

Wilderness Years

Adventures of Moses
Lesson 6

Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of Israel's years in the wilderness.
- The children will state one thing that makes God happy.
- The children will say one way that they will make God happy this week.

Lesson Text

Numbers 13-14

Scripture Memory Verse

See, the LORD your God has given you the land...Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

Deuteronomy 1:21

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: What a Difference!

Welcome and Singing

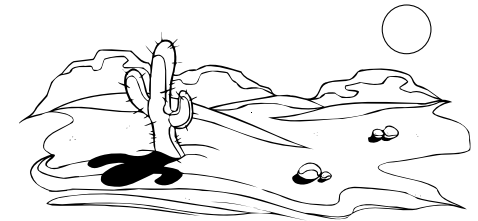
Centers:

Bible Story: The Promise and the Plan

Craft: Do You See What I See?

Scripture Memory: Look Again

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



pre
class

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Wilderness Years

What a Difference!

The children will preview today's lesson as they compare the desert with the land God promised his people.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons
- pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page A.

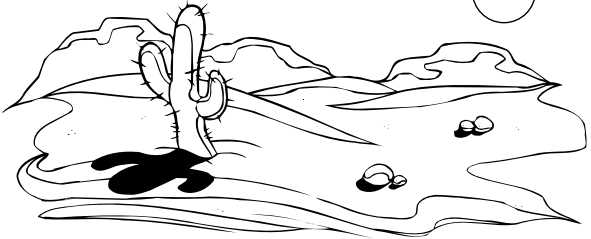
Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Explain that in today's lesson they will learn what happened to God's people while they were in the desert. Tell the children that God wanted to give his people a very special place to live, filled with lots of good things. The land God had promised for his people was much nicer than the desert. Explain to the children that they will think of ways that this promised land was very different—and better—than the desert.
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A, pencils and crayons. Tell the children to look at the two pictures and see if they can find five things in the promised land that are different and better than the desert. Circulate among the children to help them write their answers in the spaces provided.
3. Tell the children to color in their pictures with the crayons. Make sure they write their names on their pages.
4. As the children are working, ask them which land they would rather live in: the desert or the promised land? Why?

Teacher Tips


- For young readers, write the answers on a large writing surface for the children to use as a guide, or have the children place an "x" on things they see that are different.

What a Difference!



Can you find five things that are different between these two pictures?

1. city
2. fruit
3. trees
4. grass
5. road



B Wilderness Years

S

The Promise and the Plan

The children will tell the story of Israel's years in the wilderness.

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- glue stick
- 10 pieces of black construction paper

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

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Preparation

1. Cut out the ten story pictures from your copy of Reproducible Page B. Enlarge each picture to fill a sheet of paper, or as large as possible.
2. Mount each enlarged story picture to a piece of black construction paper.
3. Practice presenting this story with enthusiasm and feeling.

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Numbers 13. Tell the children that this week's Bible Story comes from the Old Testament book of Numbers. Tell the children that the same story is also found in the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy.

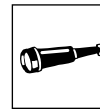
- Do you remember when God powerfully rescued his people out of Egypt and slavery?
- Do you remember when God powerfully divided the Red Sea for the people to cross over?
- Do you remember when God powerfully destroyed the entire Egyptian army in the sea?
- Do you remember when God powerfully spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai and gave him the Ten Commandments?

Do you realize that with God nothing is impossible? God can do anything. And God wants to do things for us. It makes God very happy to know that his children trust him and believe in him. It makes him very sad when they do not. In our Bible Story today, we are going to learn about some people who saw all the powerful things that God did—but still did not believe!

Presenting the Bible Story



Hold up picture #1: *God had prepared an incredible new home for his people. It was a beautiful land full of good food, great cities and powerful people. God wanted his people to go and see the great new land he had promised for his children. Pass the picture around for all the children to see.*



Hold up picture #2: *God wanted Moses to send some leaders into this promised land and explore it. He wanted them to see up close all the good things that God had prepared for them.*



Hold up picture #3: *God told Moses to choose twelve men who would go and spy out the land. These men were leaders of the people.*



Hold up picture #4: *After the spies had gone and explored the land, they returned with a report. Listen to their report from Numbers 13:27-29: "We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit. But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan."*



Hold up pictures #5 and #6: *Although they saw the large fruit and milk and honey, the men who gave this report continued to say that it was too dangerous to go into this land. They said that they would be killed if they tried to conquer it. They did not believe that God would give them the land as he had promised.*



Hold up picture #7: *But Caleb and Joshua did believe God. They saw the same things as the others, but they believed God would give them success in the new land. They tried to change the people's minds and help them have faith in God.*



Hold up picture #8: *The spies who did not believe continued their bad report. They said that the people in the new land were so big and tall that they made the spies feel like grasshoppers! They were really afraid.*

Wilderness Years



Hold up pictures #9 and #10: Because the people lacked faith, God decided to not give them the new land. He told the people that they would spend the rest of their lives wandering through the desert until they died. The only two people from that generation that God allowed to enter the new land were Caleb and Joshua. God also allowed all the children to enter with them.

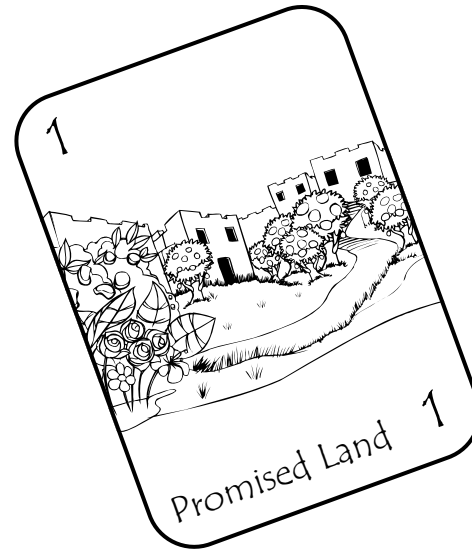
Share and Tell

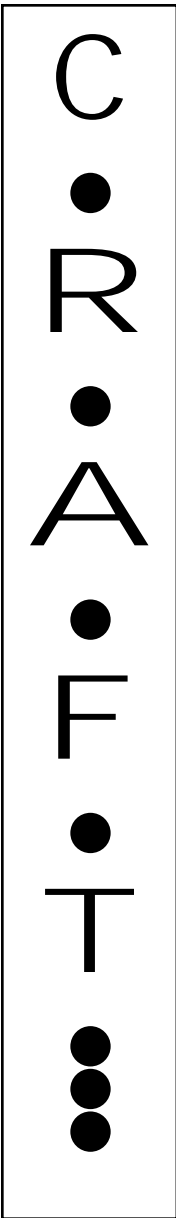
Ask the children if they have ever prepared something special for someone and had that person not like what they prepared. How did it make them feel? How do they think God felt when the spies returned to give a bad report about the land God promised to them? Ask each child the question: *What makes God happy?* (Take responses.) Conclude by stating that faith in God and obedience to him makes God happy.

If you had been one of the twelve spies, would you have believed like Caleb and Joshua or been afraid like the others? Ask the children if they would like to do something special for God this week. Encourage each one to think of someone that they can talk to about God. Close with a prayer for the children to feel God's joy this week.

Teacher Tips

- As much as possible, substitute actual props for the story pictures that the children can touch and pass around.
- Adapt this story to be told in the character of Caleb or Joshua.





Wilderness Years

Do You See What I See?

The children will make a craft to remind them of God's promised land that Joshua and Caleb saw.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons or markers
- glue stick
- scissors
- 1 small plastic sandwich bag
- 1 small white label or piece of masking tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the whole puzzles from the copies of Reproducible Page C, but not the individual puzzle pieces. See Figure A.
2. Make a sample of this craft to show the children.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story today, you are learning about what happened to God's people in the desert. After God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses, he told them to go and explore the new land God had promised them. God had many wonderful things waiting for his people in the new land. But many of the people did not believe that God could give them such a wonderful land. They doubted God. This made God unhappy. He told all of the grown-ups that they could not enter the new land, only their children could. However, God did allow two men, Joshua and Caleb, to go because they believed God. In your craft today, you are going to make a puzzle. The picture in the puzzle will help you think about what the land may have looked like to Joshua and Caleb.*
2. Distribute the puzzles you prepared and crayons. Have the children color their puzzles.

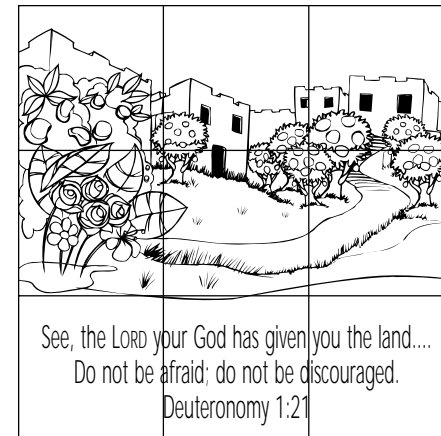
3. When the children have finished coloring, show the children how to cut apart their puzzles along the lines provided.
4. Distribute the small plastic bags and labels. Have the children label their bags with their names and place their puzzle pieces inside.
5. If time permits, give the children time to assemble their puzzles.

Conclusion

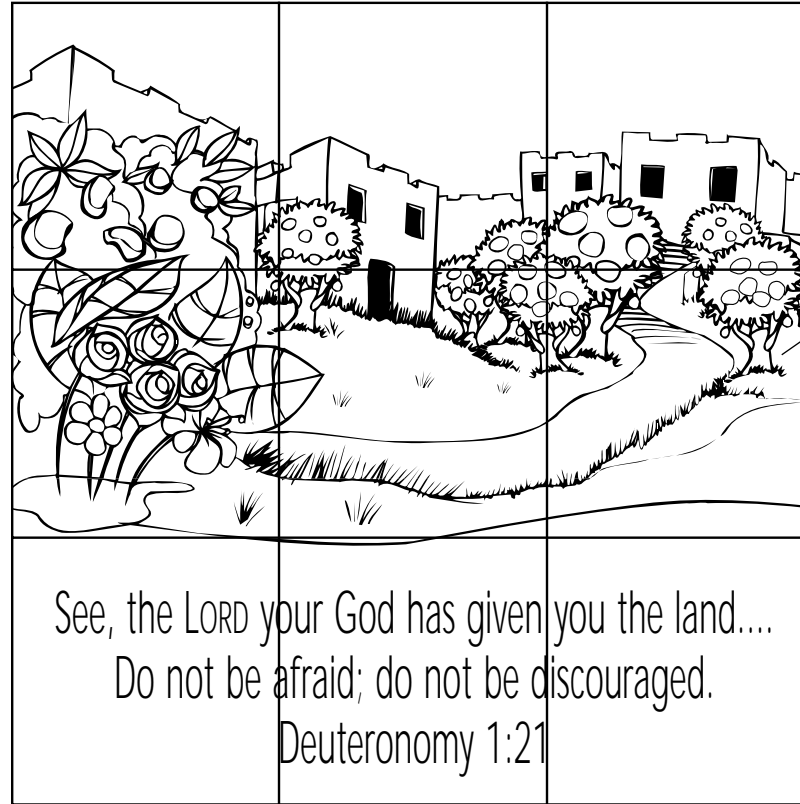
Ask the children: *How would you feel if someone gave you a brand new house on a piece of land that was so big you could not see where it ended? What would you say to that person? What would you do for that person? Do you think that you would ignore that person or treat him disrespectfully?* Explain that God had prepared a beautiful new land for his people, filled with good things for them to eat. But his people did not believe that he could give it to them. They treated God disrespectfully and so God did not let them go into their new land—only their children could. Close with a prayer for the children to show God their faith in him.

Teacher Tips

- Have adults available to assist the younger children with cutting.
- Create a more durable craft by reproducing Page C on heavy paper or card stock.



Wilderness Years



puzzle from
Reproducible
Page C

Figure A

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Wilderness Years

Look Again

The children will learn and memorize this week's Scripture Memory Verse through this fun activity.

Scripture Memory Verse

See, the LORD your God has given you the land....Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

Deuteronomy 1:21

Materials

For the teacher:

- 2 empty cardboard tubes, approximately 12"
- black marker

Preparation

1. On one tube, neatly print: Joshua. On the other tube, neatly print: Caleb.
2. Practice leading this activity at home.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story today, you are learning about what happened to God's people in the desert. After God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses, he told them to go and explore the new land God had promised them. God had many wonderful things waiting for his people in this land. But many of the people did not believe that God would give them such a wonderful land. They doubted God. This did not make God happy. God had done so much for his people and they still did not believe. It makes God so sad when we do not believe him. Today's Scripture Memory Verse is what Moses said to the people about the new land.*
2. Hold up the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Say it aloud to the children three times as they follow along. Point to the words as you say them. Ask the children if they know what "discouraged" means. Explain that we feel discouraged when we don't think we can do something we really want to do, or when we make a mistake and think, "I'll never do it right." God wanted his people to be full of faith that they could enter the land he had promised.

3. Have the children say the verse together with you as you continue pointing to the words. Do this three more times.
4. Ask each child to say the verse together with you. Ask for volunteers to say the verse alone or with a partner from memory.
5. Show the children the cardboard tubes you prepared. Tell the children that they are going to take turns saying the verse, holding the tubes like a telescope. Explain that Moses sent twelve men to explore the land that God was giving them. When the men returned, only two believed that God could give it to them—Joshua and Caleb. Tell the children to say the verse together with you in voices that are full of faith and courage. Lead the children with emphasis and enthusiasm saying the verse this way three times.
6. Choose two children. Give each one a tube. Tell them to stand in front of the other children and pretend that they must convince the others to go into God's promised land. Tell them to look through their "telescopes" and say the verse as if they were Joshua and Caleb, with courage and faith.
7. Continue choosing two children at a time to stand up in front of the others and say the verse with strength and courage. Do this until all the children have had a chance.

Conclusion

Ask the children how they feel when someone does not believe them. Ask them how they think God feels when we do not believe him. Tell the children to remember this verse the next time they doubt that God can do something. Close with a prayer for the children to have great faith in God.

Teacher Tips

- Do not force a child to say the verse. Encourage the timid children to work with a friend.



Wilderness Years

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Lesson Objectives

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Lesson Text

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Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: The Wander Years

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Happiness Is...

Game: I Spy

Bible Skills: Names of Fame

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



pre
class

ACTIVITY

The Wander Years

The children will review this week's lesson as they wander about collecting key words from the Bible Story.

Materials

For each child:

- pencil
- crayons

For the teacher:

- 10 index cards, 3" x 5"
- glue stick
- scissors
- black marker
- masking tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each child
- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out the ten pictures from your copy of Reproducible Page E, and glue them to the index cards.
2. Place the picture cards around the Preclass area. Secure with tape on such places as: tables, windows, doors, blackboards, walls, etc.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Tell them that they will review this week's lesson about Israel wandering in the desert by wandering around the class looking for pictures from this week's story.
2. Have the children find a partner. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page D and pencils. Tell the children that

each of the pictures on their pages is somewhere in the class area. When they find the picture, they should write the number and the word(s) on their pages in the spaces provided under each picture. Make sure they leave the cards in place for all the children to find.

3. When the children have located all ten pictures, they can return to their seats to color in the pictures.
4. Circulate among the children to offer help and discuss the significance of the pictures in the story.

Teacher Tips

- Make sure that children who did not hear this week's Bible Story work with those did.

LIFE APPLICATION

Happiness Is...

The children will review this week's lesson as they consider one way that they will make God happy this week.

Materials

For the teacher:

- phone (real or toy)
- paper and pencil
- Bible

Preparation

Practice leading this activity at home.

Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Numbers 13. Ask the children if they remember which Old Testament book has this week's story. (Numbers) Ask for volunteers to say the Scripture Memory Verse.

Do you remember when God powerfully rescued his people out of Egypt? Do you remember when he brought them through the Red Sea? And do you remember when God spoke to Moses on the mountain and gave him the Ten Commandments? After all that, he prepared a new home for his people. This was the land God promised to his people. God told Moses to send twelve leaders to spy out—or explore—the new land. But when the twelve spies returned, ten of them were afraid! They did not believe God could really help them conquer such a big place with so many strong people and cities. They were afraid. Joshua and Caleb believed God! They tried to help the people see that God could do it. They reminded the people that God would give them the land. But the people still would not believe.

Do you think it makes God happy when people do not believe his promises? (No) God had done so much for his people already. It makes God sad, and sometimes even mad, when his people do not believe him. God did not let the doubting people go into the land he promised. But he did let Joshua, Caleb and all the children go—because they believed.

Life Application

Show the children the phone, pencil, paper and Bible. Explain that these are items that they can use to help others believe God's promises—the way Joshua and Caleb tried to. Tell them that they are going to use one of these items to do something that makes God happy.

Pick up the phone and say: *Happiness is calling up a friend who is sad and telling them God loves them.* Let each child choose one item and imitate you by saying "Happiness is..." (Answers may include: encouraging someone to believe that God loves them; writing a note to someone who is sad or afraid; reading the Bible to someone who is lonely; etc.) Tell the children that not only does it make them happy, it makes God happy too.

Conclusion

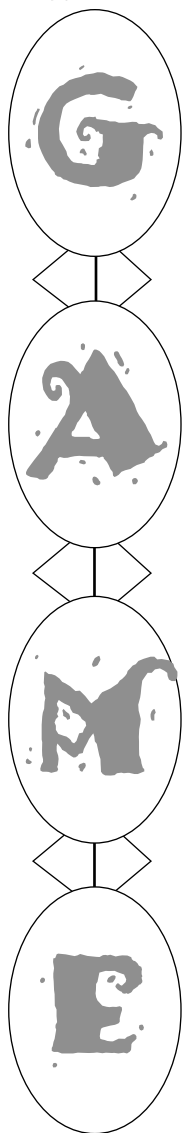
Ask the children how it makes them feel to know that they can do something that makes God happy. Remind them that God sees every little thing they do, even if no one else does. Close with a prayer for the children to want to make God happy this week.

Teacher Tips

- Think of additional props that the children can use to inspire them in this activity.

Happiness is...





I Spy

The children will play a searching game to remind them of what the spies found in the new land.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 towel
- 1 piece of ribbon or string, 24"
- empty milk carton, clean and dry
- piece of plastic fruit
- pieces of honey-flavored candy (optional)

Preparation

Practice playing this game at home.

Instructions

1. Introduce this activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you learned that God promised to bring his chosen people to a land flowing with milk and honey. So Caleb and Joshua went to see what the land was like and reported back to Moses the things they found. In our game today, you will each take turns searching for things to remind you of what the spies found in the land God promised to them.*
2. Show the children the milk carton and fruit. Explain that you will choose one child to be a spy and the others to be their guides. You will hide the items and the one child—the spy—has to find them, guided by the response “hot” or “cold” from the other children—the guides.
3. Choose a child to go first. Place the towel on his head and tie it with the string to make a simple headpiece. See the diagram on the back of this Lesson Card. Send the child out of the room. Hide the items nearby, making sure the guides see where you are putting them. Bring the spy back in the room.

4. Have the guides say “hot” or “cold” to help direct the spy to the items: “hot” to indicate when he is getting close and “cold” to indicate that he is getting farther away. Once the child has located the items, he may choose the next child to be the spy. Place the headpiece on that child and continue as before.

NOTE: For a tasty variation, substitute the milk carton and fruit with candy for the spy to find.

IMPORTANT: Make sure to obtain parental permission before serving candy in class.

Conclusion

Remind the children that God loves to give us things that are special treats. Close with a prayer thanking God that he loves us so much.

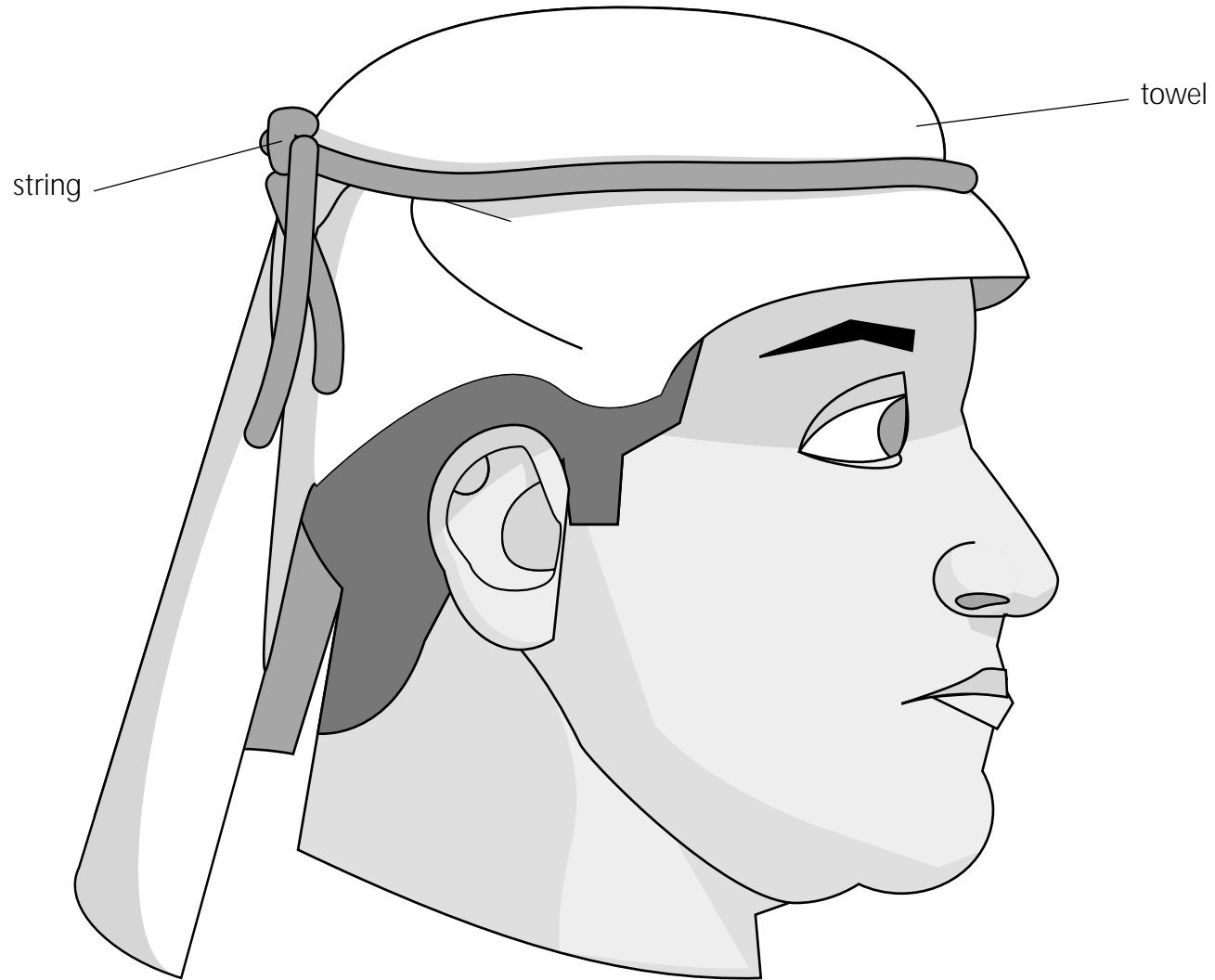
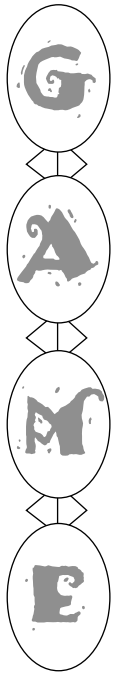
Teacher Tips

- If you have a very large group of children, send out the spies in pairs.
- If you use candy in this activity, make sure there is enough for everyone.

HOT

COLD





spy headpiece



Names of Fame

The children will look up men in the book of Exodus who were famous for their faith.

Materials

For each child:

- pencil

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. On the large writing surface, write the following names: Israel; Jacob; Joseph; Moses; Abraham; Isaac; Aaron; Joshua; Jethro.
2. Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page F.

Instructions

1. Introduce this activity: *In our recent Bible lessons, we have been learning about men of great faith. The Bible is full of examples of men and women who showed faith in God—even when everyone around them did not believe. In our activity today, we are going to look in the book of Exodus for the names of some men of faith.* Show the children the names that you have written on the large writing surface. Say all the names together with the children. Tell them that these names are in the book of Exodus and they are going to look for them.
2. Divide the children into partners. Make sure each pair has a Bible between them. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page F and pencils.
3. Tell the children to open their Bibles to the Old Testament book of Exodus chapter 1 and raise their hands when they find it. Circulate among the children to offer help.

4. Tell the children to look up chapter 1 verse 1. Read the verse to the children out loud. Now tell them to find the name that starts with the letter "I" and ends with the letter "L." (Israel) Have the children look at the sample answer provided on their copies of Reproducible Page F.
5. Now have the children look up Exodus 1:5. Read the verse to the children out loud. Tell the children that there are two names in this verse of men who had great faith. Tell them to look at their pages to help them find the names and fill in the missing letters. (Jacob and Joseph) Circulate among the children to offer help. Remind the children that God changed Jacob's name to Israel.
6. Have the children look up Exodus 2:10 and read it to them. Ask them what name of great faith they find in this verse. (Moses) Have them write this on their pages.
7. Follow this same procedure for each of the following references: Exodus 3:6 (Abraham, Isaac); 4:14 (Aaron); 17:10 (Joshua); 18:1 (Jethro). Use the Answer Key on the back of this Lesson Card.

Conclusion

Ask the children how they would feel if their names were in the Bible. Remind them that God made sure to tell us about these people so that we could learn how to have faith. Close with a prayer for the children to grow up to become great men and women of faith.

Teacher Tips

- Know your class. If you have confident readers, let them help you read some of these references.



Israel Joseph Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro Israel Joseph

Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro Israel Joseph Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro

Names of Fame

1. Exodus 1:1 I s r a e l
2. Exodus 1:5 J a c o B, J o s e P H
3. Exodus 2:10 M o s e s
4. Exodus 3:6 A b r a h a m, I s a a c
5. Exodus 4:14 A a r o n
6. Exodus 17:10 J o s h u A
7. Exodus 18:1 J e t h r o

Israel Joseph Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro Israel Joseph

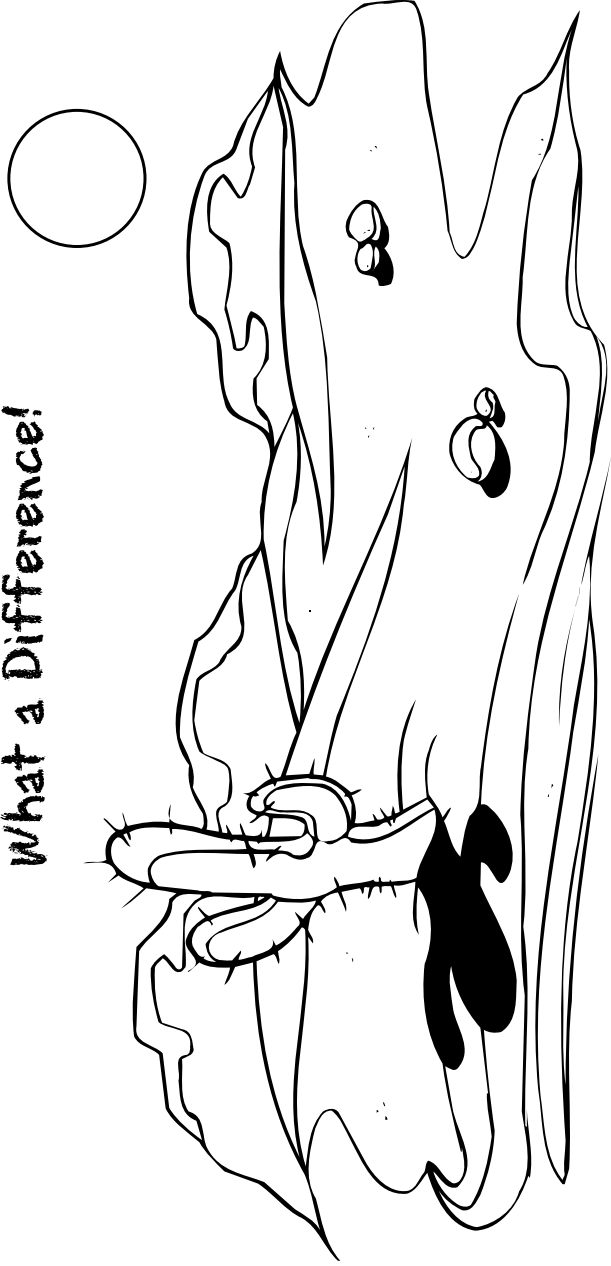
Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro Israel Joseph Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro





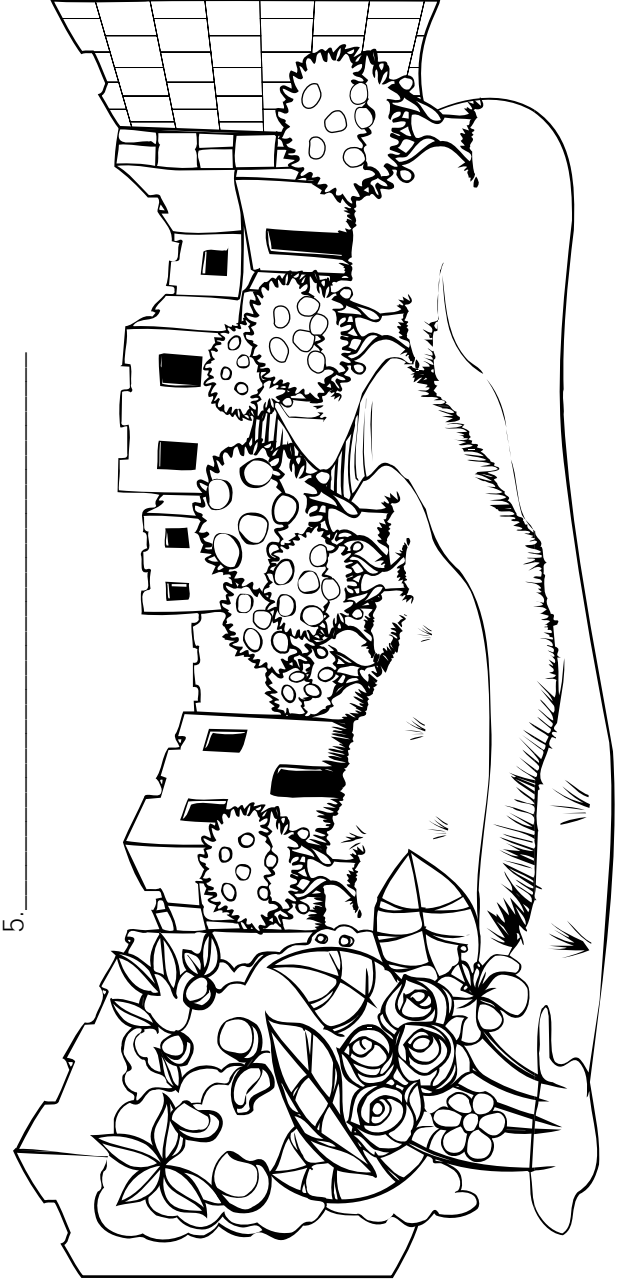
Core/Preclass
1 copy for each child

What a Difference!



Can you find five things that are different between these two pictures?


1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Core/Bible Story


1 copy for the teacher

1




Promised Land 1

2




telescope 2

3




twelve spies 3

4



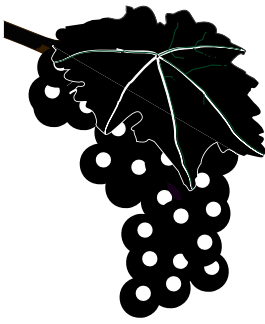
report 4

5



milk & honey 5

6




large fruit 6

7



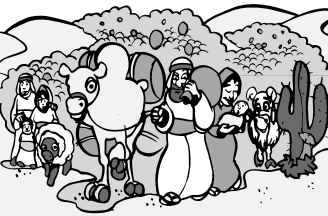
Joshua & Caleb 7

8



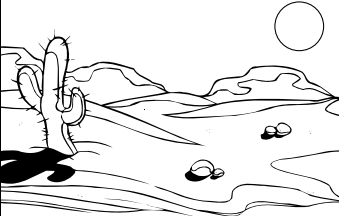
grasshopper 8

9

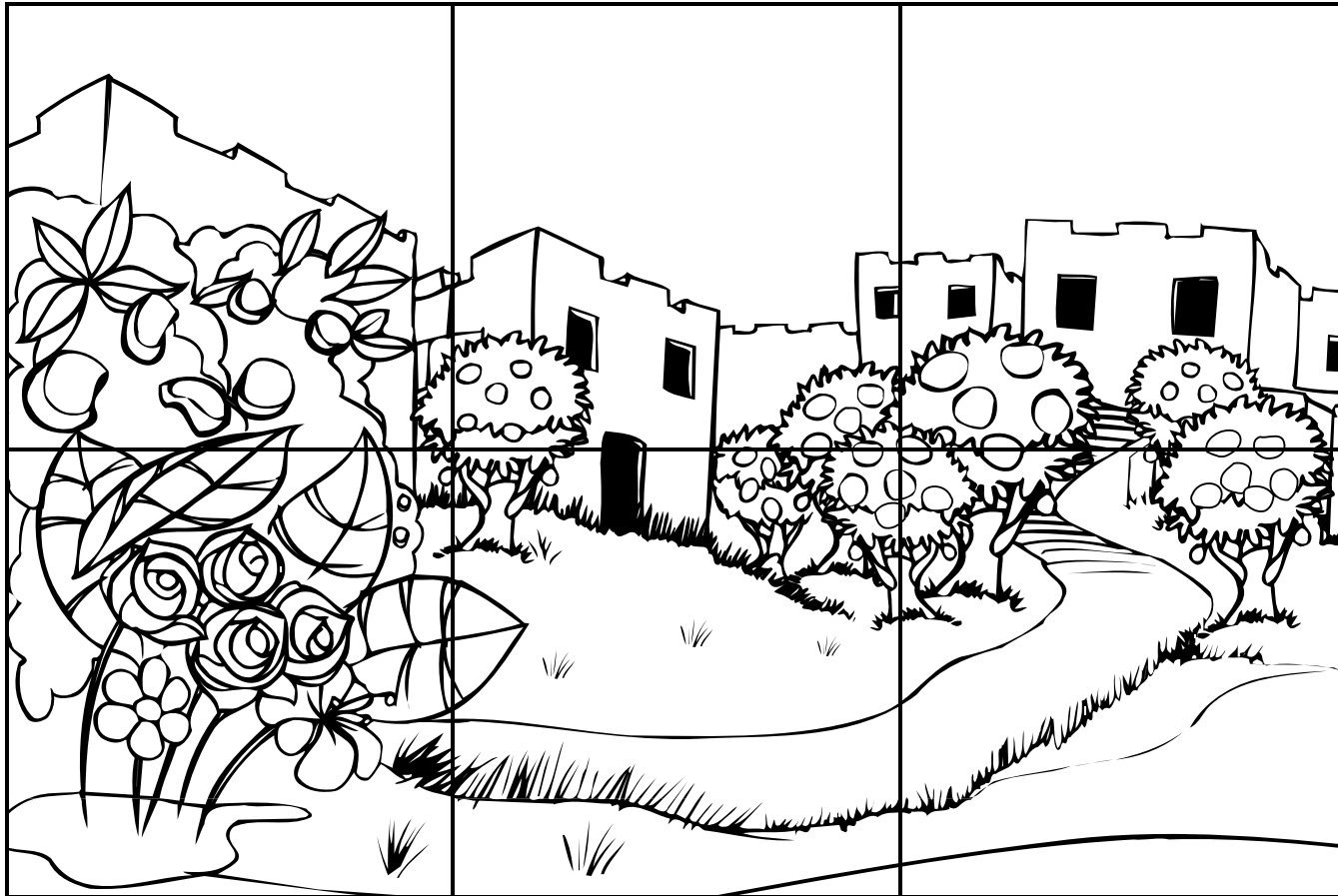


wandering 9

10



desert 10



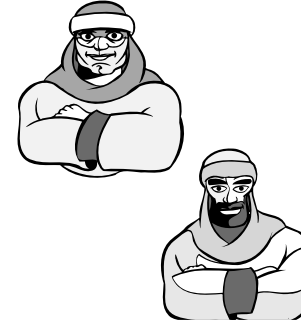
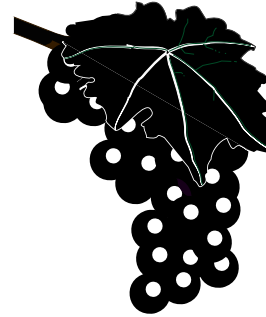
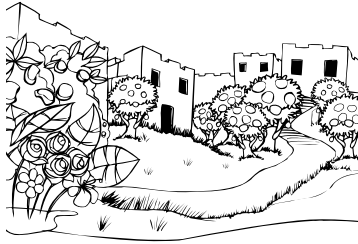
See, the LORD your God has given you the land....
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.
Deuteronomy 1:21

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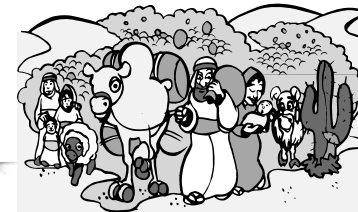
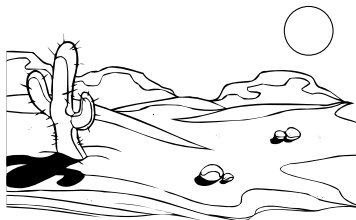


Supplement/Preclass
1 copy for each child

The Wander Years



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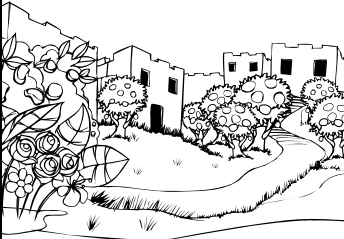
PAGE



Supplement/Preclass


1 copy for the teacher

1




Promised Land 1

2




telescope 2

3




twelve spies 3

4



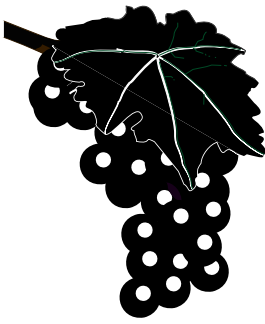
report 4

5



milk & honey 5

6




large fruit 6

7



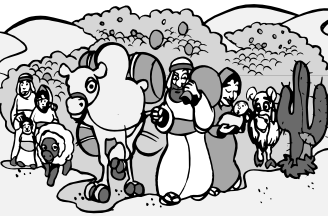
Joshua & Caleb 7

8



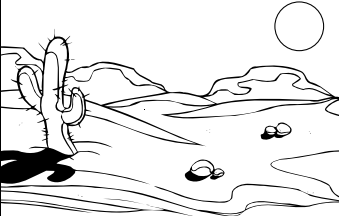
grasshopper 8

9



wandering 9

10



desert 10

Supplement/Bible Skills

1 copy for each child

Lesson 6

Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro Israel Joseph Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro

Names of Fame

Israel Joseph Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro Israel Joseph

Israel Joseph Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro Israel Joseph

1. Exodus 1:1 I s r a e l
2. Exodus 1:5 J _ _ _ B, J _ _ _ PH
3. Exodus 2:10 M _ _ _ _
4. Exodus 3:6 A _ _ _ _ , I _ _ _ _
5. Exodus 4:14 _ _ R _ _
6. Exodus 17:10 _ O _ _ _ A
7. Exodus 18:1 J _ _ _ R _

Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro Israel Joseph Jacob Moses Abraham Isaac Joshua Jethro

