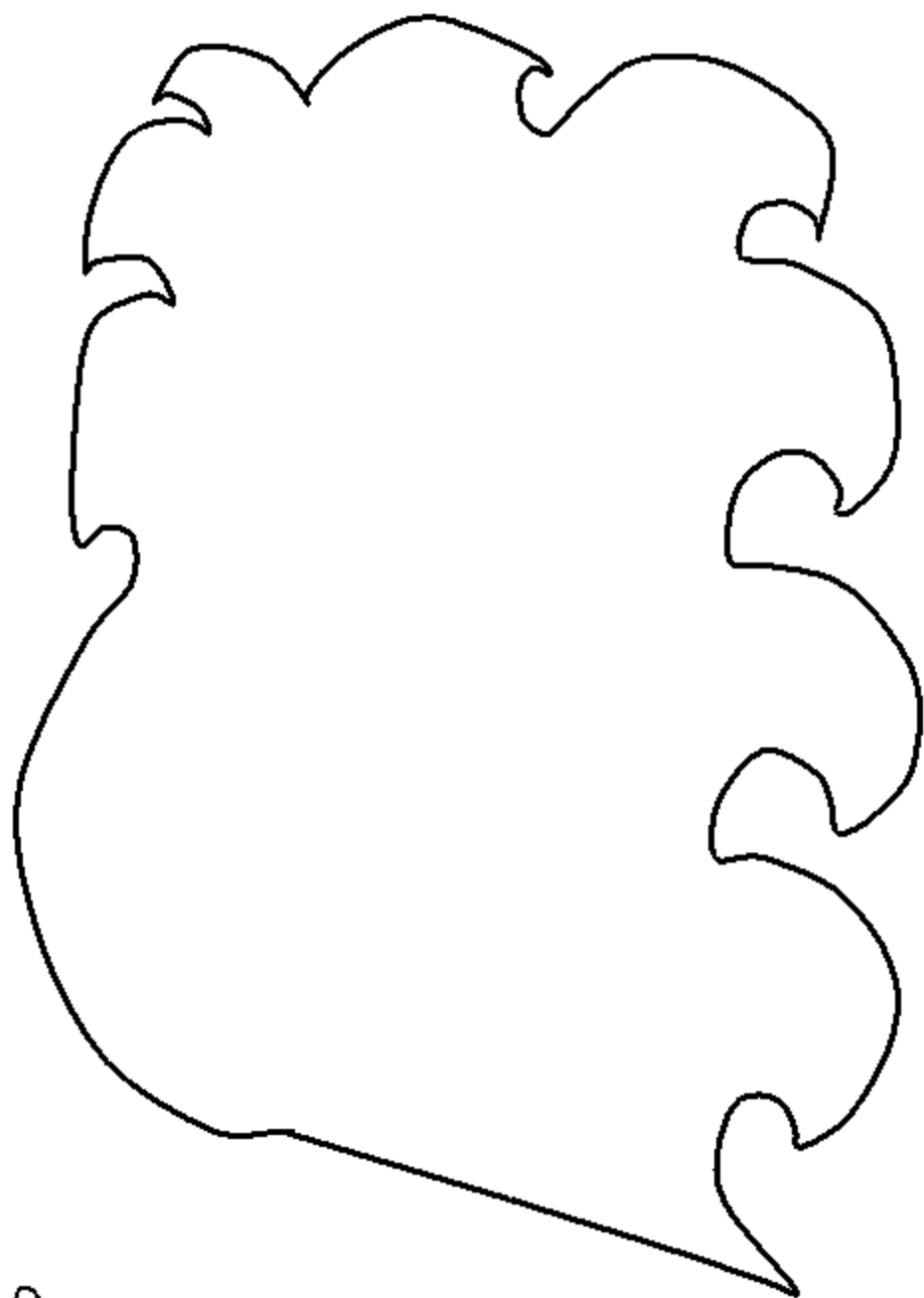
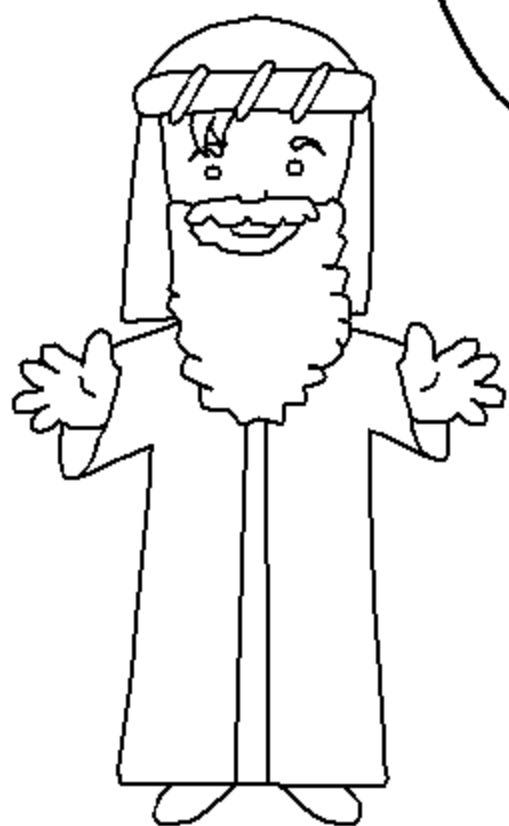
## Instructions:

- Print out the templates below.
- Color all of the pieces and cut them out.
- Assemble the paper craft:
  - Glue Moses on top of the hill
  - Glue the waters onto either side of the hill









Finished Craft





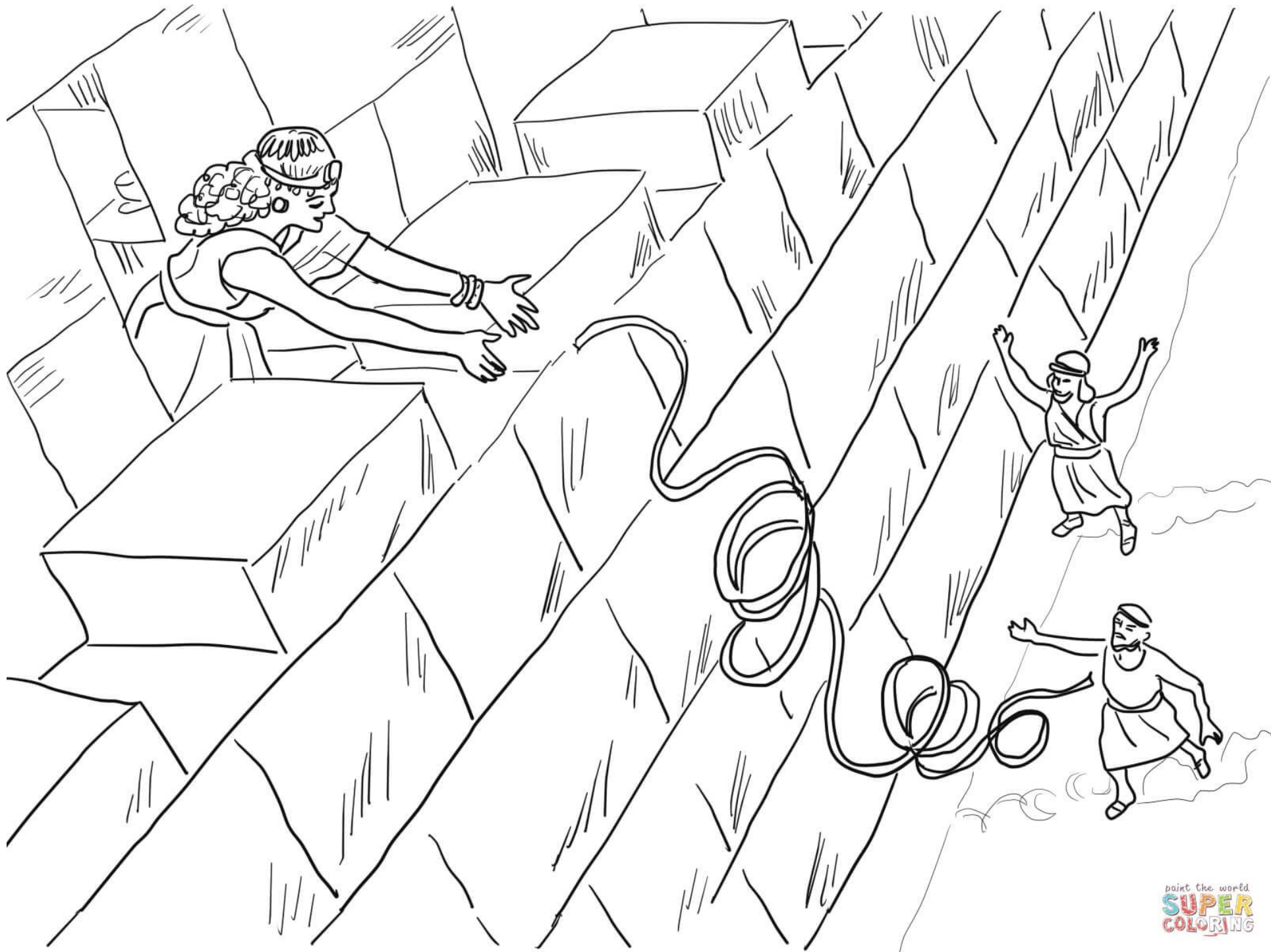
# Parchment Commandments

## Materials:

- Cold coffee or tea (about 1/2 cup),
- White paper,
- Blow-dryer,
- Markers.

## Instructions:

- Take a piece of nice white paper and rip off all the edges (don't cut them with scissors, rip them!) If you rip the paper a bit more than you meant to, it's not the end of the world.
- Crumple the paper up as tightly as you can into a ball.
- Flatten the paper out again and put onto a plate or cookie sheet.
- Pour coffee or tea over the paper. Swoosh around with your hands to make sure it covers everything.
- Let it sit for about 5 minutes
  - During this time, you can brainstorm on a white board or large piece of paper to come up with the 10 commandments in more modern language.
- Pour the coffee or tea off into the sink.
- Blow dry with a hand held blow dryer on high for about 5 minutes (leave it sitting on the plate while blow-drying or it will tear to pieces). When it's pretty dry (and starts to lift a bit) switch the blow dryer to low to finish off (about another 2 minutes).
- Have the children write out the modernized 10 commandments on their parchment (or use the original ones if that is your preference).





# Easy Trumpet Music Craft

## Materials:

- Toilet paper roll
- Yellow or gold paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- 3 buttons

## Instructions:

- Trace and cut out 2 funnel shaped pieces from yellow or gold paper. The long part should match the length of the toilet paper roll.
- Glue the 2 pieces around the toilet paper roll and glue the ends together to make a 3D horn shape.
- Glue on 3 buttons on the top.



## Optional reading from The Jesus Storybook Bible

### God to the rescue!

*Moses and the Great Escape from Egypt, from Exodus 3 – 13*

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS grew old and died, but their children's children stayed on in Egypt where they became a very LARGE family.

Later on, a new king began to rule, but this pharaoh didn't remember Joseph and he didn't like God's people. He made them into his slaves and beat them and made them work harder and harder.

God's people cried out to God to rescue them.

And God heard them. He remembered his promise to Abraham. He would look after his people. He would find a way to set them free.

One day, Moses was looking after sheep when something caught his eye: a bush was behaving very oddly — it was flickering with flames, but its leaves weren't burning up. He took a closer look.

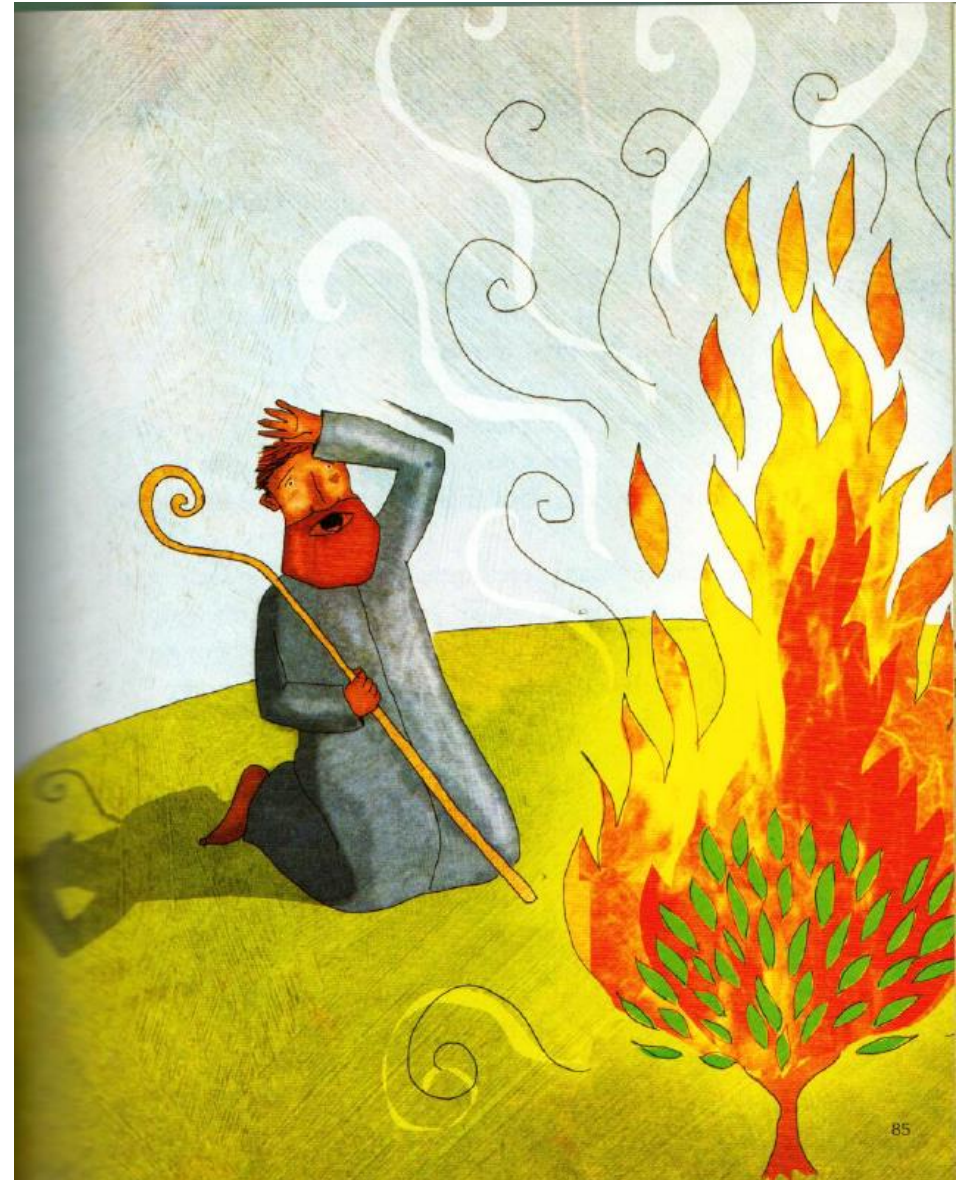
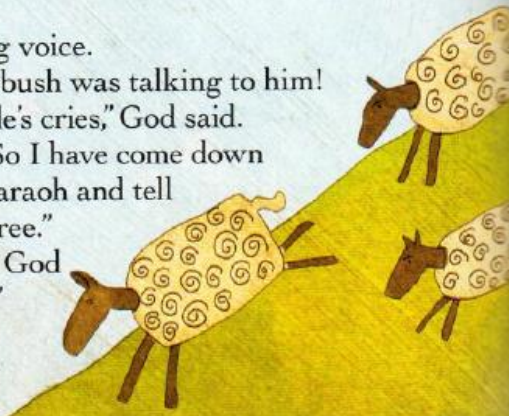
"Moses!" boomed a big voice.

Moses leapt back. The bush was talking to him!

"I have heard my people's cries," God said.

"I have seen their tears. So I have come down to rescue them. Go to Pharaoh and tell him to let my people go free."

Moses was afraid. But God said, "I will be with you."







So Moses went to Pharaoh.  
"Pharaoh," Moses began, "God says —"  
"God?" said Pharaoh. "Never heard of him."  
Moses kept going. "God says, let his people go free."  
"Why should I?" Pharaoh said. "Don't want to.  
WON'T!" So he didn't.

So God gave Pharaoh ten warnings, called "Plagues."

First, God turned the River Nile into blood. No one could drink the water. But still Pharaoh would not let them go.

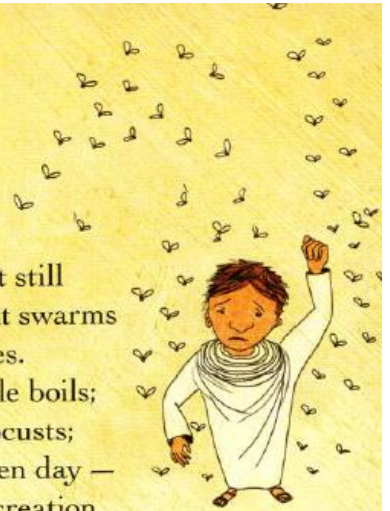
So God made frogs come hopping and leaping and jumping. In your bed frogs, in your hair frogs, in your soup frogs, all over everywhere frogs! "Make them go away!" Pharaoh screamed. "Then your people can go." So God took the frogs away.



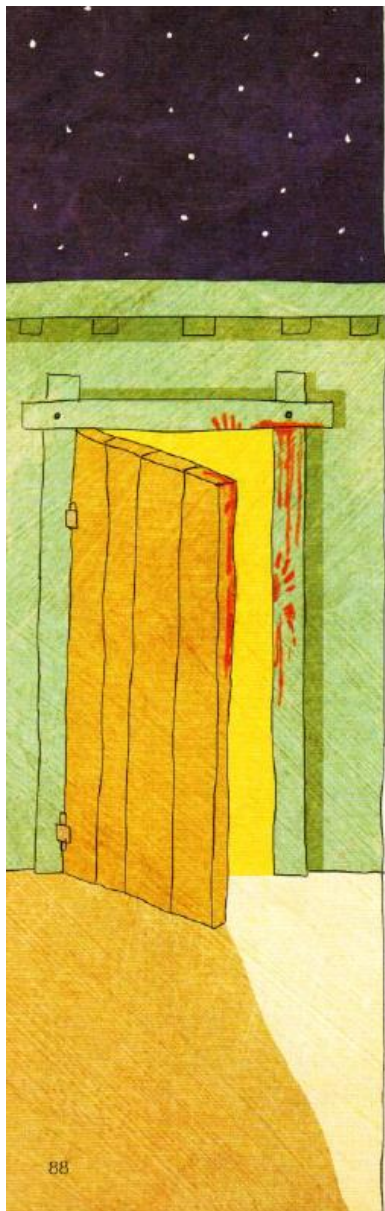
But Pharaoh changed his mind.  
"You can't go!" he said.

Then God sent zillions of gnats. But still Pharaoh said, "NO!" So then God sent swarms of flies — flies buzzing in your eyes flies.

And after that, sickness; and horrible boils; and huge hailstones; and a storm of locusts; then darkness when it should have been day — until it seemed that the whole world, creation and everything, was coming undone, falling back into darkness. And emptiness. And nothingness.





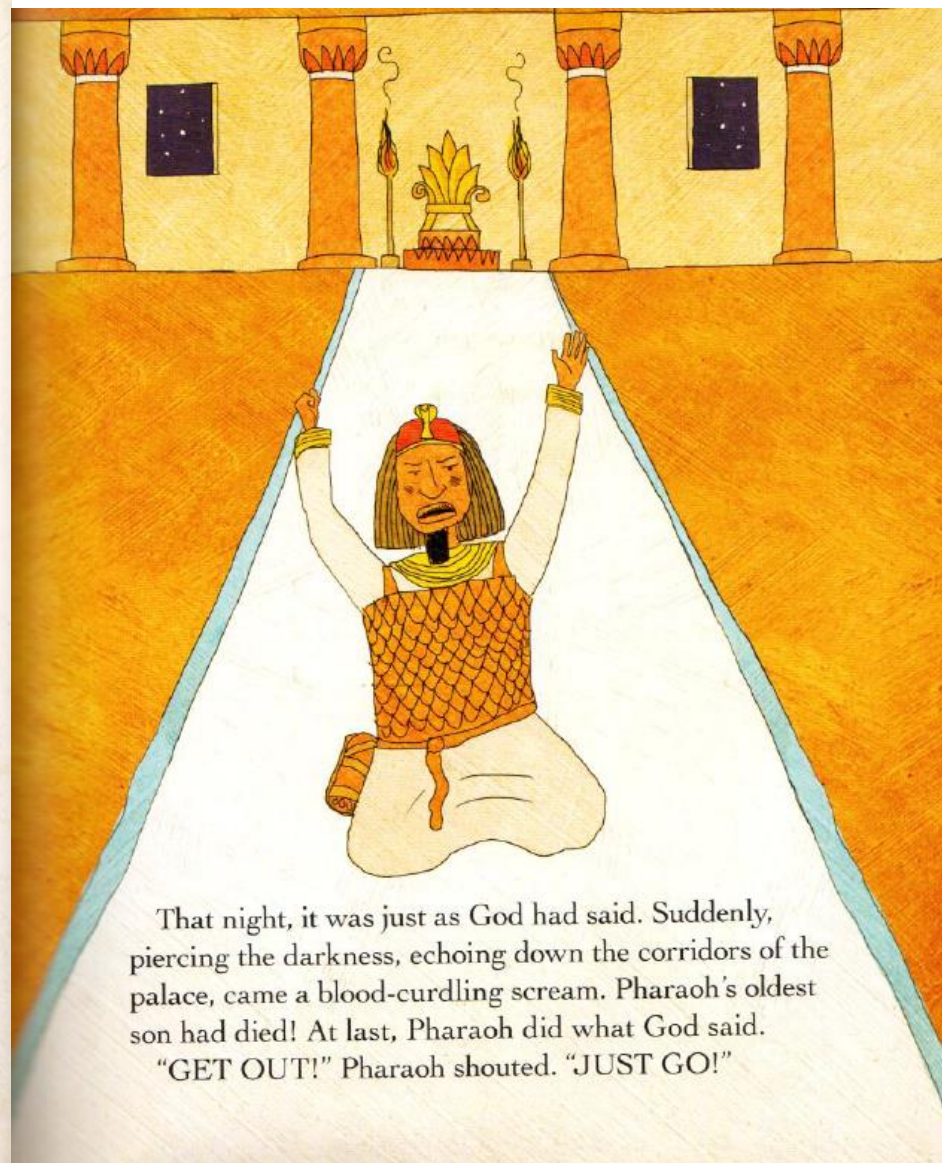


But each time Pharaoh said, "Make it stop and then I'll let them go!" And each time when God made it stop, Pharaoh changed his mind and said, "Actually, NO! You can't go!"

Finally, Moses warned Pharaoh, "Obey God or he will have to send the worst thing of all." Pharaoh just laughed.

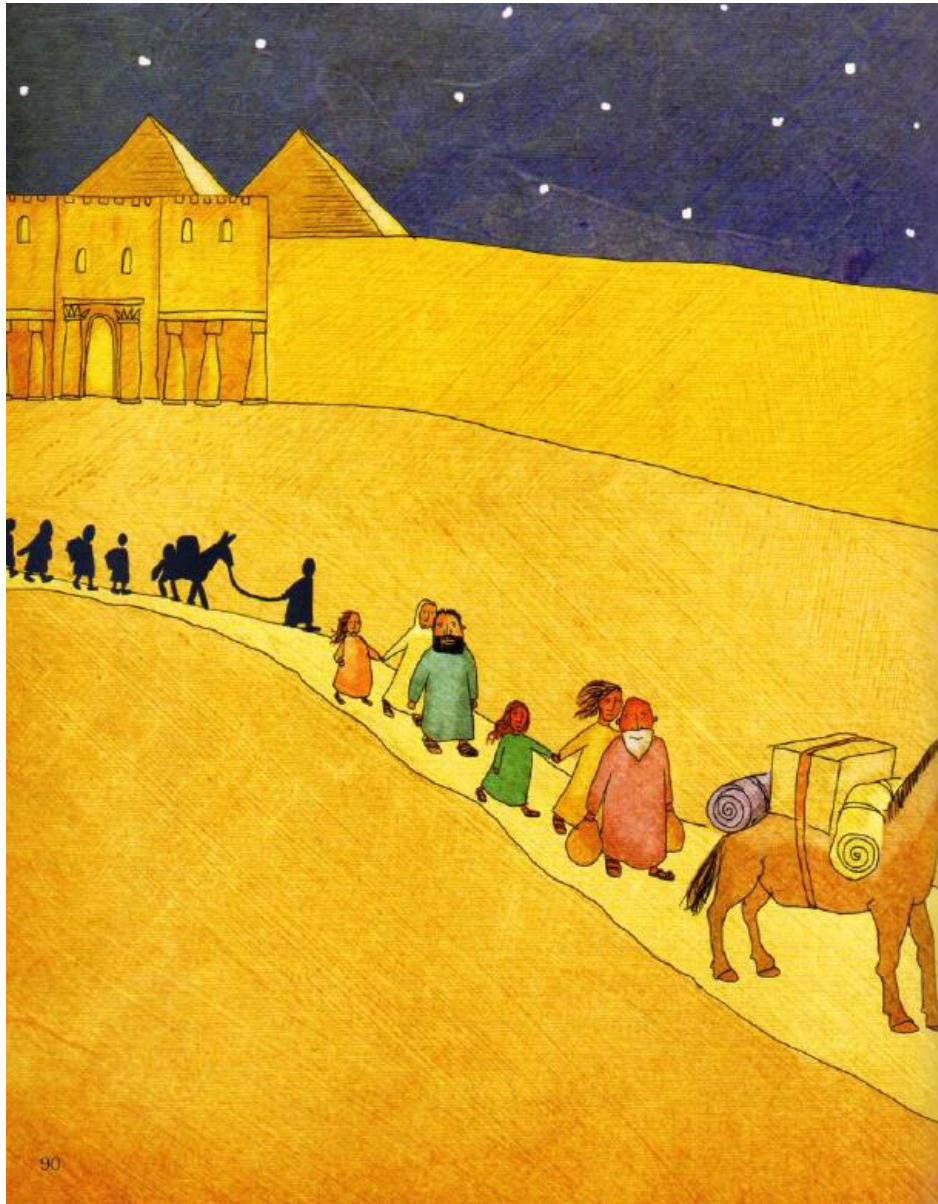
So God said, "The oldest boy in each family of Egypt must die. But my people will be safe."

God told his people to take their best lamb, to kill it and to put some of its blood on their front doors. "When God passes over your house," Moses explained, "God will see the blood and know that the lamb died instead of you."



That night, it was just as God had said. Suddenly, piercing the darkness, echoing down the corridors of the palace, came a blood-curdling scream. Pharaoh's oldest son had died! At last, Pharaoh did what God said. "GET OUT!" Pharaoh shouted. "JUST GO!"





And so, that very night, Moses and God's people fled out of Egypt and out of slavery. They were free at last!

God's people would always remember this great rescue and call it "Passover." But an even Greater Rescue was coming.

Many years later, God was going to do it again. He was going to come down once more to rescue his people. But this time God was going to set them free forever and ever.





## God makes a way

*Moses and the Red Sea,  
from Exodus 14-15*



MOSES AND GOD'S people escaped out of Egypt and into the wilderness. They didn't know the way — but God knew the way and he would show them.

"I will bring you to a new home, a special land," God promised them. "I will look after you. I am with you."

God sent a big cloud for them to follow — a pillar of smoke stretching up to the sky. It moved in front of them as they walked and shaded them from the blazing heat of the day. And when it was time to rest, it stopped. All through the cold desert nights it kept them warm, glowing like fire.

God led his people through the desert to the edge of a great sea. They were just wondering how to cross it when, suddenly, they heard a terrible thundering and pounding. It sounded almost like horses' hooves. They shaded their eyes to look back — and screamed! It was! Pharaoh and his army were coming to get them!

Pharaoh had changed his mind again. "Get my slaves BACK!" he screeched and charged out into the desert after them — with 600 of his fastest horsemen — and every single chariot in Egypt.







What were God's people going to do? In front of them was a big sea. It was so big there was no way around it. But there was no way through it — it was too deep. They didn't have any boats so they couldn't sail across. And they couldn't swim across because it was too far and they would drown. And they couldn't turn back because Pharaoh was chasing them. They could see the flashing swords now, glinting in the baking sun, and the dust clouds, and chariot after scary chariot surging towards them. So they did the only thing there was left to do — PANIC!

"We're going to die!" they shrieked.

"Don't be afraid!" Moses said.

"But there's nothing we can do!" they screamed.

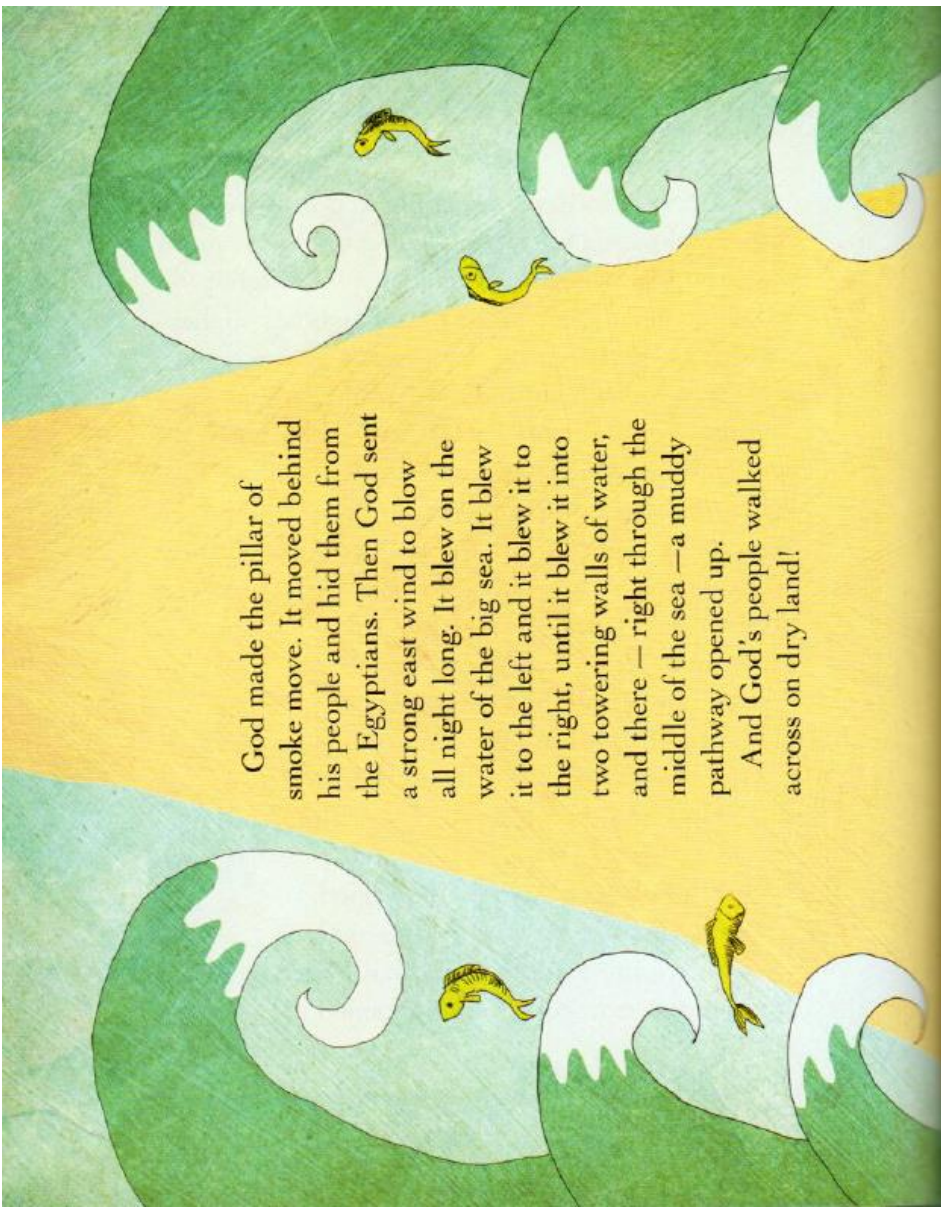
"God knows you can't do anything!" Moses said. "God will do it for you. Trust him. And watch!"

"But there's no way out!" they cried.

"God will make a way!" Moses said.

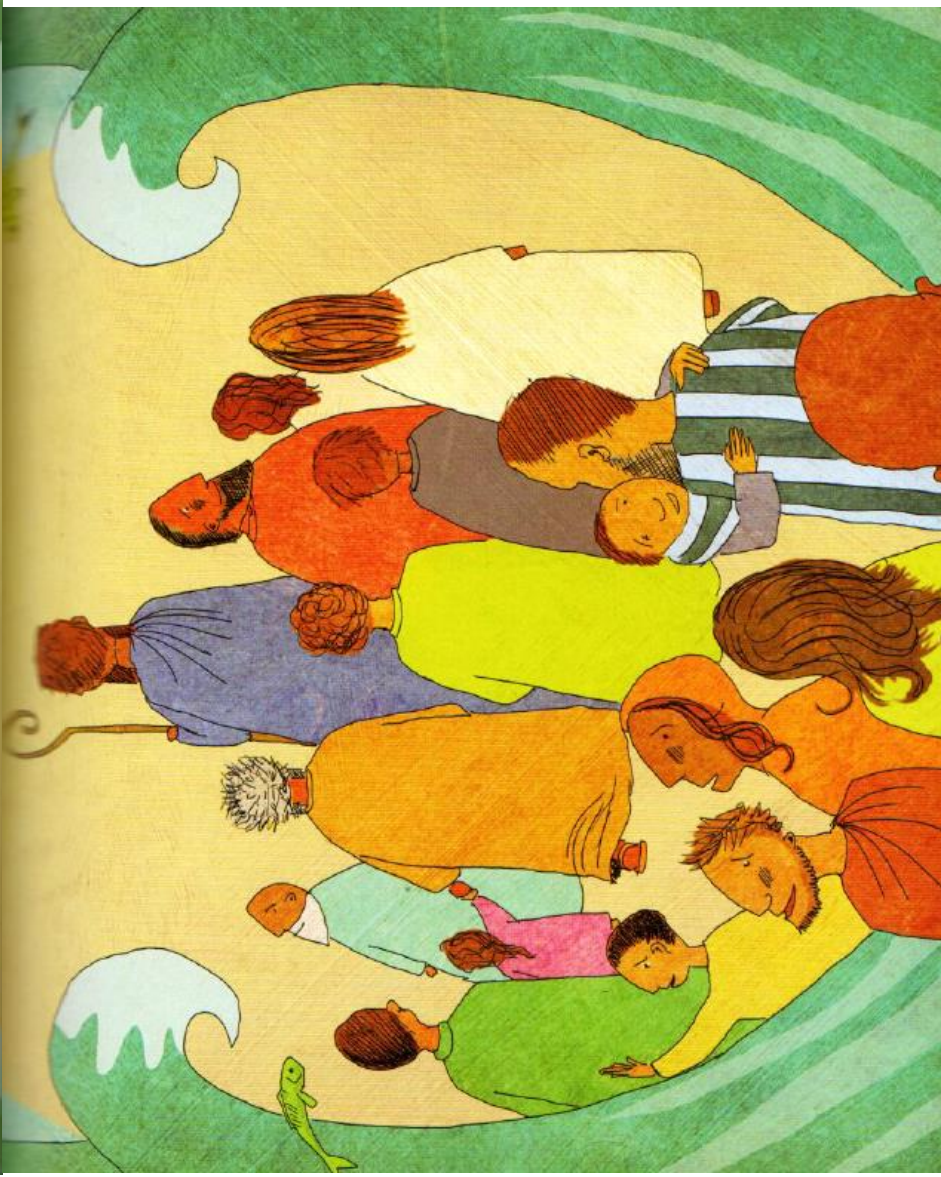
Another minute and it would have been over. But then the strangest thing happened.





God made the pillar of  
smoke move. It moved behind  
his people and hid them from  
the Egyptians. Then God sent  
a strong east wind to blow  
all night long. It blew on the  
water of the big sea. It blew  
it to the left and it blew it to  
the right, until it blew it into  
two towering walls of water,  
and there — right through the  
middle of the sea — a muddy  
pathway opened up.

And God's people walked  
across on dry land!





When the Egyptians tried to follow, the walls of water crashed back down on them and swallowed them up.

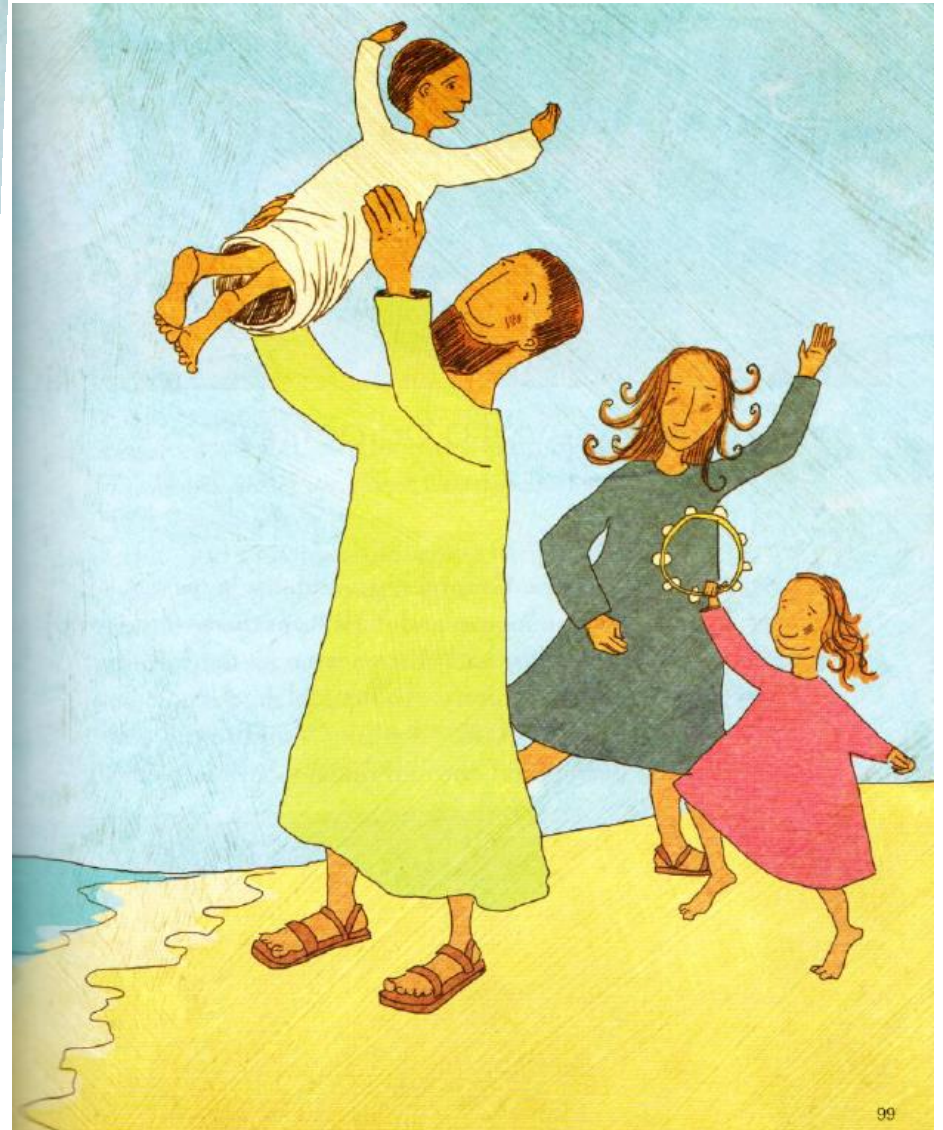
God's people were safe. They danced and laughed and sang and thanked God — when there had been no way out, God had made a way.

Many years later, once again, God was going to make a way where there was no way.

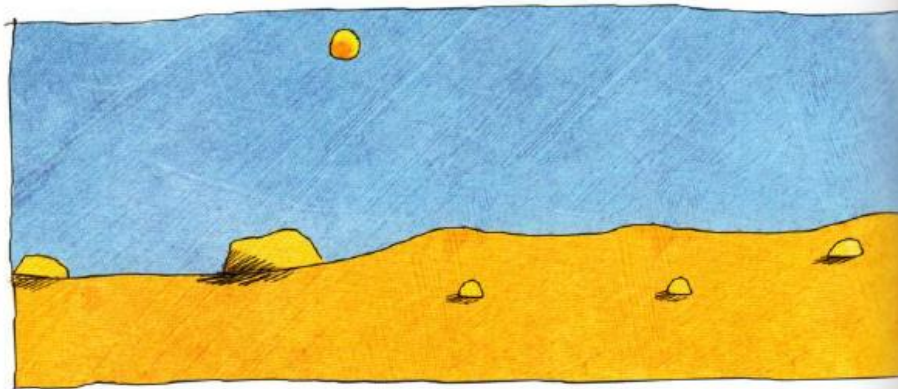
From the beginning, God's children had been running from him and hiding. God knew his children could never be happy without him. But they couldn't get back to him by themselves — they were lost, they didn't know the way back.

But God knew the way.

And one day he would show them.







## Ten ways to be perfect

*Moses and the Ten Commandments, from Exodus 16–17, 19–40*

SO THERE THEY all were. Grannies, granddads, babies, uncles, aunts, children, moms, and dads. Out there in the middle of the desert. They had blisters from all the walking. They were hungry. And thirsty. And much, much too hot.

"We don't like it!" they said. "It stinks!" (And so did they, for that matter, because no one had taken a bath in weeks.)



Now remember — because this is something they'd forgotten — God had done amazing things for his people. He'd hidden them inside a cloud. He'd moved the sea. He'd set them free.

But God's people still weren't happy. They didn't care about being free — wasn't it better when they were slaves? At least they'd had lots of nice food to eat.

"God doesn't want us to be happy," they said. It was the same lie that Adam and Eve had heard all those years before. "God has brought us out here to kill us. God doesn't love us!" But they didn't know God very well, did they?







Every day of their journey, God kept on showing his people how well he would look after them, if they would trust him, and obey him. When they were hungry, God made the sky rain with food — bread coming down from heaven! “What is it?” they asked each other. They didn’t know, so they called it, “What is it?” (which, of course, is a very good name for something when you don’t know what it is). When they were thirsty and started quarrelling, God made water flow from a rock. Moses called that place “Quarrelling” (because that seemed like a good name, too).

And still God’s children didn’t trust him or do what he said. They thought they could do a better job of looking after themselves and making themselves happy. But God knew there was no such thing as happiness without him.

So God led them to a tall mountain. God wanted to talk to his people and show them what he was like. He wanted to help them know him better and tell them about the special land he was going to give them.

“The whole earth belongs to me!” God said. “But I have chosen you — you are my special family. I want you to live in a way that shows everyone else what I’m like — so they can know me, too.”

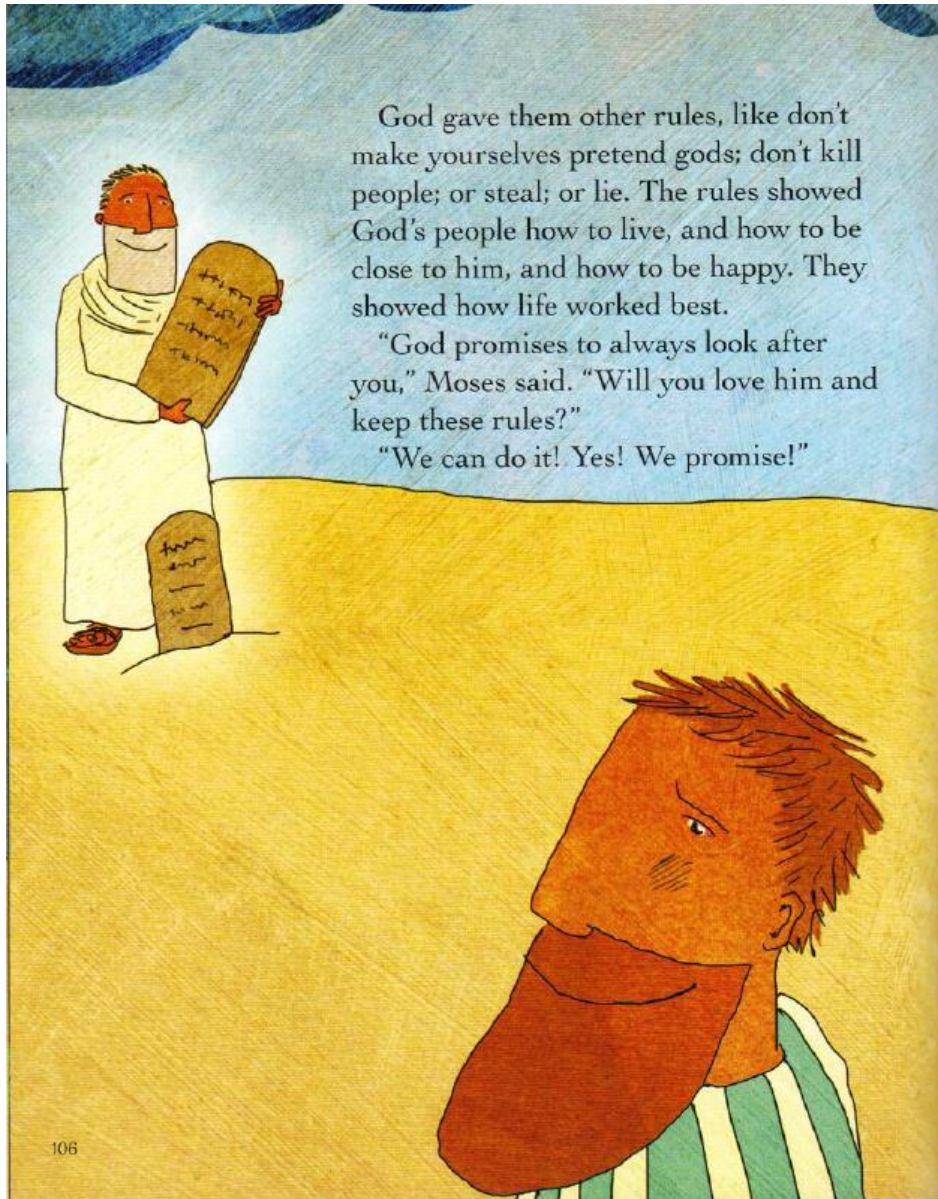






God called Moses up the mountain.  
The great mountain shook. A thick  
cloud fell. Thunder roared. Lightning  
crackled. And God gave Moses Ten  
Rules, called "Commandments."  
"I want you to love me more than  
anything else in all the world — and  
know that I love you, too," God told  
them. "That's the most important  
thing of all."

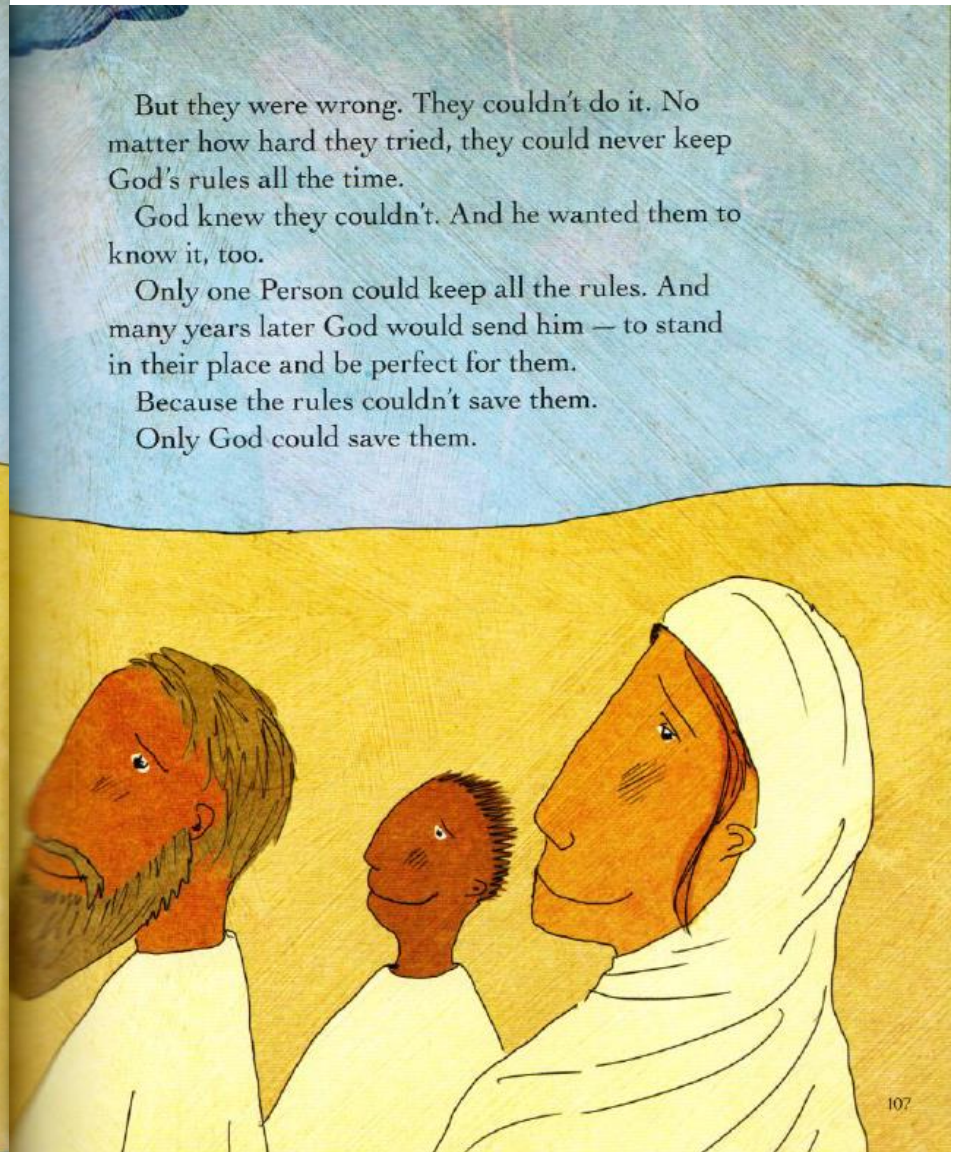




God gave them other rules, like don't make yourselves pretend gods; don't kill people; or steal; or lie. The rules showed God's people how to live, and how to be close to him, and how to be happy. They showed how life worked best.

"God promises to always look after you," Moses said. "Will you love him and keep these rules?"

"We can do it! Yes! We promise!"



But they were wrong. They couldn't do it. No matter how hard they tried, they could never keep God's rules all the time.

God knew they couldn't. And he wanted them to know it, too.

Only one Person could keep all the rules. And many years later God would send him — to stand in their place and be perfect for them.

Because the rules couldn't save them.

Only God could save them.



## The warrior leader

*Joshua and the battle of Jericho, from Joshua 3 and 6*

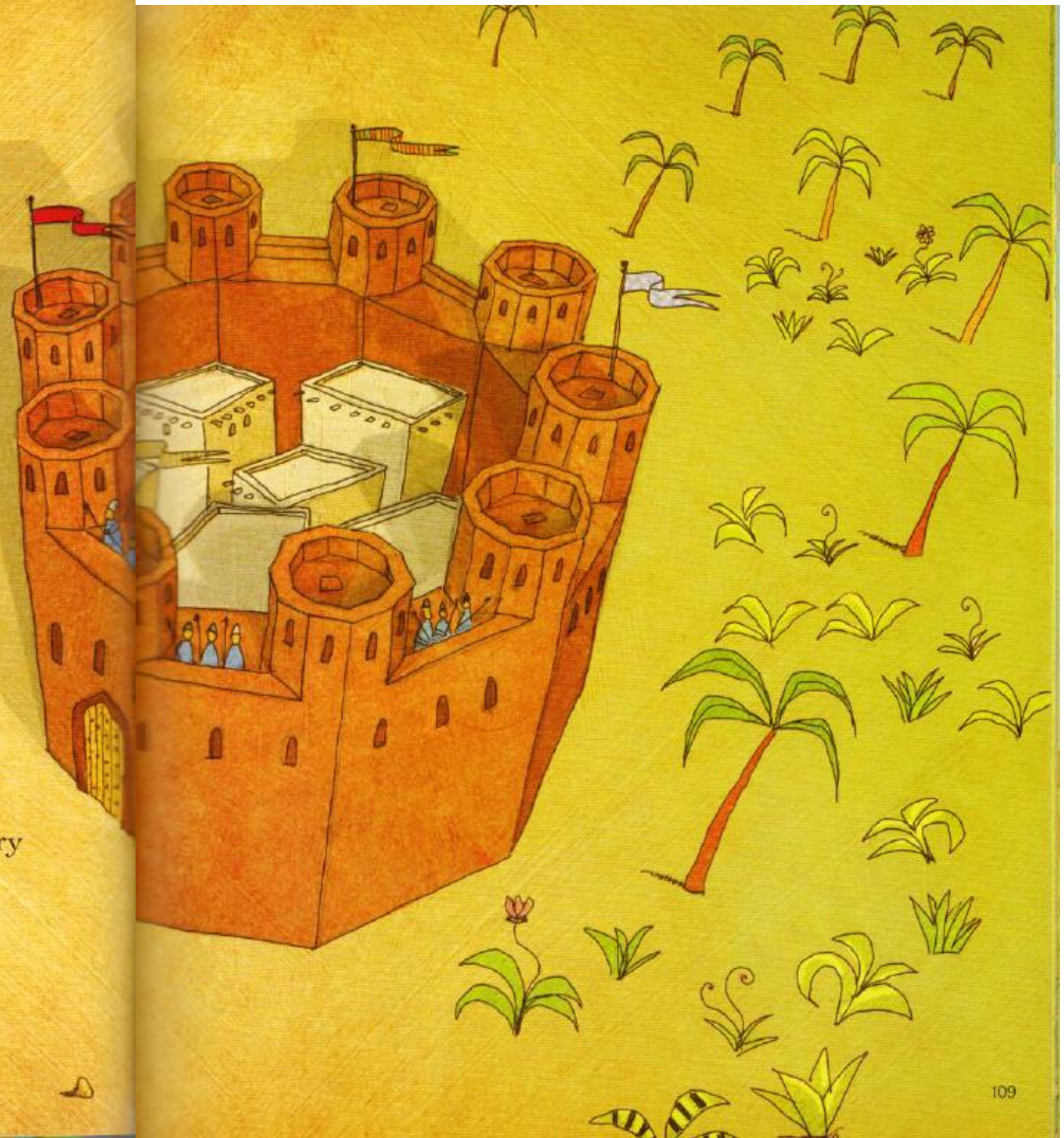
AFTER MOSES DIED, God gave his people a new leader. His name was Joshua, which means "The Lord Saves." Joshua was going to lead God's people into the special land God had promised to give them.

By this time, God's people had been wandering around in that baking desert for 40 years! So you can imagine how sick they were of sand and anything yellow and tents and walking and being hot. And how happy they were to reach the edge of the desert and to see their beautiful new home — right there in front of them — all cool and green and lovely. There was only one problem.

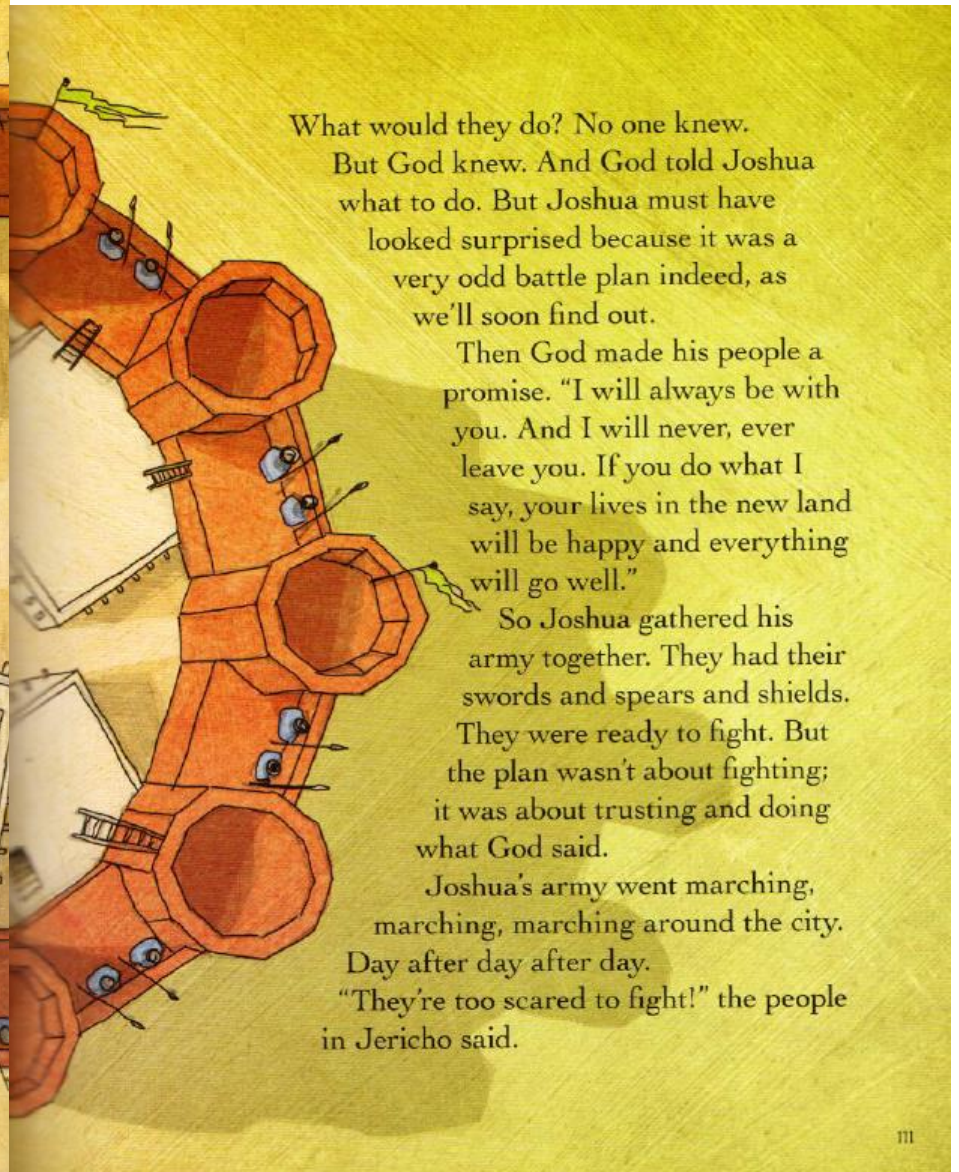
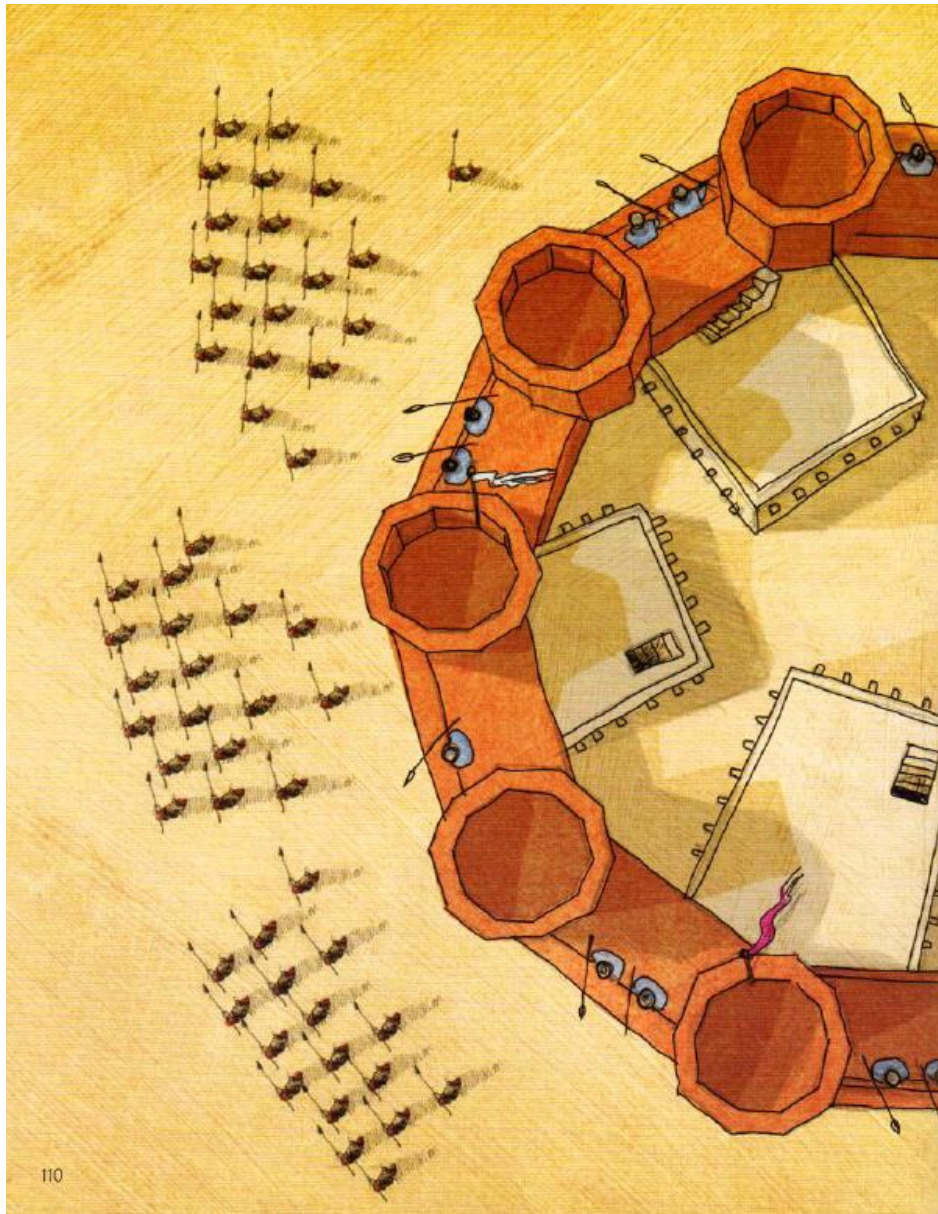
Jericho.

Jericho was a city — but it wasn't just any old city. It was a fortress and it stopped anyone from getting into the land.

The people looked at Jericho. At the big, giant, scary walls all around it. At the tall towering ramparts. At the heavy iron gates bolted shut. At each other.







What would they do? No one knew.

But God knew. And God told Joshua what to do. But Joshua must have looked surprised because it was a very odd battle plan indeed, as we'll soon find out.

Then God made his people a promise. "I will always be with you. And I will never, ever leave you. If you do what I say, your lives in the new land will be happy and everything will go well."

So Joshua gathered his army together. They had their swords and spears and shields. They were ready to fight. But the plan wasn't about fighting; it was about trusting and doing what God said.

Joshua's army went marching, marching, marching around the city. Day after day after day.

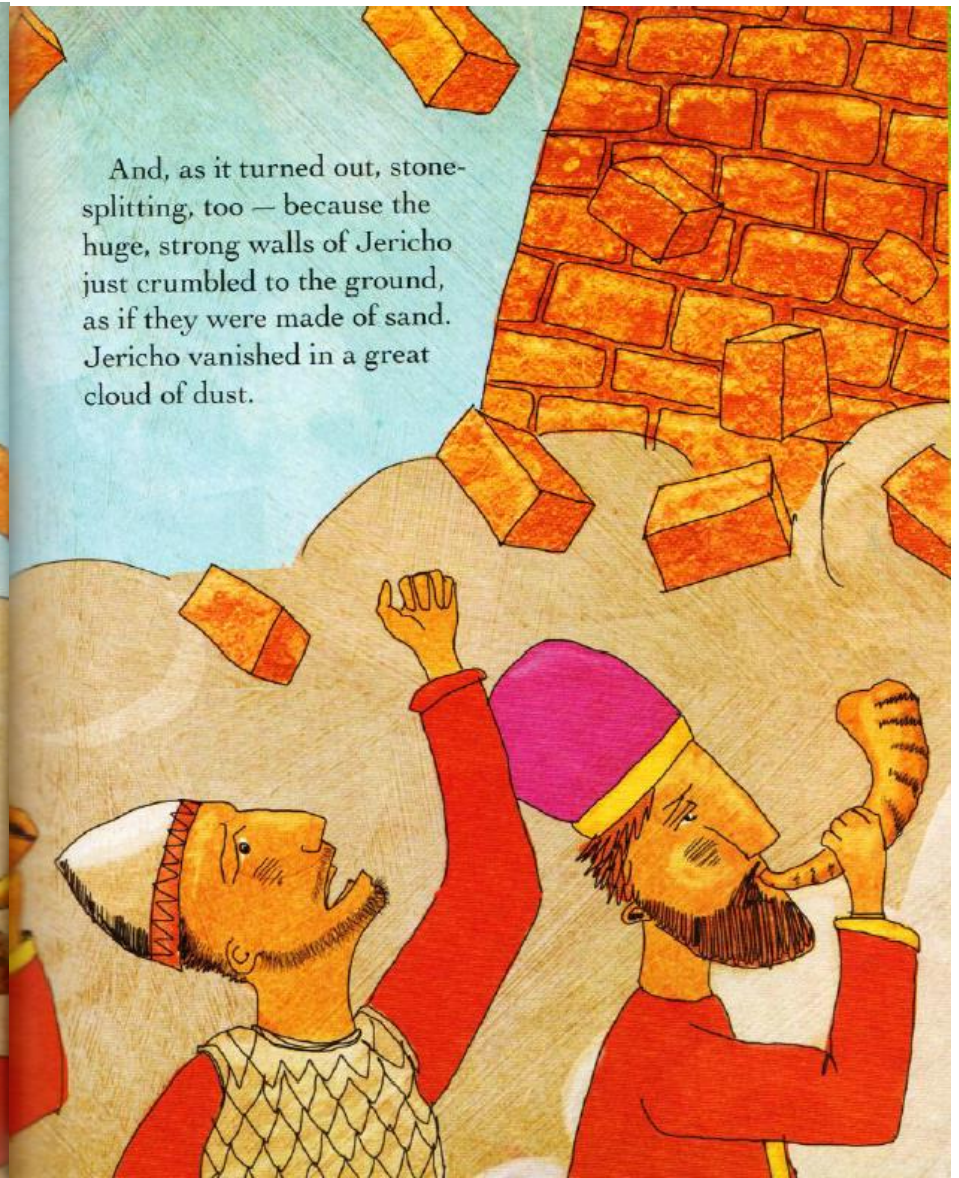
"They're too scared to fight!" the people in Jericho said.



But they were wrong. God's people weren't scared — they were waiting. Waiting for God to tell them what to do next.

On the seventh day, God told his people to march around the city not once, but seven times. Then God told everyone to make as much noise as they could. (Has anyone ever told you to make as much noise as you possibly can? Well, imagine that noise, add 39,999 other people making that noise, too — and you get the idea. Ear-splitting!)

And, as it turned out, stone-splitting, too — because the huge, strong walls of Jericho just crumbled to the ground, as if they were made of sand. Jericho vanished in a great cloud of dust.





So it was that God's people entered their new home.  
And they didn't have to fight to get in — they only  
had to walk.

Joshua said, "God has brought you safely here.  
Now will you do what he says?"

Everyone said, "We promise!"

"Only God can make your heart happy,"  
Joshua said. "So don't pray to pretend gods."

"No," they said. "Never!"

I'm afraid they didn't keep their promise.  
They didn't do what God said and many years  
later, just as God warned them, things would  
go badly for God's people. They would lose  
their home. Enemies would capture them and  
take them off as slaves. And God's people would  
scatter into many different lands.

But God's Plan was still working.

One day he would give his people another Leader.  
And another home.

But this home, no one could ever take from them.

