

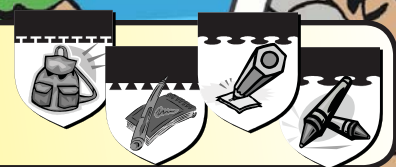
HEROES OF THE FAITH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

WOW!

TEACHER'S BOOK

For all ages



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INTRODUCTION

WELCOME!

to Heroes of the Faith Sunday school! In this series of studies, we will look at the list of Heroes of the Faith found in Hebrews 11. Because our spiritual life is more important than our physical life, we will also learn how we can have a life of faith. We will analyze why spiritual decisions are more important than the normal decisions of life. Then we will respond to these questions as we examine the lives of men and women who believed God, spoke with God, and lived for Him. They are an example for us. Sometimes we will see the good things that people did and other times we will learn from their mistakes.

Although we are teaching these classes to younger children and to teenagers, you will find the beauty of learning along with them some fun aspects of the Old Testament. Above all, it is wonderful to see innovative ideas on how to apply these principles to our daily lives. We really enjoyed learning more about God and my Christian life as we wrote this material.

Since we are talking about Faith in God, let's begin by defining it. The main verse we will use is in Hebrews 11: 1 "Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being certain of what we do not see." To have faith in God is to be sure that He exists even when we do not see Him. That faith comes from God, usually through the Bible. And with that faith, we can believe Him and His promises, and then do what he wants—do the will of God.

The Bible is a very important book for all Christians, but it is a big book. Not all of us have read the entire Bible. It is so big that we teachers can get lost, confusing the things that happened, not knowing where and when they happened. Imagine how the children feel! To help us with this, we are also going to do a review of the Old Testament and then from the stories of Hebrews 11. We will learn this, and

then learn to make it part of our spiritual lives. Children will learn the names of Old Testament books and some key events, placed in a historical order so they are less confused with dates and events.



The main reason why it is important to study the Old Testament is that we can find wonderful stories and instructions that apply directly to our lives today. God has given us his Word, so that we can be superheroes in our daily life, serving God and others.

Your primary mission, if you choose to accept it, is to apply each lesson in your daily life as an example for children and teenagers, at home, in the classroom, and in the church. Although your students are going to memorize things from the Bible, the main mission is to LIVE what they learn every week. Your mission is to focus on how they can put these lessons into practice in their daily lives. We need your answer NOW. This note will self-destruct in 10 seconds.

May God bless your life as you guide the children and teenagers around you through this study of "Heroes of Faith".

With love,

Children are Important creative team



OVERVIEW

1

BELIEVE GOD

Bible Story: **Creation**

Genesis 1:1-2:3, Hebrews 11:1-3



Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

2

GIVE HIM YOUR HEART

Hero: **Abel**

Genesis 4:1-16, Hebrews 11:4



Mark 12:30 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

3

PLEASE GOD

Hero: **Enoch**

Genesis 5:21-24, Hebrews 11:5-6



John 14:23 “Jesus replied, ‘Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.’”

4

OBEY GOD

Hero: **Noah**

Genesis 6:9-9:17, Hebrews 11:7



James 1:22 “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”

5

PASS THE TEST

Hero: **Abraham**

Genesis 12:1-7, 15:1-6, 21:1-3, 22:1-19, Hebrews 11:8-19



James 1:12 “Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”

6

VALUE THE SPIRITUAL

Hero: **Isaac**

Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-40, Hebrews 11:20



Mark 8:36 “What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?”

7

GOD'S BLESSING

Hero: **Jacob**

Genesis 27:41-28:2, 28:10-15, 28:20-22, 31:3-13, 31:22-24, 32:9-12, 32:22-30, 33:1-11, 35:1-5, Hebrews 11:21



Luke 11:28 "He replied, 'Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.'"

8

TRUST IN GOD

Hero: **Joseph**

Genesis 37:2-11, 37:17-36, 39:1-41:13, 41:14-16, 41:28-40, 41:56-42:5, 45:1-15, 47:5, Hebrews 11:22



Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

9

LEAVE SIN BEHIND

Hero: **Moses**

Exodus 1:1-2:15, 3:1-12, 4:10-17, (7:8-13:42), 14:5-31, Acts 7:20-34, Hebrews 11:23-29



2 Timothy 2:21 "Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work."

10

YES YOU CAN

Hero: **Caleb**

Numbers 13:1-3, 13:17-14:9, 14:7-24, 14:30-45



Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

11

DO NOT EVEN THINK ABOUT IT

Bible Story: **Balaam**

Numbers 22:1-6, 22:9-38, 23:13-21, 24:10-13



Ephesians 6:1 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

12

GOD'S SIDE

Hero: **Joshua**

Joshua 1:1-11, 2:1-21, 3:14-4:7, 4:15-18, 5:10-6:11, 6:15, 6:20-25, Hebrews 11:30-31



John 1:12 "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

13

DON'T KEEP ANYTHING

Bible Story: **Achan**

Joshua 6:17-19, 7:1-12, 7:20-8:7, 8:18-27



1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

HOW TO USE THIS MATERIAL

SCHEDULE

Open:

- Welcome
- Need story
- Song

Main Lesson

Activity (optional)

Resolution of Need story

Student books

- Timeline
- Activity page

Questions and Answers (older students)

Game (optional)

Attendance

Assignment

himself cares for every child more than we do, and He gives us His strength to continue and His wisdom to motivate and minister to each child's life.

To help you motivate your students, we have provided a “Need story” at the start of each lesson to help the students FEEL their need for God and APPLY what they are learning to their real lives at home. Each story features one of 5 fictional characters we have created. Please feel free to change their names. One idea is to ask volunteers to act out the stories each week. If that is not practical, then you can simply read the story out loud to the children. You can ask the children for ideas to solve the problem. Do not tell them if their ideas are bad, good, wrong, or correct, and don't provide any solution yet. Use the unresolved tension to motivate the children pay attention to the lesson.

The Resolution segment comes after the lesson. If the children have been sitting for a long time, do an activity before the Resolution segment, too. When ready, remind the children of the Need story then have your actors come out for the resolution or simply narrate it. This will resolve the tension of the partial Need story and help the children solve problems they face at school and at home. In this way, you will be motivating the children to apply the lessons to their daily lives!

NEED STORY / RESOLUTION

“A great teacher is not one who imparts knowledge to his students, but one who awakens their interest in it and makes them eager to pursue it for themselves.” –M. J. Berrill

For your students not only to pay attention in the classroom but to apply to their lives what they have been taught, they need motivation. Many try to motivate children with sweets and rewards or punish them if they do not pay attention.

While these two methods give you good behavior in the classroom, they do nothing to motivate them to LIVE the principles they learn once they return home. As teachers of children in Christian churches, we are NOT entertaining them so that they do not disturb the adult meetings.

Instead, we are trying to raise a new generation of believers who follow God, know Him and serve Him. Although it is a difficult task for any of us, the wonderful thing is that God

MAIN LESSON

This syllabus is an overview study of the Old Testament. In many lessons, we will be looking at the whole life of a person, or Hero, in the Bible. As the teacher, you can use this as a study yourself and read the Scripture passages listed ahead of time and get fresh insights, too. A summary of each hero's life is included in the main lesson. Feel free to ask the children if they remember more details of the Hero's life to keep them engaged.

Please keep the story portion short, so you have time to say the main point: the application. At the end of each lesson is a decision for the children to make. This decision is the main point of the whole lesson, like the goal in a soccer (football) game. If you play the game well, passing to other team mates and keeping the other team from stealing the ball, but you never kick it into the goal, you will never win.

Make sure that you get to the main application to help the children put it into practice in their lives. In James 1:22-24 we read, "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like." In 1 Corinthians 10, we read that the stories in the Old Testament are examples showing us what to do and what not to do. Looking at the Heroes of old is like looking at ourselves in the mirror giving us an opportunity to learn from their lives. Let's teach children to follow their examples and learn from their mistakes and live for God.



★ ASSIGNMENT

Another tool to help you teach the children to put the lessons into practice is the homework assignment each week. Each lesson has an activity that the children can do midweek. In John 14:23, Jesus said, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." With these assignments, the children can bring God into their lives midweek, not just at church. For older students there is also a reading assignment in the Bible. Take a few minutes in class to discuss the homework assignment and give them a chance to practice in class. Reward those who completed last week's assignment with a small candy or prize.

★ ATTENDANCE / HEROES GAME

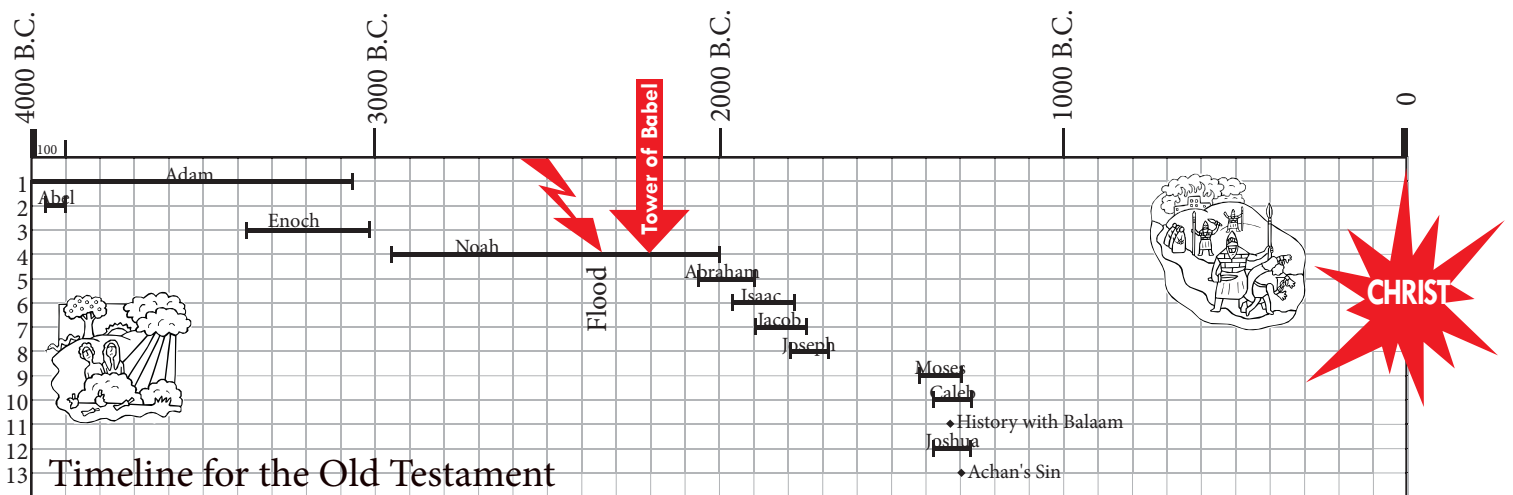
This material comes with a set of cards to reward children for attendance each week. At the end of the unit (13 lessons, or 3 months), the children can play a game with these cards! Read the game instructions for more information.

Alternative game:

Have the children write numbers 1-10 on a piece of paper. The teacher then asks any 10 of the provided questions from the game instructions. Do not say the attribute in parentheses. For each question, the students write which quality or characteristic is needed in that situation: **Strength, Integrity, Obedience, Humility, Heart or Faith.** Whoever guessed the most correct wins a small candy or prize.

★ TIMELINE

Each week the children draw a line on the timeline in their books to represent the life of the Bible story hero. For example, in lesson 1, they trace the life of Adam onto the line marked with a 1 for lesson 1. Using the numbers provided in the lesson, the idea is that the children calculate when the line should start and how long it should be. Each square represents 100 years. For example, the life of Adam starts at the 6th day of creation and ends in 930 years, or 9 and 1/3 squares on the timeline. It will be fun to see the life of each hero and surprising details, like the fact that the time from Adam to Noah was about as long as the time from Abraham to Jesus!



*Approximate dates for the Biblical timeline

*Each line equals 100 years.

COMPLETE PROGRAM

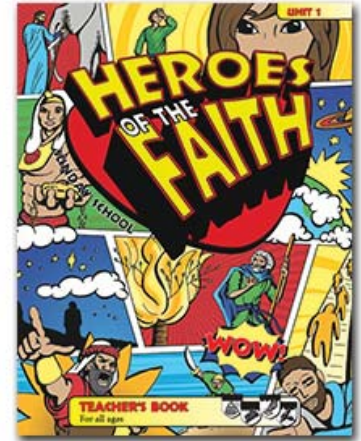
Download the complete program FREE on our website:

www.ChildrenAreImportant.com/heroes/

Check the languages page to see what material is available in your language.

TEACHER BOOK

Find all the information to make this Sunday school a success.



CERTIFICATE

Use this in the closing ceremony of Heroes program. Give this to each child to take home.

DVD AND CD OF MUSIC

Make your Sunday School exciting and fun with our music designed for this theme of Heroes.



STUDENT BOOKS

These are the ages that we have for each child. There are difficult puzzles for the advanced books and drawings for the easy books.

ADVANCED



DIFFICULT

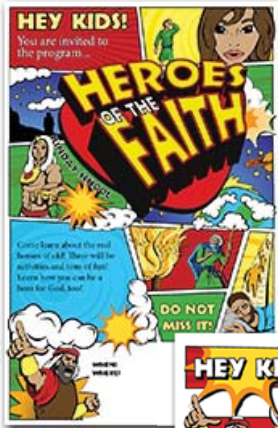


MEDIUM



EASY





POSTER

Invite the children to this Sunday school with these posters that attract a lot of attention.



CRAFTS

You will have a craft to do per month, they are very easy to do and the children will love it.



FLYER

Invite the children personally with these flyers that you can take home.



STICK PUPPETS

CARD ENVELOPE

VISOR



GIANT BACKGROUND

Decorate the stage with this giant background. Order a huge flex or printed tarp.



CARDS

These will serve to motivate the children to attend the classes and at the end. With all 13 from unit 1, they will be able to play this fun game!!





BELIEVE GOD

Bible Story: Creation
Genesis 1:1-2:3, Hebrews 11:1-3



NEED STORY

In Sunday school they taught Buzz about creation, they told him that God created the entire world in six days. A few days later at school, the teacher asked them to take out their biology books and showed them the concept of evolution and that we come from monkeys. This caused a significant impact on Buzz. He said "At church they teach me one thing. At school they teach me another."



at God's command, so that what is seen was not made from what was visible. (Hebrews 11:3) In the beginning God created the earth in six days as stated in Genesis chapters 1 and 2.

- Day 1: Night and day
- Day 2: Sky and sea
- Day 3: Land and vegetation
- Day 4: Stars, sun and moon
- Day 5: Sea animals and birds
- Day 6: Land animals and humans

The Bible gives us God's account of the beginning of the world, and how we were created. God created our world and universe in 6 days, and He created Adam and Eve as the first humans and placed them in the garden of Eden. On the 7th day, God rested from His work.

People have believed many different things. Like Buzz, you may go to school where you hear all about evolution and how the world is billions of years old. Sometimes people come up with explanations for our existence that avoid believing in God, and they twist science to try to prove it. As Christians, we are not as blind to the past, because we believe that we have a book called the Bible, which gives us a historic account of the beginning of the world. I believe in God, I believe that He created the universe and I believe that the Bible gives me an accurate account of history. God has a plan for my life, and I choose to believe Him.

MEMORY VERSE

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." Hebrews 11:1

MAIN LESSON

Welcome to "Heroes of the Faith" a new Sunday school syllabus where we will do an overview study the old testament through the lens of Hebrews chapter 11, where Paul gives us a list of heroes of our faith. In this study of the Old Testament, we will see that there were many people with many different vocations or jobs. There were farmers, mothers, pastors, cooks, kings and servants. However, we will see that in each one of their lives, the spiritual decisions they made daily were more important than their physical lives or jobs. Do you know what you will be when you grow up? Would you like to be a fireman, doctor, engineer, pastor, teacher, or a mechanic? When we think about our lives, we think of our work, or position and our status in society. However, these things are not as important to God as our hearts and our relationship with Him. God has a special plan for your life!

In today's Bible story, we are learning about creation, the week that God spoke the world into existence. The Bible says that by faith we understand that the universe was formed

RESOLUTION

Buzz can know that there are many things people believe. People used to believe the world was flat, for example, but now we don't. Today we are learning that God created the world and everything in it.



TIMELINE

Draw the line for Adam's life.

Q. When was Adam born? R. on day 6 of Creation

Q. How long did Adam live? R. 930 years.





★ ACTIVITY

What do you like most?

Ask each child what he likes about each day of creation and what they would make.

Day 1 What do you like more: light or dark?

Day 2 Would you rather swim like a fish or fly?

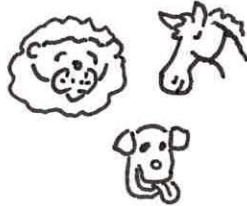
Day 3 What do you like more, day or night?

Day 4: What is your favorite plant or tree?

Day 5 Which birds or fish do you like the most?

Day 6 What is your favorite animal?

Day 7 What you do on a day off?



★ GAME

Beanbag

Prepare a large poster board with the verse divided into small parts. In this game, the children will practice saying the verse.

- The teacher starts the game by throwing a beanbag or ball to a child. The child must stand up and shout the first part of the verse.
- This child, after saying his sentence, must throw the beanbag to another child who catches it and says the next part of the verse.
- A child is out of the game if he:
 - Does not say the phrase quickly
 - Does not stand up
 - Does not shout his sentence (says it too softly)
 - Repeats the phrase of the previous child
- After everyone has had a turn, play the game again going faster and faster each time.



★ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

* How would we be if God had created us as robots? (Nobody would drink, smoke, etc., but it would kill the joy we have. We'd be like slaves, we would not be free).

* How do you want to serve God in the future? (Encourage students to discuss this issue. Remember that God gives different gifts to each, and the arm of the body of Christ is not better than an eye or vice versa).

* What are the most important decisions of our lives? (The spiritual decisions, obedience to God, with whom you're getting married, obeying God even in small things, etc.).

* Where do human beings come from, a monkey, an explosion or from God? (Promote discussion before reaching the correct answer).

★ STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

★ ATTENDANCE

In today's class, give the children the card for attendance, congratulate them for winning another card, and encourage them to come every week to earn more cards so they can play the game. Today's card is: **Creation**



READ

Day 1: Genesis 3:1-10

Day 2: Genesis 3:11-19

Day 3: Genesis 3:20- 4:2

Day 4: Genesis 4:3-16

Day 5: Genesis 4:17-26

ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to take a selfie or make a simple drawing of the things God did during the creation week. Monday: a selfie/drawing during the day and during the night. Tuesday: a selfie/drawing showing the sky and another of the sea, lake, or river, if possible. Wednesday: a selfie/drawing showing plants and trees. Thursday: a selfie/drawing of the sun and another of the moon or stars. Friday: a selfie/drawing of fish and one of birds, if possible. Saturday: a selfie/drawing of animals and people. Sunday: take a break from your homework.



9

GIVE HIM YOUR HEART

Hero: Abel
Genesis 4:1-16, Hebrews 11:4



NEED STORY

It was very early Saturday, when Comet's dad came to his bedroom, woke him up and said, "Son, please wash my car. I have to leave later, and I don't have time to do it now." Comet got up and started doing his homework, cleaned the patio of his house, and took out the trash. He did everything except what his father asked him to do, because he did not want to do it. After doing all this he went to the store and bought a gift for his dad. When his father returned, Comet met him at the door and gave him the gift he had bought. His father did not thank him or hug him, as he was very sad because his son had not done what he asked.



Sometimes when we follow God, we end up following rules instead of doing what pleases God. Just like Comet in the story earlier, we try to do everything to please God except the one thing He wants most. We are careful not to say bad words or smoke, and we are careful to attend church every week, but sometimes we do it because we care about what other Christians think of us. Jesus said that it shows we do not believe if we accept praise from each other but do not seek to please God (John 5:44). When God confronted Cain about what he was planning to do, he could have changed his behavior to please God. Instead, Cain cared more about his brother getting God's favor. He cared more about status and his own hurt pride than he cared about God! God asks us in Mark 12:30 to love Him with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our strength (also Deuteronomy 6:5, Luke 10:27). Abel gave God his heart; because he loved God so much, he gave God the best of the best of everything he had. Will you give an empty gift like Cain, or give God your heart like Abel? I want to give God what he wants: my heart!

MEMORY VERSE

Mark 12:30 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

MAIN LESSON

Welcome back to "Heroes of the Faith!" Yesterday we learned to believe God. We want to live in such a way that shows that we believe God. Today we are going to look at two brothers who both did something to show their belief in God, but one actually pleased God and the other one did not.

In Genesis 4, we see that Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain who became a farmer and Abel who became a shepherd. Both brought gifts to God from their work. Cain brought produce, but Abel brought "fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock." When they saw that God liked Abel's offering but not Cain's offering, Cain got incredibly upset with Abel. God warned him, but instead of listening to God, Cain killed Abel!! God punished Cain for murdering his brother by kicking him out of his family and giving him hard labor.

RESOLUTION

When Comet realized his dad did not say anything, he went to the room very sad. He was angry because he thought about everything he did for his dad, but his dad did not even thank him.



TIMELINE

Draw the line for Abel's life. Q. How old was Adam when Abel was born? A. There is no exact time, but it is thought that Adam was about 50 years old. Q. How long did Abel live? A. There is no exact time, but it is thought that he lived about 50 years.

ACTIVITY

Love Recipe

Make copies of the recipe picture, one for each child in the class. Children can color them and take them home.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. In what situations would be possible to deceive God? (Try to suggest different situations, and not just say "no" if it is not correct).
2. All good people will go to heaven, right? (No. Being "good" doesn't allow us to enter heaven. Being born again allows us to enter heaven).
3. Do I have to be a fool for Christ? (There are wise and foolish people in all careers who follow Christ).

GAME

Target shooting

Copy the drawing of a child on a poster board. Cut out the shaded parts marked in the drawing to make holes for a target.

- Make paper balls for each child by crumpling a sheet of paper to form a ball.
- Explain that they must put their ball in the hole in the heart. When placed elsewhere in the body it does not count.
- When a ball enters the heart, the child earns 1 point. The one who accumulates the most points is the winner.



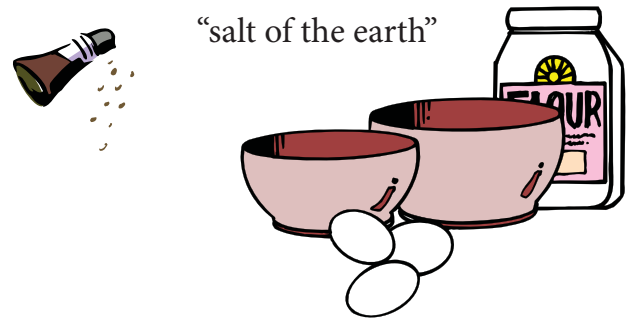
STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.



LOVE RECIPE

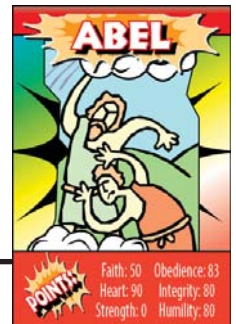
- 2 cups of kind deeds
- 2 cups of obedience
- 4 tablespoons of quality time together
- 1 glass of water for the thirsty
- 1 tablespoon of affection
- 1 tablespoon of the



"salt of the earth"

ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is: **Abel**



READ

- Day 1: Gen 5:1-8
- Day 2: Gen 5:9-16
- Day 3: Gen 5:17-24
- Day 4: Gen 5:25-32
- Day 5: Gen 6:1-8

ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to give something from your heart. The Bible says that whatever we do for others, we do for Jesus (Matthew 25:40), so look for an opportunity to help someone or give someone something they need. Make sure you have your parents' permission. Do not do anything dangerous. Do not give anything so you get something in return.



PLEASE GOD

Hero: Enoch

Genesis 5:21-24, Hebrews 11:5-6



NEED STORY

A friend of Taffy felt bad about a problem and went to Taffy to ask for advice. She said, "My parents will not let me go alone to my cousins' ranch, and I want to go to share with them the Word of God. I do not know whether to leave without permission. I think I should, but I do not know what really pleases God. What should I do? I was also going to ask what to do on social media. I saw a picture that said to do what feels good to me, and it feels right to go to my cousins' ranch."



MEMORY VERSE

John 14:23 "Jesus replied, 'Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.'"

MAIN LESSON

Welcome back to Heroes of the Faith! We learned to believe God and to give Him your whole heart. We are going to take it a step further. Have you ever pleased your teacher, your dad or your mom? It feels really good when someone tells you that you did a good job, doesn't it? The good feeling swells up inside you until you have a huge smile on your face. Let's learn about a man who pleased God and learn how we can please God, too.

A long, long time ago there was a man named Enoch. We do not have much information about him, but what we do know is super cool. "Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away," Genesis 5:24. God liked him so much that he took him! How special! One day we are going to meet him in heaven and we can all spend time together. In Hebrews 11:5-6 we read that "he was commended as one who pleased God." Could you imagine what it was like for him to see God? Enoch must have had the biggest smile ever!

The way we can please God is by believing in His Word and by walking with him,

like Enoch. Hebrews 11:6 says, "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." We believe in God, and we seek Him by believing and acting on His Word the Bible. Earlier we heard about Taffy's friend who wanted to know what to do. The Bible says to obey and honor her parents, so that is what she should do.

The Bible is the Word of God to us. We believe that the Bible is the Infallible Word of God. (That has no errors) This way we can read it and believe that what it says is true. Not only that, but the Bible is the LIVING Word of God!!

How can it be alive?? The Word of God is alive and effective (Hebrews 4:12). Have you ever read the Bible and the words almost jumped off the page, with exactly the right words you needed that day? Christians all over the world have that happen all the time. John 1:14 says that when Jesus Christ came, it was like the Bible became a person and walked with us humans! When we read and believe the Bible, it's like we're walking with God, just like Enoch!

I want to please God, so I believe in the Bible, that it has no errors and is my book of instructions for the Christian life.

RESOLUTION

"Look friend," says Taffy, "In the Bible, it says that you must honor and obey your parents. It also says that you must obey your authorities. And the best way to know the will of God is not by asking me or social media, but by reading the Bible. That is where God says what he wants you to do."



TIMELINE

Draw the line for Enoch.

Q. How old was Adam when Enoch was born? A. 622 years old

Q. How long did Enoch live? A. 365 years.



★ ACTIVITY

Follow the Leader

For this activity, children work in pairs. The Bible says that Enoch walked with God, and this is different than saying that God walked with Enoch. If you want to walk with someone else, you must follow, go ahead, or turn when they turn. Have the children in their pairs lead the other person for a few minutes, then switch and have the other lead. Recognize that sometimes it is not easy to follow someone, and you must stay alert and ready for anything.



★ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

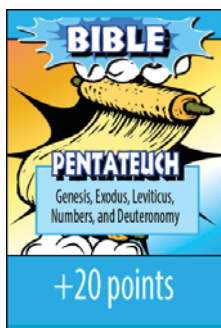
(For older students)

1. Is it true that God wrote the Bible? (God didn't write it, but he gave the ideas to the people who wrote it. The Bible was written by about 40 men over 1500 years).
2. Why am I not perfect? (Talk about how God wanted us to enjoy life, so he didn't make us robots. All humans make mistakes, but God will help anyone who follows him. Also talk about self-esteem and love and the grace of God).
3. How can we please God? (Giving him our hearts, obeying him, and spending time with Him).

★ ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is:

Pentateuch



★ STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

★ GAME

Pentateuch Relay

On five sheets of paper, write one of the first five books of the Bible and a figure of the corresponding movement mentioned below.

On another sheet write "Pentateuch." Mark a starting line with a piece of ribbon or a chair and place the "Pentateuch" sheet as the goal.

Put the five sheets with the books of the Bible in various places, as far away from the goal as your space allows.

Movements

- Genesis: Stretch limbs.
- Exodus: Squats.
- Leviticus: Jump.
- Numbers: Twirl.
- Deuteronomy: Hop on one foot.

Play

- Form 2 teams to run a relay race.
- A student from each team runs through the course at the same time.
- After reaching each paper, a student shouts the name of the book of the Bible while making the move indicated, once for each syllable.
- After completing each book of the Pentateuch, the student then runs and touches the goal, and the next team member starts.
- The team members must run to a different book than has been reached so far.
- The first team that has reached all five books and has touched the goal is the winner.

Repeat the game until all the children learn the first five books of the Bible.



READ

- Day 1: Gen 6:9-22
- Day 2: Gen 7:1-12
- Day 3: Gen 7:13-24
- Day 4: Gen 8:1-12
- Day 5: Gen 8:13-22

ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to read some stories in the New Testament and watch for Jesus walking with you. Write about times when you think he helped you or helped others because you asked him to. Sometimes he gives us ideas, too, so you can write down ideas Jesus may have given you. Check with your teacher to make sure the ideas agree with the Bible.



4

OBEY GOD

Hero: Noah

Genesis 6:9-9:17, Hebrews 11:7



NEED STORY

Kip's parents went on a trip, so Kip stayed at his cousin's house. Before leaving, his father asked him to please not go out at night, that it was a bit dangerous. They wanted to be relaxed on the trip knowing that he would not be out at night. "It's okay dad, I will not go anywhere," Kip told them. After his parents left, that same night, his cousins invited him to go to town with them. He liked the idea very much, so he began changing his clothes to go with them. "All right, let's go," everyone said.



understand the danger of a busy street, but he must obey his parents and stay away from it. Have your parents ever told you to do something that you did not understand?

Sometimes it is hard to obey because we are afraid of what people will think of us. Could you imagine how strange Noah seemed to everyone else? But if they could have seen the future, they would have helped and asked for a ride! Sometimes we think it will be impossible. God told Noah to get a pair of each animal on the boat. Cats hate water and moving things like boats and they don't listen! Noah not only had to get cats, but lions and sheep and all animals together!

Noah obeyed anyway and built the ark. Then animals obeyed God too and came on their own! The whole earth flooded for a year and 10 days, and everything was wiped out! The Bible says that whoever keeps commandments keeps their life (Proverbs 19:16). Through Noah's obedience, not only was he saved, but also his family and all the different animals. If you obey God, it could save others as well. Earlier we heard about a boy named Kip. When he was about to go outside with his cousins, he remembered what his parents said and told his cousins he would not go. God promised never to flood the earth again with the rainbow as a sign. Every time you see a rainbow, think about God's promise and how you can obey God like Noah. I choose to obey God because it is worth it.

MEMORY VERSE

James 1:22 "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

MAIN LESSON

Have you ever said something like, "I'm not at all scared of tarantulas" then when you see one you squeal and run away? Or have you told your Mom or Dad that you would do what they asked, then disobeyed them? Last week we learned to believe God's Word, but it is easy to say that and not do what it says! James 2:26 says that our faith is dead if we do not act on it. Today we are going to learn about a man whose faith was very much alive.

The Bible tells us that God decided to flood the whole earth once because all the people were wicked. God told Noah, the only righteous man on earth, to build an ark (a really big boat).

It can be hard to obey God for different reasons. Sometimes we don't want to. The Bible doesn't say what Noah thought, but I'm guessing he wasn't making arks before and he had to change to obey God.

Sometimes it is hard to obey because we don't understand.

It took around 100 years to build the ark, and Noah would have seen blue skies and no sign of a flood! A little child may not

RESOLUTION

But just before leaving, Kip remembered the words of his father, and told his cousins that he would not go. Kip decided to obey his parents.



TIMELINE

Draw the line for Noah's life.

Q. How many years passed from the birth of Enoch to the birth of Noah? A. 434 years

Q. How long did Noah live? A. 950 years.



ACTIVITY

Noah Says

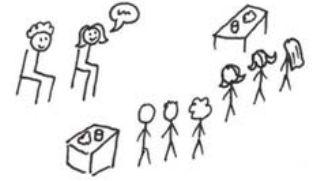
Let's do an activity called "Noah says" that requires children to obey "Noah". (It is like a familiar game, "Simon says") Noah stands in front of the participants, then gives orders to perform different actions. If Noah says, "Noah says, 'Jump up and down,'" the children must do it. If he says "Jump up and down" without saying "Noah says" first, the children should do nothing. The player who fails to comply with orders Noah commands or moves without hearing "Noah says" before the order, is disqualified. The game ends when one child is left or when all the children have been disqualified.



GAME

The king and queen ask!

- Select two children to play the role of king and queen.
- Have them sit on two chairs as their thrones in front of other children.
- Once they are ready, the teacher first asks the queen, "What do you want?"
- The queen asks for something in the room, and all the children run to bring that item, girls to the queen, and boys to the king.
- Then the teacher asks the king what he wants, and the students try to bring the item he asked for to their king or queen.
- Continue the game for the time allotted.
- The team that is fastest, more respectful, obedient, etc., is the winner.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. Why do my parents always tell me what to do? (Because they love you very much and want the best for you. It would be good also to discuss the fact that parents are human and make mistakes).
2. What if disobeying God makes me popular and fashionable? (Talk of different situations related to this. Help your students recognize that there will be times when they will have to decide whether to obey God or to be popular).
3. Will I live happily ever after? (Discuss childhood fables, happiness with material things, a perfect life on earth would be like, what being happy for eternity would be like).

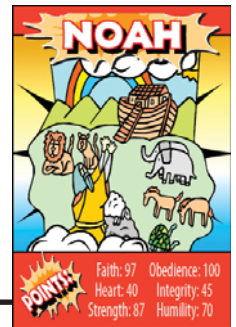
STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is:

Noah



READ

- Day 1: Gen 15:1-6
- Day 2: Gen 15:7-21
- Day 3: Gen 21:1-6
- Day 4: Gen 22:1-10
- Day 5: Gen 22:11-19

ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to write down one or more times that you were tempted to do something God does not want you to do, but you decided to follow God instead.





PASS THE TEST

Hero: Abraham

Genesis 12:1-7, 15:1-6, 21:1-3, 22:1-19,
Hebrews 11:8-19



NEED STORY

It was a very, very important test. Everyone had to be ready for this test, because they would use the results to choose who would go to the knowledge Olympics. That's why Peppy spent all day studying without going out to play-- she wanted to get first place. The expected day arrived. Everyone was ready, in their seats with their sharpened pencils. The teacher arrived and gave them the test. To Peppy's surprise, the exam was on a different subject than she had studied.



bad habit, a friend who is a bad influence, to stop lying or stealing, or to do chores for your mom. It is not always bad, though. Abraham's boy Isaac wasn't bad. Sometimes it is good thing that is competing with your love for God. For some people, God is asking them to give up higher education because they want an important title, for others it is to continue higher education when they don't want to. It could be a musical instrument, a crush (someone you like), or a favorite cartoon. Many Christians are unwilling to give something up, and they remain stuck in their faith and stop growing, like Peppy who studied the wrong subject for the test. When the moment comes for you to choose either God or something else, which will you choose?

Abraham chose to obey God in this incredibly hard thing. He walked with Isaac to the top of the mountain, tied him up, and put him on an altar. Just as Abraham was about to kill Isaac with a knife, God stopped him! God showed him a ram trapped in a nearby bush and they offered that instead. But it was clear that Abraham loved God more than anything else in the world.

God did something similar when He sent is own son Jesus Christ to die in our place. Jesus said that in everything, we should do to others what you would have them do to us (Matthew 7:12) then He put into practice His own words by giving us His life. God gave us everything He had, and He asks us to do the same for Him.

I love God more than anything else in the whole world, and I choose to give Him anything He asks of me.

MEMORY VERSE

James 1:12 "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."



MAIN LESSON

Let's learn about the man called the father of our faith. One day God called Abraham to leave his father's town and follow God, and Abraham obeyed. Abraham and his wife couldn't have children. In one of the most important moments in his life, God promised him he would have a child even though he was so old. Not only that, but his descendants would become a big nation and the whole world would be blessed through him! Abraham believed God and God called it righteousness. Years later, Abraham and Sarah had a boy named Isaac. Years after that, God asked Abraham to sacrifice his own son, his precious little boy that he loved so much and that was God's fulfilled promise to Abraham! God had in mind to save Isaac, but He didn't tell Abraham yet. God waited to see just how much Abraham loved Him. Sometimes God has big plans for our lives, but before they come true there comes a test. God wants to know just how much we love Him. What is God asking of you today? Sometimes it is something wrong that you need to change like a

RESOLUTION

She became very nervous when answering the exam. After everyone finished the teacher reviewed the exams and gave them the result. Everyone passed the exam except Peppy. When all her classmates realized that they made fun of her. Peppy was very sad.



TIMELINE

Draw the line for Abraham's life.

Q. How old was Noah when Abraham was born? A. 890 years old

Q. How long did Abraham live? A. 175 years.





★ ACTIVITY

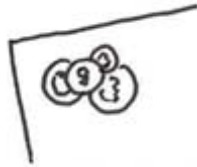
Pop quizzes

This activity will be to discover what students want most, earthly or spiritual things. Tell the children there will be three pop quizzes during class; they will not know when they are.

QUIZZES:

1. Leave coins in the classroom in a visible and accessible place for children. During class, watch to see if someone takes them or what they do when they see them. The child passes the test if he does not take coins.
2. Bring treats, one for each kid, but make sure they are not equal. Some are better than others. Tell students that there is a treat for everyone and to come to the front one by one for their treat. A child passes the test if he does not take the better treat.
3. Give them an opportunity to serve. Ask the children to help clean the classroom after class. The kid that cleans better passes the test.

CONCLUSION: After all the three tests, tell the children what the evidence was, who passed, and explain why.



★ STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

★ ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game!

Today's card is: **Abraham**



★ GAME

Guess the object

- Gather several objects (flower, pen, buttons, ball, bow, earring, etc.). Do not let the children see them.
- Blindfold the children then allow them to guess what each object is after smelling it, examining it, etc.
- You can form the children into groups then put the items in a bag and pass this to each group, allowing children to touch the objects and guess as many as they can.



★ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. What would you do if someone else takes your place on something super good because they did better than you? (Discuss how you can ask God for help to not be bitter, but to forgive the other person or the teacher. Also discuss how you might be able to study or work harder for the next opportunity).
2. What was your last test from God? (Whether they are young or older children, they may have all gone through some time when they were sure God helped or challenged them. Give them an opportunity to share one instance. One example in the life of Kristina, the author of this curriculum: I remember small tests when I was young. Once I promised God that I would not go to any dances. I thought it would be super easy to do, but then my church had a dance! What a surprise! It was difficult to keep my promise and not go to a Christian event).
3. How can we have good grades in our spiritual life? (Here we must be very careful not to train our students to be pharisees, to only do "religious" things so others can see. Help them to see the difference between being religious and following Jesus from the heart. Is what you are doing only something people can see? Am I doing it because I feel God wants me to, even if nobody else sees it?)

READ

- Day 1: Gen 25:19-26
- Day 2: Gen 25:27-34
- Day 3: Gen 27:1-17
- Day 4: Gen 27:18-29
- Day 5: Gen 27:30-45

ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to write about your dreams, the things you are hoping you can do with your life. Don't be afraid to have big dreams. They can be your favorite things, like being an astronaut, a swimmer, a soldier, a doctor, a business owner. Dream big—your God is big. Then ask God if there is something you should give up for Him, check with your teacher about it, then do it this week.



6

VALUE THE SPIRITUAL

Hero: Isaac

Genesis 25:19-34, 27:1-40, Hebrews 11:20



NEED STORY

It was very early when Buzz's mother asked him to please go to his grandmother's house and ask for a cup of sugar. He got up and went to his grandmother's house. The first thing he saw on the table was a coin. He shouted: "Grandmother, grandmother," and she didn't answer. Buzz thought, nobody sees me, and if I had that coin, no one would make fun of me because I'll be able to buy candy. I'll take it, and nobody will notice. After a few minutes his grandmother appeared and gave him the cup of sugar.



of soup wouldn't make much of a difference, but when he wanted his birthright back, he couldn't get it back! He lost it permanently!

Isaac did value spiritual things. He believed God's promise that his descendants would possess the land, and he blessed Jacob with those promises.

God has a birthright, a plan and blessing for each one of us. But if we are not careful, we can trade the plan away with our choices! One way to do this is to sin. When you lie and say you earned a higher grade than you did, you may look good for a short time, but you have lost your credibility! Earlier, Miguel Angel was planning to take his grandmother's coin, but Peppy entered the house and saved the day! She told him his soul is much more valuable than a coin, and he put the coin back.

When you get older, it gets even riskier. Many Christians marry someone based on looks or status instead of caring about the person's heart. Then, when they want to serve God, their own spouse gets in the way. And the decision of who to marry is permanent! Esau married women who drove Isaac and Rebekah crazy (Genesis 27:46). In contrast, Isaac and later his son Jacob both valued the spiritual when choosing a spouse.

Jesus said that the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth can keep you from being fruitful, from receiving your birthright (Matthew 13:22). Make sure you do not despise your birthright and trade it for anything else, no matter how much you crave it.

I choose to value the spiritual things of life more than the physical things.

MEMORY VERSE

Mark 8:36 "What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?"



MAIN LESSON

Last week we learned to pass the test. Today we will learn to consistently value the spiritual things more than the physical things.

Abraham's son Isaac grew up and had a family of his own. Instead of choosing a wife for himself, he allowed his father to choose for him (Genesis 24). Then Isaac and his wife Rebekah had twins, Esau and Jacob.

One day Esau came home from hunting and was so hungry he thought he would die! He craved something so bad that he would give anything for it! Have you wanted something so bad that you would do anything for it? Jacob decided to trick Esau. He said he would give Esau some food in exchange for his birthright, and Esau agreed to it! He exchanged the entire course of his life for a single bowl of soup!!

In those days fathers would bless their sons before they died. Isaac grew old and lost his eyesight and planned to bless Esau. But Jacob followed his mom's advice, dressed up like Esau and deceitfully took the blessing! Esau thought a bowl

RESOLUTION

At that moment, Peppy entered the house and saved the day! She said to Buzz, your soul is worth much more than the coin! Buzz realized what he was doing, and returned the coin quickly, thanking his friend Peppy.





TIMELINE

Draw the line for Isaac's life.

Q. How old was Abraham when Isaac was born? R. 100 years old

Q. How long did Isaac live? A. 180 years.

ACTIVITY

Decision Souvenirs

In this activity, children will tie a piece of ribbon to a safety pin and use it to remember the important decisions they will make during the week. The ribbon can be fastened to an article of clothing. Pray together that the Lord will remind them to make spiritual choices.

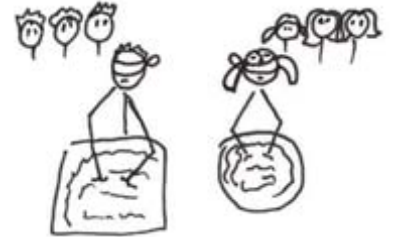


GAME

The good and bad

It is difficult for children to discern between good and bad. In this game, we will practice recognizing something that represents spiritual value.

Fill two containers halfway with uncooked rice, putting 15 small safety pins in each jar. (Make sure all the pins are tightly closed.) Mix the rice and safety pins well. Form two teams. Blindfold a child from each team.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. What are some examples that show that we value the spiritual world over the physical world? (Let the students discuss some ideas: friends, work, popularity, serving in the church, etc.).
2. What if you do not like what seems right? (Give the students time to tell their experiences).
3. What if I am the only one not participating? (Give them a chance to talk about how hard it is to do the right thing when no one is around you. Talk about specific situations).

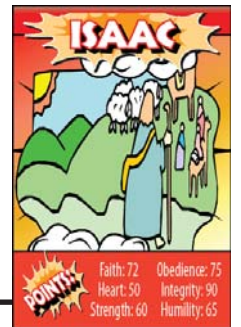
STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is:

Isaac



READ

Day 1: Gen 28:10-15

Day 2: Gen 28:16-22

Day 3: Gen 32:1-8

Day 4: Gen 32:22-27

Day 5: Gen 32:28-32



ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to write about your birthright, the life you can grow into. First, do not think that your family birthright is nothing. It has a lot of value. It may be as a mechanic or an engineer, or a nurse. You can make a difference in your neighborhood or in your country. But write about your spiritual birthright, too. You are a child of God and belong to his mighty family. God has given you various skills and desires, and he can work through those to bring you to success in his spiritual family. You can show this to your teacher, but you don't have to. Your heart is precious to God.





GOD'S BLESSING

Hero: Jacob

Genesis 27:41-28:2, 28:10-15, 28:20-22, 31:3-13, 31:22-24, 32:9-12, 32:22-30, 33:1-11, 35:1-5, Hebrews 11:21



NEED STORY

Comet had a friend who always invited him to parties, but one day he saw that all the children in the parties behaved badly. He did not feel right in the parties. He knew that God did not like it when children behave badly. Then one holiday his friend invited him to another party and said that this party would be the best. Comet really wanted to go, but he was firm and said, "No." When his friend heard that, he said: "If you do not go with me, I'll never speak to you again. You'll lose your best friend." That saddened Comet very much. He did not know what to do. He knew that going to the party was wrong, but he did not want to lose his friend.



Jacob was terrified to go back home! What if Esau still wanted to kill him? He divided his family and belongings into groups so if one group were attacked, the others could get away (physical). During the night, he wrestled with God for his blessing (spiritual).

To Jacob's surprise, Esau ran and hugged him! And Jacob gave Esau a huge gift. When we value God's blessing more than material blessings, we can be generous instead of afraid of people.

Later, God told Jacob and his family to get rid of any other gods, so they buried their idols and gold rings (physical). When they did, anyone who may have wanted to hurt them was terrified! (Spiritual) Jacob said, "God... has been with me wherever I have gone." (Genesis 35:3)

Just like Jacob, we live in a world with a physical side and a spiritual side. The whole world is fighting for more status, toys, good looks, popularity, and better qualifications. Even Christians can go to church and claim we agree with the Bible, then spend our lives fighting for material things, even though Jesus said that you cannot serve both God and money (Luke 16:13).

It is much better to fight for God's spiritual blessings. We can fight to grow closer to God, serve God, serve in church, and tell others about Him. We can fight to open our hearts completely to God and hide nothing from Him. We can fight to put others above ourselves and do what pleases God. Jesus said that those who hear the word of God and obey it are blessed (Luke 11:28). Just like in Jacob's life, sometimes God's blessings come as material things; often they come as something else, like protection or changed hearts. Comet, from earlier today, can fight for God's blessing by not going to those parties.

I choose to fight for spiritual blessings instead of material blessings.

MEMORY VERSE

Luke 11:28 "He replied, 'Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.'"



MAIN LESSON

In life we have a choice to fight for material things (physical) or God's blessing (spiritual). After taking Esau's birthright, Jacob fled because he thought Esau would kill him (physical), but he was also pursuing God's blessing by obeying his parents (spiritual). On the way, the Bible says that his only possession was a staff (physical). While sleeping, he had a dream where he saw angels going up and down a staircase to heaven, and God promised him (spiritual) that he would have many descendants who would possess the land. Jacob asked God to be with him (spiritual), which was better than any possession. Jacob met his extended family, married, had children, and worked for his uncle Laban for 21 years! His uncle cheated him over and over (physical). But God was with Jacob and blessed him (spiritual) with a big family and wealth (physical). Even Laban was blessed because of Jacob! (Genesis 30:27) Sometimes God's blessing in our lives touches the people around us, too. But when Jacob was upset and ran away from Laban (physical), God spoke to Laban and protected Jacob (spiritual).

TIMELINE

Draw the line for Jacob's life.

Q. How old was Isaac when Jacob was born? A. 60 years old

Q. How long did Jacob live? A. 147 years.

STUDENT BOOKS

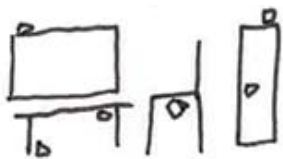
Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.



ACTIVITY

Fighting for blessings

Write "FIGHTING FOR BLESSINGS," on a poster board and stick it to the wall. Write several blessings on small pieces of paper. Distribute the blessings in the room by hiding them on and under things. The children hunt to find the blessings and stick them to the card marked "FIGHTING FOR BLESSINGS." When the designated time is over, have the children stand in front of the poster board and take turns reading the blessings out loud. Ask the children to raise their hands if they have received any blessing that they have read.



ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is: **Jacob**



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. Is it wrong to want the best for myself? (Try to talk about this. It was good for Jacob to fight with God for the best. We need to put others first, however, we should take good care of our soul and spirit, wanting the best blessings for our own lives!).
2. What everyone likes is most important, right? (Let them discuss the tension between loving your neighbor but putting God first. The Bible says that we should live in peace everyone possible (Romans 12:18), but we must follow God no matter what decisions others make (John 21: 22). Discuss specific situations).
3. If I'm wrong or make mistakes can I lose God's blessing for me? (Remember the lesson last week? Esau lost everything because his values were wrong. Jacob received more blessing because he fought for it!).

GAME

Bottle Battle

Insert a little sand into an empty soda bottle to give it a little weight.

- Choose a base.
- Choose a child to be the seeker.
- The seeker will throw the bottle as far as possible.
- All children run to hide, running the opposite direction from where the bottle was tossed. They must hide before the seeker reaches the bottle.
- After returning the bottle to the base, the seeker will look for one of the hidden children to capture him.
- When he finds one, they run to the base. The seeker takes the bottle and hitting the base says, for example, "1, 2, 3, Lucy behind the tree." Then the seeker will go to look for another captive.
- Any of the still-hidden children can rescue others as follows: without the seeker catching him, Tony must run to the base and take and hit the bottle on the ground saying, "1, 2, 3 for me and all my friends." The seeker loses the captives and Tony will have saved his peers.
- If there is no rescue, and the seeker finds all the other players, he will be the winner.
- To play again, the first captive will be the new seeker.



RESOLUTION

He was very sad, so when Taffy came to him she asked, "What's the matter?" Comet explained what happened. Then Taffy told him not to feel bad-- pleasing God is the best choice. God has more friends than anybody. Don't worry about losing a friend for not attending a party. She patted him on the back and left. Comet understood and decided to please God and not to go to that party.

READ

- Day 1: Gen 37:1-11
- Day 2: Gen 37:12-24
- Day 3: Gen 37:25-36
- Day 4: Gen 41:1-13
- Day 5: Gen 41:25-41

ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to remember what you thought about and wrote the last two weeks; your dreams and your birthright. Think about them again, but also think about how you can destroy them by doing certain things. If you are rebellious at home, it can seriously affect your natural birthright. If you dream to be a doctor or engineer, you can destroy that dream by not doing well in school. If your dream requires good health, you can destroy that dream for yourself with smoking, drugs, or alcohol. Write down how to live so you can achieve your dreams and your birthright.

SUPER!

YEAH!!

8

TRUST IN GOD

Hero: Joseph

Genesis 37:2-11, 37:17-36, 39:1-41:13, 41:14-16,
41:28-40, 41:56-42:5, 45:1-15, 47:5, Hebrews 11:22



NEED STORY

Peppy is in school and next to her sat her friend Zip. They love going to school. This morning the teacher asked them to make up a story. Peppy liked to do that, so she did it very quickly. She was the first one who finished and immediately said, "I'm done, Teacher" And what do you think happened? The teacher ignored her and did not answer. Ten minutes later Zip finished and said, "Teacher, I'm finished." The teacher immediately came and said, "Zip, your story is interesting to read." Peppy got very angry, and said, "Since the teacher never pays attention to me, I will not do anything she tells me to do. After all, she does not even realize what I'm doing."



MEMORY VERSE

Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

MAIN LESSON

Jacob, who we learned about last week, had 12 sons. Jacob's favorite son was Joseph, and he gave him a fancy coat. Meanwhile, Joseph had dreams where he would rule them all, and his brothers hated him so much that they planned to kill him! Instead, they sold him into slavery. Often Christians think that God's blessing will keep anything bad from happening to us. But God uses hard times to prepare us for His plan, and we can trust Him.

Joseph was sold to Potiphar, the captain of the guard in Egypt. Instead of moping, he trusted God and did his best and was put in charge of all Potiphar's house! Potiphar's wife liked Joseph and wanted to sleep with him. Joseph feared God and didn't want to do wrong. If someone always tempts you to do wrong, do what Joseph did: refuse even to be in the same room with that person. Though Joseph did no wrong, she falsely accused him, and he was unfairly thrown into prison!

Joseph trusted God, and God blessed

him so that he ran the whole prison! Pharaoh's baker and cupbearer went to prison, and one night they had a dream. Joseph trusted that God would give him the interpretation. The baker died, and the cupbearer was given back his position, just like Joseph said. But the cupbearer forgot Joseph! Unfair again!

Two years later, Pharaoh had a dream, and the cupbearer remembered Joseph. Joseph had practiced trusting God, and he trusted God in front of Pharaoh. The interpretation was that there would be plenty of grain for 7 years, then a terrible famine for 7 years. Then Pharaoh made Joseph prime minister of Egypt after his 13 years of slavery and prison! God had trained Joseph to run the country well, not for Joseph's benefit, but to save everyone.

The famine was so bad that people everywhere were hungry, including Joseph's family. The same brothers who sold Joseph to slavery needed Joseph to save them with grain! But they didn't recognize him, and he tested them to see if they had changed. Then Joseph forgave his brothers and gave them the best land in the country. When we trust God, we can forgive others and treat them kindly.

Like Joseph, Jesus was treated unfairly. He was falsely accused though he did no wrong. Then Jesus was killed on the cross! Like Joseph, He trusted His Father God through it all. Joseph became the prime minister, but Jesus became the king of the whole universe! God asks us to trust Him through the hard times and promises to go through it all with us. Scripture says that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28). Will you allow God to use hard times to prepare you for whatever He has in mind?

I choose to trust God with my life, even when things get hard.

RESOLUTION

Then her friend Buzz realized what happened to Peppy. He talked to her and convinced her that obedience is a quality that Christians should have every day. Maybe his teacher did not hear her and that is why he did not answer her when she finished her work. Peppy realized that her attitude was not right, and she continued to work well with her teacher.

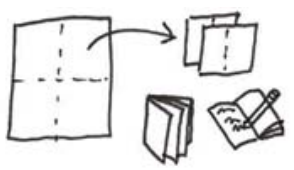




ACTIVITY

Confidence Journal

Children make a journal to write how to trust God during the week. Give each child two quarters of a sheet of paper. Children put the pieces together, folded and stapled in the middle to make the booklet. Then they decorate the cover. Write how they could trust God every day this week in the journal. Help them by doing the first day in class.



TIMELINE

Draw the line for Joseph's life.
 Q. How old was Jacob when Joseph was born? A. There is no exact time, but it is thought that Jacob was 100 years old
 Q. How long did Joseph live? R. 110 years.

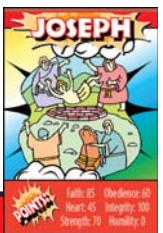
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. Are there things God cannot do? (No, the Bible says that God is all powerful. He can see everything and understand everything from the beginning of time to today and into the future).
2. Why does God allow bad things to happen to us? (In the case of Joseph, God used evil to move him to where God needed him and to train him. God cares more about our spirit, so many "bad" things are not actually bad for us, but for our good. It is also good to recognize that we live in a world where there is much sin, and God has given permission to the devil to walk the earth. So there is death, wars, earthquakes, disasters, and many people doing bad things, and that affects both Christians and unbelievers).
3. Why are other religions not good? (The Bible says that the only way to salvation is Jesus Christ. What do the other religions say you need to do to make yourself right with God?)

ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is: **Joseph**



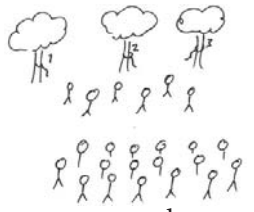
STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

GAME

The Rope

- Tie ropes to three different trees or posts at least one meter apart, and place a label indicating numbers 1, 2 and 3.
- Call for six taggers (depending on how many students are in your class) who will try to tag others.
- The other children spread out in an arc about 10 meters from the trees. Put the six taggers between the others and the trees.
- When the teacher says, "Grab a rope," all children are to grab one of the ropes without one of the six taggers touching them. Whoever is tagged is frozen right there.
- If they reach a rope, and there is already another child at the rope, they should grab the hand of that child to start or extend a row. All children who are grabbing a rope or connected in the line of kids from the ropes are safe and cannot be frozen.
- When all are connected or frozen, blow a whistle to continue the game. The teacher will yell number 2 or number 3, and the children who are connected to that rope must release their rope and grab another without being tagged. Frozen children can also run at that time. The six taggers need to back up six steps before starting again to give opportunity for children to run.
- The teacher will never yell number 1 because when all the children are on rope number 1 or frozen the game ends.
- Keep playing until the kids see that they can always rely on the rope number 1, and all run there first.
- Ask children why everyone is running to rope 1, when 2 and 3 are empty.
- Talk about how similar it is to trust God. He is always faithful, and if we run to Him first, we will not have to run anymore.



ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to forgive people. All of us have experienced being mistreated. We can become angry about that and want revenge, or we can choose to forgive and trust God. This week whenever you think of how someone hurt you, also think, "I forgive them." You don't have to say it to the person, but you can say it out loud even when you are alone. That releases you from the anger you have, and you can be happy again. You are also like your heavenly Father, God, because he forgives all of us. The more you forgive people, the freer you will feel.

READ

Day 1: Ex 3:2-10
 Day 2: Ex 7:10-11, 20-21, 8:6-8, 16-22
 Day 3: Ex 9:2-3, 6-19, 10:3-5, 21-23
 Day 4: Ex 11:4, 12:12-14, 29-30
 Day 5: Ex 14:5-9, 13, 21-27

9

LEAVE SIN BEHIND

Hero: Moses

Exodus 1:1-2:15, 3:1-12, 4:10-17, (7:8-13:42),
14:5-31, Acts 7:20-34, Hebrews 11:23-29



NEED STORY

Comet was running to the store in a hurry because his mom was making dinner and needed an egg right away. He came into the store and called loudly, but nobody was there. Then he saw that there was some money on the counter. Apparently, someone had forgotten it there. Since no one was around, he stared at the money, then he took it.



cannot use Comet when he is stealing. If we repent or let go of our pride and sin, God can use us. Then when God calls, we can be unafraid because we know that God will be doing it through us.

In Egypt, God used Moses to save the Israelites with the biggest display of God's power in history. God brought 10 plagues on Egypt: turning water into blood, lice, flies (or gnats), cattle dying, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, and at the end the firstborn sons of all of Egypt died. In the last plague, God told the Israelites to kill lambs for food and put the blood on their doorposts. In every house that obeyed God, the firstborn sons were saved. It was a picture of God sending His son Jesus to die for us like a lamb. Many people try to save themselves their own way instead of believing in Jesus, repenting, and obeying God. Will you choose God's way?

MEMORY VERSE

2 Timothy 2:21 "Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work."



Israel followed God to the Red Sea, then the Egyptians chased them! Moses told the Israelites that they didn't need to be afraid, that God would fight for them and save them. Then God split the Red Sea and the Israelites walked across on dry ground with walls of water on each side, but the Egyptians drowned. Moses led the Israelites for the rest of his life with humility and almost complete obedience to God.

I choose to repent of my sin and stay clean before God.

MAIN LESSON

Jacob's family grew into the nation of Israel. But the Egyptians turned them into slaves and Pharaoh decided to kill all their baby boys. One Israelite mother floated her baby boy in a basket in the Nile river. Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and named him Moses. Moses showed faith in God by giving up his position in the royal family of Egypt to be part of God's people instead. He wanted to save Israel, but his sin got in the way. One day Moses killed an Egyptian for beating an Israelite. But Moses' heart had another sin: pride. Moses thought he could save Israel in the way he wanted. The Bible says that God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Just like God worked on Joseph's heart, God had to work on Moses' heart. Moses was found out and he fled for his life and lived in the desert.

40 years later, God came and spoke to him from a bush that was on fire but did not burn up. God told Moses to go back, but this time God would be the one saving the Israelites, and Moses would do things God's way. Moses recognized that he couldn't save Israel, that he was bad at talking and bad at leading people. But that was perfect! Often God

uses us in an area we are not good at, so it is obvious that God is doing it through us.

Earlier today we heard about Comet stealing money from the store. God

RESOLUTION

Comet had an opportunity to do a good deed and return the money to the store. He kept thinking about it, and then his friend Peppy, who has a lot of integrity, came along. "I sure needed you," Comet said. With the help of his friend, he did the right thing and returned the money.



TIMELINE

Draw the line for Moses' life.

Q. How many years passed from the birth of Joseph to the birth of Moses? A. We do not have an exact time, but it was about 380 years

Q. How long did Moses live? A. 120 years.



ACTIVITY

Tell a story

Bring magazines or cut out pictures of people, places, and objects to bring to class (avoid grotesque or inappropriate pictures). Form the children into 2 or more teams. Each team uses cut-out pictures from the magazines to create a story that includes sin, repentance, and new life.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. If God forgives me, why should it matter if I sin? (The dilemma of Romans 7. Why be careful not to sin if God will forgive us? Sin is always against God and must be punished. Jesus forgives us, but there are always consequences for sin. For example, if I act out in class, God may forgive me but I will be punished).
2. What if I do something very, very bad? (The idea with this question is to help students know that God does forgive big sins, but they still require us to repent and ask for forgiveness. Also, if we hurt someone very badly, we can go to jail even though God forgives us. There are things involving drugs, violence, or sex that can change our whole future in ways we don't want).
3. Is it okay if I was trying to do something good, and I did something wrong? (Enter the battle between our motives and our actions. God cares about our motives, but Paul asks, "Should we continue to sin so that good will result? The answer is, "God forbids that.").

ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is: **Moses**



STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment is to write how you react when you sin, like hiding it or lying about it, another sin. Sometimes we punish ourselves by saying, "I'm not a very good person, so I shouldn't be allowed to do this or that," and get depressed. But the best response is to just admit that we have sinned and ask Jesus to forgive that sin. God doesn't want you to be depressed about your sin. He wants to forgive it, so you can be free to encourage other people.

GAME

The 10 Commandments

- For this activity, you need 10 eggs, cleaning rags, and a volunteer who is willing to get dirty.
- For every commandment of the 10, have the child hold an egg. Use lots of ways to hold the egg, for example: in his hand, on his foot, between his knees, under his arms, in his mouth, etc.
- Each time it gets harder to keep an egg from falling. Finally, for commandment # 10, put the egg on his head.
- During the game, speak of the commandments, and how easy it is to work with one, but how difficult it is to work with ten. For example, for 6, you say it's easy not to kill anyone, so put the egg in a very easy place (kids can help, shouting where to put the egg). The point is to show children that all have sinned, and we have dropped an egg.
- In the end, break the egg on top of the child's head. (break the egg with a stone, hidden from the kids. Don't hit the kid's head because it hurts). Make sure the child knows he is going to get dirty. This is a very powerful visual lesson.



The 10 Commandments

1. Have no other gods
2. Do not make any idols or bow down to them
3. Do not say the name of God in vain
4. Save a day of rest
5. Honor your father and your mother
6. Do not kill
7. Do not commit adultery
8. Do not steal
9. Do not bear false witness (lie to get someone in trouble)
10. Do not covet

READ

- Day 1: Nu 13:1-3, 17-25
- Day 2: Nu 13:26-33
- Day 3: Nu 14:1-9
- Day 4: Nu 14:10-16
- Day 5: Nu 14:17-24



10

YES YOU CAN

Hero: Caleb

Numbers 13:1-3, 13:17-14:9, 14:7-24, 14:30-45



NEED STORY

In Sunday school, Peppy learned that God wants us to share our faith so that other children can believe in Jesus, too. On Monday, as she was walking back inside after recess, Peppy noticed a girl sitting on a bench alone. On the way to class, she said to her friend Comet, "Did you see that girl on the bench? I bet she's lonely." Comet said, "Hey, maybe you can cheer her up. You could even tell her about Jesus and invite her to church so she's not lonely anymore." Peppy said, "But what can I do? I don't know what to say to her. And what would my other friends think of me?"



MEMORY VERSE

Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

MAIN LESSON

After hundreds of years, God was leading Israel to fulfil His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God told Moses to send 12 spies to explore the promised land. They returned saying the land had milk, honey, and grapes so huge that two men had to carry them on a pole! But 10 of the spies said that the people were huge and that they couldn't take the land. One of the spies, Caleb, stopped them, saying "We can certainly do it." He believed his powerful God would help them. God loves that kind of faith. But the people believed the other spies, grumbled in fear, and refused to go. God was angry with them, and the punishment for those 10 men was death! The punishment for the whole nation was to wander around in the desert. When they disobeyed, they were easily defeated because God was not with them. After wandering for 40 years, the only ones left of that generation were Caleb and the other spy named Joshua who agreed with him. As a reward for their faith, God gave them the land they had seen.

Earlier today we saw that Peppy was scared, but Comet was bold about his faith and helped Peppy. God is pleased when we stand up for our faith and obey Him in something that seems impossible. God has a plan for your life that is beyond what you can imagine if you say yes.

Jesus said that if you have faith like a mustard seed, you can make mountains move (Matthew 17:20). We can grow our faith like a seed by following and serving leaders from our church. Joshua was Moses' personal assistant (Exodus 24:13). Moses would go into a tent to speak with God, but when he left, Joshua would stay in the tent alone with God (Exodus 33:11). We can spend time with God, too, by reading the Bible, praying, and singing songs to Him not just with other people but also when we are alone. We can remember things God did in the Bible and in our own lives. Caleb and Joshua saw the miracles God did in Egypt. We can choose friends who will encourage us, like when Joshua joined Caleb in encouraging everyone. In contrast, the rest of Israel joined the spies who did not believe. If a friend's unbelief is influencing you, then you can distance yourself from them and spend more time with friends who do believe. Work on your faith so that when God calls you, you can not only obey Him and live the wonderful life that He has in store for you, but also encourage others to do the same.

I choose to say yes to God. Lord, I give You control of my life to do what You want, whether big, small, or even dangerous. My life is Yours. Help me to live for You without fear or grumbling. Please open my eyes to see the big plans you have for me. Thank you.

RESOLUTION

At lunch Comet said, "Hey, what if I go with you? Let's go sit at the table with that girl from the bench. I don't know what to say either, but maybe God will help us both to be kind to her." Peppy was glad that Comet was her friend and could help her share her faith with the girl. The girl was having problems at home but making new friends and learning that Jesus loves her made her feel a lot better.





ACTIVITY

Letter to God

In this activity, each child in the class writes a letter to God saying what they want God to do with their lives. Encourages children to dream big—God is big. Have the children pray at home for this request all week and add more things if they think of them.



GAME

Who Disappeared?

- Children sit in a circle and close their eyes.
- The teacher touches a child, who goes to hide.
- Ask the children to guess who disappeared.
- Option: You can put several objects in the middle of the circle. While children have their eyes closed, the teacher removes one of them and the children must guess which object was removed.



STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. What difficult things has God asked you to do? (Talk to your students about different situations in their lives).
2. What if I hurt myself or I get into a difficult situation by doing what I believe God called me to do? (Many have even lost their lives obeying God, so no matter how difficult it is, it is always better to obey God to do disobey him).
3. How I can be sure I heard the voice of God? (You can check any decision with these 3 suggested rules: 1. The Bible: do you find it is a good thing in the Bible? 2. My authorities: what do my parents, or my pastor say; and, 3. My spirit: the bible says that we are sheep of the good shepherd and can know his voice. We must learn how to listen to our own spirit when we feel that we should or should not do something. Following these rules, if we decide that it is the voice of God, we must obey, even if it seems impossible!)

TIMELINE

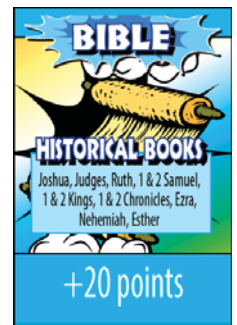
Draw the line for Caleb's life.

- Q. How old was Moses when Caleb was born? A. We do not have his exact age, but it is thought that Moses was 40 years old
- Q. How long did Caleb live? A. We do not have an exact time but is thought that he lived 110 years.

ATTENDANCE

In today's class, give the children the card for attendance, congratulate them for winning another card, and encourage them to come every week to earn more cards so they can play the game. Today's card is:

Historical books



READ

- Day 1: Nu 22:1-8
- Day 2: Nu 22:9-17
- Day 3: Nu 22:18-25
- Day 4: Nu 22:26-33
- Day 5: Nu 22:34-41



ASSIGNMENT

This week your assignment is to write down five good things that God has done for you. Then think about who in your life would agree that those are good things. Those are the people you want to spend the most time with. Think about how you can change some of what you do every day so that you can spend more time with those friends. You already have some faith. This will help your faith grow, like watering a plant helps it grow.



DO NOT EVEN THINK ABOUT IT

Bible Story: Balaam

Numbers 22:1-6, 22:9-38, 23:13-21, 24:10-13



NEED STORY

Buzz wanted to attend a conference that was happening in his city. He hurried to finish his homework and to help his mother clean the house, so he could have permission to go. He finished and said to his mother, "Mom, may I have permission to go to the conference this afternoon at the center?" His mother told him, "This afternoon won't be possible. We are going to leave, and we want you to stay home." Buzz became so sad and confused. How was it possible that his mother did not give him permission to go? At that moment, Kip, his Sunday school companion, called and asked him, "Are you going to come? Should we wait for you?" He said, "No, I can't go." Kip said, "Buzz, it's something about God. You can go. God is more important than everything!"



later she lay down in the road. When Balaam was upset at his donkey, God let the donkey speak! She said, "Why are you upset at me? Haven't I been your trusty donkey? Have I ever done this?" Then God let Balaam see the angel who could have killed him, and Balaam realized what he was doing was wrong. Balaam realized that God did not want him to curse Israel, no matter how big of a reward he could get from king Balak. When they arrived, Balaam blessed Israel four times and didn't think about disobeying God anymore.

Earlier today we heard about Buzz who is tempted to disobey his parents and go to the conference. It is easy for him to come up with reasons for going, like when Kip told him that the conference is about God. But God commands us to obey our parents, and God's command is not going to change because of a conference. Jesus said to watch and pray so we don't fall into temptation (Matthew 26:41). Watch your thoughts because the longer you think about how much you want to do wrong, the harder it is gets to do right. As soon as you remember what God's Word says, be quick to obey it so that you don't even think about doing wrong. I choose to be quick to obey God and not even let myself think about doing wrong.

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 6:1 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

MAIN LESSON

Last week, Israel began wandering around in the desert for 40 years. While Israel was traveling, they passed through the territory of the nation of Moab. The Moabites were terrified of them, so the Moabite king Balak sent for a man named Balaam to come curse them. When Balaam asked God what to do, God told him not to go. But king Balak was upset and really wanted Balaam to come and sent better princes and promised a big reward for coming. Balaam told them to wait and see what God said. Sometimes when we don't agree with God, we are tempted to ask again or push Him to change His mind. God allowed him to go but was mad at him. Sometimes when we push God, He lets us have both the thing we want and the consequences that go with it. As Balaam went on his way to Moab, an angel stopped in the road in front of him. Balaam didn't see it, but his donkey did. First his donkey turned off the road into a field, then further down the road she pressed Balaam's leg into a wall, then

RESOLUTION

At that moment, Buzz remembered that the Word says that we must obey our parents and that God likes us to be obedient. Then he said, "I'm not going." He told Kip what the Word says we should do.



TIMELINE

Mark a point in time when the story of Balaam's donkey happened.

Q. How old was Moses when God's people began to wander in the wilderness? A. 80 years old

Q. When did Balaam start working against the people of God? A. While they were wandering in the desert.

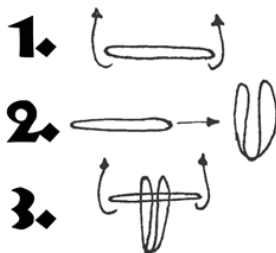


ACTIVITY

Rubber Band Chains

During class children make a rubber band chain to remember all week that should not beg. Follow the cartoons to make them or you can use plastic rings.

1. Take a rubber band and fold it in half.
2. Pass another rubber band through the loops made by the first rubber band.
3. Fold the rubber band in half to form a chain. Repeat these steps to form the chain the size you want.
4. Use another folded rubber band to tie the ends together



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. Who should I listen to? (First, God, then your authorities here on earth. Keep in mind, though, that we will often be surer of following God if our authorities agree with what we think we are hearing).
2. What if my parents ask me to do something wrong? (Talk about different cases where your parents might be wrong. Help your students see the parents' viewpoint, because in most cases, parents are right).
3. When will I get to be the boss? (In my experience, even when they become adults, there are still a few years where God asks them to serve another. For students who are gifted leaders, encourage them to wait until God gives them their ministry. Jesus, for example, could ask challenging questions of the religious leaders when he was twelve, but God didn't allow him to start his ministry until he was thirty).

GAME

Don't stab the donkey

- Take a card and draw a donkey in the center, leaving blank space for the sword. Also draw a sword the same size as the blank space around the donkey.
- Form two or three teams of children and choose a child from each team.
- Give the chosen child the sword and have his team close their eyes.
- The team will direct the child yelling directions (right, left, up, down). They try to direct the sword to the empty spaces of the cardboard and not touching the donkey.
- Each team competes, and a winning team is chosen.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. Who should I listen to? (First, God, then your authorities here on earth. Keep in mind, though, that we will often be surer of following God if our authorities agree with what we think we are hearing).
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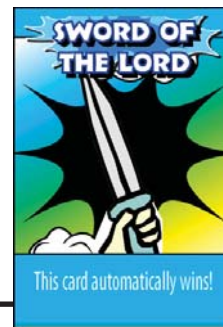
STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is:

Sword of the lord



READ

- Day 1: Jo 5:13-6:5
- Day 2: Jo 6:6-11
- Day 3: Jo 6:12-19
- Day 4: Jo 6:20-23
- Day 5: Jo 6:24-27



ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to write about something you are rebelling against, something you don't want to do but should do, or something you want to do but shouldn't do. It could be something as simple as this homework assignment or it could be something your parents want you to do. Think of the damage this might be causing to your heart, your friends and family, or your future hopes and dreams of serving God. Then ask Jesus to forgive you and clean it from your heart, telling Jesus that He is your king. Keep track of whether the rebellion went away or not and repeat that prayer as much as you need to.

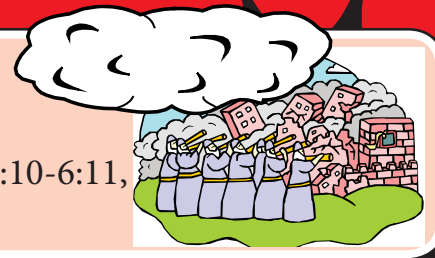


19

GOD'S SIDE

Hero: Joshua

Joshua 1:1-11, 2:1-21, 3:14-4:7, 4:15-18, 5:10-6:11, 6:15, 6:20-25, Hebrews 11:30-31



NEED STORY

Kip is about to finish the school year. It's time for final exams, and he knows he must do well to keep his scholarship. Tomorrow he has the first exam, but today, he has been playing with his friends and watching cartoons. At the end of the day, when he is going to sleep, he prays, "God, please, I ask you to help me tomorrow in my exam. I must do very well to be able to keep my scholarship. Thanks for listening to me. I know that You will help me."



MEMORY VERSE

John 1:12 "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

MAIN LESSON

Remember how Joshua built his faith? God chose Joshua to lead the nation and promised him that He would always be with him. After wandering for 40 years, it was time to take the promised land. Joshua sent two spies to the city of Jericho. A prostitute named Rahab hid the spies and helped them escape through a window in her house, a part of the city wall. They agreed to save her and her family only if she tied a red cord in the window.

To cross the Jordan river, the priests carried the ark of the covenant, a symbol of where God was, and walked straight into the middle of the river. The river at flood stage miraculously piled upstream. Imagine trying to hold a pile of water in your hand. Israel walked across on dry ground and took 12 rocks from the riverbed to always remember what God did. We can write about what God is doing in our lives, too. Then Israel celebrated the Passover festival: remember when they put the blood of sheep on doorposts in Egypt to be saved?

One day Joshua saw a man with drawn sword. He asked if he was on Israel's side or on their enemy's side. The man said that he was on neither side, but that he was the commander of the Lord's army. The man was Jesus!

Sometimes we assume God is on our side just because we call ourselves Christian or go to church. Sometimes we do wrong, like not studying for a test or even sin, then pray to God for whatever we want and wonder why He doesn't answer. But we must join God's side, not the other way around. The Israelites joined God's side with the Passover celebration, a picture of believing in Jesus. Rahab joined God's side by helping God's people and tying the red cord in her window, another picture of believing in Jesus. The pharisees, Israel's religious leaders in Jesus' time, assumed they were on God's side but made Him mad by not believing in Jesus and by pushing other people away from God. Jesus told them that the tax collectors and prostitutes were entering the kingdom of God ahead of them by believing and repenting (Matthew 21:31-32). We cannot put our trust in our parents' faith or in going to church, and we must not judge others because of where they come from. No matter where you come from, YOU must believe in Jesus to be saved.

The Israelites marched around the city and shouted. The walls fell except Rahab's house, and the Israelites burned the city. Rahab not only joined God's people, but she became the great-great-grandmother of future king David and great-great-many-more-great-grandmother of Jesus (Matthew 1:5-6, 16). And Joshua led the nation for the rest of his life.

I recognize that being among Christians does not mean that God is on my side. I choose to join God's side by believing in Jesus and obeying Him.

RESOLUTION

Kip's exam was super difficult, and he could pass it only by studying. He finished the exam and hoped that somehow God would help him. Days later they gave him his results and Kip failed the exam for not having prepared. Kip lost his scholarship. Then he felt very sad and picked up his cell phone and called his friend Taffy so that she would have compassion for him.



STUDENT BOOKS

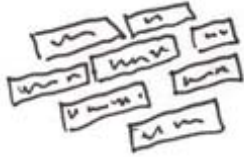
Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.



ACTIVITY

The Walls of Jericho

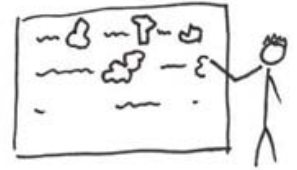
Let children pray and reflect for a few minutes on something that separates them from God. Give each child a piece of paper as if it were one of the bricks of the walls of Jericho. Tell them to write on their brick something that blocks or separated from God. After this, have the students fold the paper and take it home. Encourage them to look at the paper during the week and pray that God will throw down that wall that separates them from Him.



GAME

Draw this

- Prepare a poster with the memory verse. Omit several words, leaving a white space instead.
- To play, students find the verse in the Bible, and say what words of the verse are missing from the poster.
- In the empty spaces, students draw pictures to represent the missing words. (The missing words may be shown in more than one way).
- If your group is large, divide it into teams of 4 to 6 and make a copy of the poster for each team.
- When all the images have been drawn, have them say the verse several times until they learn it well.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. What was the last time that you asked for God's help in something that was not his will? (Talk about humorous prayers like praying for someone on TV, praying for not having to work, praying that another student loses a game, etc.).
2. God is so big; how can he be my best friend? (Talk of the different aspects of God, like his greatness, but also his love. Also discuss the fact that he knows us completely).
3. What does God want from me? (We all have different gifts from God and different physical abilities. God can use us all in one way or another to show his glory in this world and reach more people for Him. What gifts do you have? What abilities do you have? Remember, too, that God can use us in things where we are not gifted or have abilities. Sometimes he wants to show his greatness through our weakness. He cares very much about a ready and available heart to do anything he asks of us).

TIMELINE

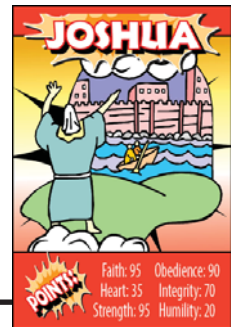
Draw the line for the life of Joshua.

- Q. How old was Moses when Joshua was born? A. We do not have his exact age, but it is thought that Moses was 40 years old
 Q. How long did Joshua live? A. 110 years.

ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is:

Joshua



READ

- Day 1: Jo 7:1-12
- Day 2: Jo 7:13-19
- Day 3: Jo 7:20-26
- Day 4: Jo 8:1-13
- Day 5: Jo 8:14-29



ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to think to yourself whether you are pretending to be a Christian to be part of a group or if you really believe in Jesus. If this is your first time or you are unsure, ask your Sunday school teacher how you can join God's family by believing in Jesus. If you have already accepted Jesus, then say something nice this week to someone who is different from you, like complimenting their outfit or the way they play games well.



13

DON'T KEEP ANYTHING

Bible Story: Achan

Joshua 6:17-19, 7:1-12, 7:20-8:7, 8:18-27



NEED STORY

Comet was in his classroom completing his science work before the teacher asked for it. He wanted to get the top grades. At that moment a friend entered, running and stumbling, and knocked down Comet's work. When it fell to the floor it was destroyed so he had nothing to give to his teacher. Comet got very angry, but the boy apologized in front of all the classmates and the teacher.



Then Comet could not do anything. He had no choice but to say, "You apologized, so I forgive you." But really Comet did not forgive him. He thought, "One of these days I will do the same to him, and he will know what it feels like to lose something so important." After that, Comet waited for the teacher to give a big and important project. One day the teacher assigned such a project. Comet said, "This is my opportunity!" When it was time to turn it in, Comet went to the store to buy a soda. His intention was that "accidentally" he could spill the soda on his partner's work.

MEMORY VERSE

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

MAIN LESSON

Last week, Joshua and the Israelites took Jericho. God told them that everything in that first city belonged to Him, that they were to burn it and keep nothing for themselves. The plunder from the remaining cities was for Israel. In our lives, the first of everything belongs to God, and we are to give it to God.

Joshua and the Israelites thought it would be easy to take the next city Ai. It was small compared to the battles that the Israelites had already won. God gives us the Holy Spirit inside of us to help us have victory over our sin and to do good things for God, like being kind to our parents. With God's help, it might even seem easy. The Israelites sent only some people against the city, but this time they

were easily defeated! Joshua cried to God, "Why are you not with us anymore? The people in this land will kill us all, and no one will think You are a great God!" God told him to stand up and stop whining, that they had lost because someone had kept some plunder from Jericho, disobeying and lying to God and hiding it. Suppose you lie to your parents one day. You may be able to hide something from your parents, teachers, and friends, but God sees and knows everything. A few days later you realize that it is much harder to be kind to your parents, and you cry and cry to God, asking Him why He is not with you. Instead, do what Joshua did and ask God if you have done wrong. When you do, God is quick to help you because He loves you and wants what's best for you. Just like God cared more about what Israel did than what the neighboring nations thought, He cares more about your heart than an appearance of perfect victory. The Bible says that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us and purify us from our sin. When God shows you what you did wrong, go back and fix it right away. If you lied to your parents, tell them the truth. If you stole something, return it. If you were mean to someone, apologize to them. If you are holding a grudge like Comet, forgive that person and stop requiring retribution from them. If you took something that belongs to God, give it back. The quicker you repent, the sooner God will help you move forward and have victory. God showed Israel that a man named Achan was the one who sinned. They found a cloak, silver coins, and gold bar from Jericho buried in his tent. They took him and his things and destroyed them. Then, when they went back to attack Ai, God helped them get the victory. I choose not to try to keep or hide anything from God and to repent when I have done wrong.

RESOLUTION

But while he was looking for this opportunity, Taffy realized what Comet was trying to do. Then Taffy told him that holding a grudge in his heart and not forgiving was not right. God does not like those things. Comet understood that he was in error. They prayed to God and he truly forgave his friend.



TIMELINE

Mark a point in time when the story of Achan's disobedience happened.

Q. How old was Joshua when they conquered Ai? A. We do not have his exact age, but it is thought that Joshua was 70 years old.

Q. When did Achan disobey God? A. While Joshua and the Israelites were fighting to take Jericho.

ACTIVITY

It is not mine

Have the children put a personal item in the middle of the table. Take one of the items and ask someone, "Is this yours?" If it is not his, the child should answer, "It is not mine and I will not covet or take what is not mine." Repeat this with each item, so that everyone is involved. If the children are young, simplify your answer to, "It is not mine."



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(For older students)

1. What things are hidden in the past that God knows about? (Give them time to talk and remind them that if someone shares something it must not be repeated).

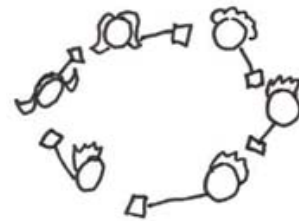
2. Are there second chances with God? (Of course, but also think of the ways we try to trick our parents asking for second chances, when we really want to keep doing the same thing).

3. It is my life, my time and my money, right? (When you go to a new level of being a Christian, and you have given all to the Lord, you will see that your things are not really yours).

GAME

Musical Pass

- Give each student a card with a letter of a Bible verse and have them sit in a circle. Make sure the words of the Bible verse are not in order.
- While the music plays, children pass their cards around the circle.
- When the music stops, students read their papers in the order of the verse.
- After playing several rounds, children come forward with their cards and arrange them in the order of the text.
- Repeat the verse together several times.



STUDENT BOOKS

Find puzzle answers in the back of this book.

ATTENDANCE

Give today's card to the children for attending class. Congratulate them and encourage them to come next week to earn another card so they can play the Heroes game! Today's card is:

Hidden Gold



READ

No reading homework this week.



ASSIGNMENT

Your assignment this week is to write about something you are hiding from God and from others and why you are hiding it. Then think about how that is affecting you. It hurts your fellowship with God, and that is not good. But, just like at Ai, it hurts your class and the people you are following Jesus with. For some reason they might not be able to figure out, they are not as effective, not as happy, or not as friendly as a group as they would like to be. You know what to do. Confess that sin to Jesus and to your parents or a trusted teacher or pastor. Ask God for forgiveness and watch for the difference His forgiveness makes.





LESSON 1

E	M	C	Y	S	E	A	6	A	C	E	A
6	A	A	E	N	V	R	Y	6	R	T	V
S	N	V	O	W	H	E	A	V	E	N	S
T	I	A	M	O	O	N	T	N	A	N	P
A	M	C	A	R	S	Y	E	C	T	E	E
R	A	Y	6	L	C	A	6	O	E	Y	C
S	L	A	N	D	O	V	R	G	D	T	I
U	S	C	R	E	A	T	I	O	N	A	A
N	E	R	Y	N	T	Y	V	D	S	O	L
A	C	A	6	O	C	S	S	R	N	6	V

Animals
Created
God
Special
Creation
World
6 Days
Sun
Heavens
Sea
Land
Moon
Stars
Man

Fill the blanks in the following paragraphs with the words in the boxes at the bottom.

In the beginning God created light and saw that it was good and called the light, "day," and the darkness, "night." The second day God _____ the heavens. The third day, God made the surface and called the water, "sea" and the dry part, "land". And he created vegetation; plants that have seeds and trees that make fruit. On the fourth day he created stars, the sun and the moon. The fifth day he created animals of the sea and birds. The sixth day, he created wild and tamed animals; He created man and woman, He blessed them and gave them authority over all that He had made.



LESSON 2

I	S	P	R	E	S	L	N	C	E	O	N
C	G	I	V	E	D	O	O	P	K	R	W
A	K	P	N	B	W	I	O	R	A	K	O
I	N	F	U	R	I	A	T	E	D	N	R
N	H	L	A	O	P	E	N	S	A	O	K
F	P	O	K	T	D	A	B	E	L	D	B
L	O	C	H	P	L	A	N	D	H	N	
O	A	K	F	E	N	I	A	C	A	O	O
K	H	E	A	R	T	F	D	E	K	U	I
A	B	R	N	F	A	F	R	U	I	T	B

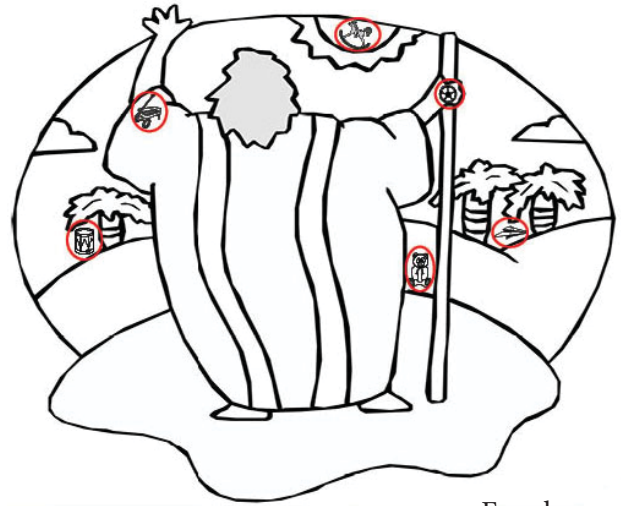
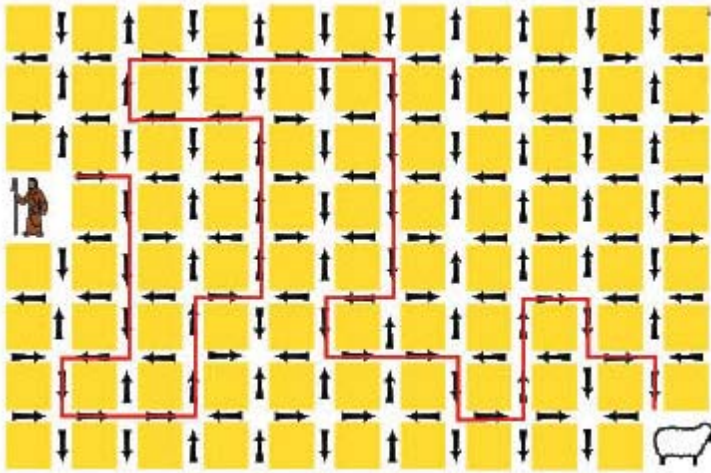
Lord Open Abel
Presence Cain Work
Give Out Infuriated
Heart Land Fruit
 Brother
 Flock
 Sin

1. Abel was the second son of Adam and Eve.
2. Cain liked to care for sheep more than Abel did.
3. God was pleased with both offerings from Cain and Abel.
4. Cain was angry with his brother and killed him.
5. God did not notice that Abel died.





LESSON 3

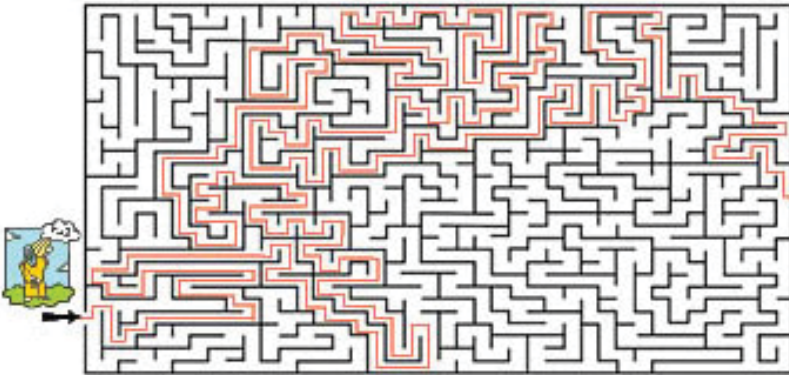


H	G	T	A	K	E	N	F	A	I	T	Y
P	L	E	A	S	E	D	W	G	M	B	T
D	I	S	A	P	P	E	A	R	E	D	H
M	E	T	H	U	S	H	L	E	T	A	A
F	A	I	T	H	A	C	K	C	H	L	S
N	B	M	G	S	E	O	E	E	U	K	I
Y	W	O	R	L	D	N	D	I	S	E	H
D	N	N	R	E	C	E	I	V	E	D	T
G	D	Y	B	N	V	H	G	E	L	H	Y
O	Y	T	H	I	A	S	B	M	A	D	A
D	T	S	L	H	D	Y	N	D	H	T	H

- Enoch
- God
- Received
- Testimony
- Pleased
- Disappeared
- Adam
- Born
- Walked
- Lived
- World
- Taken
- Methuselah
- Faith
- This



LESSON 4



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

- Noah
- Just
- Sin
- Ark
- Flood
- God
- Believed
- Animals
- Family
- Honored
- Rainbow
- Promise
- Us
- Commanded
- Earth

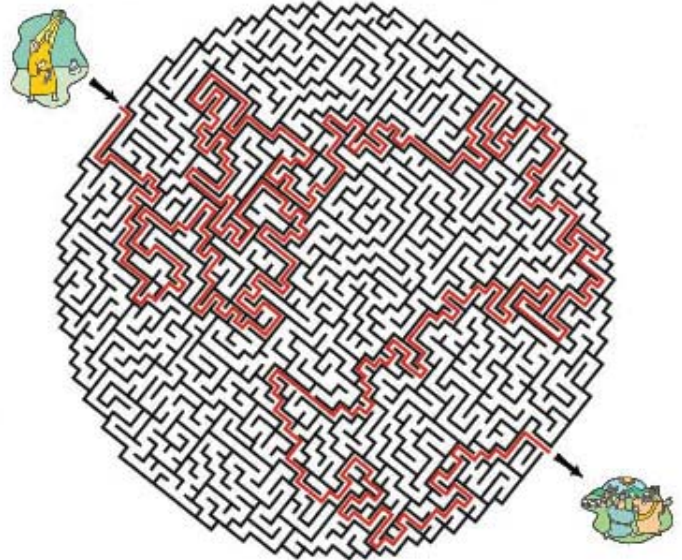
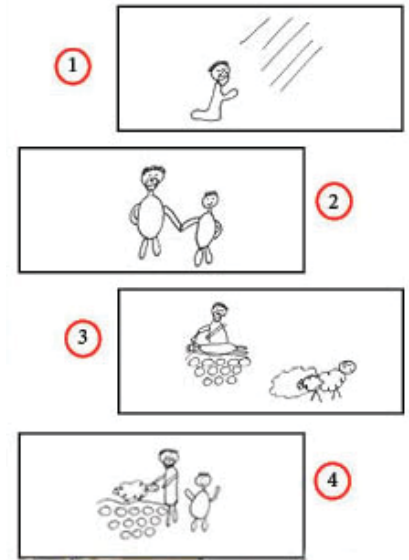




LESSON 5

You Life God
 Examine Spiritual Important
 Study Test
 Surprise Us
 Know Christians
 Discipline Fail

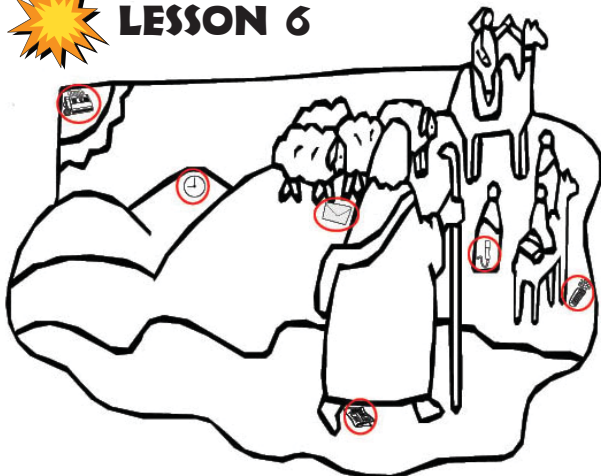
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D	I	S	C	I	P	L	I	N	E	R	L	A
G	R	X	S	L	O	W	S	A	T	I	S	M
L	P	S	P	I	R	I	T	U	A	L	G	I
Y	R	Y	D	U	T	S	I	F	R	E	L	N
D	U	A	N	O	A	G	A	L	T	P	W	E
T	S	C	O	Y	N	E	N	R	S	M	R	O
E	K	T	L	M	T	E	S	T	G	X	R	I



LESSON 6

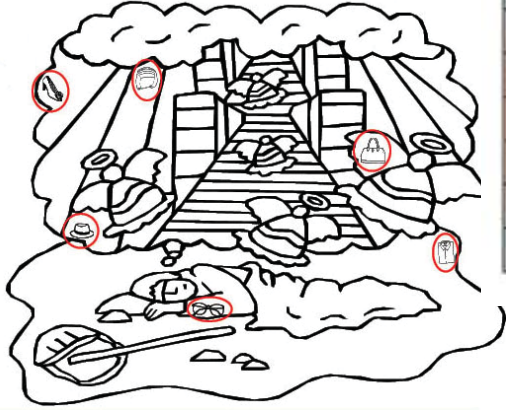
Choose Jacob Obey
 Spiritual Esau Blind
 Not Lentils Isaac
 Physical Inheritance Brother
 Wait Blessing

L	N	L	D	N	I	L	R	O	C	A	J	S
E	S	B	S	B	D	A	R	E	O	E	N	L
N	P	L	A	L	I	C	O	N	S	B	L	D
O	I	N	H	E	R	I	T	A	N	C	E	A
T	R	A	C	S	E	S	H	A	L	S	N	Y
L	I	I	D	S	S	Y	E	I	O	E	T	E
S	T	N	B	I	H	H	R	O	E	D	I	C
E	U	H	E	N	N	P	H	L	S	A	L	S
W	A	I	T	G	L	C	B	C	A	A	S	I
D	L	N	C	S	I	A	E	D	U	B	N	A





LESSON 7

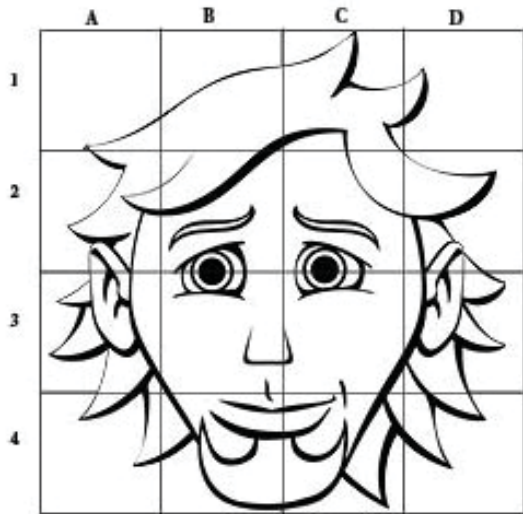


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F	N	M	A	O	A	B	D	E	N	T	E
P	A	D	D	A	N	A	R	A	M	B	R
R	T	B	E	S	A	U	E	O	M	F	A
E	A	A	S	F	A	B	A	E	T	L	C
H	N	M	S	E	N	L	M	N	A	H	H
T	G	A	E	N	B	O	C	A	J	M	E
O	E	L	L	F	T	I	S	R	A	E	L
R	L	N	B	E	B	O	R	A	M	T	N
B	S	T	F	O	U	G	H	T	E	F	B

- Jacob
- Dream
- Rachel
- Israel
- Blessed
- Esau
- Paddan Aram
- Fought
- God
- Tribes
- Son
- Canaan
- Angels
- Brother



LESSON 8



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

- Joseph
- Hatred
- Plan
- Pharaoh
- Well
- Egypt
- Vengeance
- Slave
- Tunic
- Son
- Colors
- Dreamer
- Sell
- Brothers



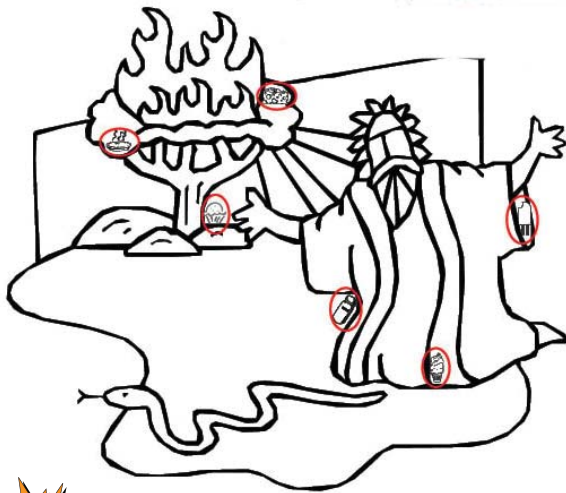


LESSON 9

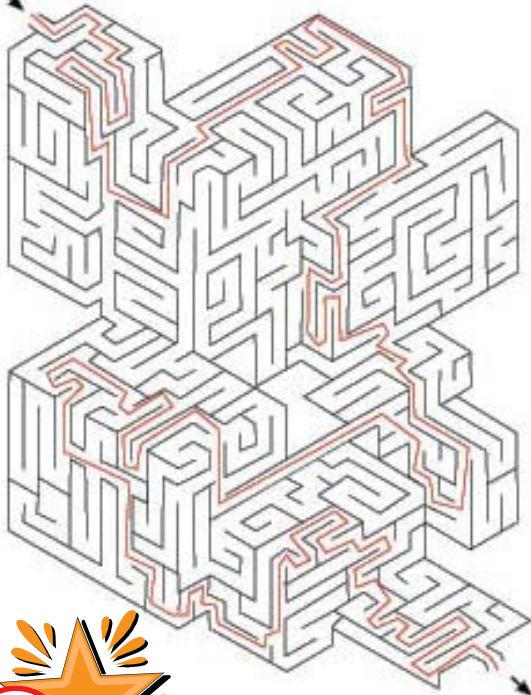
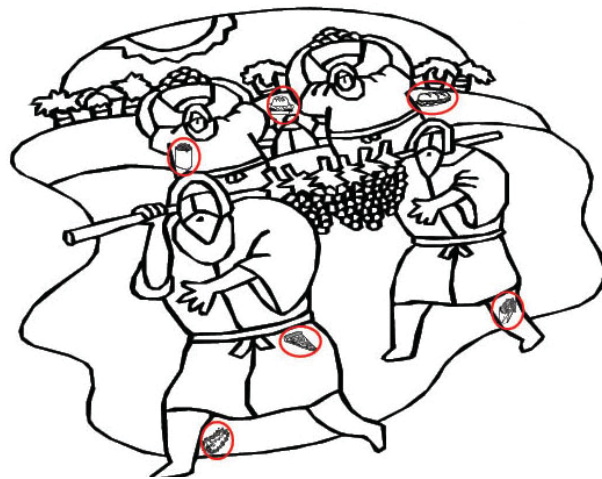
- Moses
- Bush
- Babies
- Basket
- Lord
- Kill
- Plagues
- Red Sea
- Pharaoh
- Egypt
- Leave
- Clouds
- Staff
- Fire

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

Bring Moses to the Promised Land.



LESSON 10



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

- Caleb
- Good
- Land
- Tribes
- Grumble
- Lord
- Promise
- People
- Spies
- Punishment
- Joshua
- Milk
- Honey
- Bow





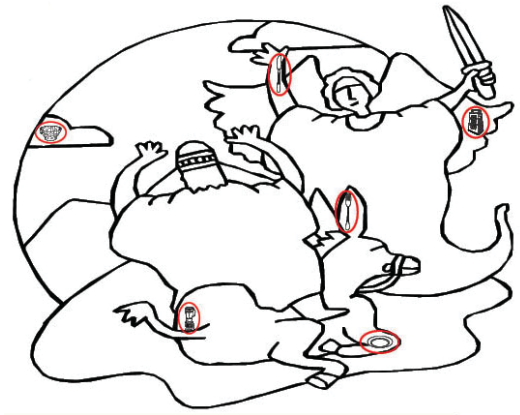
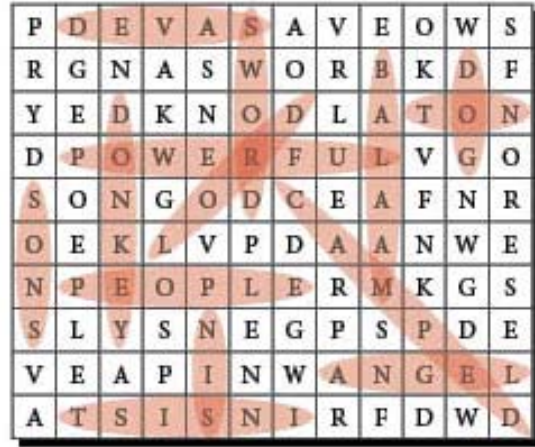
LESSON 11

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

Write the books of the Bible in order from Genesis to Esther.

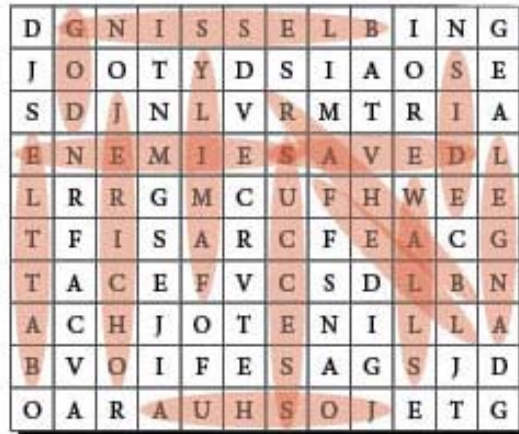
- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. <u>Genesis</u> | 10. <u>2 Samuel</u> |
| 2. <u>Exodus</u> | 11. <u>1 Kings</u> |
| 3. <u>Leviticus</u> | 12. <u>2 Kings</u> |
| 4. <u>Numbers</u> | 13. <u>1 Chronicles</u> |
| 5. <u>Deuteronomy</u> | 14. <u>2 Chronicles</u> |
| 6. <u>Joshua</u> | 15. <u>Ezra</u> |
| 7. <u>Judges</u> | 16. <u>Nehemiah</u> |
| 8. <u>Ruth</u> | 17. <u>Esther</u> |
| 9. <u>1 Samuel</u> | |

- Sons
- God
- Not
- Insist
- Lord
- Sin
- Balaam
- Donkey
- Saved
- Sword
- Camped
- Powerful
- Angel
- People

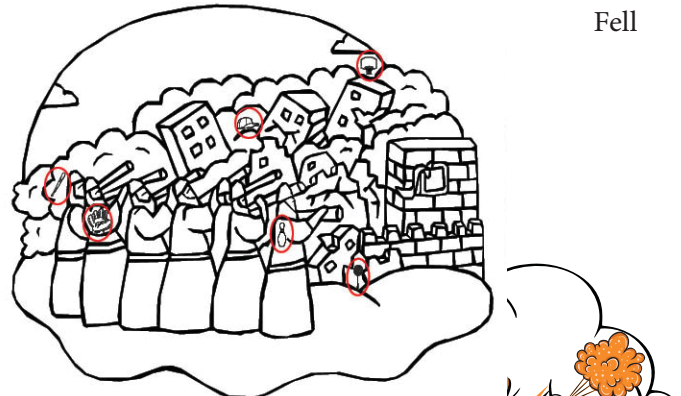


LESSON 12

How many spies did Joshua send?	Where did the spies go?	Whose house did the spies enter?	The battle was in which city?	For how many days did they circle the city?	What instrument did the priests play?
Two	Trumpet	Jericho	7 days	To spy out Jericho	Rahab's



- Blessing
- Side
- God
- Enemies
- Angel
- Joshua
- Jericho
- Rahab
- Saved
- Family
- Success
- Battle
- Walls
- Fell



YEAH!!



LESSON 13

Achan Kept Rejoice
 Lord Loot Family
 Defeat Provoked
 Anger Victory
 Ai Battle
 God Sin

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

1	5	7	0	8
40	25	10	52	27

4	6	2	9	.
19	21	17	30	39

1	5	0	4	9	0	8	0	.	2	1	4	8	0
0	1	5	6	1	6	9	4	1	0	.	0	6	1
6	9	1	0	9	7	1	0	.	5	8	1	5	8
0	6	9	2	5	0	8	5	0	6	0	7	4	2
7	1	0	6	1	.	9	.	2	1	9	0	9	1
8	.	4	0	8	0	1	5	0	4	8	1	5	6
4	0	9	7	.	4	.	9	8	5	6	2	5	0
1	2	1	4	1	5	0	1	5	6	1	0	.	8
4	8	4	8	6	0	2	5	9	1	9	2	5	1
8	5	0	9	8	1	8	7	0	.	8	1	6	8
1	9	1	0	.	4	.	2	.	5	9	.	0	9
6	0	.	4	1	0	1	0	1	.	1	0	.	0
0	8	5	6	0	8	5	.	0	9	0	.	5	6
1	.	1	0	1	.	6	1	.	5	1	2	4	8
9	6	9	.	9	7	8	0	.	4	.	0	9	.
2	0	8	0	.	4	9	8	2	8	0	.	6	0
7	2	1	.	5	0	1	.	7	9	1	9	7	.
.	4	.	0	2	4	6	0	.	4	6	2	0	8
9	5	9	9	0	.	7	9	1	.	0	5	.	9
0	2	8	5	9	5	.	8	6	0	2	.	0	1



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 - Themed
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