# A PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

\*\* Year 1 of 3 \*\*

Cold Harbor Road Church Of Christ Mechanicsville, Virginia Old Testament Curriculum

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# Old Testament Lesson 1: Introduction To The Old Testament Overview of the Old Testament

Memory Verses:	Romans 15:4	For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.
	II Timothy 3:16,17	All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
		That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
	II Peter 1:3	According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• the Bible is God's word.
	• the Bible's books and divisions.

#### Outline:

- I. Importance of Old Testament study.
- II. The Old Testament.
  - A. Authors/Time.
  - B. Design/Divisions.
  - C. Definition.
  - D. Content.
  - E. Dispensations.
  - F. Manner of teaching.
- III. Manuscripts.
  - A. Scribes.
  - B. Materials.
  - C. Oldest manuscripts.
  - D. Translations.
- III. Fun Facts.
- IV. Christian Evidences.
  - A. Internal.

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#### B. External.

- 1. Why study the Old Testament?
  - It was written for our instruction (learning). (Romans 15:4)
  - It was written for our admonition. (I Corinthians 10:11)
  - It leads us to Christ. (Galatians 3:24)
  - Its prophecies were fulfilled, revealing God's eternal purpose. (Ephesians 3:11)
  - It teaches us how God deals with His people.
  - It helps us to see where we are from and where we are going and how to get there.
  - It should be remembered that the Old Testament, just like the New Testament is God's word.
- 2. The Old Testament was written by approximately 30 men over a period of approximately 1,000 years (circa 1400-400 B.C.). Each one was <u>inspired</u> or told by God what to write. The writers lived at different times, in different areas, wrote in different languages, worked at different occupations, yet they fit and support one another perfectly.
- 3. The original language of most of the Old Testament was Hebrew with some written in Aramaic. The New Testament was written in Greek.
- 4. The most frequently employed material in writing the Hebrew Old Testament was vellum (prepared from animal skins). In more modern times, the Greeks and Romans used papyrus because it was more plentiful and commercially available.
- 5. For hundreds of years, the Bible was hand copied, book by book, by men called "scribes" in rooms called scriptoriums. Copies of the Bible were very few and very precious to those that were lucky enough to have one. Over the years, wicked people have tried to destroy God's word, but God protects His word from His enemies.
- 6. An average leather scroll measured about 30 feet in length and 10 inches in height.
- 7. The Septuagint was a Greek translation of the Old Testament available by approximately 250 B.C. This was the version quoted in the New Testament.
- 8. The complete Bible was translated into English by John Wycliffe in 1382. The King James version was completed in 1611 by 50 Bible scholars. The Bible has now been translated into 1,500 different languages and dialects.
- 9. There are 66 books that make up the Bible: 39 in the Old Testament, 27 in the New Testament.
- 10. The Old Testament's major divisions are:
  - 5 books of law (Pentateuch) ...........Genesis Deuteronomy
  - 12 books of history ......Joshua Esther
  - 5 books of poetry ......Job Song of Solomon
  - 5 books of major prophets ......Isaiah Daniel
  - 12 books of minor prophets ...... Hosea Malachi
- 11. The New Testament's major divisions are:
  - 4 books of the gospels ......Matthew John
  - 1 book of history ......Acts
  - 21 books of letters ......Romans Jude
    - 1 book of prophecy.....Revelation

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12. The word "Bible" means "books." The Bible is a library of 66 books containing factual stories, exciting adventure stories, war stories, love stories. It contains poems and songs, funny stories, happy and sad stories. Every one is absolutely true.

- 13. The Old Testament tells about things that happened before Jesus was born. It tells of the history of the world from its beginning. It tells of people God chose to help Him and how He blessed those that obeyed Him and how He punished those that disobeyed. God planned from the beginning of time for Christ to come. He sent people that message through Old Testament prophets.
- 14. The New Testament tells of Jesus' life on earth, His death, and resurrection back to heaven. It tells stories of the great power of God, His son, and the Holy Spirit, and how we can go to heaven for eternity.
- 15. The Bible has a message for <u>all</u> people everywhere. It tells of God's great love, how we must live to please Him and how we can go to heaven.
- 16. When God made us, He gave us the power to make our own choices/decisions. Every choice we make has good or bad results. Our decisions affect other people as well as ourselves. The Bible tells of bad decisions people made as well as good ones. Some stories have sad endings. We can learn a valuable lesson from the mistakes of others.
- 17. The Bible is divided into 3 periods of time or dispensations. The <u>Patriarchal</u> age was when God spoke to the head of families directly. The <u>Mosaical</u> age replaced it with Moses and the 10 commandments. With Christ's death and resurrection, the <u>Christian</u> age began under the New Testament law.
- 18. The Bible teaches in 3 ways: direct command (Acts 2:38), example (Acts 20:7), necessary inference (Acts 8:35,36).
- 19. Fun facts:

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Shortest chapter of the Bible	Psalms 117
Longest chapter of the Bible	Psalms 119
Shortest verse of the Old Testament	I Chronicles 1:25
Shortest verse of the New Testament	John 11:35
Longest verse of the Bible	Esther 8:9
Verse containing all letters of the alphabet except "J"	Ezra 7:21

20. The Bible agrees completely with scientific fact, history, and archaeological discoveries. Prophesies made 800 years before Christ came true:

<u>Verse</u>	<u>Prophecy</u>	<u>Fulfillment</u>
Isaiah 53:3	rejected by His own people	John 1:11, Lk. 13:34
Isaiah 53:3,4	man of sorrows	Matthew 26:37,38
Isaiah 53:5,6	wounded for our transgressions	Romans 4:25
Isaiah 53:7	He did not defend Himself	Matthew 27:12-14
Isaiah 53:9	He died with the wicked/buried with the	Mark 15:27-60
	rich	
Isaiah 53:9	no deceit found in His mouth	I Peter 2:22
Isaiah 53:12	He poured out His soul unto death	Philippians 2:8
Isaiah 53:12	He maketh intercession	Romans 8:34
Micah 5:2	birthplace of Christ	Matthew 2:1
Genesis 49:10	lineage/tribe	Hebrews 7:14
Malachi 3:1	one would prepare the way	Matthew 11:10,11

Introduction To The Old Testament

Isaiah 35:5,6	preaching and healing	Matthew 9:35
Zechariah 11:12	Judas' betrayal	Matthew 26:14,15
Psalms 22:18	crucifixion/parting of garments	Matthew 27:35
Zechariah 12:10	not a bone broken	John 19:34

- 21.- Sea worthy ratio for ships is 30 x 5 x 3. The ark was 300 x 50 x 30 cubits. (Genesis 6:15)
  - Oceans have fresh water springs. (Job 38:16)
  - The earth was believed to be flat until Columbus sailed in the 15th century. (Isaiah 40:22)
  - The Greeks and Romans believed the earth was supported by the Greek god, Atlas. (Job 26:7)
  - In 150 A.D., Ptolemy estimated there were no more than 300 stars. With the invention of the telescope, it was discovered the stars were uncountable. (Genesis 15:5, Jeremiah 33:22)
  - Matthew Maury, father of Oceanography, after hearing Psalms 8:8, said, "If God says there are paths in the sea, they are there, and I'm going to find them." He then charted the shipping lanes of the sea.
  - Only recently, astronomers "found" there was an empty space in the Northern Hemisphere, but Job knew. (Job 26:7)

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Bible

picture, puppets of 40 men

different occupations of 40 men: fishing pole, net, doctor instruments, lab coat, farmer's tools, package of seeds, king's crown

wooden, styrofoam blocks or pictures of books - to represent the different books in the library of the Bible to be put in order by children

poster to illustrate the divisions of Old/New Testaments

examples of factual books (school text, encyclopedia), adventure books, poetry books, song books (hymnal), war books, love story books, funny/sad books

scroll - 2 dowels long sheet of paper, crumpled, dipped in lemon juice, dried, and ironed; a few edges burned; taped/glued or stapled to dowels and rolled up examples of Hebrew/Greek writing

examples of stone (flat rock), clay (PlayDoh, modeling), leather (belt), papyrus (see above scroll idea)

different languages - pictures of children from different countries

science/history book - Columbus, Ben Franklin, Thomas Edison, Ptolemy, M. Maury, Atlas

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- Blue Skies And Rainbows
- Books Of New Testament
- Books Of Old Testament
- God's Love
- Happiness Is
- He's Got The Whole World
- How Great Thou Art
- I Love The Father

- I'm A Little Bible
- O The B-I-B-L-E
- Our God He Is Alive
- Our God Is So Big
- Study Your Bible Everyday
- The Word Of God
- There Is A Habitation
- Unto Thee O Lord

#### Activities:

- Age-appropriate handwork
- Application story on good and bad choices

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. Where did the Bible come from?
- 2. Who wrote the Bible?
- 3. What does inspired mean? Bible?
- 4. List the divisions of the Bible and how many books in each.
- 5. Why study the Bible?
- 6. What do scribes do?
- 7. What materials have been used on which to write the Bible?
- 8. Name the scientific, archaeological, and historical facts supported by the Bible.
- 9. Name and explain the 3 dispensations.
- 10. How does the Bible teach us?
- 11. How many books of the Bible can you name? How many have you read? Which is your favorite?

#### Supportive Materials in our church library:

- Discovery a monthly paper of Bible and science for kids by Brad Bromling
- The Great Dinosaur Mystery And The Bible by Paul Taylor
- Fossils, Frogs, Fish, and Friends by Kenneth Ernst, Jr.
- The Mythology Of Modern Geology by Wayne Jackson
- The Bible And Archaeology by J.A. Thompson
- Halley's Bible Handbook by Henry Halley
- Eerdman's Handbook To The Bible by David/Pat Alexander
- Reader's Digest Atlas Of The Bible

#### Additional Materials:

- <u>I Believe Because</u> by Batsell B. Baxter
- Why We Believe The Bible By George DeHoff
- Why Should We Believe The Bible? by David Echols

# Old Testament Lesson 2: Creation Genesis 1

Memory Verses:	Genesis 1:1	In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
	Genesis 1:26,27	And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.  So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.

Goal:	Student will learn:
	God Almighty created our world and every
	living creature. Scientific theories regarding the
	origin of the universe and man are not scientific
	facts and conflict with the truth of God's word.

#### Outline:

I. God's creation.

Genesis 1

- A. First day light.
- B. Second day firmament.
- C. Third day dry land, vegetation.
- D. Fourth day sun, moon, stars.
- E. Fifth day fish, fowl.
- F. Sixth day beast, cattle, man
- G. Seventh day God rested.
- H. Food supply.

- 1. "Genesis" means origin, source, or beginning. The book of Genesis gives a majestic account of all the Creator brought into being, the establishment of the family, the origin of sin, the inauguration of God's divine plan of redeeming His chosen people. (Genesis 3:15) Genesis deals with matters far beyond known scientific realms. It includes the "prehistoric age."
- 2. Genesis was written by Moses. He was educated by the Egyptians. Moses had the privilege of the closest fellowship with God on Mt. Sinai.
- 3. God is one almighty God. He is the beginning, the cause, the source of all that is. The word for God in Hebrew is "Elohim." (John 1:1) God created the universe, the heavens

and the earth, the world above, around and below. Science reveals our galaxy contains more than 100 billion stars. It is one of nineteen known galaxies, the nearest of which is thirty million light years away. Many think there could be more than a billion galaxies. The revelations of science make us more aware of the wisdom, power, and awesomeness of God.

- 4. The earth had no form, was empty and dark. God spoke and instantly there was light. (Psalms 33:6,9) He was pleased that it was perfect and complete. With the creation of light, the <u>first day</u> began and the darkness was called night.
- 5. On the <u>second day</u> God created the firmament or heavens. This was an expanse above the earth able to hold great reservoirs of water for rain, snow, or similar precipitation.
- 6. On the <u>third day</u> God spoke and created the dry land with grass, trees and every form of vegetation. Prior to this, water had covered everything.
- 7. On the <u>fourth day</u> God created the sun, moon and stars to fill the heavens. The greater light (sun) would rule the day and the lesser light (moon) would rule the night.
- 8. On the <u>fifth day</u> God created all the many species of fish and sea animals and the many species of birds. God was pleased with His creation and instructed them to multiply.
- 9. On the <u>sixth day</u>, God created all land animals which included every large beast, from cattle to the smallest creeping reptile or insect. God was pleased with His creatures. Then, for the grand finale that day, He created man in His image. Man would stand on a higher, immortal plateau above the rest of creation. He would have fellowship and communicate with God and be a responsible steward to Him. He was given the privilege of choice. He would have dominion over all of God's other living creatures. God was pleased with His creation. He had provided food for each creature. Everything He created fit perfectly together as a beautiful symphony.
- 10. On the <u>seventh day</u>, God declared His work finished and sanctified/set aside a day to be honored for rest. (The Sabbath, the first institution of the Bible.)
- 11. Our science books today often include man-created theories for creation that are incorrect and unsupported. Charles Darwin's theory of evolution states that all life gradually changed and "evolved" from non-living matter to a single celled organism, 3-4 billion years ago. Scientific facts on DNA alone would prove this theory wrong. God's creation of man alone is very complex. Consider all the different species of vegetation, marine life and animal life (both male and female) or the design of our solar system; this theory that some would like to believe, is preposterous. Where did this single-celled organism come from?

In 1965, astronomers came up with the "Big Bang Theory" which states the universe began as the result of an explosion 10-20 billion years ago. The explosion caused strong radiation and a fireball of hydrogen and helium. The fireball broke apart and became galaxies. Smaller clumps became stars. One clump became a group of planets called our solar system. Again, we have to ask where did the elements that caused the "explosion" come from? What caused the fireball to break apart? How could a clump of a fireball become a galaxy and stars and planets? Where did man and animal life, sea life, and vegetation, etc. come from? Scientific fact cannot support this theory either. (Remember those "false teachers" Paul warned so much about? Beware!)

OT-Lesson 2
Genesis 1
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12. The universe is filled with secrets men would like to know. Little by little, God is allowing scientists to uncover clues to these mysteries. Scientists have divided all things into: time, force, energy, space, and matter. All of these are supported by Genesis 1:1.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

globe of the earth

picture, mobile, model, ornament: stars, sun, moon, solar system

clay - earth without form

flashlight, small lamp, candle - light

firmament - sky picture

dry land - sample of dirt, clay, grass, flowers, vegetables, tree branch

sun, moon, stars - string of Christmas light punched through black background -

poster board, orange - moon, grapefruit - sun

fish, birds, land animals - toy, craft items, pictures of different species

Adam, Eve - dolls, clay forms, paper dolls, boy/girl cut out cookies

rest - pillow, blanket, sleeping bag

dust, dirt

science book, encyclopedia

available resource books in the library on dinosaurs, Christian evidences

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart for days of creation
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- All Things Bright And Beautiful
- Blue Skies And Rainbows
- Day 1 (Creation Song)
- Father, I Adore You
- For The Beauty Of The Earth
- God Is Not Dead
- God Made Adam Of The Dust
- God Made The Animals
- God Made The Round Round Sun

- I Love The Father
- My God And I
- My God Is So Big
- Old Testament Books
- Our God He Is Alive
- Thank You Lord
- This Is The Day The Lord Hath Made
- Twinkle Twinkle Little Star
- You Are Special

#### Activities:

• File-Folder Activities:

"Creation"

- Age-appropriate handwork
- Make a mobile showing things God made
- Make a mural of the days of creation
- Make a match up activity poster. Match the days of creation to what was created (numbers/pictures)

• Make a scientific facts chart of proven/discovered scientific facts supported by the Bible.

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. What is the book of Genesis about? Who wrote Genesis?
- 2. What did God create? How did God create them?
- 3. Which days did He create what?
- 4. How was God's creation of man different from the other living creatures?
- 5. When was the Sabbath day established? Why?
- 6. Compare the Bible account of creation to man-made theories of creation. Which is most logical? Which is supported best by scientific and historical fact?

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# Old Testament Lesson 3: Adam And Eve Genesis 2

Memory Verses:	Genesis 2:7	And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.
	Genesis 2:24	Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• God instituted the marriage relationship with	
	Adam and Eve. He intended one man for one	
	woman until death.	
	• God loved man and gave him the best in which	
	to live his life.	

#### Outline:

II. The Garden of Eden.

Genesis 2

- A. Institution of the Sabbath.
- B. Garden of Eden.
- C. Tree of knowledge.
- D. Woman created.
- E. Institution of marriage.

- 1. Chapter 2 emphasizes that God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into him the breath of life, making him a living soul. (Jeremiah 18:3,4; I Corinthians 15:47-49)
- 2. God created a beautiful paradise/garden in the eastern part of Eden, probably the lower part of the Babylonian valley, between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. He placed man there to enjoy and maintain the garden as well as God's fellowship. He gave man specific commands to govern his behavior and the ability to make choices. God gave man the choice of any tree in the garden to eat but one, the tree of knowledge of good and evil, he was not to eat from it or he would die.
- 3. God named the first man Adam. God had Adam name all the other living creatures God had created, both male and female.
- 4. But God saw that it was not good for man to be alone, so he created for him a help meet, someone to share love, trust, devotion, and companionship. Someone to share responsibilities and complete God's divine plan. God caused Adam to go into a deep/unconscious sleep. He took from Adam a rib to form woman. God brought Eve to Adam to be his wife. (Thus the sacred institution of the marriage relationship was established.)

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5. Genesis 2:24 commands a monogamous marriage. (Mark 10:7-9) God planned for the marriage bond to be un-dissolve-able. They are to cleave ("glue") themselves to one another. Neither are fully complete without the other.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Adam, Eve - dolls, clay forms, paper dolls, boy/girl cut out cookies dust, dirt garden - picture of beautiful garden, flowers map of Eden's location tree of knowledge - tree, shrub, branch, piece of fruit marriage - bouquet, veil, wedding favors, decorations

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart for days of creation
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- For The Beauty Of The Earth
- My God And I
- Our God He Is Alive
- All Things Bright And Beautiful
- Blue Skies And Rainbows
- Father, I Adore You

- God Is Not Dead
- God Made Adam Of The Dust
- My God Is So Big
- Old Testament Books
- Thank You Lord
- You Are Special

#### Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Creation"
- Age-appropriate handwork
- Make a mobile showing beautiful things God made in the garden

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How was man different from the other living creatures?
- 2. Where was the garden of Eden? Who was it for? What was it like?
- 3. Why did God create woman? How did God create her?
- 4. When was marriage instituted?
- 5. What kind of marriage did God mean for man to have?
- 6. What types of choices could Adam and Eve make?

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# Old Testament Lesson 4: The Garden Of Eden Genesis 3

Memory Verses:	Genesis 3:16	Unto the woman He said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.
	Genesis 3:19	In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• there is nothing we can ever hide from God.		
	• there are always consequences for committing		
	sin. God does not force us to obey Him. We all		
	have to make the choice whether to obey God or		
	suffer the consequences.		
	• the devil tempted the first family on earth the		
	same 3 ways he tempts us today: lust of the		
	flesh, lust of the eye, pride of life. The devil		
	lies. God does not. Listen to the voice of God.		

#### Outline:

I. The fall of man.

Genesis 3

- A. Serpent deceives Eve.
- B. Eve and Adam sin.
- C. Punishment.
  - 1. Institution of labor.
  - 2. Beginning of the plan of redemption.
- D. Driven from the garden.

- 1. Because God had given man and woman the power of choice, the test of the tempter was inevitable. Man's environment left nothing to be desired, but one prohibited thing, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Thus, Satan chose the serpent, an exceptionally shrewd and crafty animal, to seduce his victim. (At that time, the serpent walked erect and could talk with man.)
- 2. The serpent asked the woman, if she could eat of every tree in the garden. She replied that they could except for one, for if they ate or touched that tree they would die. The serpent ridiculed God's command by assuring her she would <u>not</u> die. In fact, he said, God doesn't want you to eat of that tree because if you do you will become as wise as God

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- Himself. He sought to distort God's command, break down her faith in God with doubts and suspicions of God's motives.
- 3. He made her doubt God's goodness, forget all the good things God had given her and focus on what she didn't have. He also made her feel that doing <u>evil</u> was the best way to know the difference between good and evil. He convinced her it was all right to do wrong in order to reach her goal.
- 4. Gradually, the fruit took on a new significance. The woman saw it as attractive, tasty, and providing power and wisdom. She took the fruit and ate of it, then gave it to her husband. He also ate of the fruit.
- 5. Instant perception was given, but far different than the picture painted by the serpent. Their consciences were awakened. They realized their nakedness, shame and fear. They realized they were out of touch with God. Loneliness and remorse overwhelmed them. They quickly made aprons of fig leaves to cover themselves.
- 6. God came walking through the garden. Ordinarily, God's approaching footsteps brought them joy, but the terror of their disobedience caused them to try to hide from God. God called out to Adam, "Where are you?" Adam replied, "I heard you coming and hid because I am naked." God asked, "How did you know you were naked? Did you eat of the fruit I told you not to?"
- 7. Adam and Eve began to offer excuses and passed the responsibility to another. Adam replied, "That woman <u>you</u> gave me made me eat it." Eve blamed the serpent. The serpent had no one to blame.
- 8. God could not overlook their disobedience so He began with the instigator, the serpent. He cursed the serpent above all animals. He must crawl in the dirt and slither in disgrace.
- 9. God's punishment for the woman was subjection to man and pain/suffering during pregnancy and childbirth. To Adam, God gave physical hardship work/toil and struggle to survive. Until now the earth yielded easily and in great abundance, but now it would yield reluctantly. Man would have to work hard cultivating it to make it produce. There would be thorns and weeds.
- 10. For their sin, death now will inevitably come. God said I made you from the dust of the earth and you shall return to dust when your body dies.
- 11. Adam named his wife Eve meaning "life," the mother of all living. God clothed Adam and Eve with coats made of animal skins.
- 12. Because of man's rebellion, God drove them out of the garden of Eden into the wilderness. At the east end of the garden, God placed cherubims, special guardians, to prevent anyone entering the garden ever again. A revolving sword-like flame further assured man could not re-enter and access the tree of life.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

tree of knowledge - small shrub, tree branch, toy tree, plant simulated garden - sandbox, diorama, artificial trees, flowers, stream record, tape with background of forest, jungle sounds toy lizard, snake - construction paper, clay, string, cord fruit - not necessarily commonly recognized, like a pomegranate leaves glued to an apron or tunic, camouflage fabric draped and tied or make childsize tunic(s), gray/green fabric, tarp, tablecloth

#### cherubims - angel ornament

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- All Things Bright And Beautiful
- Books Of The Old Testament
- Bring Christ Your Broken Life
- God Made Adam Of The Dust
- God Made Our Wonderful World
- God's Love
- He Is Here
- I Love The Father

- I Searched
- I'm A Little Bible
- If You Miss Me Walking Down Here
- Let Us Sing The Books Of Moses
- The Three Dispensations
- Yield Not To Temptation
- You Are Special
- You Can Build A Bridge

#### Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Geography Bible Lands" (Garden Of Eden)
- Age-appropriate handwork
- Illustrate the "ripple effect" of sin with a shallow bowl of water and a small stone. When we disobey God, we not only hurt ourselves, but that hurt involves others.
- Discuss, write down, pray about specific areas where each student needs help in distinguishing God's voice from Satan's and obeying it. Emphasize the more time we spend with God in prayer or reading His word, the easier it becomes.

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. Where can we hide from God? Why?
- 2. How did Satan use the serpent?
- 3. How were Adam and Eve so easily tricked? How could we be easily tricked by Satan?
- 4. How did Adam and Eve feel after they had sinned? How do you feel after you've sinned? Why?
- 5. What was their reaction when God confronted them? Have you ever reacted this way? Why?
- 6. What were their consequences for sinning? What are some consequences you've had to face?

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# Old Testament Lesson 5: Cain And Abel Genesis 4,5

Memory Verses:	Genesis 4:9	And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?
	Hebrews 11:6	But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• there is nothing we can ever hide from God.		
	• there are always consequences for committing		
	sin. God does not force us to obey Him. We all		
	have to make the choice whether to obey God or		
	suffer the consequences.		
	• the devil tempted the first family on earth the		
	same 3 ways he tempts us today, lust of the		
	flesh, lust of the eye, pride of life. The devil		
	lies. God does not. Listen to the voice of God.		

#### Outline:

I. Two brothers.

Genesis 4

- A. Birth of Cain and Abel.
- B. Cain kills Abel.
- C. His punishment.
- D. Genealogy of Cain and Abel.

II. Patriarchs from Adam to Noah.

Genesis 5

- A. Seth.
- B. Enos.
- C. Cainan.
- D. Mahalaleel.
- E. Jared.
- F. Enoch.
- G. Methselah.
- H. Lamech.
- I. Noah.

#### Facts:

1. Adam and Eve began their family. Eve was overjoyed with the birth of Cain. "Cain" means "to acquire/to get." Soon, she had another son, Abel. "Abel" means "fleeting

- breath/a vapor." As they grew up, Abel tended the sheep in the pastures, Cain, like his father, was a farmer and tended crops.
- 2. To express their gratitude and show honor/worship to God, each brought a gift to offer to God. Abel brought a sheep from his flock. Cain brought the fruits he had raised. God was pleased with Abel's offering because of his faith, but not with Cain's offering. (God does not accept "substitutes" in our worship or service to Him.)
- 3. Cain became very angry. His wounded pride produced envy and revenge. God saw this happening and warned Cain not to allow his temper and the sin in his heart to overtake him and drive him to ruinous behavior. Cain needed to conquer sin within himself rather than let it conquer and control him.
- 4. But Cain allowed his hatred to lead to violence. As Cain and Abel were in the field together, Cain murdered his brother. The Lord asked Cain, "Where is Abel thy brother?" He defiantly/disrespectfully replied, "I know not, am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:9) God let Cain know He was aware of what he had done. He said, "Thy brother's blood cries to me from the ground." God punished Cain by making him a fugitive/wanderer from then on. He banished him from the food producing soil to the unproductive desert.
- 5. Though Cain's life was spared, Cain cried to God that his punishment was too great to bear. (He appeared to be more concerned with his sentence than his sin.) He imagined his enemies would delight in killing him and certain destruction awaited him outside of God's care.
- 6. Out of mercy, God assured Cain of His continuing presence. He set a sign/mark on Cain to indicate Cain belonged to God and must not be harmed or God's vengeance would be on his slayer sevenfold. Cain left for the land of Nod (land of wandering) east of Eden.
- 7. By this time, Adam and Eve had numerous descendants. Cain and his wife had a son named Enoch. The descendants of Cain were: Enoch -> Irad -> Mehujael -> Methusael -> Lamech -> Jabel/Jubal/Tubalcain.
- 8. Adam and Eve's third son was "Seth," meaning "appointed/set." Through Seth's lineage, Christ would eventually come. The lineage of patriarchs from Adam to Noah were:

Adam	930 years
Seth	912 years
Enos	905 years
Cainan	910 years
Mehalaleel	895 years
Jared	962 years
Enoch	365 years
Methuselah	969 years
Lamech	777 years
Noah	950 years

Ham, Shem, Japheth were Noah's 3 sons.

9. Enoch, son of Jared, pleased the Lord in thought, word, deed, and attitude. His close association with God brought him heavenly wisdom and appreciation for the riches of God. God loved Enoch so he "translated" Enoch (brought him to heaven without dying) to continue his fellowship with God without interruption. His disappearance was sudden and unexpected. (Hebrews 11:5) Enoch's son Methuselah was the oldest man to ever live, 969 years.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

picture of a pregnant woman, pillow garden/farm tools, weeds, thorns, work or gardening gloves, hard clay, dirt dust, small batting of dirt, paper tombstone furry coat - tunic of animal print, fur-like material sword - toy, poster paper, cardboard with flame of tissue paper, foil baby dolls - Cain, Abel, Seth sheep - toy, stuffed animal, cardboard examples, staff - long stick grain, grasses for offering sign or mark - put stick on dots on each child or wash-off marker Enoch - cloud of cotton, cardboard, batting

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- My God And I
- Books Of The Old Testament
- God's Love
- He Is Here
- I Love The Father
- I Searched

- I'm A Little Bible
- Let Us Sing The Books Of Moses
- The Three Dispensations
- You Are Special
- You Can Build A Bridge

#### Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Wicked People" (Cain)
- Age-appropriate handwork
- To teach the lineage:
  - a) use named pictures of each man
  - b) make up a repetitive song that leads from one to the next
  - c) put refrigerator magnets on the backs to take home and learn

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. Name three of Adam and Eve's children.
- 2. How did Cain sin? Why did he sin? Could he have reacted differently? How?
- 3. What were Cain's consequences for sinning?
- 4. Did God love Cain even though He had to punish him? How do you know?
- 5. List the lineage of patriarchs from Adam to Noah.
- 6. Who most pleased God of these patriarchs? How did God show He was pleased?

# Old Testament Lesson 6: Noah Found Grace In The Eyes Of The Lord Genesis 6,7

Memory Verses:	Genesis 6:5,6	And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.  And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.
	Genesis 6:9	These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.
	Genesis 6:14	Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.
	Genesis 7:12	And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• we need to be good, faithful, and obedient to	
	God's commands even when we are the only	
	one.	
	• when we are on God's side, we always come	
	out of a situation the winner, no matter how	
	many are against us.	

#### Outline:

I. Noah. Genesis 6

- A. Wickedness of the world.
- B. Noah found grace.
- C. Specifications of the ark.

II. The flood. Genesis 7

- A. Animals enter the ark.
- B. Noah's family enters the ark.
- C. Flooding occurs for 40 days and 40 nights.
- D. Destruction of all life on earth.

#### Facts:

- 1. Wickedness had increased on earth. Cain's descendants became exceedingly godless. Man's thoughts and imaginations were opposite of what God wanted. God was forgotten and openly rejected. God was disappointed; His heart was pierced with sorrow and pain.
- 2. Noah, one man, had found grace (favor/acceptance) in the eyes of God. Noah was just, pure, and lived a holy life. He was fair and ethical towards others. He had integrity. He sought to please God by walking with Him daily. Noah had 3 sons: Ham, Shem, and Japheth whom God also spared.
- 3. God instructed Noah to build an ark of gopher wood, 3 stories high (45 feet/30 cubits), 1 1/2 football fields long (450 feet/300 cubits), and 75 feet/50 cubits wide. (A cubit is thought to be about 18 inches, therefore, the ark would have been 45 x 450 x 75 feet.) Modern shipbuilders use this same ratio. It had rooms/divisions along the sides. To make it watertight, Noah used pitch inside and outside as a caulking compound. It took Noah and his sons 120 years to build the ark.
- 4. While Noah was building the ark, he preached to the people. He urged them to repent so God would not destroy them. They would not listen; they made fun of Noah.
- 5. God instructed Noah to take into the ark seven males and seven females of the clean animals and birds; one male and one female of the unclean animals. He must also bring enough food for all the animals and his family for the duration of their trip. Noah did everything just like God asked him to.
- 6. At this time, Noah was 600 years old. Noah and his wife, his three sons and their wives entered the ark and God shut the door. Enormous reservoirs of water under the earth suddenly broke loose and came forth as fountains. The heavens burst forth with torrents of rain above the earth. Relentlessly and continuously for forty days and forty nights, the waters/rain came flooding the earth completely, covering the highest mountains by fifteen cubits.
- 7. God's chosen family (Noah) were nestled safe in the ark. After 150 days, the waters receded.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

dolls, stick men, paper dolls with mean/mad faces
Noah, wife, sons - dolls, stick people, paper dolls, clay people
pieces of scrap lumber, craft sticks, clay
toy building tools, hammer, nails, measuring device, saw
boat, water
toy animals, animal cookies
food - hay, straw, feed, bird seed, hamster/rabbit food, dog/cat food
tape/record of sound effects of rain storm
sprinkle water (rain) on children
mountain -clay, papier mache, sugar ice cream cones
ark - toy boat

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map

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- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- Sing And Be Happy
- My God And I
- Cheerfully Obey
- God Made The Animals
- God's Love
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Look Out My Window
- If I Were The Wind
- Noah Built The Ark So High

- Noah Found Grace
- Old Testament Books
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Pass It On
- Stand Up And Shout It
- The Three Dispensations
- Unto Thee O Lord
- Who Built The Ark

#### Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Noah"
  - "Faith" (Noah)
- Age-appropriate handwork

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How do you think people acted toward Noah? How do you think Noah felt?
- 2. Explain the statement, "People are either an influence on others or they are influenced by others."
- 3. Was Noah glad he didn't join the crowd? Why?
- 4. What made Noah different? How was he able to "rise above" the influence of those around him?
- 5. What was the purpose of flooding the earth?
- 6. Why did Noah take all those animals and creeping things?
- 7. Why do you suppose modern shipbuilders use the same measurement ratio for building ships as Noah used to build the ark? How did Noah know what measurements to use?

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# Old Testament Lesson 7: God Makes A Promise To Noah Genesis 8,9

Memory Verses:	Genesis 8:21	the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake;neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.
	Genesis 9:13	I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

T		
Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• we need to be good, faithful, and obedient to	
	God's commands even when we are the only	
	one.	
	• when we are on God's side, we always come	
	out of a situation the winner, no matter how	
	many are against us.	
	• God will always keep His promises.	

#### Outline:

I. The rainbow. Genesis 8

- A. Waters recede/ark rests.
- B. Raven/dove.
- C. Noah thanks God.
- D. God's covenant with man.
- II. After the flood. Genesis 9
  - A. God blesses Noah and his family to be fruitful and multiply.
  - B. The rainbow.
  - C. Noah plants a vineyard.
    - 1. Drunken.
    - 2. Sons reactions/consequences.

- 1. God's chosen family (Noah) were nestled safe in the ark. After 150 days, the waters receded and the ark came to rest (landed) on Mt. Ararat, the high mountain range in Armenia, Turkey. (Ararat is 16,916 feet high.)
- 2. After about two and one-half months, the tops of mountain ranges could be seen. After forty days, Noah sent out a raven to see if the waters had dried, then he sent out a dove. The dove returned, finding no place to rest. After seven days, he sent the dove out again. It returned with an olive leaf. Seven days later, he sent the dove out again and it did not return, so Noah knew the land had dried.

- 3. God called Noah and his family and the animals to come out of the ark, to be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth, for no living person/thing had survived the flood that was not safe within the ark.
- 4. Noah immediately built an altar and offered to God sacrifices of every clean animal and bird, worshipping God and pouring out his praise and thanksgiving. Noah recognized the end of a tragic judgment and the dawning of a new day of hope and promise. The fumes of the sacrifice going up to God pleased him and Noah found favor in God's eyes and He blessed him.
- 5. Noah was allowed by God to eat of any living thing, but he was not to eat the blood. In Genesis 9:5, he institutes capital punishment.
- 6. God confirmed His covenant (promise) with man never to destroy the earth with water again by a rainbow in the sky as a visible sign or token of His promise and His care.
- 7. Application: I Peter 3:21: Jesus has said the end of the world will also come suddenly. Those, as in Noah's day, who have payed no attention to Christ, nor followed His commands, will not be saved from the terrible punishment by fire God has prepared. Those who love God and have obeyed Him will be saved as Noah and his family were. There are times we're alone in wanting to do right. But remember when we're on God's side it doesn't matter how many are on Satan's side. Noah was glad he did not let himself be influenced by the crowd.
- 8. In time, Noah planted a vineyard. He became drunk and lay naked/uncovered in his tent. Ham saw his father and mockingly told his brothers. Without looking upon their father, Shem and Japeth covered his nakedness. When Noah became sober, he cursed Ham and his descendants. Noah blessed Shem and Japeth for doing the right thing.
- 9. Shem, the oldest son, received the birthright. He became father of the Jews/Hebrew nation. Christ would come from Shem's lineage.
- 10. Japheth became father of the Gentile nation. They scattered far and wide in search of material gain and power.
- 11. Ham, the youngest son, became father of the Canaanite nation. Their lands were later possessed by the Jews/Hebrews. They became servants to the Jews/Hebrews, just as Noah had said.
- 12. Noah lived to be 950 years old.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Noah, wife, sons - dolls, stick people, paper dolls, clay people boat, water toy animals, animal cookies food - hay, straw, feed, bird seed, hamster/rabbit food, dog/cat food mountain -clay, papier mache, sugar ice cream cones ark - toy boat black bird, white bird (dove) - craft ornament, stickers, candy, picture leaf, branch - olive branch altar - clay, rocks, gravel - glued together, building blocks, small grill toy or stuffed animal to sacrifice rainbow - bright markers, tissue paper, construction paper vineyard - grape vine, grapes, grape juice

#### coat, garment, blanket

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- Blue Skies And Rainbows
- Cheerfully Obey
- God Made The Animals
- God's Love
- I Look Out My Window
- If I Were The Wind
- My God And I
- Noah Built The Ark So High

- Noah Found Grace
- Old Testament Books
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Pass It On
- Stand Up And Shout It
- The Three Dispensations
- Unto Thee O Lord
- Who Built The Ark

#### Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Noah"
  - "Faith" (Noah)
  - "Geography Bible Lands" (Mt. Ararat)
- Age-appropriate handwork

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How did Noah know the waters were receding?
- 2. How do we know God will never destroy the earth with water again?
- 3. How will He destroy the earth next time?
- 4. What symbol of His promise did God give Noah?
- 5. How did God show His mercy? How did God show His wrath?
- 6. Who were Noah's sons? What nations developed from each one?
- 7. Through the lineage of which son does Christ, the Messiah come?

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# Old Testament Lesson 8: The Tower Of Babel Genesis 10,11

Memory Verses:	Genesis 11:7,8	Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.  So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.
	Genesis 11:9	Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.
	Ecclesiastes 12:13,14	Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.
		For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.
	I Corinthians 6:19,20	What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
		For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• we must always put God first in our lives.
	Vanity and self importance do not include God.
	The Lord is pleased when we praise Him; not
	ourselves.

# Outline:

I. The generations of Noah.

Genesis 10

- A. Japheth father of the Gentiles.
- B. Ham father of the Canaanites.
- C. Shem father of the Jews.
- II. Tower of Babel.

Genesis 11:1-9

Genesis 11:10-32

Genesis 10, 11

- A. One language.
- B. A way to honor themselves.
- C. God confuses their language.
- D. The people scattered/divided.
- III. The generations of Shem/Terah.
  - A. Shem's descendants.
  - B. Nahor begat Terah.
  - C. Terah begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran.
  - D. Haran begat Lot.
  - E. Abram marries Sarai.

- 1. The sons of Noah were Ham, Shem, and Japheth. Japheth became the father of the Gentile nation. Ham became the father of the Canaanite nation. Shem became the father of the Jewish nation and direct ancestor of Christ.
- 2. Ham had a famous grandson, Nimrod, who founded the Babylonian Empire and built the city of Nineveh. He was a mighty hunter before God and remarkable army leader. He had power over all of Mesopotamia. His father was Cush.
- 3. <u>Japheth's people</u> settled around Tarshish, a city in Spain where Phoenician traders met. Centuries later, Jonah boarded a ship to Tarshish (Tarsus). Paul was from Tarsus.
- 4. <u>Ham's people</u> settled in Mesopotamia. Ninevah was the center of the Assyrian kingdom, situated on the Tigris River. It included Palestine, land of the Philistines and the Hittite nation in Kadesh and Hebron. They also settled in Egypt and Ethiopia.
- 5. <u>Shem's people</u> settled in Syria around Damascus and Egypt. Ophir was a seaport of Arabia known for its gold, precious metals, and gems. Solomon sent men there to get gold for the temple. The term Hebrew is racial while Israelite is national. In time, the terms were used synonymously of these people.
- 6. As the descendants of Noah multiplied, they all used one language. They lived in and about the Euphrates valley in the land of Shinar. Shinar was an early name for Babylon.
- 7. They decided to build a gigantic brick tower so tall it would reach into heaven. This, they thought, would establish their importance in the eyes of themselves, other men, and even God by calling attention to themselves and their accomplishments. The sin of self-sufficiency and pride predominated their thinking. They thought the unity of building this tower together would secure them together as one powerful group forever. But the tower was a symbol of human pride and ambition.
- 8. God desired the people to honor and praise Him. He did not allow them to continue in such open defiance and rebellion. He said, "Let us go down and confound (confuse) their language that they may not understand one another's speech." (Genesis 11:7) "us" is the Godhead (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) who had created all things from the beginning.
- 9. Each one began speaking in a language foreign to the others. They could not understand one another to complete the tower, thus the work ended. They were scattered into small groups or tribes and moved away from those who they could not understand. This is where the thousands of languages and dialects began.

Genesis 10, 11

- The site of the tower of Babel later became the city of Babylon. In the Babylonian language "Babel" means "the gate of God." In Hebrew or Aramaic, it means to "mix or confuse."
- 11. When men spurn God's law and grace to exalt themselves, catastrophe is inevitable. Solomon reminds us, the purpose of man's whole being is to fear God and keep His commandments. (Ecclesiastes 12:13,14)
- 12. We wear the name "Christian" to glorify Christ. We wear our earthly father's name. If we obey him, he is proud, but if we disobey, he is displeased and punishes us. It is the same with God.
- The lineage from Noah to Abraham: 13.

Noah	
Shem	600 years
Arphaxad	933 years
Salah	433 years
Eber	860 years
Peleg	239 years
Reu	437 years
Serug	230 years
Nahor	920 years
Terah	205 years
Abram (Abra	aham)

14. Terah had three sons, Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Haran had a son named Lot. Abram marries Sarai and Nahor marries Milcah. Their early home was Ur of the Chaldees. Ur was about 100 miles southeast of Babylon. In Abram's day, it was a thriving commercial city with unusually high cultural standards. Archaeologists have unearthed fabulous treasures from this old city dating back as far as 3,000 B.C. which are located in the Oriental Institute of Chicago.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Shem, Ham, Japheth - dolls, puppets, stick figures, paper dolls, pipecleaner men Nimrod - bow and arrow, toy armor and sword, shield, helmet brick - real one, legos, building blocks, sugar cubes, mud & straw-baked & dried examples of ways we draw attention to ourselves: fancy clothes, houses, toys, cars, VIP titles, etc.

tower - model - stacked boxes glued together, mud, cards, craft sticks examples of foreign languages - on tape, record, written in books building tools - tape measure, hammer, saw, level map, picture chart of lineage from Noah to Abraham Terah, 3 sons, Lot - dolls, etc.

- Flannel graphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- A Common Love
- Because It Pleases God
- God Is Watching Over You
- I Like To Talk To God
- I Love The Father
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- Kumbayah
- Let Him Have His Way w/ Thee

- Lord My Desire
- May I Call You Father
- My God Is So Great
- Praise Him Praise Him
- Rejoice In The Lord Always
- Seek Ye First
- The Devil Wants Me To Sin
- We Are Family

#### Activities:

- Age-appropriate handwork
- Build a tower with different materials
- Give each student 5 jelly beans (marshmallows, M&M's) at the beginning of class. Every time they use the word "I" they loose a jelly bean.

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. Who were the sons of Noah? What do you know about each one?
- 2. Why did the people of Shinar decide to build a tower? What was it to be like?
- 3. How did God feel about their ideas?
- 4. What did God do to their plans? What resulted?
- 5. What is our purpose on earth? (Ecclesiastes 12:13,14)
- 6. How do people today call attention to themselves? How might that make God feel?
- 7. What do you think your life shows about who is number one in your life?
- 8. Do you find some areas of your life where you honor yourself instead of God?
- 9. What are some ways we can praise God and show Him honor?
- 10. Name the generations from Noah to Abraham.

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# Old Testament Lesson 9: The Call Of Abraham Genesis 12

Memory Verses:	Genesis 11:26	And Terah lived seventy years, and begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran.
	Genesis 12:1,2	Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that i will show thee:
		And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

Goals:	Student will learn:
	Abram obeyed God without question and without knowing
	what was in store for Him. God values our faith and
	obedience.
	• Dishonesty breeds trouble.

#### Outline:

I. The generations of Terah.

Genesis 11:27-32

- A. Abram and Sarai his wife.
- B. Nahor and Milcah his wife.
- C. Haran and Lot his son.
- D. Move from Ur to Haran.
- II. God calls Abram.

Genesis 12

- A. Leave thy country.
- B. Covenant promise.
- C. Abram takes Sarai and Lot.
- III. Abram goes into Canaan.
  - A. Shechem.
  - B. Bethel.
  - C. Egypt.
- IV. Sarai taken by Pharoah.
  - A. Abram lied.
  - B. God plagued Pharoah.
  - C. Sent away.

- 1. The generations from Noah to Abram are: Noah, Shem, Arphaxad, Salah, Eber, Peleg, Reu, Serug, Nahor, Terah, Abram.
- 2. Terah had three sons: Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Lot was the son of Haran, nephew of Abram. Abram married Sarai. She was unable to have children. Haran died so Lot went to live with Terah. Terah moved all his family from Ur to Haran, where he later died at the age of 205.
- 3. The Ur of the Chaldees was an ancient city 125 miles from the mouth of the Euphrates River, 100 miles southeast of Babylon, 550 miles from Haran. In Abram's day, it was a thriving commercial city with unusually high cultural standards. Many mathematicians, astronomers, doctors, political leaders, writers, and historians worked and studied there. The surrounding countryside was lush with fig, date, and palm trees. Grain fields were watered by grids of irrigation ditches. The Euphrates provided lots of ships importing and exporting goods. A huge ziggurat (3-step pyramid) honored the moon god, Nanna. But contrary to his family and culture, Abram worshipped the true and living God. (Joshua 24:2)
- 4. Haran was an important city in Mesopotamia, 550 miles northeast of Ur, 280 miles north of Damascus. Major highways converged there. Haran was one of the main centers of worship of the moon god, Sin. Haran is still a small Arab village.
- 5. As with the patriarch Noah, God communicated directly with Abram. When Abram was seventy-five, God told him to leave his country (friends, neighbors, and family) and go to another land "I'll show you." God tested Abram's faith. Abram and Sarai were quite wealthy and owned large numbers of cattle, donkeys, camels, sheep. All his servants and hired help were part of his household. Their home was probably quite luxurious. Yet without question, Abram gathered his possessions and got his large household ready to travel without any idea as to where they were going, all because of his love and trust in God.
- 6. God promised to create of Abram a great nation and bless him and make him great (prosperity, plenteous posterity, and greatness). From the lineage of Abram, Christ was to come. God repeats this promise to Isaac and Jacob.
- 7. Abram took Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all their household to Canaan. Abram was from sinful, Pagan civilizations. The wilderness of Canaan would provide a clean, quiet place to establish God's new nation. Canaan is all the land from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, and from Syria to Egypt.
- 8. They first settled at Shechem, a lovely vale between Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim, forty-one miles north of Jerusalem. (In later years, Jacob's well was here.) Shechem is now called Nablus. The plain of Moren refers to a sacred tree, resembling an oak where a teacher once taught. Here Abram built an altar to worship and honor God.
- 9. Soon, Abram moved twenty miles south to Bethel. This is one of the highest points in Canaan and gives a magnificent view in all directions. He again pitched his tent and built an altar to worship God. (This publically declared to any observers he was taking permanent possession of the land.) Bethel means "house of God."
- 10. Famines were frequent in Canaan. With all his flocks and herds, it was necessary for Abram to move south into Egypt where the Nile River furnished water for cattle and crops. This was to be a temporary arrangement, just until the famine let up.

Genesis 12

11. But fear possessed Abram as he camped in Egypt, for Sarai was a very beautiful woman

- and he imagined the Pharoah might kill him in order to take Sarai into his harem. Abram rationalized that if he said Sarai was his sister, his life would be spared. (Sarai was his half-sister.) Yet because of his wavering faith in God to handle this situation, Sarai was noticed by the princes of Pharoah and taken into the Egyptian harem.
- 12. For Sarai, Abram received sheep, oxen, donkeys, camels, and many men and women servants.
- 13. To correct Abram's dilemma, God plagued Pharoah and all in his house with great plagues. Pharoah realized something was wrong and asked Abram why he did not tell him Sarai was his wife. "Look what you have brought upon me!" Pharoah drove Abram, Sarai and their household from Egypt back into Canaan, the city of Bethel.
- 14. Abram realized his behavior was not worthy of God's ambassador and he must rebuild his altar to Jehovah and repent.
- 15. As we obey God, a step at a time, our trust grows and we are able to take another step. We can learn from Abram's mistakes as well as our own. When we falter, we must repent and try harder to please God.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

"family tree"

map - Mesopotamia, Canaan, Egypt; U. S.A. - compare distance they can relate to Abram, Sarai, Lot, Pharoah - dolls, stickmen, paper dolls, puppets, pipe cleaners good lesson for a sandbox village

fig, dates - fig newton cookies, dates or raisins

palm - tree branch, paper "branch," artificial branch that looks like palm branch grain fields - tall grass, grain sample

ship - toy boat, package - imports, exports

ziggurat - pyramid of clay, sand, paper or cardboard with glue and sand toy cattle, donkeys, camels, sheep

example of ancient palace, wealthy home - magazine pictures

picture of a caravan - suitcases, backpacks, walking stick, compass

tree - clay, toy, paper; altar - gravel, stone, rocks, sand, building blocks

fire - red, orange, yellow tissue paper, cellophane, or construction paper

tent - small pup tent, child's play tent, sheet over chairs or table

Pharoah - toy, paper crown

wife - wedding ring favors

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- Cheerfully Obey
- Father Abraham

- God Said Abraham "Go"
- Humble Yourselves

- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Like To Talk To God
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- My God And I
- My God Is So Great
- Old Testament Books
- Once There Were 3 Wandering Jews

- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Seek Ye First
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- The Bible Song
- The Three Dispensations
- Trust And Obey
- Unto Perfection

#### Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Abraham"
  - "Faith"
- Age-appropriate handwork

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How would you have reacted if God told you to pack up all you own & start traveling?
- 2. What kind of sacrifices did Abram and Sarai make to obey God? Were they worth it? Why?
- 3. What promises did God make to Abram?
- 4. What condition did Abram have to fulfil before God would fulfil His promise?
- 5. Why did God lead Abram into the wilderness of Canaan?
- 6. How did Abram show honor and gratitude to God? How do you show honor and gratitude to God?
- 7. Give the lineage from Noah to Abraham.
- 8. What do you know about Abraham's family background?
- 9. Why was Sarai taken by Pharaoh? What should Abram have done?
- 10. How do you demonstrate your faith and obedience to God?

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# Old Testament Lesson 10: Abraham And Lot Genesis 13,14

Memory Verses:	Genesis 13:2	And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.
	Genesis 13:11,12	Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.
		Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.
	Genesis 13:15,16	For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.
		And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.
	Genesis 14:18	And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God is pleased when we put the wants and
	needs of others before our own. He will bless us
	in return.

# Outline:

I. The parting of Abram and Lot.

Genesis 13

- A. Rich in cattle, silver, and gold.
- B. Strife between herdsmen.
- C. Abram's generous suggestion.
- D. Lot moves to the valley of Jordan.
- E. God gives Abram the land of Canaan.
- F. Abram's seed blessed.

# II. Battle of the kings.

Genesis 14

- A. Armies from the east invade Palestine.
- B. Lot taken prisoner.
- C. Abram to the rescue.
- D. Blessed by Melchizedek.
- E. Abram refuses any material gain.

- 1. Abram became very wealthy in cattle, silver, and gold. He accumulated so much, he was having difficulty moving quickly enough to provide sufficient water and grasses for his cattle and all those with him.
- 2. Lot, as well, had accumulated many flocks, herds, and tents. Because of the crowded conditions, Lot's herdsmen and Abram's herdsmen began to quarrel and fight. Abram could not allow such unbecoming conduct to continue, for they were "brethren" (family) and representatives of Jehovah God.
- 3. In the interest of peace, Abram made the generous suggestion that Lot choose any section of the land he preferred and move off on his own in that direction, leaving the rest of the territory for Abram.
- 4. Lot chose the well watered valley of Jordan, with an abundance of tropical vegetation and fertile soil. However, the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were included in this area. They were extremely corrupt. (In time, Lot's selfish choice will prove to be disastrous.)
- 5. Now, the Lord came to Abram and said, "Lift up now thine eyes and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward and westward: for all the land which thou seest, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed forever." As a reward for his unselfish act, Abram received all the land of Canaan. He invited Abram to look upon the breathtaking beauty of the land that stretched before him as he stood atop Bethel.
- 6. The Lord promised Abram many descendants. They would be more numerous than the dust particles of the earth. At that time, Abram had no children, but accepted God's promise by faith.
- 7. Abram left Bethel and moved down into Canaan camping in the Plain of Mamre in Hebron. There, he built another altar in worship and thanksgiving toward God.
- 8. Hebron is an ancient city of southern Judah, nineteen miles southwest of Jerusalem. It is 3,040 feet above sea level. Surrounding the city are olive trees, grapes, springs, and wells, and plenty of grazing ground. This would become a burial place for Sarah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Rebekah, and Leah.
- 9. Instead of living in peace and prosperity, Lot and Abram found themselves in the middle of a war. Four warring armies from the east invaded Palestine. As Sodom and neighboring kingdoms are defeated, Lot was taken as a prisoner of war and all his belongings plundered.
- 10. Abram quickly organized and armed his 318 trained servants to rescue Lot. He established himself a powerful force for righteousness in the land, pursuing them to Dan, then on to Hobath. He rescued Lot, the women and people of Sodom and their goods.
- 11. The four attacking kings were:
  - 1) Amraphel, king of Shinar. Shinar is in northern Mesopotamia between the Tigris and Euphrates.
  - 2) Arioch, king of Ellasar in Babylon.
  - 3) Tidal, king of Goiim nations/people. He was the head of several individual kingdoms or probably a strong roving band of people in the business of making raids for plundering.
  - 4) Chedorlaomer, king of Elam, a mountainous region near the Persian Gulf. He was the most powerful and controlling of all the 4 kings.

Genesis 13, 14

12. These kings marched their troops from just beyond Damascus down the east part of Jordan to the end of the Dead Sea. Then, they moved northward up the western side of Jordan. But, they are defeated by Abram in the low country below the Dead Sea.

- 13. The Dead Sea (Salt Sea) is forty-six miles long, nine and one-half miles wide, and 1,200 feet deep. It is the lowest body of water in the world. It has five times more salt content than ordinary sea water. The ruins of Sodom and Gomorrah may lie beneath its south end.
- 14. Slime pits are thought to be pits from which liquid petroleum had been removed. Those fighting men trying to escape enemy attack fell into these holes and suffered death.
- 15. The word "Hebrew" is first used in Genesis 14:13. It was used by foreigners to designate descendants of Abraham. It means "a descendant of Eber" or "one from the other side" (of the river). Abram had migrated from Mesopotamia on the other side of the Jordan River.
- 16. Abram took with his own troops, troops from Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre, loyal friends in this emergency.
- 17. Abram pursued Chedorlaomer 100 miles from Dan to Hobah. Hobah is fifty miles north of Damascus. They recovered all the booty and prisoners. The king of Sodom met Abram upon his return and expressed his thanks.
- 18. Melchizedek, the high priest and king of Salem (Jerusalem) recognized Abram's nobility and supplied him and his warriors with food and drink. They realized they served the same Jehovah God. Abram brought tithes as offerings to Melchizedek to be offered to God. Melchizedek blessed Abram.
- 19. The Hebrews writer draws a parallel between Christ and Melchizedek. (Hebrews 5:9,10, 6:20, 7:1-7)
- 20. Abram refused to accept any of the booty gained in battle when the king of Sodom offered it to him. He wanted only the freedom of Lot and the expenses due his allies.

## Visuals:

• Characterization props:

cows, sheep - toy, stuffed animals, handful of grass, bowl of water, pet dish money - play, real coins; gold, silver - gravel spray painted gold, silver tent - pup tent, child's play tent, cloth over bent coat hangers map of ancient cities - plot the battle route tropical vegetation - bananas, fruit, corn, flowering plant fertile soil - potting soil; dust - dirt, sand, soot from fireplace, vacuum cleaner bag altar - clay and gravel, toothpicks, building blocks olives, grapes (Hebron) helmet, shield, sword, arrow, handcuffs, rope booty - items of value wrapped in a tablecloth or towel, ex: silver plate, bowl, silverware, jewelry, coins, Dead Sea - salt water; petroleum - motor oil, petroleum jelly kings - crown, robe

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map

- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- Books Of The Old Testament
- God Is Watching Over You
- God Said Abraham "Go"
- Humble Yourself
- Lord Has Been Mindful Of Me
- The Lord Will Find A Way For Me
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I'm A Hard Fighting Soldier

- I'm In The Lord's Army
- Jordan River
- Roll The Gospel Chariot
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- The Bible Song
- The Three Dispensations
- Three Wandering Jews
- We're Crossing Over, One By One

## Activities:

- File-Folder Activities: "Abraham"
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. How was Abram unselfish? How was Lot selfish?
- 2. Which one are you like, Lot or Abram? Why?
- 3. How did God bless Abram in today's lesson? Why did God bless Him?
- 4. How does God bless you? Why does He bless you?
- 5. Why was Lot taken prisoner?
- 6. How might we avoid making some mistakes Lot made?
- 7. Why did Abram refuse to accept any reward for saving the booty & those of Sodom?
- 8. How are Melchizedek and Christ alike?
- 9. Define: salt sea, Hebrew

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# Old Testament Lesson 11: Abraham And Sarah Genesis 15-18:15

Memory Verses:	Genesis 15:6	And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness.
	Genesis 16:11	And the angel of the Lord said unto her, Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the Lord hath heard thy affliction.
	Genesis 17:4,5	As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.
		Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.
	Genesis 17:15,16	And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be.
		And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.
	Genesis 18:14a	Is any thing too hard for the Lord?

Goals:	Student will learn:
	God always keeps His promises.
	• Faith is believing what we cannot see.
	Nothing is impossible for God.

# Outline:

I. God renews His promises to Abram.

Genesis 15

- A. Abram confused.
- B. The promise of an heir renewed.
- C. Canaan promised.

II. Sarai tries to "help" God.

Genesis 16

- A. Sarai gives Hagar to Abram.
- B. Hagar flees.
- C. An angel tells her to return.
- D. Ishmael is born.

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Genesis 15-18

III. Abraham and Sarah to be parents.

Genesis 17

- A. Abram becomes Abraham.
- B. Circumcision instituted.
- C. Sarai becomes Sarah.
- D. Isaac promised.

IV. Angels visit Abraham.

Genesis 18:1-15

- A. Abraham entertains.
- B. Sarah to conceive.
- C. Sarah reproved.

- 1. God said to Abram, "I am thy shield and thy reward."
- 2. Abram asked God if the son of His steward, Eliezer was the promised heir. God assured Abram that he would father the promised seed. He told Abram his seed would be as numerous as the stars of the sky. Abram trusted God and God was pleased. Being in a right relationship with God is precious and important to God. (James 2;17,23)
- 3. God also promised Abram the land of Canaan. To seal His covenant/promise with Abram, God had Abram offer a heifer, a she goat, a ram, a turtledove, and a pigeon.
- 4. God told Abram of the future captivity of his seed (in Egypt) and that it would last 400 years.
- 5. Sarai and Abram had been married many, many years. To be childless was a disgrace for any Hebrew wife. Sarai was baffled and sought ways to "help" God work out His plan. She eventually was even willing to disregard divine standard and give her Egyptian slave, Hagar, to Abram in the hope she might bear a son to the family. But discord and heartache followed as consequences for Sarai.
- 6. Hagar conceived and began to despise her mistress. Sarai, in turn, became bitter and jealous of Hagar. Sarai blamed Abram. Abram told Sarai the maid was hers, do with her as she wished. Sarai dealt harshly with Hagar.
- 7. Hagar ran away toward her homeland, Egypt. When she reached the wall of Shur, she stopped by the fountain for water.
- 8. An angel appeared to Hagar telling her to go back to Sarai and submit herself. He also told her she would bear a son who was to be named Ishmael. Ishmael means "God heareth." Ishmael would be wild and at constant odds with others.
- 9. The well or fountain where the angel spoke to Hagar was called Beerlahairoi meaning "the well of the living one who seeth me." Hagar was touched that an angel of God had cared for her. She returned. Ishmael was born when Abram was eighty-six years old.
- 10. Thirteen years later, when Abram was ninety-nine, God appeared to Abram renewing His covenant/promises. He told Abram to "walk before me and be thou perfect" (blameless, spotless).
- 11. God said, "I am the almighty God" (El Shaddai) meaning, nothing is impossible with God who is all powerful and all sufficient. Humbly and reverently, Abram fell to the ground in worship.
- 12. God changed Abram's name to Abraham, exalted father of many nations. He changed Sarai's name to Sarah, meaning princess, mother of nations. Among their descendants shall be kings and royalty (Jesus Christ King of kings). Their son was to be named

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Isaac. He would be the promised seed when Abraham was ninety-nine and Sarah was ninety years old. (Romans 4:16,17)

- 13. Ishmael would be blessed and fruitful. He would beget twelve princes and father a great nation. But God's great nation would be through Isaac, Sarah's son.
- 14. God renewed His promise of the land of Canaan to Abraham and His seed for generations.
- 15. As a token or symbol of their covenant, Abraham and his descendants were to be circumcised when they were eight days old. This demonstrated their dedication and commitment to Jehovah God to neighboring nations. Circumcision was not something entirely new. It was practiced by other nations such as Egypt and parts of Canaan.
- 16. Abraham was overwhelmed at the news of Isaac. Isaac means "to laugh." Abraham laughed in excitement of the impending fulfillment of God's promise.
- 17. Abraham took Ishmael and all the males of his house to be circumcised the day God gave this command.
- 18. The Lord again appears to Abraham in the plains of Mamre, the vicinity of Hebron, in the form of three messengers. Abraham showed extraordinary hospitality (a royal welcome).
- 19. He invited them to rest and find comfort while the meal was prepared. Abraham and Sarah worked quickly to prepare bread and milk and the calf for their distinguished guests.
- 20. The visitors announced the promise of a child was now only a year away. As Sarah worked in her tent, she overheard their conversation. She laughed at the thought of her bearing a child now, for she was well past the age of child bearing. Knowing Sarah laughed, the visitor asked, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Luke 1:37)

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Ishmael, visitors - dolls, puppets, stick people

old age - white/gray wig, cotton beard, glasses, wrinkles

Eliezer, Ishmael - baby doll

stars - stickers, stamps, star fabric, blue sheet with string of Christmas lights, star shaped cookies

map - Canaan, Hebron, Egypt

cow, goat, ram, dove, pigeon

altar - clay, gravel, toothpicks

torch - flashlight with red/orange/yellow tissue paper, tiki light

fountain at Shur - cup of water

crown, robe, scepter

hospitality - sleeping bag, quilt and pillow, cushion, soap and water, towel, bread, biscuits, crackers, muffins, milk, meat, tablecloth, candles, paper plates, cups

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- Father Abraham
- Father I Adore You
- God Said Abraham "Go"
- God's Love
- Happiness Is
- He Is Here
- He's Got The Whole World
- Humble Yourself
- Jesus Loves Even Me
- My God And I

- My God Is So Great
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Praise Him Praise Him
- Sing And Be Happy
- Stand Up And Shout It
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- The Lord Loves A Laughing Man
- Three Wandering Jews
- Without Faith It's Impossible
- Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus Is To Me

## Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Abraham"
  - "Faith"
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. What is faith?
- 2. In what/who do you have faith?
- 3. How did Sarai try to help God with His divine plan? Was she successful? Explain.
- 4. Who was Hagar's son? What do you know about him?
- 5. Why did the angel tell Hagar to go back to Abram and Sarai?
- 6. Define: 'El Shaddai.
- 7. Why does Abraham laugh at the announcement of Isaac? Why does Sarah laugh?
- 8. How did Abraham show hospitality? How do you show hospitality? What could you
- 9. Does God keep His promises to us like He did to Abraham?
- 10. What promises does God keep with us?
- 11. Is there anything that is impossible for God to do?

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# Old Testament Lesson 12: Sodom And Gomorrah Genesis 18:16-33,19

Memory Verses:	Genesis 18:32	And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And He said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.
	Genesis 19:17	And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.
	Genesis 19:24	Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven;
	Genesis 19:26	But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.
	Luke 17:32	Remember Lot's wife.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• how God dealt with the disobedient under the
	old law.
	<ul><li> God hates sin.</li><li> God listens to the prayers of those that serve</li></ul>
	• God listens to the prayers of those that serve
	Him.

## Outline:

I. The destruction of Sodom revealed.

Genesis 18:16-33

- A. Abraham petitions God for the righteous.
- II. Sodom and Gomorrah's destruction.

Genesis 19

- A. Angels visit Lot.
- B. The Sodomites wish to do evil and are blinded.
- C. Lot and his family spared.
- D. Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed.
- E. Lot's wife looks back.
- F. Lot and his daughters live in a cave.
- G. Moab and Benammi are born.

### Facts:

1. As the angels left Abraham and Sarah at Hebron and went to Sodom, God revealed to Abraham His plan to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah for their great wickedness. It had

- only been about 400 years since the great flood, yet man had already forgotten the power of God.
- 2. Abraham bargained with the Lord six times to spare Sodom if he could fine fifty, forty-five, forty, thirty, twenty, or even just ten righteous souls. The Lord agreed, if ten righteous could be found in Sodom, He would spare the city. Unfortunately, there were not even ten good people in Sodom and Gomorrah.
- 3. Abraham's unselfish concern for others, his generosity, sensitivity, and sympathy are character traits God loved and we should desire.
- 4. Lot was found sitting at the gate of the city. He greeted the angels, invited them into his house for comfort and safety, and prepared a feast for them.
- 5. Men of Sodom demanded Lot give them his visitors that they may use them for their own wicked pleasure. Lot pleaded with them to go away. He even offered to them his own two daughters. But they refused Lot's offer and pressed to break the door down. The angels pulled Lot into the safety of his home. The men were struck blind so they could not see to carry out their wicked plans.
- 6. As ten righteous could not be found, the angels warned Lot to take his wife, his sons-inlaw and daughters out of the city immediately if they are to be spared. Lot's sons-in-law ignored the warning.
- 7. The next morning, Lot, his wife and two daughters which remained at home, prepared to leave. The angels took them by the hands and led them out of the city before God's mercy toward Lot ran out.
- 8. The angels instructed them to run for their lives and not look back toward the city. They were to run toward the mountains. Lot pleaded with God to let them go to the town of Zoar instead of the mountains.
- 9. As soon as Lot reached Zoar, God rained fire and brimstone from heaven upon Sodom and Gomorrah, completely destroying the city and all its inhabitants. Jesus likened His return to the days of Sodom. (Luke 17:26-32, II Peter 2:5,6)
- 10. Lot's wife looked back at the city and immediately became a pillar of salt for her disobedience. Of curiosity, there are <u>many</u> pillars of salt today at the south end of the Dead Sea which bear the name "Lot's wife."
- 11. Abraham looked out from Hebron upon the fiery inferno of the valley below. He had done all he could to spare Lot and his family, now he watched the destruction of the wicked cities.
- 12. Lot and his daughters left Zoar and went to live in the mountains in a cave. The daughters wickedly conspired to get their father drunk and engaged in incest with him. The result of their revolting deed was the birth of two boys. The oldest daughter had a son named Moab who became father of the Moabites and the youngest daughter had a son named Benammi who became father of the Ammonites.
- 13. God wants us to learn lessons from the good examples of the Old Testament, like Abraham, as well as the bad examples, so we don't make those same mistakes.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

angels, Abraham, Lot & family - costumes, dolls, stick figures, pictures, etc. map of Palestine, sandbox villages - Hebron, Sodom, Gomorrah, Dead Sea, Zoar shallow bucket of water & cloth to wash "angels" feet

food for "feast" - bread, water, raisins, crackers

items to "pack" - suitcase, duffle bag, pillow

fire and brimstone - strobe light, sound effects on tape, red/yellow/orange tissue paper, construction paper, colored sand, ashes (molten lava)

pillar of salt - female doll covered with glue and salt or sand, female figure of clay covered with salt or sand

mountain - clay, papier mache, bowl covered with moss, greenery, green paint cave - clay, papier mache, tent - sheet over chairs, table

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- Cheerfully Obey
- God Said Abraham "Go"
- I Have Decided
- I Should Be A Pillar Of Salt
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- Jesus Loves Even Me
- My God Is So Great
- O Be Careful

- Old Testament Books
- Our God Is An Awesome God
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Standin' In The Need Of Prayer
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- Three Wandering Jews
- Unto Thee O Lord
- Yield Not To Temptation

### Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Abraham"
  - "Faith"
  - "Geography Bible Lands" (Sodom)
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. How does God feel about sin? Why? How should we feel toward sin?
- 2. Does God hear our prayers when we serve Him? How do you know?
- 3. Why did Abraham plead with God to spare Sodom?
- 4. Why was Lot and his family reluctant to leave Sodom?
- 5. How did God deal with sin in the patriarchal age? How does He deal with sin today?
- 6. God tells us the good things and the bad things people of the Old Testament did. What purpose might this serve?
- 7. What sins do you need to eliminate in your life?

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# Old Testament Lesson 13: The Test Of Abraham's Faith Genesis 20-22

Memory Verses:	Genesis 21:2,3	For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.  And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.
	Genesis 22:2	And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.
	Genesis 22:12	And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.
	Genesis 22:18	And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.
	James 2:24	Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• we need to love God more than anyone or		
	anything and give Him our very best.		
	• how faith and obedience go hand in hand.		

# Outline:

I. Abraham and Abimelech.

Genesis 20

- A. Sarah misrepresented again.
- B. God speaks to Abimelech.
- C. Sarah returned.
- D. Abraham prays.

II. Isaac is born.

Genesis 21

- A. Sarah bares a son.
- B. Hagar and Ishmael cast out.
- C. God provides for Hagar and Ishmael.
- D. A promise between Abraham and Abimelech.

III. The trying of Abraham's faith.

Genesis 22

- A. Abraham to offer Isaac.
- B. Abraham proves his faith.
- C. God's promise renewed.

- 1. Abraham and Sarah left Hebron and traveled south to Gerar, known as Philistine territory. Abraham repeated his sin of deception, calling Sarah his sister to King Abimelech, who took her.
- 2. Now Abimelech was a man of integrity and high standards. He was honest and fair. God chose to come to him in a dream, warning Abimelech not to touch Sarah or take her as a wife or he would die for she was already Abraham's wife. Abimelech assured God he would not have considered Sarah as a wife if he had known the truth.
- 3. God referred to Abraham as a prophet with a special relationship to God.
- 4. The next morning, Abimelech told his servants what had happened. Then he sent for Abraham and asked him why he would bring this great sin upon Abimelech and his kingdom. Abraham excused his bad behavior by saying that because they did not worship or fear Jehovah God in this area, he thought they might kill him and take his wife Sarah. He justified his deception by explaining Sarah was his half sister.
- 5. Abimelech returned Sarah to Abraham as well as sheep, oxen, servants and 1,000 pieces of silver. Abraham prayed for Abimelech, that God's curse upon him and his people would be removed, and it was.
- 6. When Abraham was one hundred years old and Sarah was ninety, she had a son named Isaac. There was joyous laughter and thanksgiving for this precious little miracle. "Isaac" means "laughter." Abraham circumcised Isaac when he is eight days old.
- 7. Trouble arose when Sarah observed Ishmael mocking Isaac. Conflict was rekindled between Sarah and Hagar. Sarah demanded Abraham get rid of Hagar and Ishmael. Abraham was heart broken for he loved Ishmael.
- 8. God came to Abraham assuring him that, although Isaac was the child of promise, Ishmael would also become the father of a nation. He was instructed to do as Sarah had asked. Reluctantly, Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away with provisions toward the wilderness of Beersheba.
- 9. Beersheba is on the border of Egypt, fifty miles south of Jerusalem, twenty seven miles south of Hebron. In the dry wilderness, their water was consumed and Ishmael was overcome by exhaustion. His mother laid him in the shade of a small shrub to die. She began to cry.
- 10. God, in mercy, intervened sending an angel to tell Hagar not to worry for God would make of Ishmael a great nation. He revealed to her a well of water to quench their thirst. Ishmael grew up in the wilderness of Paran. He became a great archer. His mother chose a wife for him from the native land in Egypt and Ishmael later became father of the Ishmaelite nation.
- 11. Later, trouble arose between Abraham's men and those of Abimelech. They agreed to a covenant with each other, straightened out the difficulties and rectified any injustices. Abraham gave gifts of sheep and oxen to Abimelech to ratify their treaty, as well as seven ewe lambs. Abraham named their meeting place "Beersheba" meaning "seven/swear" or to "pledge oneself by seven sacred things." Abraham stayed in Abimelech's territory and Abimelech saw that God was with Abraham in all that he did.

12. As Isaac grew, Abraham taught him to worship and obey God. God put Abraham's faith

- to the severest test ever imposed. God commanded Abraham to take his only son Isaac to a mountain of Moriah and offer him as a burnt offering.
- 13. The next morning, Abraham prepared a donkey, two young servants, and Isaac for the journey. On the third day, Abraham left his servants at the foot of the mountain and he and Isaac went the rest of the way alone. Isaac asked his father, "Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham assured him God would provide.
- 14. When they reached the spot God had specified, Abraham built an altar, laid the wood in place, bound Isaac and laid him on the altar. As he raised his knife to slay his son, God stopped Abraham. He had showed God he loved God more than even his long awaited, beloved son Isaac. God was pleased with Abraham. He provided a ram in a nearby thicket for the offering.
- 15. Abraham called this place "Jehovah-Jireh" which means "Jehovah will provide." Again, God renewed his promise to Abraham to multiply his seed, as the stars of the heavens and the sand of the shore. Happily, Abraham, Isaac and his servants returned to Beersheba.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

map - Hebron, Gerar, Beersheba, Mt. Moriah crown, robe - King Abimelech pillow - the king's dream toy sheep, oxen, people (servants), silver money water, bread, backpack, suitcase, bundle for Hagar & Ishmael well - building blocks, Legos, bucket, cardboard box toy bow and arrow, homemade stick and string toy donkey, bundle of sticks, wood, make believe fire chair or small table for altar, rope (to bind Isaac), ram stars, sand - candy, stickers, craft pieces

Jesus, cross, tomb - picture

- Puppets/Dolls Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Ishmael, Isaac
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

# Songs:

- A Charge To Keep I Have
- Cheerfully Obey
- Faith Of Our Fathers
- Father Abraham
- God Said Abraham "Go"
- Happiness Is
- I'll Never Forsake My Lord
- I Love The Father

- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- If You're Happy & You Know It
- Jehovah Jireh
- My God Is So Great
- Seek Ye First
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- Unto Perfection
- Without Him

#### Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Abraham"
  - "Faith"
  - "Children Of The Bible" (Isaac)
- Application story/activity on lying/honesty
- Application story/activity on faith, making sacrifices, giving your best to God
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. What is your greatest treasure? What was Abraham's?
- 2. How do you think Abraham felt when God asked him to sacrifice Isaac?
- 3. Define: sacrifice, prophet, Beersheba, Jehovah Jireh.
- 4. How can putting our faith in "things" or "people" bring disappointment? Where should we place our faith? Why?
- 5. How do we give God our best?
- 6. Was it o.k. for Abraham to lie to King Abimelech? Why?
- 7. How did God provide for Hagar and Ishmael? Why did he?
- 8. Could you pass such a test of faith as Abraham did? Can God put His faith in you? How do you prove your faith and love for God?

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# Old Testament Lesson 14: A Wife For Isaac Genesis 23,24

Memory Verses:	Genesis 24:67	And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.
	Psalms 37:5, 23	Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.  The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and
	Matthew 21:22	He delighteth in his way.  And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.
	James 5:16b	The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God answers our prayers. He provides for our
	needs.

## Outline:

I. The death of Sarah.

Genesis 23

- A. Sarah dies at 127.
- B. Abraham mourns.
- C. Abraham purchases a burial place.
  - 1. Cave of Machpelah.
  - 2. 400 shekels.
- D. Abraham buries Sarah.

II. A wife for Isaac.

Genesis 24

- A. Abraham sends his servant to Mesopotamia.
- B. The servant stops at the well to pray.
- C. God provides Rebekah.
- D. The servant petitions her family.
- E. He returns with Rebekah for Isaac.
- F. Isaac and Rebekah are married.

# Facts:

1. Sarah died at 127 years old in Hebron. Abraham was heart broken, for he loved Sarah deeply. He went to the sons of Heth (the Hittites) to purchase a burial sepulchre.

- 2. The Hittites held Abraham in high esteem, calling him "mighty prince (of God)." They offered him his choice of sepulchres among them. Abraham chose the cave of Machpelah, owned by Ephron. It was purchased for 400 shekels of silver.
- 3. This sepulchre (cave of Machpelah) became not only the burial place of Sarah, but, in time, of Abraham, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, and Leah, as well.
- 4. Isaac was thirty-seven years old at the death of his mother. He, too, was grief stricken. Abraham was now 137 years old, and he decided it is time for Isaac to marry.
- 5. Abraham called his trusted servant to journey back to Mesopotamia, his home land and choose a wife for his son from among his own people, rather than the Canaanites.
- 6. Abraham gave specific instructions, then required the servant to take a vow. Putting a hand under another's thigh was a solemn way of signifying that if the oath were violated, the children yet unborn would avenge the disloyalty.
- 7. Realizing the importance of his quest, Abraham's servant took ten camels and prayed fervently for God's divine guidance to lead him to the perfect bride for his master's son.
- 8. At evening, outside the city of Nahor, near Haran, Abraham's servant stopped at the well. The women would be coming to draw water soon. The servant prayed that the one God had chosen for Isaac might give him a drink of water and also water his camels.
- 9. Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel, granddaughter of Milcah and Nahor, came with her pitcher. The servant asked her for a drink. She gave him water, as well as all his camels.
- 10. Abraham's servant gave her a golden earring and two golden bracelets. He asked if he might stay overnight at her father's house. She extended a gracious invitation then ran ahead to announce his coming. The servant was convinced God had answered his prayer.
- 11. Laban, Rebekah's brother came out to greet Abraham's servant. Laban cared for the camels, provided water to wash the servant's feet and those with him, then prepared a meal for them. The servant refused to eat until he revealed the nature of his visit.
- 12. He told them he was Abraham's servant and how God had blessed his master. He told of the promised seed, Isaac. He explained his mission in Mesopotamia and how Rebekah had fulfilled his answer to prayer. He asked for Rebekah to be Isaac's bride.
- 13. Without consulting Rebekah, Laban and Bethuel consented to give Rebekah to Isaac as his wife, for it was clearly God's will. Abraham's servant thanked God, then gave more gifts of gold and silver jewelry and fine clothing to Rebekah. He had gifts for her mother and brother as well. They are and stayed the night.
- 14. The next morning, the servant was anxious to head home to Abraham and Isaac with Rebekah. Her family did not want her to leave for at least ten days. (Her new home was a long way off and she might never see her family again.) They agreed to consult Rebekah, who was willing to leave immediately.
- 15. As Rebekah, her damsels, and her nurse accompanied Abraham's servant and his men by camel, Isaac waited near Beerlahairoi (where God's angel spoke to Hagar). He "meditated" meaning he "walked about, prayed, or lamented," for he was in need of comfort since his mother's death.
- 16. Isaac saw them coming. Rebekah saw Isaac and asked who he was. She leaped off the camel and adjusted her veil. (A betrothed woman remained veiled until the marriage was consummated. Only then may her husband see her face.)
- 17. Abraham's servant gave Isaac a full report of his journey. Isaac took Rebekah into his mother's tent. They were married when Isaac was 40 years old. Rebekah brought love and comfort to Isaac's heart.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Sarah - doll wrapped in white cloth, mummy style, doll in a box (coffin), handkerchief, tissues sepulchre - toy cave, cardboard, clay, papier mache, tent cave with sheet 400 shekels - silver coins, play money

Abraham's servant - suitcase, knapsack, backpack
10 camels - toy camels, silhouettes, stuffed animals, pictures, clay
well - pail, bucket, building blocks, Legos, cardboard box
pitcher - plastic pitcher, jug with water & cups
gold earring and 2 bracelets
water and towel to wash feet
meal - water, juice, bread, crackers, fruit, cookies
fine clothing - dress up clothes
wrapped gift boxes - for Laban and her mother
pillow, blanket, sleeping bag
veil - cloth, towel
marriage - flowers, candles, wedding bells, dress-up clothes, cake

- Puppets/Dolls Abraham, Isaac, Abraham's servant,
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- A Helper I Will Be
- Be Not Dismayed
- Be With Me Lord
- Father Abraham
- Father I Adore You
- God Is So Good
- Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way

- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- Into My Heart
- Isaac And Rebekah
- I've Got Peace
- I've Got The Joy Joy Joy
- Lord My Desire
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- Thank You Lord

## Activities:

- File-Folder Activities:
  - "Abraham"
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. How does it feel to lose someone you love? How do you suppose Abraham and Isaac felt?
- 2. Why did Abraham choose the cave of Machpelah to bury Sarah? Where was it located?

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3. How are marriage customs today different from Abraham's day? Which would you prefer? Why?

- 4. Why did Abraham send his servant to Mesopotamia to look for a wife for Isaac? Why did he not choose one from Canaan?
- 5. Did the servant take his task seriously? How do you know?
- 6. How was Rebekah related to Abraham?
- 7. Why might Rebekah have been willing to comply with the servant's wishes to leave that day?
- 8. Did God answer Abraham's servant's prayers? Will He answer you prayers?
- 9. How did God communicate with His children in the Old Testament? What about today?
- 10. Will God guide us to make good decisions/choices if we ask Him? Explain.

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# Old Testament Lesson 15: Jacob And Esau Genesis 25,26

Memory Verses:	Genesis 25:1	Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah.
	Genesis 25:23	And the Lord said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.
	Genesis 25:27	And the boys grew: and Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; and Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents.
	Matthew 6:33	But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
	Romans 12:18,19	If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.
		Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• we must give things concerning eternal life first place in our lives.
	• we must learn to live in peace, content with what we have.

# Outline:

I. Father Abraham. Genesis 25:1-18

A. Abraham marries Keturah.

B. Abraham dies; is buried.

C. Generations of Ishmael.

II. Rebekah has twins. Genesis 25:19-34

A. Isaac favors Esau; Rebekah favors Jacob.

B. Esau sells his birthright.

III. Isaac and Abimelech. Genesis 26

A. Isaac goes to Gerar.

B. Isaac lies about Rebekah.

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Genesis 25, 26

- C. Isaac prospers.
- D. Strife over wells.
- E. Isaac's covenant with Abimelech.
- F. Esau marries.

- 1. Abraham, too, was lonely after Sarah's death thus he married Keturah. (I Chronicles 1:32) Together, they had six sons and seven grandsons. Toward the end of his life, Abraham gave gifts to the children by his concubines (Hagar and Keturah) and sent them away. But to Isaac, he gave all of his possessions.
- 2. Abraham died when he is 175. He had lived a full life, moved forward by faith, pointed out by God. His sons, Isaac and Ishmael, buried him by his beloved wife in the cave of Machpelah.
- 3. Ishmael became the father of twelve princes, as God had promised. His descendants lived between Egypt and Canaan. Ishmael lived to be 137.
- 4. Isaac went back to live at Beerlaharoi. Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah. For twenty years Rebekah was not able to have children. But Isaac entreated the Lord so that in time, God answered his prayers and Rebekah became pregnant with twins. Even before they were born, they struggled with each other. This continued as they grew up.
- 5. Esau was red and hairy. He loved the outdoors and grew to be a cunning hunter. Isaac loved the outdoors and the wild game Esau fixed him. Esau was Isaac's favorite son.
- 6. Jacob was closer to his mother and was her favorite.
- 7. In these times, the "birthright" went to the oldest son. This privilege meant he would take his father's place as head of the family or tribe. It guaranteed him a more honorable position, a double portion and the best of the estate. The double portion was necessary to provide for any remaining parent as well as unwed sisters. It was his to keep, to give, or to sell, however, it could never be taken back.
- 8. Jacob was cooking a red lentil pottage as Esau came back from the fields one day. Esau was very tired and hungry. Esau asked Jacob for some of the pottage. Jacob asked that Esau sell him his birthright for the stew.
- 9. Esau justified to himself that the birthright would do him no good if he died of hunger, so he agreed to sell Jacob his birthright for pottage.
- 10. Jacob gave Esau bread and the soup. Esau had shown no commendable interest in spiritual treasures, a decision he later regretted. Jacob had wisely and shrewdly looked ahead to the future and the things of God which never change or pass away.
- 11. Esau was also called "Edom." He later would make his home in the rocky hills of Edom and become the father of the Edomites. His descendants would show the same impetuous thinking and low regard for God's eternal plan.
- 12. Because of a famine, Isaac took his family to Gerar, land of the Philistines. Gerar was a small town on the road to Egypt about eleven miles southeast of Gaza. Isaac was on the verge of moving on to Egypt to find more food and pasture land when God spoke to him. God here repeated His threefold promise to Isaac, as He had to Abraham.
- 13. Isaac allowed fear to overcome him and he lied to the Philistines by telling them Rebekah was his sister instead of his wife, just as Abraham had done. But King Abimelech observed Isaac and Rebekah together one day in conduct more fitting a husband and wife

Genesis 25, 26

than a brother and sister. Abimelech sharply criticized Isaac for his deception and warned those of his country to leave Rebekah alone. (This was probably not the same Abimelech Abraham had dealt with.)

- 14. Isaac became a very prosperous farmer, so much so that his neighbors envied him. King Abimelech asked Isaac to leave his territory. Isaac moved a short distance to the valley of Gerar.
- 15. There, he found the wells his father had dug had been stopped up by the natives. So he re-opened them and dug new wells. Whenever they dug new wells, the Philistines tried to make trouble and claim them for themselves.
- 16. Isaac named the first well, "Esek" which means "contention." The second he called "Sitnah" meaning "enmity." The third well he named "Rehoboth" meaning "broad places" for this was the only well over which the Philistines did not argue with his herdsmen.
- 17. At Beersheba, God appeared to Isaac again repeating the promise of blessing. There Isaac built an altar to God to worship and commit himself to the task set in place for him.
- 18. Abimelech came to Isaac recognizing him as a chosen man of God and requested a covenant of peace between them. They shared a feast.
- 19. When Esau was forty years old, he took two Hittite women, Judith and Bashemath, as wives. This grieved Isaac and Rebekah for these were of a heathen nation.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

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wedding - favors, toy rings, flowers, candles, costumes, etc.
wrapped gift boxes - a "will" - land - dirt, sheep, cattle, play money, tent,
12 princes - crowns, - dolls, etc.
red hair - cotton dyed red, hunter's bow and arrow
pottage - kidney bean "soup," bread, crackers
map, moving gear, suitcase, backpack
farmer's hat, tools, tractor, straw, toy animals
3 wells - boxes, buckets, Legos, building blocks, shovel
altar - rocks and clay
robes
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- Puppets/Dolls Abraham, Keturah, children, Isaac, Rebekah, twins
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- God Had A Reason To Make Me
- God Is Watching Over You
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I'll Never Forsake My Lord
- Isaac And Rebekah

- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Peace Like A River
- Seek Ye First The Kingdom
- Thank You Lord
- Unto Thee, O Lord
- You Are Special

### Activities:

- File folder activities:
  - "Children Of The Bible" (Jacob & Esau)
  - "My Choice"
  - "Abraham Called By God"
- Have students write or complete a creative writing story about "priorities."
- Do an activity (skit) where students must make choices w/ long term vs. short term results.
- Create a chain reaction story about choices.
- Create an activity which requires students to work to achieve goals.
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. How do we put eternal life first place in our lives?
- 2. Do you live peaceably? (Do you try to get along with everyone?) What can we do to improve in this area?
- 3. Are we happy/content with what we have? Why should we be content? What is most important in your life?
- 4. Examine Abraham's life. What do you remember best about Abraham?
- 5. Even though Jacob and Esau were twins, they were very different. Explain how they were alike and how they were different.
- 6. What is a "birthright"?
- 7. How did Esau feel about his birthright? Why did he give up his birthright? Did he feel differently later? Explain why.
- 8. How did Jacob feel about the birthright? How do you think Esau felt about Jacob after he lost his birthright?
- 9. How do you treat God's blessings? (with high regard or little regard?) How do you decide what's most important in life? How does it affect your relationship with God?

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# Old Testament Lesson 16: Jacob's Dream Genesis 27,28

Memory Verses:	Genesis 27:23	And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he blessed him.
	Genesis 28:12	And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.
	Genesis 28:22	And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• God watches over us wherever we go.	
	• sin always has consequences.	

## Outline:

I. Obtaining the blessing.

Genesis 27

- A. Isaac sends Esau for venison.
- B. Rebekah and Jacob deceive Isaac.
- C. Jacob receives the blessing.
- D. Esau threatens Jacob.
- E. Rebekah sends Jacob to Laban's.

II. The vision of Jacob's ladder.

Genesis 28

- A. Jacob blessed, goes for a wife.
- B. Esau's observation.
- C. Jacob's dream, a ladder from heaven.
- D. A stone pillar at Bethel.
- E. Jacob's vow.

- 1. When Isaac was very old and blind, he called Esau to him to give him a sacred blessing. He sent Esau first to the fields to hunt for venison, which he was to cook for Isaac just like he liked it.
- 2. Rebekah overheard Isaac's instructions and craftily devised a plan so that her favorite son, Jacob might receive the blessing instead. She sent Jacob to their flocks for two goat kids. She then cooked the savory meat as Isaac liked it.
- 3. Jacob protested to Rebekah that Isaac would be able to distinguish him from Esau because his skin was so smooth and his brother was hairy. He feared Isaac would curse him for his deceit. Rebekah's solution to that problem was to put Esau's clothes on Jacob,

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Genesis 27, 28

- then the skins of the goats on his hands and neck. She then sent him to his father with the meat and bread she prepared.
- 4. Jacob lied to his father, claiming to be Esau. Isaac was surprised he was back so soon. Jacob continued his deception. Although Isaac detected the voice of Jacob, he called him closer to him that he might feel and smell him. Isaac was fooled. He then gave the sacred blessing to Jacob.
- 5. Jacob had scarcely left his father's presence when Esau came back from hunting. He cooked his venison as his father liked it and took it to Isaac, requesting the blessing. Isaac soon realized he had been deceived by Jacob, but it was too late.
- 6. Esau sobbed as he was deeply hurt and disappointed Jacob had outwitted him in not only his birthright, but the blessing too. He begged his father for a blessing of any kind. Isaac blessed him with prosperity. He prophesied Esau would live by the sword and serve his brother Jacob, but that one day he would break loose from his dominion. (II Kings 8:20)
- 7. Esau's hurt was soon kindled into intense hatred and revenge toward Jacob. He vowed to kill Jacob when his father was gone.
- 8. Rebekah feared for Jacob. She convinced Isaac they should send Jacob to her brother, Laban for safety as well as to find a wife among their people.
- 9. Thus, Isaac instructed Jacob not to choose a wife among the Canaanites, but to go to Padan-aram (Haran) where his grandfather Bethuel was and choose a wife from Laban's daughters. Deceit had destroyed their home and they would each suffer loneliness and regret as a result.
- 10. Isaac also commanded Jacob to commit his ways to the Lord's will so the blessings God promised to Abraham would be his.
- 11. Esau saw that his Canaanite wives did not please his parents, so he went to his father's half brother, Ishmael to find a wife.
- 12. As Jacob journeyed toward Haran, he stopped at Luz (twelve miles north of Jerusalem) to camp for the night. He used stones for pillows to rest his head.
- 13. Jacob began to dream. He had a vision of a ladder reaching from earth to heaven with angels of God going up and down it. God spoke to Jacob renewing the same three-fold promise He had made to Abraham and Isaac. (John 1:51)
- 14. As Jacob awakened, he was profoundly conscious of God's abiding presence and guidance. He realized the future greatness for his life and his descendants. "God Almighty" (El Shaddai) had spoken to him.
- 15. In awe and commitment to God, he marked this place as a holy spot with the stones he had used for pillows. He created a pillar and anointed it with oil. Jacob called this place "Bethel" meaning "House of God." (Genesis 35:7,14)
- 16. Jacob promised to serve God faithfully and give to Him a tenth of all his possessions.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Isaac - glasses, grey hair, cane Rebekah - head dress, shawl Esau - fur, red hair, bow and arrow toy goats, cooking pot, skillet with any meat, bread, crackers fake fur strips for hands/neck, red/brown cotton "manly" garment - leather, furry jacket, tunic toy sword, cardboard sword suitcase, backpack, knapsack stone for pillow - grey foam shaped like a rock, papier mache ladder with angels - (be creative!) - step ladder - angel dolls/cutouts, small craft ladder - angel ornaments, popsicle sticks, straws, dowel sticks, cotton clouds, gold, glitter pillar - stones/gravel with glue/clay oil - baby oil, cooking oil 1/10 - coins, M & M's, play money, dried beans, popcorn, etc.

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls/Paper dolls/Silhouettes/Stick people Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Esau
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- Angels Are Singing
- God Cares For Me
- God Has A Purpose
- God Is Watching Over You
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- Into My Heart
- Isaac And Rebekah
- Jacob Had A Dream

- My God Is An Awesome God
- My God Is So Great
- The Christians Welcome Home
- Unto Perfection
- Unto Thee O Lord
- Whatever I Shall Be When I Grow Up
- When I Wake Up
- Without Him

### Activities:

• Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why did Rebekah seek to deceive her husband?
- 2. Did God need her to work out His divine plan?
- 3. Was Jacob right to go along with Rebekah's plan? Why?
- 4. What were the consequences of their lies and deception?
- 5. Why do Isaac and Rebekah send Jacob to Laban for a wife? How might we parallel this to our choices today?
- 6. What was Esau's observation?
- 7. How did Jacob's dream affect his life?
- 8. What promise does Jacob make to God?

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# Old Testament Lesson 17: Jacob Finds A Wife Genesis 29-31

Memory Verses:	Genesis 29:18	And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter.
	Genesis 29:32	And Leah conceived, and bare a son, and she called his name Reuben: for she said, Surely the Lord hath looked upon my affliction; now therefore my husband will love me.
	Hebrews 13:5,6	Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.  So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I
		will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• if we sow deceit, we will reap contention.	

## Outline:

I. A wife for Jacob.

Genesis 29

- A. Jacob meets Rachel.
- B. Jacob bargains for Rachel's hand.
- C. Laban deceives Jacob with Leah.
- D. Jacob marries Rachel.
- E. Leah gives Jacob four sons.

# II. Jacob is blessed by God.

Genesis 30

- A. Twelve sons of Jacob.
  - 1. Leah Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, (Dinah)
  - 2. Bilhah Dan, Naphtali
  - 3. Zilpah Gad, Asher
  - 4. Rachel Joseph, Benjamin
- B. Laban and Jacob agree on wages.
- C. Jacob becomes wealthy.

# III. Jacob returns to Canaan.

Genesis 31

- A. Jacob and family secretly leave.
- B. Rachel steals Laban's idols.
- C. Laban pursues Jacob.
- D. A covenant at Gilead.

- 1. As Jacob approached Haran, he found a covered well with three flocks of sheep waiting to be watered. He asked if they knew Laban, son of Nahor. They affirmed that they did and pointed out Rachel, his daughter.
- 2. Jacob greeted his cousin, Rachel with a kiss, happy to have located his people. He explained who he was. Rachel ran ahead to announce his coming. Laban gladly received Jacob.
- 3. After a month's time, Laban offered to pay Jacob "wages" for his work and service. Jacob had fallen in love with Rachel, Laban's youngest daughter. Jacob agreed to work for Laban seven years for her hand in marriage. Laban agreed.
- 4. After seven years, Laban tricked Jacob into marrying Leah, his oldest daughter. He told Jacob it was not customary in his country to give the younger daughter before an older daughter. Because of Jacob's love for Rachel, he worked for Laban another seven years in order to marry Rachel.
- 5. Rachel was unusually beautiful and Jacob was quite impressed by her. Leah was not as attractive. Although Jacob's love for Rachel made his relationship with Leah disappointing, she hoped one day Jacob's heart would turn to her.
- 6. At first, neither Rachel nor Leah were able to give Jacob children. But, in time, God came to Leah's rescue and gave her four sons, Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah. Leah hoped this would earn her recognition and appreciation from Jacob, yet none is indicated.
- 7. Envy and discontent boiled within Rachel. Leah, Rachel and Jacob were all unhappy. Their domestic troubles led to words and actions unbecoming. Rachel (as Sarah had) offered her handmaiden, Bilhah to Jacob as a concubine in order to bear a child. In her behalf, Bilhah bore Jacob two sons, Dan and Naphtali.
- 8. Leah in turn gave her handmaiden, Zilpah as a concubine to Jacob. Zilpah bore Jacob two more sons, Gad and Asher. Leah and Rachel were still at odds with one another and unhappy.
- 9. Rachel "bought" mandrakes from Leah in hopes of inducing fertility. A mandrake is a tuberous plant with a yellow plum-like fruit, popularly called "love apples." It ripens in May (about the time of the wheat harvest) and was supposed to act as a love charm. But in spite of the superstitious charms, Rachel remained childless.
- 10. God blessed Leah with two more sons and a daughter, Issachar, Zebulun, Dinah. In time, God hearkened to Rachel and gave her a son named Joseph.
- 11. At this point, Jacob had worked out in full his debt to Laban and was anxious to return to Canaan. Laban discouraged Jacob from leaving, claiming God blessed him with success and prosperity as long as Jacob was around. He asked Jacob to name his price. Surprisingly to Laban, Jacob's request seemed to be overwhelmingly in his own favor!
- 12. In Syria, the sheep were white and the goats were black with few exceptions. Jacob requested all the black sheep and white goats (spotted, speckled). Laban instantly accepted, then immediately picked out all the off colored sheep and goats and gave them to his sons, thinking this would make it impossible for Jacob to build any flocks for his estate.
- 13. But Jacob, installed three devices to outwit his uncle. He set up streaking rods before the ewes at the watering troughs. He separated the spotted lambs and kids from the herd to keep them in plain view of the ewes. He did this primarily with the strongest ewes so

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they would yield him strong lambs and kids (prenatal influencing and selective breeding). In a few years, Jacob had become immensely rich in sheep and goats.

- \* According to Delitzsch, the coloring of lambs can be guaranteed by placing white or colored objects around their drinking troughs.
- 14. Hostility built between Jacob and Laban and his sons because of Jacob's success. Jacob had been with Laban twenty years. Laban had deceived Jacob and changed his wages ten times during this time period. God spoke to Jacob telling him to return to Canaan.
- 15. Jacob made ready all his family, his servants, flocks, and possessions. When Laban went away to shear sheep, they left travelling as rapidly as possible. After three days, Laban learned Jacob and his family had gone. He pursued them 300 miles before he caught up with them at Mount Gilead.
- 16. Laban began expressing distress over not being able to say proper goodbyes to his daughters and grandchildren. He then wanted to know why Jacob stole his idol gods.
- 17. Unknown to Jacob, Rachel had stolen the household gods (trapim) from her father. (To heathen nations, possession of the trapim marked a man as chief heir.) Rachel hid the images in the wicker basket forming a part of the camel's saddle where she sat. Laban searched them, but did not find the idols.
- 18. Jacob and Laban made a covenant with each other, making a pile of stones called "mizpah" or "outlook point." It signified they invited God to keep watch over 2 people who could not be trusted in hopes that strife would be avoided. They ate, spent the night and Laban returned home the next morning.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

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sandbox village, well - building blocks, Legos, bucket, barrel, washtub, box sheep goats - toy, stuffed, cutouts
"in love" - heart shapes
marriage - flowers, favors, rings, veil
- dolls, stick figures, cut outs, clay, paper dolls
children - baby dolls
mandrakes - yellow apple, pear, mango, lemon
streaking rods - sticks with pealed spots
caravan - camels, people, sheep, goats
sheep shearing - picture, clippers
idols - ceramic image, trophy, clay forms
wicker basket
pile of stones - gravel, clay
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- Puppets/dolls/cut-outs/stick figures Laban, Rachel, Leah, Jacob
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

• The Lord Will Find A Way

• 12 Sons Of Jacob

- Angry Words
- Company Is Coming
- Father Abraham
- God Cares For Me
- God Is Watching Over You
- God Made A Baby Pink & Small
- God's Love
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- Jesus Loves The Little Children

- Lord Has Been Mindful Of Me
- May I Call You Father
- · Rachel, Rachel
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- Tell It To Jesus Alone
- Three Wandering Jews
- Unto Thee O Lord
- We Are Family
- Without Him

### Activities:

• Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. Who in this story could be just as deceiving as Jacob had been?
- 2. Why was it so important to Leah and Rachel to have children?
- 3. Did Rachel's superstitious charms (love apples) work? Why?
- 4. What did Laban pay Jacob in "wages" over the twenty years he served him?
- 5. Explain how Jacob outwitted his uncle with the goats and sheep.
- 6. How did jealousy and envy work against Rachel? Laban?
- 7. What indications do we see that God was always with Jacob during this time?
- 8. Define: mandrakes, trapim, mizpah
- 9. Tell about the covenant Jacob and Laban made at Gilead.
- 10. Why did Rachel steal her father's idol gods?

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# Old Testament Lesson 18: Jacob And Esau Mend Fences Genesis 32-36

Memory Verses:	Genesis 32:24	And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.
	Genesis 32:28	And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.
	Genesis 35:10	And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel.
	Genesis 35:23-26	The sons of Leah; Reuben, Jacob's firstborn, and Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Zebulun:
		The sons of Rachel; Joseph, and Benjamin:
		And the sons of Bilhah, Rachel's handmaid; Dan, and Naphtali:
		And the sons of Zilpah, Leah's handmaid; Gad, and Asher: these are the sons of Jacob, which were born to him in Padan-aram.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God is always pleased when we forgive others
	as Esau did Jacob.

# Outline:

I. Jacob fears Esau. Genesis 32

- A. God's assured protection.
- B. Jacob fears his brother.
- C. Jacob seeks God's favor.
- D. Jacob sends Esau gifts.
- E. Jacob wrestles with an angel/Jacob called Israel.
- II. Jacob and Esau reunited. Genesis 33
  - A. Kindnesses exchanged.
  - B. Jacob settles at Succoth.
- III. Dinah defiled. Genesis 34
  - A. Shechem wants to marry Dinah.

- B. Shechemites are circumcised.
- C. Simeon and Levi slay the Shechemites.
- D. Jacob reproves them.

IV. Jacob goes to Bethel.

Genesis 35

- A. God blesses Jacob.
- B. Rachel bears Benjamin.
- C. Rachel and Isaac die.

V. The Edomites.

Genesis 36

- A. Generations of Esau.
- B. Mount Seir.

- 1. The angels of God met Jacob as he traveled toward Canaan reassuring him of God's presence and protection. The word "mahanaim" means "two camps," Jacob's family being the inner camp and God's messengers forming a circle of protection around them. (II Kings 6:15-17)
- 2. Jacob sent messengers ahead to Esau humbly begging for his forgiveness and mercy. They returned saying Esau was on his way to meet Jacob with 400 men! Jacob panicked with fear. First, he went to God in prayer, "reminding" God he had come back home as commanded, and asking God to please protect him and his family.
- 3. Second, he sent lavish gifts to Esau from his choice herds (200 she goats, 20 he goats, 200 ewes, 20 rams, 30 camels and their colts, 40 kine (cows), 10 bulls, 20 donkeys, and 10 foals.) Third, he arranged his families, possessions, and fighting men to the best possible advantage. He moved them across Jabbok, a tributary of the Jordan River, halfway between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. Jacob called Esau "my lord" and referred to himself as "thy servant."
- 4. Jacob returned that night to the north bank to be alone. He was met by a man who wrestled with him until dawn. He touched the hollow of his thigh and the hollow of Jacob's thigh became out of joint. After the long struggle, the visitor demanded Jacob release him. Jacob refused without a blessing. He blessed Jacob with a new name, "Israel" meaning, "he who striveth with God or prince." "Jacob" means "supplanter." "Israel" suggests royalty and power.
- 5. Finally, the moment came. Jacob saw Esau and his 400 men in sight. He divided his family, putting his concubines and their children in front, then Leah and her children, and lastly Rachel and Joseph in back where they would be best protected. He bowed himself before Esau seven times. Esau, with love and forgiveness embraced his brother, exchanging kisses and tears of joy.
- 6. Introductions were made of Jacob's large family. Esau told Jacob his extravagant gifts were not necessary, but Jacob insisted he have them for God had so richly blessed him and he was so grateful for Esau's forgiveness. Esau offered to travel with Jacob to offer protection. But Jacob graciously declined for with young flocks and children, they moved at a very slow pace. Esau invited Jacob to his home in Mt. Seir, but Jacob again was to journey on toward Bethel as God told him. Thus, they parted in peace and Esau returned home.

- 7. Jacob journeyed on to Succoth and built a house. Succoth was a magnificent highland site east of the Jordan River, north of Jabbok. Crossing the river in the vicinity of Shechem, Jacob bought a parcel of land from the children of Hamor for 100 pieces of money to establish claim to property in Canaan. There he built an altar to God. (Jacob's well is at Shechem.)
- 8. Jacob had been commanded to go back to the land of his fathers, meaning the vicinity of Hebron. Certainly, he should have gone at least as far as Bethel for the people of Shechem are not a help to his family. Dinah, Jacob and Leah's daughter went to Shechem to visit, possibly to make friends.
- 9. Prince Shechem, son of Hamor desired Dinah so he defiled her. He asked his father to arrange for him to marry Dinah. Jacob found out what had happened to his daughter, but waited for her brothers to return from the fields. When they learned what had happened, they were angry.
- 10. Hamor went to Jacob requesting they intermarry their people, trade goods and settle the land together. Shechem asked for Dinah to be his wife. He would pay any amount of dowry. Deceiving Hamor and Shechem, Jacob's sons told them they would allow it only if every male of the city was circumcised.
- 11. Hamor and Shechem went back and convinced all the men of the city to be circumcised. But on the third day, when the men were unable to fight, Simeon and Levi took their swords and slew every man of Shechem. The sons of Jacob took their herds, what they wanted from their fields, all their wealth, wives, children, and even their household goods.
- 12. God's chosen people in His holy land had behaved like pagans. Jacob was upset. He now feared his neighbors would slay him.
- 13. God commanded Jacob to move on toward Bethel to live and build an altar there. Jacob prepared for the journey. He also had all his family purify themselves, change their garments, and get rid of all their (terapims) pagan gods. Jacob buried these pagan symbols at Shechem. They travelled on to Bethel.
- 14. God appeared to Jacob and changed his name to "Israel" to remind him of his new relationship with Jehovah as heir of the promises made to Abraham and Isaac, head of a nation. The covenant was still in full force and binding upon him and his descendants.
- 15. Rachel bore Jacob a second son, Benjamin, but she died after giving birth. She was buried in the vicinity of Bethlehem.
- 16. Isaac witnessed his sons' return to Hebron, but soon after died, being 180 years old. He was buried by Jacob and Esau.
- 17. Reuben displeased his father by lying with Bilhah, his father's concubine. This later cost him his father's blessing of the firstborn.
- 18. The children of Jacob were:

Leah: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Dinah

Bilhah: Dan and Naphtali Zilpah: Gad and Asher Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin

19. Esau took his three wives, children, and all he possessed and moved away from Jacob because the land could not support both their herds. Esau lived in Mount Seir between Egypt and Canaan. Esau (Edom) was father of the "Edomites." His descendants would later be hostile to his brother's nation, the "Israelites" throughout Old Testament times.

His grandson Amelek is one of the most famous. His descendants, the "Amelekites" war with Israel during the time of David and Saul. Their location (Kedesh) certainly made them a factor in the exodus route.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

angel(s)

toy goats, sheep, camels, cows, donkeys - pictures, stuffed animals simulation of a caravan, Jacob/Esau, men, and family - sandbox

map - Shechem

"bounty" - toy sword

clean, white garment, idol gods - statue, trophy

Benjamin - baby doll, baby shower favor

Jacob's children - puppets, etc.

- Puppets/dolls/masks, pipe cleaner people Jacob, Jacob's children, Esau, family members, Dinah
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map

- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- Bring Christ Your Broken Life
- Dear Lord & Father Of Mankind
- On Jordan's Stormy Banks
- He's Got The Whole World
- I Don't Want To Be A Goat, Nope
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- Jacob Had A Dream
- Kindness

- Make Me A Servant
- · Rachel, Rachel
- Showing Love
- Take The Blame
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- Unto Thee O Lord
- When I Pray

#### Activities:

- Story on forgiveness/deceit
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why did Jacob fear his brother Esau? For what was he asking forgiveness?
- 2. When Jacob learned Esau was coming, what three-point strategy did he use?
- 3. How did Esau react to seeing Jacob and his family after twenty years?
- 4. Did Esau forgive his brother? How have you shown forgiveness to someone? Should Esau have maintained his grudge? Why?
- 5. What event happened in Jacob's family at Succoth?
- 6. Was Simeon's and Levi's revenge justified? Is revenge ever justified?
- 7. To what does God change Jacob's name? Why? Define: Jacob, Israel
- 8. Name the children of Jacob. Who was Jacob's youngest son? His mother?
- 9. What happened to Esau and his family?

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# Old Testament Lesson 19: Joseph And His Brothers Genesis 37,38

Memory Verses:	Genesis 37:3,4	Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colors.
		And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.
	Genesis 37:5	And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.
	Romans 2:11	For there is no respect of persons with God.
	I John 4:20	If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

Goals:	Student will learn:
	God does not show partiality, nor should we.
	• jealousy and envy are sins that hurt ourselves and others and
	ultimately God.

## Outline:

I. Joseph and his brothers.

Genesis 37

- A. Joseph is Jacob's favorite son.
- B. Joseph's brothers grow to hate him.
- C. Joseph's dream.
- D. Joseph is sent to his brothers.
- E. Joseph sold as a slave.
- F. Jacob deceived by his sons.
- II. Judah and Tamar.

Genesis 38

- A. Judah's three sons.
- B. Judah breaks his promise.
- C. Tamar deceives Judah.
- D. Tamar has twins.

## Facts:

1. When Joseph was seventeen, he tended his father's flocks. He reacted strongly against his brothers' unethical behavior and told on them. Israel (Jacob) loved Joseph more than his other sons because he was born late in Israel's life of his favorite wife. He showed

- partiality to Joseph by making him a beautiful coat of many colors. These things kindled hatred and envy in the hearts of his brothers against him.
- 2. Joseph had dreams that pointed to his future greatness and he told these dreams to his brothers. One was about sheaves in the field in which their sheaves bow down to Joseph's sheaf. The second dream represented them as stars bowing to him.
- 3. Joseph's brothers left to find pasture land for Israel's large flocks and herds. Although they lived in Hebron, they moved their herds north towards Shechem to feed. After awhile, Israel, concerned about his sons' welfare, sent Joseph to find them and report back.
- 4. Fifteen miles further north, in Dothan, Joseph found his brothers. When they saw him coming, they plotted to kill Joseph. But Reuben intervened for Joseph, convincing the others to put Joseph in a pit without taking his life, for he hoped to pull him out and return him home later.
- 5. They took Joseph's coat and put him in a dry well. As they were eating, a caravan of Ishmaelite merchants came by on their way to Egypt. Judah suggested they would profit by selling Joseph to the merchants. He, too, did not want to kill his brother, but save him from starving in the pit. So they sold Joseph for twenty pieces of silver.
- 6. Unaware Joseph was sold as a slave, Reuben returned to retrieve Joseph from the pit and send him home. Reuben, being the oldest, was directly responsible for his younger brother's safety. He was upset by what they had done.
- 7. The brothers took Joseph's coat, dipped it in goat's blood and returned the coat to their father, Israel, letting him believe Joseph had been devoured by some wild beast. Israel was heart broken. (One, who, in his youth, had been a deceiver himself, was cruelly deceived.) He grieved bitterly and refused to be comforted.
- 8. The Ishmaelites (also called Midianites) sold Joseph as a slave in Egypt to Potiphar, an official in Pharaoh's court and captain of the guard. Joseph was appointed steward of Potiphar's house. (Although Joseph seemed a long way away from his dreams, God was about to use Potiphar and Pharaoh to advance his divine plan.)
- 9. Meanwhile, Judah was the son of Israel chosen by God to be the channel of Jehovah's promises to the Messianic line. But, Judah chose a wife among the pagan Canaanites.
- 10. They had three sons: Er, Onan, and Shelah. In time, Judah chose a wife for Er named Tamar. Er was very wicked, so the Lord killed him. Onan was given Tamar as a wife to father a child for his brother. He refused and God slew him.
- 11. Judah promised Tamar, when his youngest son, Shelah, was old enough to marry, she would have his third son. Meanwhile, Tamar went back to her father's house to live and Judah's wife died.
- 12. In time, Judah went on a trip to Timnath to shear sheep. Tamar heard of his trip. She realized he was not going to keep his promise, so she tricked him. Without recognizing her, he engaged her services as a harlot. Tamar asked for Judah's signet ring, bracelets and staff as collateral until he sent a kid goat for payment. Judah sent payment and was told no harlot lived in that area.
- 13. When Judah heard that Tamar was to have a baby, he was going to have her burnt, but then he discovered the child was his. Tamar proved who the father was by his ring, bracelets and staff.
- 14. Tamar had twins, Pharez and Zarah. Pharez was to be an ancestor to Christ.

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### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

sheep, cows - stuffed animals, plastic, crafted - clay, spool, cotton, matchstick coat - multi colored coat, sweater, jacket, towel, sheet, robe sheaves - 12 bunches of grass, straws sun, moon, stars - cutouts, stickers, cookie cutouts, craft pieces map - Hebron, Shechem, Dothan pit - same as well - Legos, building blocks, box, bucket, hollow cylinder - paper towel roll blood - ketchup, food coloring (may stain!!), washable magic marker 20 pieces of silver - coins, play money ring, bracelets, staff - jewelry, stick twins - baby dolls, baby shower "favors," gingerbread man cookies, cutouts

- Puppets/Dolls- Joseph, brothers, Israel, Judah, Tamar
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- 12 Sons Had Jacob
- Be Not Dismayed Whate'er Betide
- Farther Along
- God Had A Reason To Make Me
- God Has A Purpose
- God Is Watching Over You
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I'm Not Afraid
- Into My Heart
- Activities:
  - Colored File Folder activities:
    - "Joseph Beautiful Dreamer"
    - "Children of the Bible"
    - "Faith"
  - Age-appropriate handwork

- It Isn't Any Trouble Just To S-M-I-L-E
- Joseph's Coat
- May I Call You Father
- The Devil Wants Me To Sin
- Unto Thee O Lord
- We Are Family
- Whatever I Shall Be When I Grow Up
- Yes For Me He Careth
- You Are Special
- You Can Build A Bridge

- Discussion Ouestions:
  - 1. What mistake does Israel make with his sons?
  - 2. Does God love some people more than he loves others?
  - 3. How did Joseph contribute to his brothers' resentment?
  - 4. What were Joseph's dreams? How did he interpret them?
  - 5. At Dothan, what do Joseph's brothers do to him?
  - 6. To whom was he sold and for how much?

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- 7. How do his brothers deceive their father? Why?
- 8. Which of Israel's sons was to be heir to the Messianic line?
- 9. Name Judah's sons. What happens to them?
- 10. How does Tamar deceive Judah? Why?
- 11. How do trials affect our faith?

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# Old Testament Lesson 20: Potiphar's Wife / Joseph Interprets Dreams Genesis 39,40

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Memory Verses:	Genesis 39:1	And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmaelites, which had brought him down thither.
	Genesis 39:2	And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.
	Genesis 39:21	But the Lord was with Joseph, and showed him mercy, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.
	James 1:3	Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
	James 1:12, 13	Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
		Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God blesses those who always try to do good.
	• God is with us through our troubles when we
	continue to focus our lives on Him.

# Outline:

I. God is with Joseph.

Genesis 39

- A. Joseph advanced in Potiphar's house.
- B. Joseph resists Potiphar's wife.
- C. Joseph falsely accused.
- D. Joseph put in prison.

## II. Joseph interprets dreams.

Genesis 40

- A. Pharaoh's butler and baker imprisoned.
- B. Joseph cares for the prisoners.
- C. Joseph interprets dreams.
- D. Joseph's interpretations come true.

### Facts:

- 1. Joseph was sold by the Ishmaelite merchants to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh in Egypt. Joseph first became a personal attendant to Potiphar. Realizing how trustworthy Joseph was and that God was with Joseph, he soon set Joseph in charge to oversee his entire household. Joseph was a good person and well liked.
- 2. Potiphar's wife tried to entrap Joseph in sexual misbehavior. Joseph refused to commit such a sin against God and Potiphar who had trusted him.
- 3. Potiphar's wife did not give up but was persistent in her pursuit of Joseph. Day after day, she tempted him. One day Joseph was tending to business in Potiphar's house alone. Potiphar's wife seized the opportunity to approach Joseph yet again. She grabbed him by his garment. Joseph ran away from her, leaving his garment behind.
- 4. Frustrated, Potiphar's wife lied about Joseph to the other men servants and her husband. She falsely accused Joseph of her own evil intent. Potiphar was angered and Joseph was imprisoned.
- 5. A prisoner in an Egyptian jail was considered guilty until proven innocent. He may have stayed in prison for years before given a trial.
- 6. But again, the Lord was with Joseph. Joseph was favored by the prison keeper. He soon put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners, having complete trust and confidence in him.
- 7. The chief butler and chief baker had offended Pharaoh and were put into prison also. Both had held high positions in the royal palace. (Nehemiah was a butler or cup bearer Nehemiah 1:11) Each of them had a dream the same night which they did not understand.
- 8. The next morning, in caring for the prisoners, Joseph noticed the butler and baker both appeared sad. Joseph asked them what the matter was and they told Joseph they did not understand their dreams. Joseph focused their attention on God's ability to interpret dreams.
- 9. The chief butler dreamed of squeezing grapes of three laden branches and putting the juice in Pharaoh's cup. Joseph explained his dream meant he would be re-appointed as Pharaoh's butler in three days.
- 10. Joseph asked the chief butler to remember him to Pharaoh for he had done nothing worthy of being put in the dungeon.
- 11. Pharaoh's chief baker dreamed that birds stole the baked foods from the top basket of the three on his head. Joseph told him in three days, Pharaoh would sever his head from his body and his body would be hung from a tree to become food for the birds.
- 12. On the third day, Pharaoh's birthday, he prepared a feast and included all his servants. Pharaoh restored the chief butler to his position as Joseph had said he would. But the chief butler, in his exuberance, forgot about Joseph. The same day, the baker was hanged, again as Joseph predicted.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

"sold" tags/stickers

Joseph's garment - cape, coat, towel, shawl, scrap material
toy chains, handcuffs

butler - bow tie, towel across arm, cup, goblet baker - chef's hat, dash of flour, rolling pin, flour sacks grapes, juice, cups birds - craft, pictures, stickers basket of bread

• Puppets/dolls- Joseph, Potiphar's wife, Potiphar, butler, baker

birthday favors - balloons, hats, banner, cake

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- I Have Decided To Follow Jesus
- 12 Sons Of Jacob
- A Charge To Keep I Have
- A Helper I Will Be
- God Is My Father
- God Is Watching Over You
- Happiness Is
- Happy Feet And Hands Can Help
- I Have A Friend
- It Isn't Any Trouble
- Activities:
  - Colored File Folder activities:
    - "Faith Mountain Movers"
    - "Children Of The Bible"
    - "Joseph"
  - Age-appropriate handwork

- Jesus In The Morning
- Jesus Loves Me
- Joseph's Coat
- Lord My Desire
- O Be Careful Little Eyes
- Take My Life Lead Me Lord
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- Trust And Obey
- Yield Not To Temptation
- Without Him

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How do you think Joseph felt about being a slave?
- 2. How do we know God was with Joseph during his troubles?
- 3. How can we know God will be with us throughout our troubles?
- 4. What temptations did Joseph face? How did he handle them?
- 5. What temptations do you face? How can you handle them?
- 6. What happened to Joseph while he was in the dungeon?
- 7. How did Joseph focus others' attention on God? How can you?
- 8. Tell of the butler's and the baker's dreams. Did Joseph's predictions come true?
- 9. Did the butler tell Pharaoh about Joseph? Why?

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# Old Testament Lesson 21: Joseph's Brothers Seek His Help Genesis 41-45

Memory Verses:	Genesis 41:16	And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.
	Genesis 42:6	And Joseph was the governor over the land, and he it was that sold to all the people of the land: and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth.
	Genesis 45:26	And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.
	Matthew 5:16	Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
	Romans 8:28, 31	And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• we must always give God the glory.
	• we must be as forgiving of others as Joseph was his brothers.

## Outline:

I. From prison to the palace.

Genesis 41

- A. Pharaoh has two dreams.
- B. Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams.
- C. Joseph put in charge of Egypt.
- D. Joseph's family.
- E. The famine begins.

II. To Egypt for corn.

Genesis 42

- A. Joseph's brothers come to Egypt.
- B. Joseph accuses them of being spies.
- C. Nine return home.
- D. Events relayed to Jacob.

III. Jacob persuaded.

Genesis 43

- A. Benjamin accompanies brothers to Egypt.
- B. Joseph entertains with a feast.

IV. Joseph tests his brothers.

Genesis 44

- A. Joseph's brothers head home.
- B. Joseph's brothers arrested.
- C. Judah pleads for Benjamin.

V. God's plan revealed.

Genesis 45

- A. Joseph reveals himself.
- B. Joseph comforts his brothers.
- C. Joseph sends for his father and family.
- D. Jacob uplifted.

#### Facts:

- 1. Two years after Joseph had interpreted the butler's and baker's dreams, Pharaoh had two strange dreams. Pharaoh dreamed seven fat and healthy cows were eaten by seven thin and sickly cows. He also dreamed seven good full ears of corn were devoured by seven thin ears of corn. Not one of Pharaoh's magicians or wise men could interpret his dreams. He was deeply disturbed. The chief butler remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh of his ability to interpret dreams. Joseph was immediately summoned from the dungeon.
- 2. Joseph appeared before Pharaoh, shaved, bathed, and freshly dressed. Joseph made clear it was God that would interpret Pharaoh's dream. Both dreams meant the same. They foretold of seven years of bountiful harvests followed by seven years of devastating famine throughout Egypt. Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint a wise man over Egypt to supervise agricultural production and storing of grain & corn, to prepare for the famine, for these fourteen years of feast and famine would come to pass immediately.
- 3. Pharaoh wisely recognized Joseph to be one whom God favored, so he appointed Joseph as governor over all of Egypt. He was to oversee the growing and storing of food. Joseph was second only to Pharaoh. Pharaoh empowered Joseph with his own signet ring, a gold distinguished service chain, fine clothing significant to his rank and a chariot.
- 4. Pharaoh gave Joseph an Egyptian name, "Zaphnath-paaneah" meaning "revealer of secrets." He also gave Joseph a wife, Asenath, the daughter of Potipherah, priest of On. Joseph was thirty years old at this time. (On was a cultural city seven miles north of Cairo, where they worshipped the sun god.) Joseph and Asenath had two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. They would eventually become heads of two tribes of Israel.
- 5. The seven years of plenty came as Joseph predicted. He gathered corn as the sand of the sea without number. Then the seven years of famine came. People from lands outside of Egypt came to buy corn, including Joseph's ten brothers from Canaan.
- 6. Joseph had grown into manhood. His language, dress, and official position disguised him to his brothers, but he immediately recognized them. They bowed down to him, as in his dream at seventeen. He accused them of being spies. Joseph accused them of coming to observe the weaknesses of their country.
- 7. They assured Joseph they were all brothers. They told Joseph of their father and family and a younger brother left behind. He demanded proof of their honesty by demanding to see their younger brother (Benjamin). After detaining them three days, Joseph held Simeon in prison while the others returned home with corn for the family and to get Benjamin as proof.

8. Joseph heard them talking among themselves of their concern and remorse. They felt God was punishing them for their earlier treatment of Joseph and their father. Their change of heart and loyalty to Jacob moved Joseph to tears.

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- 9. He commanded his men to secretly return his brothers' money in the top of their grain sacks and provide them with provisions for their journey. Their discovery of the money both puzzled and alarmed them.
- 10. They relayed all that had happened to their father, Jacob (Israel). He refused to allow Benjamin to go to Egypt, yet the famine continued, the corn was eaten up, and they had to go back to Egypt for more or die. Jacob was finally persuaded by Judah to let Benjamin go with them. Judah pledged his own life for Benjamin's safety.
- 11. Jacob had his sons take the overseer of Egypt, Joseph, a present of their best honey, fruits, nuts, and spices. They took twice as much money to pay for the corn. Jacob prayed that God Almighty would keep them safe.
- 12. Upon seeing his younger brother, Benjamin, Joseph had his steward prepare a feast and bring his brothers to his house. They feared Joseph had marked them as thieves for the money in their sacks, but Joseph was gracious and kind to them. He had Simeon brought out of bonds to join them. He asked about their father.
- 13. Joseph had one final test for his brothers. He ordered his steward to prepare their bags of grain/corn as before with their money returned inside and to put Joseph's own silver goblet in Benjamin's sack. Once they had set out on their journey home, Joseph had them arrested.
- 14. The silver goblet was a prized possession. Tradition holds that water was poured in, then small fragments of gold, silver or precious stones were thrown in and shaken slightly. The fragments formed a "picture." It was a form of magic called "hydromancy."
- 15. They protested their innocence and were willing that if one was found guilty that one should die. They were speechless when the goblet was discovered in Benjamin's sack. They returned to Egypt.
- 16. Judah became spokesman, offering no excuse or denial, but pleaded with the mighty Egyptian official for the life and freedom of his brother Benjamin for the sake of his father. In exchange, he was willing to offer himself as Joseph's slave for life, for he knew if Benjamin did not return to Jacob, his father would surely grieve himself to death.
- 17. Joseph wept aloud. All the palace heard him. He revealed to his brothers he was Joseph. In their confusion and fear, they were speechless. He reassured them it was God's providence that they sold him into slavery to allow the preservation of the family (God's chosen people) through the famine.
- 18. Joseph urged his brothers to bring Jacob and all their families to Egypt, for the famine would last five more years. In Egypt, he could provide for them a home with unlimited supplies. They could settle in the land of Goshen (forty miles from Cairo) in the delta of the Nile River, the best area for their flocks and herds. This was near where Joseph lived. He wanted his father to be comforted in knowing he was alive and how God had greatly blessed him.
- 19. Joseph sent wagons with them for their return trip along with presents and provisions. Pharaoh was pleased to have Joseph's family come to Egypt. Joseph gave his brothers new clothes but to Benjamin he gave 300 pieces of silver and five changes of clothes. He sent his father twenty donkeys packed with corn, bread, and meat.

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20. The good news of Joseph being alive and so prosperous as governor of Egypt seemed too good to be true. When Jacob saw the wagons and gifts sent by Joseph, his spirit was revived and he looked forward to seeing his son once again in Egypt.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

cows - toy stuffed animals, clay, puppet, cutouts ear of corn - real, candy corn, can of corn, corn cereal, cutouts magician - hat, wand, cape bountiful harvest - grain, fruit, vegetables - real or artificial famine - dried, parched, withered vine, plant, hard clay, dirt ring, gold chain, clothing - linen, silk, velvet chariot - model map - Egypt (Cairo), On, Goshen, Canaan sand - salt, cornmeal, popcorn spies - mask or disguise chains - handcuffs, "prison bars" for Simeon Joseph's tears - Kleenex, handkerchief grain sacks - small muslin, burlap feed sacks with cereal, oatmeal, corn, grain, flour, meal coins - play money in top of sacks honey, any fruit, nuts (almonds), any spice, coins or play money banquet - paper cups, plates, anything edible, tablecloth, candles silver goblet - cup, bowl, glass, knick-knack, vase wagon - toy, model (box with wheels) donkeys - toy stuffed, cutouts

- corn, bread, meat • Puppets/dolls-Pharaoh, Joseph, brothers, Jacob, servant, wife, 2 sons
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- 12 Sons Had Jacob
- Dear Lord & Father Of Mankind
- Hallelujah Praise Jehovah
- He Lives
- How Do You Help Your Family
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- Joseph Forgave

### Activities:

Colored File-Folder activities:

"Geography - Bible Lands" (Goshen)

- Joseph's Coat
- Kindness
- Praise Him Praise Him
- Praise The Lord
- Seek Ye First
- We Are Family
- When I Grow Up

- "Joseph Beautiful Dreamer"
- "Faith Mountain Movers"
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why do we always give God the glory for our blessings and abilities? How?
- 2. Why did Pharaoh have his dreams? What were they and what did they mean?
- 3. How did Pharaoh reward Joseph for interpreting his dreams?
- 4. Who comes to buy corn from Joseph during the famine? Why do they not recognize him?
- 5. Of what does Joseph accuse his brothers? Why? Why does he demand "proof" of their honesty?
- 6. How does Joseph react to their remorse and concern for their father?
- 7. What was Joseph's final test for his brothers? Who answers for the charges brought against Benjamin? Why?
- 8. How does Joseph treat his brothers when he reveals himself to them? How do they react?
- 9. What did Joseph say about all the hard trials he had been through?
- 10. How have you shown forgiveness? Who has shown forgiveness to you?

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# Old Testament Lesson 22: Joseph Cares For His Family Genesis 46-50

Memory Verses:	Genesis 46:3,4	And He said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation:
		I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes.
	Psalms 37:25	I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.
	Hebrews 11:22	By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• God has a divine plan we may not always see		
	or know. He is in ultimate control even		
	though He allows us to make our own		
	choices.		
	• we should care for our family members as		
	Joseph so lovingly cared for his.		

## Outline:

I. Migration to Egypt.

Genesis 46

- A. Jacob comforted by God.
- B. Jacob and family journey to Egypt.
- C. Joseph meets them.

II. Jacob before Pharaoh.

Genesis 47

- A. Jacob and sons meet Pharaoh.
- B. Given the land of Goshen.
- C. Joseph makes Pharaoh prosper.

III. Jacob blesses Joseph's sons.

Genesis 48

IV. Jacob's blessings for his other sons.

Genesis 49

- A. He denounces Reuben, Simeon, and Levi.
- B. He blesses Judah, Zebulun, and the others.
- C. Concerning his burial.

V. The death of Jacob.

Genesis 50

- A. Mourning for Jacob.
- B. Jacob's burial.
- C. Joseph comforts the brothers.
- D. Joseph dies.

### Facts:

- 1. On the way to Egypt, Jacob stopped at Beersheba and offered sacrifices to God. God reassured Jacob He would be with him in Egypt and bring his people back to Canaan again. God renewed His promise to make of his descendants a great nation. At this time, Jacob's family totaled seventy people, reunited in Egypt.
- 2. Judah went ahead to meet Joseph and complete arrangements for their entering the land. Joseph rode out to meet and embraced his father with deep emotion and gladness. Joseph advised his family to tell Pharaoh their occupations are shepherds so Pharaoh would assign them to the Land of Goshen, near where Joseph lived and where they would be protected from mixing with other peoples.
- 3. Joseph presented five of his brothers and his father to Pharaoh. Pharaoh gave them the Land of Goshen to settle. As God's representative, Jacob blessed Pharaoh. Joseph lovingly provided for his father, brothers and their families.
- 4. Famine conditions worsened. All of Egypt fell into dire need. The Egyptians came to Joseph needing food for their families. When their money ran out, Joseph traded their cattle for grain. In time, he bought the people's land and labor for Pharaoh in exchange for food.
- 5. Eventually, Joseph had bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh except land owned by the priests. A full-fledged feudal system existed making the people serfs. The government furnished the people with seed. In return, the people pay one-fifth (20%) of their yield to the state.
- 6. Jacob lived his last seventeen years in Egypt, in peace, plenty, and happiness. Before his death, he made Joseph promise to take his body back to Canaan for burial, in the cave of Machpelah.
- 7. Jacob adopted Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, before he died to raise them to the level of inheritance as his other sons, thus when the promised land was allotted to the tribes, Joseph was represented by two full shares.
- 8. Jacob blessed Joseph's sons setting Ephraim (the younger) over Manasseh (the older). Each would have prominence, but Ephraim would be the greater.
- 9. Jacob summoned all his sons to his bedside before his death. Reuben, the oldest, forfeited every place of power and influence because of his sin with Bilhah, his father's concubine. Simeon and Levi, because of their cruel massacre of the Shechemites, would have no territory to call their own. Simeon's descendants would later become part of the tribe of Judah and the Levites were to serve as ministers of the tabernacle/temple.
- 10. <u>Judah</u> would emerge as the powerful leader of Israel. He would be feared by his enemies as a lion. Peace and prosperity would flourish in Judah's land. Jacob saw Judah as father of the royal tribe. Throughout difficult times, God would see that the scepter remained in the tribe of Judah until the ideal ruler, the Messiah (Shiloh) would come. (Ezekiel 21:27, Psalms 60:7, Matthew 1:2)

- 11. Zebulun would be successful in the commercial activity of the sea. <u>Issachar</u> represented a strong, ox-like lover of peace and rest. His tribe instead of fighting, would submissively allow themselves to become slaves to Canaanite invaders. <u>Dan</u> would be a strong defender of his people. Though a small tribe, they would be feared by their neighbors as a snake, inflicting quick fatal wounds. (These people were not known for spiritual strengths. In 931 B.C., Jereboam set up a golden calf in Dan for pagan worship.)
- 12. <u>Gad</u> was brave and strong. In Canaan, he had to be cunning and persistent in fighting, for his people were harassed by continual attacks by desert tribes. In the end, he was victorious. <u>Asher</u> would be happy. He would be prosperous in wheat, wine, and oil. The delicacies he would produce would be fit for a king's table. <u>Naphtali</u> had a love for freedom and the great outdoors. He was also blessed with the ability to word things in an eloquent and proper manner. (Barak would be a descendant of Naphtali.)
- 13. <u>Joseph</u> received the highest praise. Joseph was a man of superior character and unwavering loyalty to God. He would have great prosperity, but could expect to be envied and persecuted because of it. <u>Ephraim</u> and <u>Manasseh</u> would encounter the same. Joseph was extraordinary with a bow. He is promised to be victorious over his enemies and always considered a "prince" (one set apart) among his brothers.
- 14. <u>Benjamin</u> was characterized by Jacob as fierce as a wolf, keen and stealthy. Ehud, Saul, and Jonathan were of Benjamin's descendants who exemplified war-like powers. This tribe was famous for their bow men and slingers. (Judges 5;14, 20:16)
- 15. Jacob repeated his instructions to be buried in Canaan (Hebron) within the cave of Machpelah along with Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, and Leah. Jacob died at the age of 147.
- 16. Joseph had Jacob's body embalmed (mummified) by his servants and Egyptian physicians. After seventy days of mourning, Joseph led a great procession of Egyptians and family to Hebron to bury Jacob. (The Egyptian nation, out of respect for Joseph, shared in the mourning.)
- 17. All returned to Egypt after the funeral. Joseph's brothers feared that with their father gone, Joseph might exercise revenge on them for what they had done to him years ago. They begged for mercy and forgiveness. Joseph assured them of his continued love for them and God's hand in all that had happened. He promised to provide for them throughout the remaining famine.
- 18. At the age of 110, Joseph died. He had his brothers promise to bury his body in Canaan as well. (Hebrews 11:22) He was mummified and Moses later took his bones at the time of the Israelite exodus to Canaan. (Exodus 13:19) Genesis closes with Joseph reminding the Israelites of God's promise to them.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Pharaoh-hat, robe crown
map - Hebron, Egypt, Goshen
journey needs-staff, suitcase, jug, canteen of water, food, wagon, pillow, blanket,
clothes, "belongings"
altar, sacrifice-gravel, clay, toy animal, box, sticks, tissue paper "fire"
food - grain, bread, oats, flour, popcorn, seeds

### Genesis 46-50

cattle - toy cows, sheep

land - "deed," sample of dirt, grass clump

example of 1/5 of something they might have grown

Jacob's bedside - pillow, blanket on chairs

Simeon, Levi-toy sword

Judah-crown, scepter, robe

Zebulun-boat

Dan-snake

Gad-armor, sword

Asher-bread, grape juice, vegetable oil

Naphtali-nature, animals

Joseph-bow, arrow, "riches"-play money, coins, crown

Benjamin - wolf, bow, armor, sling

mummy - doll wrapped in gauze, white cloth, white tape, pictures of Egyptian mummy, coffin

mourning - kleenex, tissue, handkerchief, black clothing, scarf

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/dolls-Jacob, 12 sons, Pharaoh
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- 12 Sons Had Jacob
- Camping Toward Canaan's Land
- God Cares For Me
- God Has A Purpose
- Joseph Forgave
- Lord My Desire
- Our God Is So Big
- Our God Keeps His Promises

- Showing Love
- The Last Mile Of The Way
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- The Three Dispensations
- We Are Family
- We're Crossing Over
- When I Grow Up
- Without Faith It's Impossible

## Activities:

Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. Who went to Egypt? (How many?) How did God comfort Jacob concerning his journey? Who met them as they arrived?
- 2. Tell of Jacob's meeting Pharaoh. What did Pharaoh give Joseph's family?
- 3. Why did Jacob adopt Joseph's sons? Who were Joseph's sons?
- 4. What blessings/predictions did Jacob have for each of his sons?
- 5. Who was Shiloh? What did he have to do with Judah?
- 6. Where did Jacob want to be buried? Why?
- 7. How did Joseph care for his family? How do you care for your family?
- 8. Who went to bury Jacob? How long was he mourned?

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9. How old was Joseph when he died? What happened to his body?

10. What things happened in the life of Jacob and Joseph that were part of God's divine plan? Who is in ultimate control?

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# Old Testament Lesson 23: Moses – A Leader Is Born Exodus 1,2

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Memory Verses:	Exodus 1:7	And the children of Israel were fruitful, and
		increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed
		exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.
	Exodus 2:10	And the child grew, and she brought him unto
		Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she
		called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew
		him out of the water.
		iiiii out of the water.
	Hebrews 11:23-25	By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three
	110010 111120 20	months of his parents, because they saw he was a
		proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's
		commandment.
		Commandinent.
		By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused
		to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;
		to be caned the son of I hardon's daughter,
		Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people
		of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a
		season;

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• God never abandoned His people, the		
	Israelites, through good times or their		
	struggles. He never abandons us.		
	• God cared for Moses and used him as well as		
	those around him to carry out His divine plan.		
	God can use us as well.		

## Outline:

I. Israel in bondage.

Exodus 1

- A. Introduction.
- B. Israel multiplies.
- C. Oppressed by a new Pharaoh.
- D. Male babies destroyed.

II. A leader is born.

Exodus 2

- A. Moses is born.
- B. Preservation/adoption.
- C. Moses' training.
- D. Moses slays an Egyptian.

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- E. Moses flees to Midian.
- F. God hears the cries of Israel.

## Facts:

- 1. "Exodus" in Greek means "departure or going out (exit)." Exodus is about the departure of the Israelite nation from Egyptian bondage. Exodus (as well as the other four books of the Pentateuch) was written by Moses, giving us an account of his life and monumental work. Exodus recounts the birth of a nation (God's nation).
- 2. Israel's (Jacob's) family had grown from the seventy that settled the Land of Goshen to great numbers. They had gone from being favored guests of the Pharaoh to oppressed slaves under a new Pharaoh who did not know of Joseph and was not a friend to God's chosen people. Several generations had passed.
- 3. Egypt was settled by the descendants of Ham. The Nile Valley made lower Egypt (Goshen) a very rich and fertile center of civilization. The Egyptians had 1000's of pagan animal gods. They even worshipped the Nile River.
- 4. Israel's (Jacob's) eleven sons and two grandsons (of Joseph) made up the tribes (families) of the Israelite nation. (Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Ephraim, and Manasseh)
- 5. Because of their great numbers, the Egyptians feared Israel might join forces with northeast border invaders and overtake them. In order to control Israel, the taskmasters increased their workloads to the point Israel reached absolute despair. They built, for Pharaoh, the treasure cities of Pithom and Raamses in the Delta region.
- 6. The more the Egyptians afflicted the Israelites, the more the Israelites multiplied and prospered. This grieved the Egyptians.
- 7. Pharaoh called in the midwives, Shiphrah and Puah. He ordered them, in delivering the Hebrew babies, to spare the girls but to kill the boys. The midwives feared God and did not do as Pharaoh instructed them. When Pharaoh asked why, they told him the Israelite women were so strong and healthy, they had their babies before the midwives could get to them.
- 9. Pharaoh then ordered every boy baby thrown in the river. Yet as this oppressor did his utmost to destroy Israel, God prepared a leader for his people.
- 10. Amram and Jochebed, of the tribe of Levi, had a son. Jochebed hid her little son for three months. When it became too difficult to hide the baby she made a plan. Jochebed took a miniature boat woven from tall hollow reeds, bulrushes, that grew along the Nile River. She waterproofed it with slime and pitch. She lovingly hid the baby in the basket among the flags (bulrushes) where the Pharaoh's daughter usually bathed. Jochebed had the baby's older sister, Miriam, watch the babyto see what would happen.
- 11. When the princess came to bathe and saw the small boat among the flags, she had her maidens check it out. She found a baby crying and she felt compassion for him. She adopted him as her own. Miriam quickly approached the princess and asked if she needed a nurse for the child. She went to get her mother to legally raise the baby for Pharaoh's daughter.
- 12. Pharaoh's daughter named him "Moses" meaning "drawn out." (Pharaoh's daughter is thought by many scholars to have been Queen Hatshepshut, one of Egypt's greatest rulers.)

### Exodus 1.2

13. One day, Moses saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew slave. Enraged, Moses slew the Egyptian and hid his body in the sand. He thought no one saw him, but the next day two Hebrews asked him about the incident and wondered if he intended to kill them.

- 14. When Pharaoh heard, he was angered by Moses' rebellion and sought to kill him. Moses fled to Midian. (The Midianites were descendants of Abraham and Keturah. Genesis 25:1-4) They were a nomadic people, wandering from Palestine to Negeb to the Sinai Peninsula.
- 15. In Midian, Moses stopped to rest by a well. The priest of Midian, Jethro (Reuel), had seven daughters who came to the well to water their father's sheep. Shepherds tried to drive the girls away, but Moses protected them and helped them water the flock. Moses, in turn, was invited to stay with Jethro. ("Reuel" means "friend of God.")
- 16. Jethro gave his daughter Zipporah to be Moses' wife. They had two sons, Gershom, meaning "a stranger here" and Eliezer, meaning "God is my help." (Exodus 18:3) Moses worked as a shepherd there.
- 17. After about forty years, Pharaoh died and was succeeded by another king. They cried to God to relieve them of their bondage and God heard their cries. He had waited and been silent, but never abandoned His people. He knew their conditions.
- 18. The experiences Moses had attained in the wilderness further developed the sturdy qualities he needed to lead the Israelites through the wilderness to the safety of the promised land. Moses was familiar with the region in which he would be leading them. The time had arrived for one of the greatest men prior to Christ to alter the course of human history.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

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form of measure - 70->3 million - sand, beans, seeds, popcorn, candy
Ham - prop from Noah lesson
ancient map - Egypt, Nile River, Pithom, Raamses, Midian, Mount Sinai, Horeb,
Palestine, Negeb
animal gods - bull, cow, vulture, crocodile, goat, ape, frog, snake, cat
work tools - straw or grass, mud, "brick" mold - bread pan, tupperware, butter tub,
whip
midwives - nurses' hat, white uniform, stethoscope
baby doll, pail of water, basket
prince Moses - crown, scepter, robe, sword, armor
sheep - toy, stuffed, bowl of water
Moses and Zipporah - wedding bells, favor, bouquet, baby dolls
tape record sounds of crying, wailing
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- Puppets/Dolls Israel (Jacob), 12 sons, Pharaoh, taskmaster, midwife, Amram, Jochebed, Miriam, princess, Jethro, Zipporah
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- Be With Me Lord
- Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah
- 12 Sons Of Jacob
- Deep Down In My Heart
- God Had A Reason To Make Me
- I Know The Lord Will Make A Way
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I'm Not Afraid
- Let Us Sing The Books Of Moses

- Moses
- Moses Was A Man Of God
- Seek Ye First
- Study Your Bible Every Day
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- The Lord Has A Will
- Unto Thee O Lord
- Whatever I Shall Be When I Grow Up
- You Are Special

### Activities:

- File Folder Activities:
  - "Moses," "Geography Bible Lands," "Children of the Bible," "Men of the Bible," "Faith"
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. Does God abandon us? Why?
- 2. How did God use Moses and the people around him?
- 3. How can God use you and the people around you?
- 4. What is the subject of the book of Exodus?
- 5. How had God blessed the Israelites? Why were the Egyptians so cruel to them?
- 6. In what ways were the Egyptians cruel to the Israelites?
- 7. Who were Moses' parents? How did they protect him?
- 8. What happened when Moses was older? What happened in Midian?
- 9. Who did Moses marry? Who were his children?
- 10. Who were the Midianites?

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# Old Testament Lesson 24: God Commissions Moses To Lead Exodus 3-6

Memory Verses:	Exodus 3:5	And He said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.
	Exodus 3:10	Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth My people the children of Israel out of Egypt.
	Exodus 4:12	Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.
	Exodus 6:7, 8	And I will take you to Me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know that I am the Lord your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.
		And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for an heritage: I am the Lord.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God had a plan for Moses and the Israelites just as He has a plan for
	you to be of service to Him. We must seek to please God and fulfill
	that plan.

# Outline:

I. God commissions Moses.

Exodus 3

- A. The burning bush.
- B. God calls Moses to lead His people.
- C. God's instructions/message to Israel.
- II. Moses' reluctance.

Exodus 4

- A. Moses' rod/serpent.
- B. Moses hand/leprous.
- C. Moses claims not to be a good speaker; Aaron is appointed.
- D. Moses leaves Jethro.
- E. Aaron assists Moses.
- III. Moses appears before Pharaoh.

Exodus 5

- A. Let my people go.
- B. Pharaoh increases Israel's workload.
- C. Moses petitions God.

IV. God renews His promise.

Exodus 6

- A. I am Jehovah.
- B. I will deliver Israel.
  - 1. Go again before Pharaoh.
- C. The genealogy of Moses and Aaron.

### Facts:

- 1. Moses, eighty years old, was the shepherd of Jethro, his father-in-law. The sheep grazed in Horeb, at the foot of Mount Sinai, the area in which he would "shepherd" the Israelite nation. The manifestation of God appeared to Moses in a burning bush, but the bush was not consumed by the fire. God called to Moses and told him to take off his shoes for he was standing on holy ground. Moses hid his face in fear. (Acts 7:20-40)
- 2. God identified himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He had seen Israel's oppression, heard their cries and recognized their sorrow. Now, it was time for Him to deliver Israel, His people, out of Egypt to a land of great abundance and fertility occupied by the Canaanites. (Genesis 15:13, 14) God had chosen Moses to lead His people.
- 3. Moses was reluctant and did not understand why <u>he</u> had been chosen to be God's leader. God assured Moses that He would be with him. God said to tell Israel that "I Am" (absolute God) sent him to tell them He will deliver them from Egyptian bondage to a land flowing with milk and honey (Canaan). This was the same land occupied by Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- 4. God then instructed Moses to go to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and ask him to give Israel time off to go a three days' journey into the wilderness to worship the Lord God. God told Moses, Pharaoh would not be willing at first to let Israel go, but through God's divine power, Pharaoh would eventually let them leave with recompense for their years of toil by "spoiling" the Egyptians.
- 5. Moses was afraid, so God gave Moses three signs to prove God had appointed him God's messenger to Israel. 1) His rod became a snake. 2) When he put his hand inside his robe next to his chest, it became leprous. 3) Moses was to take water from the Nile River and pour it on the ground and it would become blood.
- 6. Still, Moses made excuses to God. He told God he was not a good speaker. God had created Moses and knew his capabilities. God again assured Moses He would be with him. Moses begged God to send someone else. God became angry with Moses. He provided Aaron, Moses' brother as spokesman for Moses.
- 7. Moses returned to Jethro to ask permission to leave for Egypt. He did not tell Jethro of his experience with God at the burning bush, simply that he would like to check on his family in Egypt. He packed his wife and children and set off for Egypt with staff in hand.
- 8. As they stopped at an inn, God threatened to kill Moses. If he was to be God's leader, he must be obedient to God's commands as well. (Genesis 17:9-14) Moses' son had not been circumcised. Zipporah did the circumcision.
- 9. Aaron met Moses at Horeb/Mt. Sinai. Moses relayed God's instructions to Aaron. They met with the elders of the tribes of Israel, delivered God's message and showed them God's signs of proof. The Israelites believed Moses and Aaron. They rejoiced at their impending deliverance and worshipped God in thanksgiving.

### Exodus 3-6

10. Moses and Aaron petitioned Pharaoh to let Israel go a three day journey to feast and worship God. Pharaoh replied, "Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go." (Exodus 5:2)

- 11. Pharaoh increased their workload by making them gather straw or stubble wherever they could find it, instead of providing them straw, and yet they must make the same number of bricks each day. (Chopped straw mixed with the clay increased the strength of the brick more than three times.) When they could not complete this impossible task, they were punished by the Hebrew officers.
- 12. The officers defended themselves to Pharaoh, but he would not listen to them, instead he called them idle and lazy. They met with Moses and Aaron outside the palace and blamed them for the punishment and added workload they felt would eventually kill them.
- 13. Moses went to God, confused as to why God had increased the suffering of His people. What was Moses' purpose and why had God not delivered Israel yet?
- 14. In Exodus 6:2, God calls Himself "Jehovah Lord" meaning the God of grace dwelling with His people, guiding them, keeping His covenant. (I Kings 8:43, Psalms 9:10, 91:14, Isaiah 52:6, Jeremiah 16:21) The name "Elohim" meant God the mighty Creator, Sustainer, Governor of the universe. "El-Shaddai" meant God Almighty, God of the patriarchs.
- 15. God renewed again His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to redeem His people (Israel) from Egyptian bondage and deliver them back to the promised land of Canaan. Redeem means reclaim.
- 16. In the process of redeeming Israel, God must sharply impress upon Israel He is Jehovah God. Moses told this to Israel, but they refused to listen to him. God instructed Moses to go back to Pharaoh. Moses complained Pharaoh would not listen to him.
- 17. The genealogy from Israel (Jacob) to Moses and Aaron:

Israel (Jacob)

Levi

Kohath

Amram

Aaron and Moses

Aaron's wife was Elisheba. Their sons were Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

hat, head-dress, crown, staff, work gloves, bucket, jewelry, tools

toy sheep, staff, sandals

burning bush - potted plant, tree branch with foliage, artificial foliage with red, yellow, orange cellophane or tissue paper

stick, toy snake

leprous hand - latex glove, wet hand-pour on red Kool Aid powder

suitcase, backpack, dufflebag, donkey, staff

Mt. Sinai/Horeb - papier maché mountain, green/brown bowl, clay

bricks - real, Legos, straw, grass, clay, mud, dough, mold/form - bread pan• Flannelgraphs

• Flipchart

OT-Lesson 24 Page 90 Exodus 3-6

- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- A Helper I Will Be
- Be Not Dismayed
- God Had A Reason To Make Me
- God Is Watching Over You
- God Will Answer Every Prayer
- Hear O Israel
- I Am Not Afraid
- I Will Call Upon The Lord

- Into My Heart
- Jehovah Jireh
- Let Us Sing The Books Of Moses
- Make Me A Servant
- Moses
- Moses Was A Man Of God
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- Trust And Obey

### Activities:

- Colored File Folder activities: "Moses (Exodus)"
- Who Am I? Describe characters in today's story & let the children guess who they are.
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. What was God's plan for Moses? For what do you think God is preparing you?
- 2. How are you preparing to serve God? What can you do now?
- 3. How did God get Moses' attention? How do you think Moses felt about God's call?
- 4. What did God always promise Moses? Will God be with you if you obey Him?
- 5. How did the Israelites respond to Moses and Aaron? What did they do when they heard of God's concern for them?
- 6. Why did Pharaoh turn down Moses and Aaron's request?
- 7. What miracles prove Moses was sent by God? Does God give us miracles today? Why? How does He guide us?
- 8. What excuses did Moses give God for not wanting to do His will? How did God react to Moses' excuses? What excuses do we give God for not wanting to serve Him? Does God except excuses?
- 9. What are 3 names for God? Explain each.
- 10. What is the covenant God renews with Israel? Why is this important?

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# Old Testament Lesson 25: The Plagues Exodus 7-11

Memory Verses:	Exodus 8:32	And Pharaoh hardened his heart at this time also, neither would he let the people go.
	Exodus 9:14	For I will at this time send all My plagues upon thine heart, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people; that thou mayest know that there is none like Me in all the earth.
	Psalms 86:9	All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify Thy name.
	Proverbs 15:3	The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.
	Romans 9:17	For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might show My power in thee, and that My name might be declared throughout all the earth.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God is more powerful than anyone or anything He has created. A
	stubborn heart (will) cannot alter the magnificent power of God
	Almighty.
	• God cares for those that obey Him.
	• God allows man to harden his heart and suffer the consequences.

# Outline:

I. Moses' second encounter with Pharaoh. Exodus 7

- A. God sends Moses and Aaron back to Pharaoh.
- B. His rod becomes a snake.
- C. Pharaoh's heart is hardened.
- D. First plague: the waters are turned to blood.
- II. Three more plagues.

A. Frogs.

B. Lice.

C. Flies.

III. More plagues.

A. Murrain of livestock.

Exodus 8

Exodus 9

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Exodus 7-11

B. Boils.

C. Hail.

IV. Pharaoh still stubborn. Exodus 10

A. Locust.

B. Darkness in Egypt.

C. Pharaoh still hardened.

V. The last plague announced.

Exodus 11

A. Borrow jewels of Egypt.

B. Firstborn to die.

#### Facts:

- 1. God gave Moses divine authority and power over Pharaoh with Aaron as his spokesman. Twenty times, the hardening of Pharaoh's heart is mentioned; ten times attributed to Pharaoh himself and ten times to God. This hardening (stubbornness) was not done against Pharaoh's own will; God allowed Pharaoh to have his way so Jehovah God's divine power would be plain for all of Egypt and Israel to see. Moses was eighty years old, Aaron was eighty-three.
- 2. The idea of Israel leaving Egypt to worship Jehovah God may have been an insult to Pharaoh, for Egypt had many Gods, including Pharaoh. Perhaps in his mind, they were being disloyal and this made him angry. Jehovah posed a threat to him.
- 3. To prove they were of Jehovah God, the one true God, Aaron threw down his rod (staff) and it became a snake. Pharaoh's magicians threw down their rods which also became snakes. The supremacy of Jehovah was demonstrated when Aaron's snake swallowed up the others. Yet Pharaoh refused Moses.

### 1st Plague:

- 4. God sent Moses to the Nile River the next morning to meet Pharaoh. Aaron hit the river with his rod, which turned the river to blood. The water supply throughout Egypt in its streams, ponds, pools, and containers was turned to blood. The fish died and the river stank for seven days. They had no water for drinking, bathing, cooking, cleaning, etc. and the fish had been a valuable food source for them. Yet because Pharaoh's magicians were able to change some water to blood, Pharaoh's heart was hardened again.
- 5. Each year toward the end of June, the waters of the Nile rise and turn a dark red due to the silt carried down from the headwaters. This continued three months, yet all the while, the water is wholesome and drinkable. The miracle from God differs from this because the water changed instantly at the touch of Aaron's rod, the water was undrinkable and it lasted only seven days.

### 2nd Plague:

6. Moses went back to Pharaoh saying, "Thus saith the Lord, Let My people go, that they may serve Me." Pharaoh refused so God sent frogs. They appeared in such numbers and so invaded every conceivable place (in beds, ovens, mixing bowls, under people's feet, food) that they became an unbearable nuisance. Pharaoh's magicians could produce more frogs, but could not get rid of them. Pharaoh was so repulsed by the situation, he promised to let the Israelites go if God stopped the frogs. God caused the frogs to die.

Exodus 7-11

The Egyptians gathered up heaps of dead frogs. All the land stank and Pharaoh changed his mind.

# 3rd Plague:

7. Without warning Pharaoh, God told Moses to have Aaron hit the dust of the ground with his rod and there were lice throughout Egypt on man and the animals. (These lice have been compared to gnats, sand fleas, and mosquitoes - small biting insects. Barnes Notes) Pharaoh's magicians could not duplicate the lice or any plague thereafter. They acknowledged to Pharaoh this was "the finger of God," but Pharaoh would not listen.

## 4th Plague:

8. The first 3 plagues had affected both the Egyptians and Israel, but with the acknowledgment of the magicians of Jehovah God, Israel was protected from the following plagues. God sent Moses back to Pharaoh to have him let the people go. When he did not, God sent a severe swarm of flies over Egypt, but spared Goshen. The plagues were not simply a nuisance now, but a danger to the Egyptians. The people suffered; they could not work. Pharaoh asked Moses to stop the plague and he would let Israel go a short distance, but again, Pharaoh went back on his word.

## 5th Plague:

9. Again, God sent Moses to Pharaoh and again Pharaoh refused to let Israel go, so God caused a murrain, a severe and deadly epidemic to attack all of Egypt's livestock (horses, oxen, sheep, cattle, donkeys, and camels). Many Egyptians lost their livelihood.

# 6th Plague:

10. Without warning, God instructed Moses and Aaron to take handfuls of ashes from the furnace and sprinkle them toward heaven in front of Pharaoh. As a result, Pharaoh and all of the Egyptians were covered in inflamed painful boils or abscesses, even the animals. All of Egypt was in helpless misery. Yet, not an Israelite was affected. Pharaoh still would not allow Israel to go.

### 7th Plague:

11. Moses warned Pharaoh again of God's power and plagues if he did not release Israel, but Pharaoh did not listen. God then sent great thunder and hail mingled with fire. All the trees and plant life were destroyed, as well as any Egyptians or animals left outside. The land of Goshen was untouched by the plague. Pharaoh pleaded for the hail to stop and he would let Israel go, but again, once it stopped his word was of no value.

# 8th Plague:

12. The Lord again sent Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh to let Israel go worship Him. Only Pharaoh seemed unaware of the extensive damage to Egypt and senseless pain. Pharaoh's servants pleaded with him to let Israel go. Yet, Pharaoh was still cynical toward God and said he would only allow the Israelite men to go, so God covered Egypt with locusts so thick that the land was dark. The locusts completely devoured any vegetation left in Egypt. Locusts filled their houses. Again, Pharaoh pleaded forgiveness and asked for the plague to stop and he would release Israel. Again, he hardened his heart and refused them. This plague, too, showed the absurdity of Egypt's idol gods and the supreme divinity of Jehovah.

### 9th Plague:

13. The ninth plague followed with no warning. God showed His by creating a thick oppressive darkness throughout Egypt that lasted three days. No one even moved in Egypt. Israel, again, was untouched by this darkness. (It is thought that this darkness

was similar to the perilous sandstorms of the East where the intensely hot, dry wind fills the air with sand and dust so that the sun is blotted out. The heat, dust, and static electricity make conditions almost physically unbearable.) Pharaoh called Moses and said Israel may go <u>if</u> they leave their animals in Egypt. Moses refused his offer making Pharaoh so angry he threatened to kill Moses if he saw him again.

- 14. Before leaving, Moses warned Pharaoh of God's final plague if Pharaoh did not let Israel go. About midnight of the appointed day, God would kill the first-born (oldest) child of all the Egyptians and their animals, including Pharaoh's oldest son. There would be great heartache and grieving throughout Egypt. This plague would cause Pharaoh to not only let God's people go, but throw them out.
- 15. God had made Moses great in the sight of Israel and the Egyptians. God gave Israel favor in the sight of Egypt. He told them to ask the Egyptians for jewels of silver and gold.
- 16. Of the first nine plagues, numbers one, two, four, five, seven and eight were announced to Pharaoh beforehand. Numbers three, six, and nine came without warning. The first three plagues fell upon Egypt and Israel. The rest fell upon Egypt only, demonstrating God's care for His people. The plagues were progressively more severe. They all but destroyed the land. Egypt never again rose to the height of power and glory reached in this dynasty.
- 17. The tenth plague is set apart from the others for it was a direct visitation from God. The others were miraculous with the appearance and disappearance of Moses' words.
- 18. Pharaoh sought to make compromises with God:
  - 1) He wanted Israel to stay in Egypt and worship God not in the wilderness. (Exodus 8:25)
  - 2) Go, but not far. (Exodus 8:28)
  - 3) Leave the women and children at home. (Exodus 10:9-11)
  - 4) Leave your flocks and herds behind in Egypt. (Exodus 10:24) Satan offers us "compromises" today when we seek to worship God. God punished Pharaoh and all of Egypt for Pharaoh's sin. Our sins and punishment can affect others as well.
- 19. The hardening of Pharaoh's heart only allowed God to prove beyond any shadow of a doubt that He was the only true and real God to Israel, the Egyptians, and to Pharaoh.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

rod/stick, toy snake

water to blood - bowl of water w/ Jello on the stick (rod), floating fish toy frogs

lice - soap flakes, small white worms - string, gummies

flies - plastic party favors, pictures, "buzzing" sounds

murrain - toy cows, camels, horses, sheep

ashes - soot from fireplace, dirt mixed w/ flour

boils - "pretend" sores painted on with marker, white-out, nail polish

hail - rock salt, ice chunks, sound effects of a thunder storm

locust - real locust shells, grasshoppers, craft insects, pictures

darkness - lights out (leave window blinds open or door for small children)

jewelry - play, craft, sequins, gold, silver chains pagan gods - old knick-knack or trophy sprayed gold/silver/gray, clay form

- Puppets/Dolls Moses, Aaron, Pharaoh, magicians
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- 10 Plagues
- God Is A Rock & His Ways Are Perfect
- God Is Not Dead
- God Is Watching Over You
- Great Is Our God
- He's Got Whole World In His Hands
- Humble Yourself
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- Into My Heart

- Jehovah Jireh
- Let Us Sing The Books Of Moses
- Moses
- Our God Is So Great
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Who Will Follow Jesus
- Seek Ye First
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- Without Faith It's Impossible
- Without Him

### Activities:

- Make a class mural of the events that happen in Exodus.
- Use flash cards of the plagues for review or make a flip chart.
- Each child as a "team leader" choose an "All Star Team" of people who showed great faith in God. (Hebrews 11)
- Make an activity where the children put the plagues in order 1-10.
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. To convince Pharaoh that God had sent Moses and Aaron to him, what did they do? How did Pharaoh react? Why?
- 2. What is a plague? Who did these plagues hurt? How did they affect Pharaoh?
- 3. Why did God send the plagues? Name the ten plagues to which God subjected Egypt.
- 4. How do you think the Egyptians felt about these plagues? What did they learn?
- 5. What did Moses and the Israelites learn from these demonstrations of God's power?
- 6. Pharaoh's sin hurt all of Egypt. How can our sins hurt others?
- 7. God sent Moses as a faithful leader to the Israelites. Who are some faithful leaders that serve God today? How have they helped you? In what ways could you show appreciation?
- 8. Why did Pharaoh think God would make a "compromise" with him? Will God compromise His commands with us?
- 9. What is the most important point you learned from this lesson?

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# Old Testament Lesson 26: The Passover Exodus 12-13:16

Memory Verses:	Exodus 12:12	For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord.
	Exodus 12:50	Thus did all the children of Israel; as the Lord commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.
	I Peter 5:7	Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• when God's people obey Him, He cares for and
	protects them, but does not eliminate earthly
	crises.
	God always triumphs over evil.
	• the institution of Passover and its relationship
	to the exodus from Egypt.

## Outline:

I. The institution of Passover.

Exodus 12

- A. Lamb without blemish.
- B. How to eat a memorial.
- C. Unleavened bread.
- D. Tenth plague firstborn slain.
- E. Israel exits Egypt.
- F. Stranger and Passover.

II. The Passover.

Exodus 13:1-16

- A. Sanctification of the firstborn.
  - 1. Humans and animals.
- B. The memorial of Passover.

### Facts:

- 1. Israel's beginning as Jehovah's people was to be marked on their calendar as the month, "Abib," which means "green ears" and corresponds with March-April on our calendar.
- 2. The <u>Passover</u> came to be one of the five Jewish feasts celebrated by all Jews once a year. There is a great deal of symbolism between the Passover and Christ. At Passover, they had to have a perfect lamb, without blemish to sacrifice. Christ was our perfect lamb of sacrifice. (I Peter 1:19, I Corinthians 5:7) Not a bone of the lamb was to be broken, just as none of Christ's bones were broken on the cross. (John 19:36) The sprinkled blood of

- the lamb protected Israel from death as the blood of Christ saves us from eternal death. (I Peter 1:18, 19)
- 3. This was to be an individual family observance unless your family was small. Then you were to unite with another small family in this observance so none would be wasted. The male lamb was to be between eight days old and one year. It was to be kept until the fourteenth of the month, then killed between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. (sunset).
- 4. The blood of the lamb was to be smeared on the sides and top of the door facing with a branch of a hyssop. The whole lamb was to be roasted over a fire and eaten that night with unleavened bread (bread without yeast) and bitter herbs (such as lettuce, endive, chicory, snakeroot, peppermint, or dandelions).
- 5. The unleavened bread would remind Israel of the hurry in which the Israelites left Egypt after the last plague. (The bread did not have time to rise.) If any meat was leftover, it was to be burned. They were to eat this feast in haste dressed ready to leave at a moment's notice, with their long garments bound up, so as not to slow their progress, shoes on and staff in hand.
- 6. The Israelites were not to go outside their houses once they put blood on the door posts until the next morning. God would pass through all of Egypt killing the oldest son or animal. But God would "pass over" those Israelite homes with blood on the door posts. Even Pharaoh could not save his firstborn son from God's wrath.
- 7. The Feast of Unleavened Bread, which immediately followed Passover, was to be eaten for seven days. No work could occur for those seven days. Seven is often thought to be a holy number, symbolizing completeness. These instructions were to be carried out every year, teaching generation after generation of God's mighty deliverance of Israel.
- 8. At midnight, God killed all the firstborn of Egypt including Pharaoh's oldest son, the firstborn of prisoners and animals. Everyone among the Egyptians was crying over their losses. Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. He tells them to take everything they have and leave Egypt with the Israelites immediately. The Egyptians gave the Israelites silver, gold, jewels, and fine clothing. This transferred a large portion of Egypt's wealth to Israel.
- 9. The Israelites had lived in Egypt about 430 years. About 600,000 men plus women and children left Egypt that night.
- 10. Foreigners or strangers were not allowed to observe the Passover feast. One must be circumcised to participate and have identified with God's people.
- 11. In chapter 13, God reiterates the importance of sanctifying all the firstborns (both man and beast) to Him observing the Passover Feast and Feast of Unleavened Bread every year, even after they entered the promised land. It was important they reminded their children every year of how Jehovah God delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Moses - dolls/puppets with beard, staff
Pharaoh - with crown, jewelry
lamb - stuffed toy, craft animal
blood - red marker, ketchup, food coloring, lipstick
hyssop - tree, bush branch

Exodus 12-13:16

Passover Feast - paper plates, bite of cooked lamb (meat) for each child, unleavened bread (communion bread), herbs (lettuce, peppermint); make sure garments are bound with belt, clothespin, shoes are on, and child has a staff in hand (stick, dowel, rod, pencil)

tape recording of crying

silver, gold, jewels, clothing - play money, coins, jewelry, craft stones, sequins, silky clothes

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

# Songs:

- Cheerfully Obey
- Don't You Wanta Go
- God Cares For Me
- God Has A Purpose For You
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- · Jehovah Jireh
- Moses

- My God Is So Great
- Out Of My Bondage
- Rise And Shine
- Seek Ye First
- Ten Plagues
- The Three Dispensations
- We Are Family

### Activities:

- Make a calendar page with "Abib" cross off the days until the 14th
- Make a poster/chart of the similarities of the Passover lamb and Christ
- To help students learn the memory verse, play "Duck, Duck, Verse." The one whose head is tapped with "Verse" must say the memory verse.
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. What is Passover? What similarities are there between the sacrificial lamb and Jesus Christ?
- 2. What detailed instructions did God give Moses on the observance of the Passover feast? The Feast of Unleavened Bread?
- 3. What was the purpose of putting the lamb's blood on the door posts?
- 4. When did God pass through Egypt killing the first born?
- 5. Who was spared the death of a first born? Who was not spared?
- 6. Why were the Egyptians so anxious to get rid of the Israelites?

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# Old Testament Lesson 27: Exodus From Egypt Exodus 13:17-14

Memory Verses:	Exodus 13:18	But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt.
	Exodus 13:21	And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:
	Exodus 14:13	And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will show to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever.
	Psalms 86:9, 10	All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord; and shall glorify Thy name.
		For Thou art great, and doest wondrous things: Thou art God alone.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• when God's people obey Him, He cares for an	
	protects them but does not eliminate earthly	
	crises.	
	God always triumphs over evil.	
	• the institution of Passover and its relationship	
	to the exodus from Egypt.	

## Outline:

I. The Exodus.

Exodus 13:17-22

- A. By way of the wilderness/Red Sea.
- B. God's guidance.
  - 1. Pillar of a cloud by day.
  - 2. Pillar of fire by night.
- II. Pursuit of the Egyptians.

Exodus 14

- A. Camping by the sea.
- B. Pharaoh pursues Israel.
- C. Israel complains.
- D. Israel crosses through the Red Sea.

Exodus 13:17-14

# E. The Egyptians drown.

### Facts:

- 1. There was a shorter route directly to Palestine going up the sea coast past Gaza, but this would have taken them past the hostile Philistines which might have required them to do battle. God chose a different route, south through the wilderness. They traveled from Succoth to Etham to Pihahiroth near the Red Sea. (This is in the area of the Suez Canal today.)
- 2. As Moses left Egypt, he took Joseph's body with him to be buried in Canaan with his forefathers. (Genesis 50:24, 25) God was always with the Israelites, leading with a pillar of a cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night. This way they could travel during the day or at night. This visible sign of God's presence remained with them until they reached the promised land forty years later.
- 3. Meanwhile, Pharaoh had second thoughts about letting Israel go. He had lost thousands of slaves which he needed to build his temples and magnificent cities. He knew they had no weapons or armor and were not trained to fight. He took 600 military captains with chariots to pursue the Israelites and found them camped at Pihahiroth.
- 4. At the sight of Pharaoh and his army, fear overtook the faith of the Israelites. They felt doomed to die there in the wilderness. They felt being a slave was better than dying. God had one final lesson for Pharaoh and Egypt, however.
- 5. Moses told the Israelites to stop complaining for God would fight for them. The pillar of a cloud moved between the Israelites and the Egyptians, creating a darkness for Pharaoh and his army. God told Moses to stretch his hand over the sea and lift his rod. When he did, God caused a strong east wind to divide the waters of the sea, and Israel walked across on dry ground to the other side. The water stood as walls on either side of them.
- 6. The Egyptians pursued the Israelites, but God hindered them by taking off their chariot wheels. They became afraid when they realized God was fighting against them. When all of Israel was safe on the other side, Moses again stretched his hand over the sea and God allowed the waters to come crushing down, drowning Pharaoh and all his army.
- 7. Israel was not bothered by Egypt again. What had happened became known throughout the entire middle east. (Joshua 2:10, Exodus 15:14-16) Israel had seen what God had done for them and learned a fear and reverent respect for God as well as a stronger faith and belief in their merciful Lord. They also believed His faithful servant, Moses.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Moses - dolls/puppets with beard, staff

Pharaoh - with crown, jewelry

map - Exodus route (useful for next several lessons)

suitcases, duffle bag, backpacks, knapsacks

Joseph - sealed box decorated like a mummy coffin

cloud/fire - white/blue cotton/construction paper, bed sheets, red/orange/yellow cotton, cellophane, construction paper, tissue paper suspended from ceiling or mounted on a dowel stick, clothes hanger wire

chariots -crafted from a box, heavy paper, wood and wheels

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Exodus 13:17-14

parting of the sea - red or blue Jello, use Jiggler recipe; make a dish/pan full. Cut a slice to lift up or pull back

use small toy people/soldiers as Israel/Egyptians

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- Camping Toward Canaan's Land
- Cheerfully Obey
- Don't You Wanta Go
- God Cares For Me
- God Has A Purpose For You
- Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I Will Listen To God's Word

- Jehovah Jireh
- Moses
- My God Is So Great
- Out Of My Bondage
- Rise And Shine
- We Are Family
- We're Crossing Over

### Activities:

- Prepare a simple map of the Red Sea. Color and fill in the details as you talk about the Red Sea.
- To help students learn the memory verse, play "Duck, Duck, Verse." The one whose head is tapped with "Verse" must say the memory verse.
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Ouestions:

- 1. How does God direct the Israelites (day/night)?
- 2. Why does Pharaoh pursue the Israelites? How does he?
- 3. How does God protect His people? How do they react?
- 4. How did the Israelites act toward God after crossing the Red Sea?
- 5. How does God help us in times of trouble?
- 6. Does God care for us as much as He did the Israelites?

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# Old Testament Lesson 28: Bitter Waters/Quail And Manna Exodus 15-17

Memory Verses:	Exodus 15:1	Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the Lord and spake, saying, I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.
	Exodus 15:23	And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.
	Exodus 16:35	And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.
	Exodus 17:11	And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• God provides for our needs just as He did the Israelites. He wants us	
	to express our praise and appreciation to Him for His loving care.	

# Outline:

I. The song of Moses. Exodus 15

A. Song of praise and thanksgiving.

B. The water of Marah.

C. Camp at Elim.

II. Bread from heaven. Exodus 16

A. Israel complains.

B. Quail and manna.

C. Institution of the Sabbath.

D. An omer set aside.

III. God cares for Israel. Exodus 17

A. Israel complains.

B. Water from a rock at Horeb.

C. Israel fights Amalek - holding Moses' hands.

### Facts:

1. Chapter 15 begins with a song of praise and thanksgiving to Jehovah God for His glorious triumph over Pharaoh and the Egyptians. Verse three is a taunt to Pharaoh who had asked, "Who is Jehovah?" The proud intent of Pharaoh was no match against the power of God. As a shepherd, God led Israel out of bondage to His habitation, the promised land. God would again work His mighty wonders among the present inhabitants of Canaan to make way for His chosen people to assume the land. (Joshua 2:9,10, 5:1, Revelation 15:3)

- 2. Miriam, Moses' and Aaron's sister, took a tambourine and, with the other women, sang and danced.
- 3. The Israelites then traveled three days in the wilderness of Shur. This area was desolate, barren, and mountainous country, and the people and their animals became very thirsty. The waters of Marah was a small spring of bitter, undrinkable water, as it is even today.
- 4. At this point, God's people were quarrelsome and weak in faith. They had to be molded into a nation capable of serving Jehovah. Their journey to the promised land contributed to this training. They were very thankful to God for their deliverance from Egypt, but within three days' journey, they were complaining to Moses, forgetting that God would care for their needs.
- 5. Moses turned to God who showed him a tree to throw into the water. When he did so, the water became drinkable. Further on, Israel camped at Elim, a large, beautiful oasis with plenty of water, twelve wells and seventy palms for shade. God promised to care for Israel if they obeyed Him. (I Thessalonians 5:18)
- 6. As they traveled on along the seashore toward Sinai, they passed through the Wilderness of Sin at Dophkah, a dreary, desolate area. It had been a little more than a month since they left Egypt, and again they began to grumble and complain.
- 7. They accused Moses and Aaron of bringing them out to the wilderness to starve to death. They had fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic to eat in Egypt. (Numbers 11:5) How quickly they had forgotten how they had been mistreated there.
- 8. God told Moses He would rain bread from heaven, called manna, every morning except the Sabbath (Saturday). Israel was to gather only what they could eat per person, per day. This was an "omer" full (about two quarts). On Friday, they were to gather enough for Friday and Saturday. Extra manna could not be kept over night (except for Friday), for the next morning it would smell bad and have worms. Manna was like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey. God provided manna for Israel every morning, six days a week, for their entire forty year journey.
- 9. There was a natural manna found in the Sinai Peninsula which was a sweet juice from the tamarisk tree. In hot weather, it would come out of the trunk and branches as small white grains that would melt rapidly. In cold weather, it would keep its consistency. It begins oozing from the tree in May and lasts about six weeks. The manna God sent resembled the manna they knew in appearance but not in consistency, for God's manna could be ground and baked, and it needed no tree to bear it.
- 10. That evening, God also provided Israel with quail enough to cover the entire ground where they camped. Quail are brownish-white birds which are good to eat.
- 12. Moses reproved Israel for murmuring and doubting that God would provide for their needs. He also reproved some that thought they could keep manna overnight or thought there would be manna to gather on Saturday in spite of God's command.

**Exodus 15-17** 

- 13. The Sabbath day was sanctified by God as the Lord's day, a day of rest. The people were not to work, cook, or travel on the Sabbath.
- 14. God commanded Moses and Aaron to fill an omer (pot) with manna to be kept for their generations to remind God's people of how He fed them in the wilderness. This manna did not ruin.
- 15. Israel continued their journey toward Mount Sinai through a series of valleys, one of which was called Rephidim. They had traveled several days in the hot sun. It had been estimated the total number of Israelites was about two million. They again became extremely thirsty as did their flocks and herds.
- 16. Instead of having faith that God would again supply their needs, they began to "chide" (find fault with) Moses, to the point they were talking of stoning him. Stoning was the last stage of rejection of a leader among Israel. (Examples: I Samuel 30:6, John 10:31, Acts 7:58, Acts 14:19)
- 17. Moses turned to God to ask what he should do. God told Moses to take the elders of Israel and the rod (staff) he had used to part the Red Sea and go to the rock at Horeb. (Horeb is used interchangeably with Sinai.) Moses was told to strike the rock with his rod, and when he did, enough water came out for all the people and their animals. This place Moses called Massah and Meribah because of Israel's strife and contention.
- While at Rephidim, Israel was attacked by the tribe of Amalek, a group who wandered 18. between Canaan and Mount Sinai and descended from Esau. (Genesis 36:12, Deuteronomy 25:17-19) Moses had Joshua quickly choose men able to fight the Amalekites. Moses, Aaron, and Hur (Miriam's husband - Josephus Antiquities III 2.4) went to the top of the hill to watch the battle.
- Israel could not conquer by the sword alone, only with God's power could they win. When 19. Moses held his hands up toward God in heaven, Israel would win. When he would tire and lower his hands, the Amelekites would win. When Moses could no longer hold his hands up himself, Aaron and Hur got a rock for Moses to sit on and held his hands up for him. This enabled Joshua and the Israelites to win over Amalek and his people.
- 20. Moses built an altar to God for thanksgiving and honor and praise. He called this altar "Jehovah-Nissi" meaning "Jehovah my banner."

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

tambourine - fold a paper plate, put a few dried beans inside, staple together, decorate with yarn tassles, beads, glitter, etc.

travel - suitcases, backpack, knapsack, staff

map, display showing terrain - sand paper, papier mache

sound effects - grumbling, running water, birds (quail)

water in container, canteen, "tree" branch, cups, toy cattle

wells - cans, boxes, clay with pebbled exterior

examples of food in Egypt - fish, cucumbers, melon, onion, garlic

manna - any honey flavored cereal, oyster crackers, coriander seed, popcorn

omer - 2 quart container

worms - gummy, cut pipe cleaners, small pieces of string, real worm(!)

quail - toy birds, craft birds, bird stickers, sample of chicken (nuggets), turkey for children to eat

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stoning - stone, gravel, pebbles rock/water - dish container Amalek - toy sword

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- Praise Him! Praise Him!
- The Lord Has Been Mindful Of Me
- God Is Watching Over You
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Love The Lord Messiah
- I Searched And I Searched
- I Sing A New Song

Matthew 6:33

- I'm In The Lord's Army
- Moses/Joshua
- My God Is So Great
- Rejoice In The Lord Always
- Rise & Shine & Give God The Glory

Philippians 4:6

- Thank You Lord
- There's A Light On The Hill

#### Activities:

• "Count Your Many Blessings" - Make collage booklets or pictures of things for which we have to be thankful from magazine clippings or cut-outs. Create a word search of things we have to be thankful for.

Luke 10:41, 42

• Scripture search - Choose scriptures that show man's dependence on God. See which student can locate them first. Let them read, then discuss.

Matthew 6:34 Luke 12:25

25 I Peter 5:7

- Map activity trace the Israelites' journey from point to point.
- Matching exercise Match the place with the event that happened at that place.
- Age-appropriate handwork

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How did the Israelites praise God? How do you praise God?
- 2. Why did the Israelites complain? How did God care for them?
- 3. How does God care for you?
- 4. Can we tell God what worries us? Why?
- 5. What did God send for food and drink?
- 6. Trace the Israelites journey.
- 7. What were God's instructions on manna collecting? Which day did God not send manna? Why?
- 8. To whom did Moses always turn when he needed help? To whom can we always turn?
- 9. Who attacked the Israelites? What happened? Who won? Why?
- 10. Do we sometimes complain like the Israelites? Why? Does God like complaining?

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# Old Testament Lesson 29: Mt. Sinai And The Ten Commandments Exodus 18-23

Memory Verses:	Exodus 20:3,4	Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
		Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:
	Exodus 20:7,8	Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.
		Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
	Exodus 20:12-17	Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
		Thou shalt not kill.
		Thou shalt not commit adultery.
		Thou shalt not steal.
		Thou shall not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
		Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's.
	Deuteronomy 4:2	Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.

Ga	oals:	Student will learn:
		• we all can share in the work of the church and participate in worship.
		• we must always show proper respect and reverence toward God.
		• the purpose of the giving of the Old Law and its relation to the New Law.
		• God's people are a "special treasure" above all others on earth.

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Exodus 18-23

#### Outline:

I. Jethro counsels Moses.

- A. Jethro brings Zipporah and children.
- B. Jethro brought up to date.
- C. Jethro advises Moses.

II. A holy nation is born.

Exodus 19

Exodus 18

- A. Arrival at Sinai.
- B. Preparation for the covenant.
- C. God's overwhelming presence.

III. The giving of the law.

Exodus 20

- A. The 10 commandments.
- B. Altars for worship.
- IV. Covenant ordinances.

Exodus 21-23

- A. Civil and social relations.
- B. Capital crimes.
- C. Laws regarding property.
- D. Humanitarian and moral laws.
- E. Israel's responsibility to God.

#### Facts:

- 1. Jethro, Moses' father-in-law from Midian, came to visit Moses as well as reunite Moses with his wife Zipporah and sons, Gershom and Eliezer. Moses was delighted to see them! He told Jethro of all Israel's experiences with Pharaoh in Egypt and how God had so powerfully delivered them and so graciously cared for Israel in the wilderness. Jethro, in honor of God's goodness, offered sacrifices to Him.
- 2. The next day, all day long, Jethro observed Moses listening to the problems of all the Israelites and making decisions as to what was right or wrong in each case. Jethro told Moses this was too much work for him to be doing all by himself; he would wear himself out and be good to no one.
- 3. Jethro suggested Moses appoint men who trusted and respected God over groups of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and ten people. They should be taught the laws of God and then judge those of their group (functioning as higher and lower courts). The majority of problems could be solved thusly, but any problem too hard for those appointed to answer could be directed to Moses. (Deuteronomy 1:15)
- 4. Israel now left Rephidim and journeyed on to the desert of Sinai, camping at the base of the mountain. The peninsula of Sinai is triangular, situated between two arms of the Red Sea. It is a desolate area and the mountain is a mass of rock. Israel camped here about eleven months. (Exodus 9:1-Numbers 10:11) During this period, Israel was given the law.
- 5. God was now ready to make a covenant (promise) with Israel. He called Moses to Him on the mountain and said if the people of Israel would obey Him, He would make of them a "Holy nation," a kingdom of priests, a "peculiar treasure" (prized possession). Moses called the elders of the people together, telling them what God had proposed. They vowed to do all God commanded them to do. (I Peter 2:5-9)

- God told Moses He would come in a thick cloud to speak to them so all could hear. Israel had three days to wash themselves and their clothes to be clean/sanctified before God. Boundaries were set around the mountain so no one could touch it, not even an animal, or they would die. When they heard the sound of the trumpet, they were to gather together at the foot of the mountain.
- On the third day, thunder clapped and lightening streaked across the sky. The mountain shook and appeared to be on fire as a thick cloud of smoke covered it. The blast of the trumpet was exceedingly loud. The people trembled at the awesome presence of Jehovah

	God	. God called Moses up to remind the people not to cross the boundaries or touch the
	mou	intain less they perish. He also instructed Moses to bring Aaron with him.
8.		following commands were given to all of Israel directly by the voice of Jehovah God, to
	instı	ruct them in His will, that they might fulfill His purpose:
		Thou shalt have no other gods before Me. (Colossians 1:18 - God will not allow what
		is due Him in reverence or obedience to be given to anyone/anything else.)
		Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image. (God is a spirit, not an object to be
		created to worship. Anything more important to us than God is an idol. Idols of that
		time were statues of wood, stone, or precious metal. John 4:24, I John 5:21, Matthew
		6:24, I Corinthians 10:14)
		Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. (Some words actually stand
		for God's name used vainly. This command guards God's deity from being referred to
		irreverently. Ephesians 4:1, Matthew 12:36, James 3:10)
		Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. (This was a day sanctified by God for rest
		and worship. Deuteronomy 5:14,15, Acts 20:7, I Corinthians 16:2 This is the only
		command not repeated in the New Testament, for Christ "ceased" His work and rose
		from the dead on the <u>first</u> day of the week. This is now the Lord's day for us to
		worship.)
		Honor thy father and thy mother. (Honoring our parents involves obeying and
		respecting them and caring for them when they are older and need our help. We owe
		our parents a great deal. Ephesians 6:1-3 Under the Old Law, if a child hit or cursed
	_	his parent, he was put to death. Exodus 21:15-17)
		Thou shalt not kill. (This command shows the value of a human life. Murder for
		any reason is forbidden. Yet, the Law made a difference between premeditated and
		accidental killing. Cities of refuge were provided for those who killed accidentally,
		but those who deliberately killed another were punished by capital punishment.
		Exodus 21:15, Romans 13, Matthew 5:21-22, I John 3:15)
		Thou shalt not commit adultery. (This supports the sanctity and purity of marriage.
		God intends marriage to always be one husband for one wife for life. All sexual
		immorality in thought or deed is wrong. Galatians 5:19, Matthew 5:27-28)
		Thou shalt not steal. (The rights of private property are to be respected. A man
		caught stealing under the Old Law could be put to death. If he stole an ox, he
		would owe five back. Exodus 21:16, Luke 19:1-10, Ephesians 4:28)
		Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. (This includes not only
		lying, but any false or unfounded evidence. Many crimes were punishable by death
		so a false witness could be responsible for the death of an innocent person. The Bible does not make a distinction between little lies and big ones. All are wrong.
		Colossians 3:9, Revelation 21:8)

- □ Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's possessions. (This is the root of nearly every sin against someone else. God knows our thoughts, attitudes, and wrong desires. Luke 12:15, Colossians 3:5)
- 9. God wrote these laws, the ten commandments, on tables of stone with His finger. (Exodus 24:12, 31:18, 32:15,16) The first four deal with our relationship to God. The last six deal with our relationship to each other. These formed the basis of the Hebrew (Mosaical) law.
- 10. God's presence was so mighty. The people feared they might die if God spoke directly to them again so they asked Moses to mediate for them to God and they would listen to him. God instructed them to worship Him with a simple altar of unfinished stone and burnt offerings wherever God chose to be remembered. He did not want an ornate shrine of any kind, and it must not have steps leading up to it. The practical application of this is revealed in later history. (Judges 6:25, 26, Joshua 8:30, I Kings 18:30-32)
- 11. In addition, God gave many laws (Exodus 21-24) which contain commands on a variety of issues. Israel was to obey <u>all</u> the commands of God. The first group dealt with <u>civil</u> and <u>social relations</u>. A Hebrew could become a slave by choice out of poverty or disaster, yet they were to be treated as a brother/sister. He was to serve six years then the seventh year he was declared free. A female slave who was a concubine could not be sold to a Gentile.
- 12. <u>Capital crimes</u>: Taking the life of another deliberately required death. Kidnapping was punishable by death. Hitting or cursing one's parent was punishable by death. Personal injury meant: a life for a life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe. (Exodus 21:23-25) Slaves were to be freed for certain injuries. If one suffered injury from an animal, the owner was held responsible.
- 13. <u>Laws regarding property</u>: If a storage pit or cistern was recklessly left uncovered and a man's animal fell in and died, the owner of the pit had to pay for the animal. If one stole an ox of another, he had to repay with five oxen or four sheep for one stolen. If he could not pay, he was to be sold as a slave. A mortal blow struck in the darkness of night in defense of one's life and property was excused, but not in the daylight. Restitution had to be made for damage to another's field or crops. If a man had to be away from home, he entrusted his property to a dependable neighbor. If the goods were stolen, the thief paid back double. If no thief was found, the burden of proof was upon the neighbor. A man was responsible for anything borrowed or anyone hired.
- 14. <u>Moral and humanitarian laws</u>: Israel was to be a holy nation. Witchcraft and sorcery were forbidden in any form. Humanitarian laws protected the poor, aliens, and the helpless (orphans, widows). If one needed to borrow money, it was to be loaned as an act of charity. Interest could not be charged. Contempt or disregard for God was punishable by death. Their firstfruits and firstborn were to be offered to God.
- 15. <u>Israel's responsibility to God</u>: Israel was to walk in integrity and show consideration for all men, never giving a false report or being a part of mob violence. They had to be fair, not accept a bribe, help those that disliked them, be kind to new comers. Their calendars were to include the Sabbath as a day of rest and worship. The seventh year, the land was to rest and the Hebrew slave let go. All of Israel was to observe the Passover Feast and the Feast Of Unleavened Bread. They were to remember how God redeemed them from Egypt and provided for their every need. Gifts of thanks were to be brought to God.

(Leviticus 23:5, Deuteronomy 16:16, 17) The Feast Of Harvest (Pentecost) and the Feast Of Ingathering marked the beginning and end of the harvest season. Their firstfruits were offered to God in thanksgiving of His blessings. (Leviticus 23:15-22, 34-43, Numbers 28:26-31, 29:12, Deuteronomy 16:9-14)

16. God concluded with the promise to bless them, to drive out the heathen nations of Canaan, giving them the land. He promised to protect and provide for their needs <u>IF</u> they would obey His commands and abstain from all idolatry with pagan nations. The sting of fear would come over the inhabitants of Canaan as little by little God would help Israel overtake them. God would give Israel all the land from the Mediterranean Sea, the wilderness of Egypt and Palestine to the Euphrates River. (Only briefly under King Solomon did Israel achieve these boundaries. I Kings 4:21) The destruction of the Canaanite nations was necessary to avoid infecting Israel with their sin.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

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suitcase, cup of "coffee," "meal," paper cup, plate (Jethro comes)
Moses listening to problems - black robe, gavel, line up children in a row
groups of 1000, 100, 50, 10 - beans, popcorn seeds, coins, etc.
map - Sinai Peninsula
model of Mt. Sinai and the plain where they camped - sand, clay, papier maché,
  blocks, etc.
cloud - cotton, batting, angel hair, spray "snow," netting, shaving cream
laundry board, soap, washcloth
ram's horn - crafted construction paper, posterboard
sound effects - trumpet, thunder, quake
strobe light, lightning
10 commandments on "stone" - styrofoam, clay, cardboard, posterboard
pagan god - statue
picture of parents
wedding rings - party favors, veil, bouquet
altar - clay and gravel, toothpicks, blocks, painted box with sticks
eye, tooth, hand, foot
5 oxen, 4 sheep - toys, cutouts
witch hat, wand, crystal ball
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- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls Jethro, Moses
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- A Helper I Will Be
- Cheerfully Obey
- God Needs Helpers
- He Is Here

- Holy Holy Holy
- Humble Yourself
- I Am Thine O Lord
- Into My Heart

- EXOCUS 10 25
  - Moses
  - Psalms 19 Law Of Lord Is Perfect
  - Seek Ye First
  - The 10 Commandments

• I've Been Redeemed

- The 3 Dispensations
- The Lord Has A Will
- This Is The Day The Lord Hath Made
- Trust And Obey
- Unto Perfection

#### Activities:

- List "idol gods" we may have today: television, money, sports, hobbies, collections.
- Application stories about obedience, lying, stealing, putting God first, pleasing God, kind words, sharing.
- A Helper I Will Be: Let children give a list or make picture cards of things they can do to help at home or at church.
- What Is God Like: Have students look up scriptures that describe characteristics of God. Examples:

Exodus 20:5 II Kings 13:23 Numbers 14:18 Psalms 22:3 Deuteronomy 7:21 Psalms 116:5 Deuteronomy 33:27 Colossians 1:15

- Write a paragraph telling what God means to you.
- *Obeying The Rules*: List some rules. Have students tell where you usually are when you obey these rules. Examples:

Don't run in the hall. (school)

You must go to bed at 8:30. (home)

Use hand signals when riding a bike. (traffic)

- File Folder Activities:
  - "10 Commandments Exodus 20," "Geography Bible Lands"
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. What did Moses and Jethro have to talk about? What advice did Jethro give Moses?
- 2. Why did Moses need some help? How can you help in the work of the church? At home? How can you participate in worship?
- 3. How did Israel prepare for the presence of the Lord? How do we prepare to worship God? How do we show God respect and reverence?
- 4. What makes God's people special?
- 5. Describe God's presence at Mount Sinai. What reaction did the Israelites have?
- 6. Why do we have rules? What can rules do for you? What if there were no rules?
- 7. Why did God give His people rules? What rules did He give them?
- 8. How can we know if something is becoming an idol to us? How should we use God's name? Why should we honor our parents?
- 9. What happens when we lie? What is the difference between wanting something and coveting it?
- 10. What rules are you asked to obey? Where do we find God's rules for us?

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# Old Testament Lesson 30: A Blueprint For Worshipping Jehovah Exodus 24-31

Memory Verses:	Exodus 24:3	And Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the Lord hath said will we do.
	Exodus 24:18	And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.
	Exodus 31:18	And He gave unto Moses, when He had made an end of communing with him upon Mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.
	Hebrews 8:5	Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith He, that thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount.
	Revelation 22:18,19	For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:
		And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God was very specific in the way He wanted Israel to worship Him.
	We must follow God's plan for our worship to Him just as
	specifically. To add to God's instructions or ignore any one of His
	instructions would not be acceptable to Him.

# Outline:

- I. God calls Moses to Him.
  - A. Israel commits to God.
  - B. Aaron and Hur left in charge.

Exodus 24

Exodus 24-31

II. Blueprints for the tabernacle furniture. Exodus 25

A. Offerings to be given.

- B. Ark of the covenant.
- C. Table of shewbread.
- D. Candlestick.

III. Blueprints for the tabernacle. Exodus 26

- A. Curtains.
- B. Supports.
- C. Vail.

IV. More specifications. Exodus 27

- A. Altar of burnt offering.
  - B. The court.
- C. The oil.

V. The priesthood. Exodus 28

- A. Aaron and his sons.
- B. Their holy garments.

VI. Ceremony and sacrifice. Exodus 29

- A. Consecrating the priests.
  - B. Offerings.

VII. Last instructions. Exodus 30, 31

- A. Altar of incense.
- B. Ransom money.
- C. Laver.
- D. Oil and incense.
- E. Contractors appointed.
- F. Observing the Sabbath.

#### Facts:

- 1. God called Moses to come to Him on Mount Sinai while Aaron, Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders worshipped God from a distance. The rest of Israel was to stay in the plains away from the mountain. All God's commands were written (the book of the covenant) and given to Israel. They told God in unison of their willingness to obey His commands. Moses built an altar to God and twelve pillars or "boundary stones" representing the twelve tribes. Burnt offerings and peace offerings upon the altar indicated their dedication and committing of themselves to God.
- 2. Joshua was the only one who accompanied Moses onto the mountain. Aaron and Hur (Miriam's husband) were left in charge of the people. Moses was in the midst of the cloud with God for forty days and forty nights.
- 3. God instructed Moses to have Israel bring him certain items for constructing the "tabernacle," a meeting place for them to worship God. They were to bring: gold, silver, brass, fine linens of blue, purple and scarlet, goat's hair, ram's skins dyed red, badger

- skins, shittum wood (acacia very hard and durable and easily found in that area), oil, spices, onyx stones and other precious stones. (Exodus 12:35,36) The gold and silver used in construction is estimated between \$1,250,000-\$3,000,000 in value.\*
- 4. God gave Moses specific instructions for the construction of the tabernacle (the tent/sanctuary/holy place/temple) where He would "meet" with His people. He also specified each item within the tabernacle and its construction.
- 5. The Ark Of The Covenant was a box or chest of acacia wood overlaid with gold inside and out. It measures 2 1/2 cubits long, 1 1/2 cubits high by 1 1/2 cubits wide. (This is estimated to be 3 3/4 feet long, 2 1/4 feet high by 2 1/4 feet wide. The remainder of this lesson uses the same estimates to convert cubits to feet.) The cover of the ark was called the "mercy seat." Two cherubs faced one another with their wings spread, shading the mercy seat and symbolizing God's presence. Rings of gold at the feet of the ark allowed Israel to carry it with two golden poles (staves). The ark contained the two tablets of stone with the ten commandments, Aaron's budding rod and a pot of manna. The ark was probably lost during the Babylonian captivity. It was the only furniture placed in the Holy Of Holies.
- 6. The <u>Table Of Shewbread</u> was also made of acacia wood overlaid with gold. It measured 3 feet long by 1 1/2 feet wide by 2 1/4 feet high. The table legs also had rings of gold for transporting on poles. Twelve fresh loaves of shewbread (unleavened) were placed on it every Sabbath day, one for each tribe. (Leviticus 24:7) It was placed in the Holy Place. All the platter-like dishes, cups, covers, and bowls used in the tabernacle were to be of pure gold.
- 7. The <u>Candlestick</u> or lampstand had seven branches. It was the only light in the tabernacle. It measured about 5 feet high and 3 1/2 feet across the top. It was decorated with ornamental work resembling the almond flower and was made of pure gold. It was lighted daily with the best olive oil and stood in the Holy Place.
- 8. The <u>Tabernacle</u> was a moveable building and a place of worship. (Hebrews 8-10) It extended 45 feet long by 15 feet wide by 15 feet high. Its framework was of acacia wood plated with gold. The framework anchored into bases of silver. The boards were covered with beautiful tapestry curtains of the finest linen in royal colors of blue, purple, and scarlet. There were ten curtains each 42 feet long by 6 feet wide. It always faced the east. The <u>Outer Coverings</u> of the tabernacle were made of goat's hair, ram's skins and badger skins, providing protection from bad weather. It consisted of eleven curtains 45 feet by 6 feet fastened together with bronze clasps and supported by a ridge pole at the top (six feet longer than the inside linen tapestries). The <u>Vail</u> separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. It too was of finest linen tapestry in blue, purple, and scarlet. It hung by gold hooks from four pillars of acacia wood covered with gold. This vail was torn apart at the death of Christ. (Matthew 27:51)
- 9. The Altar Of Burnt Offering was a hollow frame of acacia wood plated with bronze and filled with dirt. It stood 7 1/2 feet square and 4 1/2 feet high with a ledge for the priests to stand on. Each corner had a bronze point or "horn" symbolizing power. (I Kings 1:50) This altar was used for the sacrifice of animals. It stood east of the tabernacle near the entrance of the court. (Leviticus 9:24, 6:9) This symbolized a "shadow" of Christ's death.
- 10. The <u>Court</u> around the tabernacle was an enclosed area 150 feet long by 75 feet wide by 5 1/2 feet high. Its hangings were of fine linen suspended on pillars with silver hooks. The

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- 30 foot entrance was on the east end and was covered with a linen tapestry of blue, purple, and scarlet.
- 11. God chose Aaron and his sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar to be the priests (mediators) for Israel. They were to make and wear holy garments consisting of a breastplate (pouch), an ephod, a robe, a coat (tunic), a mitre (headdress), and a girdle (belt). These were to be made of fine linen in gold, blue, purple, and scarlet.
- 12. The <u>Ephod</u> was the most distinctive part of the high priest's clothing. It was an elaborately embroidered linen apron, joined at the shoulders and bound at the waist with a girdle (belt). Onyx stones in a gold setting were on each shoulder. Engraved on the stones were the twelve tribes of Israel. Symbolically, the priest bore the burden of representing all of Israel before God.
- 13. The <u>Breastplate</u> was a 9 x 9 inch piece of the same fine linen as the ephod. In it were gold settings with twelve precious stones (four rows of three each). Engraved on the stones again were the twelve tribes. It was attached to the ephod at the shoulders by gold chains and to the girdle by blue lacing. Symbolically, as the high priest served, he also bore Israel's burden upon his heart with wisdom and compassion before Jehovah. The stones were sardius, topaz, carbuncle, emerald, sapphire, diamond, ligure, agate, amethyst, beryl, onyx, and jasper. (Exodus 28:17)
- 14. The <u>Robe of the Ephod</u> was a sleeveless tunic of blue linen, embroidered around the neck and hem with small gold bells and pomegranates.
- 15. The <u>Headdress</u> (mitre) of the high priest was a turban of fine linen with a golden plate attached with blue lace, engraved with the words "Holiness to the Lord." (Hebrews 7:26) The <u>Coat</u> was also made of fine linen, reaching to the feet with tight sleeves. It was worn under the robe or tunic and had a richly colored embroidered sash.
- 16. Aaron's sons or priests other than the high priest were also clothed in fine linen, but more plainly constructed. Their garments marked them as official representatives for God. To approach the tabernacle without these special garments would mean death and judgment.
- 17. The priests were to wash, dress, and be anointed with oil. A bullock was offered as a sin offering for the priests. (Hebrews 7:27) A ram was offered to symbolize their dedication to God. Another ram was killed to consecrate the priests to God. Their right hand and right great toe were anointed with its blood, that they might listen and obey God. The priests and their garments were also sprinkled with the blood. Three types of bread accompanied these offerings: unleavened bread, unleavened bread with oil, and wafer cakes anointed with oil. The rump of the ram was a special delicacy offered to the Lord as a wave offering. (Leviticus 1:1-8)
- 18. The priests' garments were to be passed on from generation to generation as well as the installation of priests through Aaron's family or the tribe of Levi. Installation took seven days. The priests were to eat of the offering whereby they were atoned (like our communion with Christ's body).
- 19. Each morning and evening, a lamb was sacrificed on behalf of Israel to renew their dedication. As a result, Jehovah promised His constant presence and blessings.
- 20. The <u>Altar Of Incense</u> was a smaller altar of acacia wood overlaid with gold and often referred to as the "golden altar." (Exodus 39:38, 40:5,26, Numbers 4:11) It measured 1 1/2 feet square by 3 feet high. On the corners were horns and gold rings for carrying. The altar stood in the Holy Place directly in front of the vail to the Holy Of Holies. (Hebrews

- 9:4) Incense burned morning and evening symbolizing man's closest approach to God, prayer.
- 21. The incense used was specifically prescribed by God, not to be used for ordinary purposes. The fragrance was a unique, unmistakable reminder to the people that God was among them. They used: myrrh, onycha, galbanum, frankincense, and salt mixed and melted together into a solid form.
- 22. Ransom Money was required of every Israelite twenty and older. They were to pay half a shekel (40¢) to God as an atonement for their souls.\* (Matthew 17:24-27) The Bronze Laver was a basin for water in which the priests could wash their hands and feet before entering the Holy Place. It was a "shadow" of the cleansing by the blood of Christ (baptism).
- 23. The <u>Holy Anointing Oil</u> was a perfumed oil used only for sacred purposes. It was made of myrrh, 16 lbs. of cinnamon, calamus, cassia, in all about 48 lbs. of spices mixed with 1 1/2 gallons of olive oil.\*
- 24. Bezaleel of Judah and Aholiab of Dan were chosen by God to supervise the construction of the tabernacle and its furnishings.
- 25. The observance of the Sabbath was a distinct sign of Israel's relationship to Jehovah God, and it was strictly enforced. (Romans 2:28,29, Galatians 4:9,10, Colossians 2:16,17) At the conclusion of all God's specified instructions, Moses was given the two tablets of stone with the ten commandments written by the finger of God.
- \* Conversions of weights and measures are estimates based on various historical references.

  Monetary values are also estimates and widely vary based on economic measures and inflation. Please note this in all the lessons and use data carefully.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

previously used prop for Mt. Sinai altar - clay, gravel, box w/ sticks

12 stones, rocks

examples of gold, silver, brass, linen, goat's hair, leather skins, durable (hard) wood, oil, spices, precious stones (especially onyx)

model of the tabernacle and Court with furnishings in their <u>specific</u> locations: Ark of the Covenant, Table of Shewbread, Candlestick, Vail, Altar of Burnt Offering, Altar of Incense, Laver-include "loaves" of bread (12 biscuits), dishes, curtain rings (shower curtain rings sprayed gold), tapestry

incense

perfumed oil

model of high priests' garments: coat, robe, ephod, breastplate, headdress (could put on doll)

offerings - toy bull, ram (sheep), unleavened bread

Bezaleel and Aholiab - tools, blueprint, tool belt, hard hat, tape measure model of tablet with 10 commandments - cardboard, styrofoam, etc.

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook

- Video
- Puppets/Dolls Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Hur

### Songs:

- Twelve Sons Had Jacob
- Books Of The Old Testament
- Cheerfully Obey
- Come Bless The Lord
- God Is Love God Is Light
- God Is My Father
- Moses
- Our God Keeps His Promises

- Psalms 19-Law Of Lord Is Perfect
- Redeemed
- Ten Commandments
- The Temple Of The Lord
- There Is A Habitation
- Three Dispensations
- To The Work
- Unto Perfection

#### Activities:

• Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why was God so specific in the way He wanted Israel to worship Him?
- 2. What does this tell us about our worship to God?
- 3. What happened to the Israelites when they changed or ignored God's specifications?
- 4. What happens when we ignore or change God's commands for us?
- 5. Who was in charge of Israel while Moses was on Mt. Sinai with God?
- 6. What specifications did God make for the tabernacle? The Court?
- 7. What specifications did God make for the furnishings of the tabernacle? The Court?
- 8. Who were the first appointed priests? Who was the first High Priest?
- 9. How did God design the High Priest's garments?
- 10. Who did God appoint to supervise the building of His tabernacle?

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# Old Testament Lesson 31: The Golden Calf Exodus 32-34

Memory Verses:	Exodus 32:19,20	And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.  And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strawed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it.
	Exodus 32:26	Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the Lord's side? Let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.
	Exodus 32:33	And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.
	Exodus 34:14	For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God <u>must</u> come first in our lives.
	• disobedience to God will be punished.

## Outline:

I. The golden calf.

Exodus 32

- A. Aaron makes the golden calf.
- B. God and Moses angered by Israel's idolatry.
- C. Punishment for sin.
- D. Moses prays for Israel.
- II. God talks with Moses.

Exodus 33

- A. Israel repents.
- B. God modifies His judgment.
- C. Moses wants to see God.
- III. God's covenant restored.

Exodus 34

- A. The tables of stone rewritten.
- B. Observances renewed.
- C. Moses' face shines.

#### Facts:

- 1. Moses was on Mount (Mt.) Sinai with God forty days. During this time, the Israelites decided something must have happened to Moses and they impatiently went to Aaron requesting him to make them a tangible god. Aaron made no argument. He told Israel to bring him their gold earrings from which he created a golden calf. Aaron told them this was the god that brought them out of Egypt. He built an altar before this idol and set aside the next day as a day of feasting.
- 2. Ancient idols were usually made by plating a wooden frame or core with gold or silver. (Isaiah 40:19,20, Jeremiah 10:1-9) It was unlikely the calf Aaron constructed was solid gold. A calf or young bull was a common representation of fertility and strength. The Egyptian Apis and Phoenician Baal were both replicas of bulls.
- 3. Early the next day, Israel made burnt offerings to the idol. Their worship turned into merry making and wickedness. Idolatry was accompanied by sensual, lewd, dances associated with the fertility cult.
- 4. God saw what they were doing and was so angry He was ready to destroy them. He told Moses to return to "thy" people. Moses pled for the preservation of Israel. He argued that the Egyptians would mock or misconstrue the reason for Israel's destruction. Moses also reminded God of His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. As a result of Moses' prayers, God's wrath was appeased.
- 5. As Moses came down from the mountain and returned to camp, he saw the blatant sinning of Israel. He was overcome with anger and indignation. He threw to the ground and broke the tablets of stone on which God had written His law. Moses burned the golden calf with fire. He ground the remains, mixed it with water and made the people drink it.
- 6. Moses asked Aaron why he would be a part of so great a sin. Aaron blamed the people of Israel, saying they forced him to be a part. He was also untruthful when he told Moses he just threw the gold into the fire and out came a golden calf.
- 7. Moses stood at the gate of the camp and asked, "Who is on the Lord's side?" All the sons of Levi stepped forward. Moses instructed them to kill everyone in the camp who had been a part of this idol worship and would not repent. That day about 3,000 men were killed.
- 8. Moses went back to God to intercede and ask for His forgiveness upon the people. He even offered to have his own name blotted out of the book of life if it would redeem Israel of their sin. God spared Israel, but He assured Moses justice will prevail at judgment for those who sin against Him, for they will be blotted out of the book of life.
- 9. Moses erected the tabernacle far outside the camp. Those longing to reconcile themselves to God could go there. As Moses entered the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar came down so Moses could talk with the Lord. All of Israel would stand at their tent door and worship Jehovah. As Moses returned to camp, Joshua, son of Nun, would remain at the tabernacle.
- 10. Moses asked God if he had found favor with Him to go with them and guide His people into Canaan proving to foreign nations they were a special nation. God told Moses no man could see His face and live, however, he could stand on the rock beside Him. God would cover Moses with His hand, and after He had passed by Moses could see His back.

Exodus 32-34

11. God instructed Moses to come alone up Mt. Sinai again and bring stone tablets upon which God would rewrite His commandments. Moses again asked God to go with them leading them into the promised land.

- 12. God agreed, but warned Israel they must <u>not</u> make covenants with the present inhabitants of Canaan. They must not worship any other gods or have anything to do with idols, for God is a jealous God. Israel must keep the Feast Of Unleavened Bread as previously instructed as well as the Feast Of Weeks (Harvest) and the Passover Feast.
- 13. Moses remained with God on Mt. Sinai for forty days and nights. When he returned to camp, his face glowed from being in God's presence. It frightened Aaron and the people. Moses passed on to them God's commands. When Moses was finished speaking, he covered his face with a vail.
- 14. Deuteronomy 9 retells the story of the golden calf. Exodus 23 gives the specifications on the required feasts to be observed. Acts 5 (Ananias and Sapphira) is a New Testament example of God demanding obedience of His people.)

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

examples of rules - family, school, traffic, Bible illustrate the length of 40 days - calendar, count items "gold" earrings, "melting" pot, spoon, stirring stick golden calf - toy calf sprayed gold, piñata, papier maché, clay altar - previously used visual tablets of stone mixture of ashes, gold glitter, water toy sword "Book of Life"- names of children, baptized believers jewelry - real, play, hair barrettes model of tabernacle, tent Moses' face glowing - iridescent paint, glow in the dark vail - scarf, towel, fabric scrap, handkerchief

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video
- Puppets/Dolls

# Songs:

- Cheerfully Obey
- God Is Watching Over You
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- I've Got My Head In Heaven
- Moses
- My God And I
- O Be Careful Little Eyes

- Seek Ye First
- Standin' In The Need Of Prayer
- Ten Commandments
- The Love Of God
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- What Will Your Answer Be
- Who Will Follow Jesus?
- Without Him

#### Activities:

- File Folder Activities
  - "Moses"
  - "Israel"
  - "10 Commandments"
  - "Geography Bible Lands"
- Story Sequencing: With pictures or sentences, have students put the events of the story in order.
- Watch the Jewell Miller video on the Mosaical Age.
- Name worldly idols. Discuss times when you chose to put God first.
- Use flash cards to learn memory verse(s) 1 or 2 words per card.
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why do we have rules? What happens when someone disobeys the rules?
- 2. How do we make God come first in our lives? Why does God come first?
- 3. What happens when we disobey God's rules/laws?
- 4. What rule did the Israelites disobey? What were the consequences?
- 5. What can become idols in our lives? How do we know it is an "idol"?
- 6. Where was Moses when this idol was created? Why?
- 7. Who went along with the Israelites in making this idol? Why?
- 8. Did God hear Moses' prayers on behalf of Israel? How did God answer Moses' prayers? Can your prayers to God be just as effective?
- 9. Who was on the Lord's side? Are you on the Lord's side?
- 10. Why did Moses' face glow?

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# **Old Testament** Lesson 32: Building The Tabernacle Exodus 35-40

Memory Verses:	Exodus 39:43	And Moses did look upon all the work, and, behold, they had done it as the Lord had commanded, even so had they done it: and Moses blessed them.
	Exodus 40:38	For the cloud of the Lord was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.
	Hebrews 9:12	Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Goals:	Student will learn:
• God wants His people to be kind and generous givers.	
• God demands obedience to every detail of His commands.	
	• to compare worship today to Old Testament (Mosaical) times.

# 0

Outlin	e:		
I.	Mate	erials for the tabernacle.  The Sabbath.	Exodus 35
		Gifts for the tabernacle.	
	C.	Bezaleel and Ahaliab chosen.	
II.	Cons	struction.	Exodus 36
	A.	Liberal giving.	
	B.	Curtains/covering/vail.	
III.	Tabernacle furnishings.		Exodus 37
	A.	Ark of the covenant.	
	B.	Table of shewbread.	
	C.	Candlestick.	
	D.	Altar of incense.	
IV.	The	court and its furnishings.	Exodus 38
	A.	Altar of burnt offerings.	
	B.	Laver.	
	C.	The court.	
	D.	Total offerings.	
V.	Clot	ning of the priests.	Exodus 39
	A.	Ephod, breastplate, coats, tunics.	

OT-Lesson 32 Exodus 35-40

- B. The work approved by Moses.
- VI. Setting up the tabernacle.

Exodus 40

- A. Tabernacle erected.
- B. Priests anointed.
- C. God's approval.

#### Facts:

- \*\*\* Chapters 35-39 relay the fulfillment of the detailed instructions given to Moses by God in Exodus 25-31 for constructing the tabernacle, its furnishings and the priests' garments. Refer to the lesson on Exodus 25-31 for details not repeated in this lesson. \*\*\*
  - 1. God wanted His people to have a special house to worship Him and a place where He could dwell among His people. The tabernacle functioned as a portable tent Israel could move with them as they traveled toward the promised land. God wanted only the best materials to be used for the tabernacle and He gave very detailed instructions for every facet of its construction. Nothing was left up to the people to decide upon.
  - 2. God had Moses repeat His command to observe the Sabbath as a holy day of rest and worship to the Lord. Death was the consequence for working on the Sabbath. This was a warning, in their enthusiasm to build God's house, not to be overly industrious and place physical things before spiritual.
  - 3. Although God asked the people to donate the materials needed to construct and furnish the tabernacle as gifts, no pressure was put on them. Moses was only to accept gifts given by the willing-hearted. They were happy to give and gave so abundantly Moses had to ask them to stop giving.
  - 4. Israel was asked to bring: gold, silver, brass, blue, purple, scarlet, fine linen, goat's hair, dyed rams' skins, badger skins, shittim (acacia) wood, lamp oil, spices, incense, and precious stones. The Israelites likely acquired such items of wealth through family wealth, gifts given them by the Egyptians to leave and the spoils of their recent defeat of the Amalekites. (Exodus 17:8-16)
  - 5. God blessed (miraculously) Bezaleel, son of Uri, of the tribe of Judah and Aholiab, son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan with special talents as craftsmen to carry out the work.
  - 6. Israel gave of their talents as well. The women used their skills at spinning, weaving, embroidering, baking shewbread, making candles, etc. The men cut and carved wood, molded the gold, silver, and brass, cut and set stones, etc.
  - 7. In writing, Moses emphasizes the careful adherence Israel made to God's instructions on building and furnishing the tabernacle. Their obedience to every detail was critical.
  - 8. One cubit was about 18 inches from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger. Each Curtain of the tabernacle was 12 x 6 feet with 50 blue loops across the top and down one side. On the other side were 50 clasps to hold the curtains together. The Coverings over the tabernacle were made of goats' hair: eleven 45 x 6 feet curtains fastened together by 50 loops and clasps, similar to the tapestry curtains. The covering over the tent was of ram's skin dyed red and sealskins over that to protect against bad weather.
  - 9. The <u>Framework</u> was of shittim (acacia) wood covered with gold, 300 x 90 feet, fitting into silver sockets. The <u>Vail</u> was made of the best blue, purple, and scarlet linen with cherubims embroidered into it. It hung on four pillars with gold hooks and silver sockets

- between the Holy Place and the most Holy Place. The tabernacle door covering was of the same royal colored linen.
- 10. The Ark Of The Covenant was a chest of shittim wood covered with gold, 3 3/4 x 2 1/4 x 2 1/4 feet. The top or mercy seat was of pure gold with two cherubims facing one another. It contained the stone tablets with the ten commandments, a pot of manna, and Aaron's rod. The Table Of Shewbread, also of shittim wood overlaid with gold, measured 3 x 1 1/2 x 2 1/4 feet. The serving dishes on it were made of pure gold. Twelve new loaves of shewbread were placed upon it each Sabbath, one per tribe. The old bread was eaten by the priests.
- 11. The <u>Candlestick</u> was of pure gold with six branches off the center lamp, all carved as almond flowers. The <u>Incense Altar</u>, also made of shittim wood covered with gold was 3 x 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 feet. Incense was burned upon it every morning and every evening at prayer time. It had four horns on it and gold rings to slide gold covered staves (poles) into for carrying. God even prescribed a specific recipe for the incense and anointing oil.
- 12. The <u>Altar Of Burnt Offerings</u> was framed of shittim wood overlaid with brass. It also had four horns on its corners. It measured 7 1/2 x 7 1/2 x 4 1/2 feet. There was a brass grate on which the priests were to stand. All the necessary pots and utensils were made of brass. Animal sacrifices were offered on it. The fire upon it burned continuously.
- 13. The <u>Laver</u> was a large brass footed bowl for the priests to wash their hands and feet before entering the Holy Place. The bronze came from the polished metal mirrors donated by the women. What once reflected their faces now reminded them of the need for spiritual cleansing that they might reflect God's glory.
- 14. The <u>Court</u> was a curtained fence of fine linen around the tabernacle measuring 150 x 75 x 7 1/2 feet. The door hanging was embroidered with blue, purple, and scarlet. Its hooks were of silver; its sockets were of brass. Standing in the court was the laver and altar of burnt offerings.
- 15. The total sum of gold used in the construction of the tabernacle and its furnishings was 29 talents, 730 shekels or about 40,940 ounces troy weight. The silver used was atonement money amounting to 100 talents, 1,775 shekels or about 140,828 ounces troy. (Exodus 30:13,14) The bronze used weighed about 3 tons. [In 1996, current market value of 1 ounce of gold was \$3.68; 1 ounce of silver was \$4.76.]
- 16. The Jewish talent contained 3,000 shekels or about 114 lbs. In New Testament times, the Roman talent was 6,000 denarii or drachmas. The "talent" denoted a "weighed exchange." It was significant that the tabernacle rested upon and curtains hung upon the silver contributed by every man of Israel twenty years old or more. (603,550 men)
- 17. The <u>Holy Garments</u> for the priests were also constructed exactly according to God's detailed specifications. The <u>Ephod</u> was of fine embroidered linen of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet. The workmen beat and cut gold into fine wire to embroider. The <u>Girdle</u> (belt) matched the ephod perfectly. Onyx stones with the names of the twelve tribes engraved upon them were crafted in gold settings and attached to the ephod at the shoulders. The <u>Breastplate</u> had the same embroidered work as the ephod. Twelve precious stones crafted in gold settings were engraved and attached, representative of the twelve tribes of Israel. The breastplate was attached by gold chains. The <u>Robe</u> was of blue linen with alternating gold bells and pomegranates of blue, purple, and scarlet. The <u>Coat</u> and <u>Mitre</u> (turban) were both of fine linen. Blue lace fastened a golden plate

OT-Lesson 32 Exodus 35-40

(emblem) to the mitre with "Holiness To The Lord" engraved on it. Aaron and his sons were the chosen priesthood.

- 18. All their finished work was presented to Moses for inspection. Moses checked each item to the last detail, and it was all done exactly as God had commanded.
- 19. God now commanded Moses to erect the tabernacle and put all its furnishings in place on the first day of the first month of the second year since their "exodus" (leaving) from Egypt. He was to prepare for service in the tabernacle its furnishings, the priests and their holy garments by anointing each with the anointing oil. Once everything was in place and anointed (sanctified), God's presence descended in a cloud covering and filling the tabernacle.
- 20. When the cloud was raised over the tabernacle, the Israelites traveled on to the promised land. When it descended upon the tabernacle, they camped. God led them by cloud in the daytime and by fire at night.
- 21. To receive God's blessings, we must be obedient to all His commands and faithful to Him.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

tabernacle model

"blueprint" building plans

examples of materials donated - gold, silver, brass, skins, wood, oil, spices, incense, precious stones, linen

18" measure

toy tools - tape measure, level

tapestry - blue, purple, and scarlet

model furnishings (be creative!)

12 "loaves" - biscuits, crackers

incense - many children don't know what it smells like

model or picture of the holy garments

"inspection list"

anointing oil - oil and spice mixture

cotton/batting - cloud over tabernacle model

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video
- Puppets/Dolls

### Songs:

- 12 Sons Had Jacob
- A Helper I Will Be
- Because It Pleases God
- Cheerfully Obey
- Come Bless The Lord
- Give Me Oil In My Lamp

- God Is A Rock & His Ways Are Perfect
- God Needs Helpers
- Great Is The Lord
- He's My King
- I Want To Be A Worker
- I Will Listen To God's Word

- Isn't It Grand To Be A Christian
- Lord My Desire
- Make Me A Servant
- Moses

- My Helping Hands
- Psalms 19 Law Of Lord Is Perfect
- To The Work
- You Can Build A Bridge

#### Activities:

• Compare:

# Old Testament Worship vs. New Testament Worship

- † Animal sacrifices.
- † Aaron and his sons were high priest and priests for the people.
- † The tabernacle was the place where God wanted His people to worship Him.
- † Christ was sacrificed at Calvary doing away with animal sacrifice.
- † Christ is our high priest. We may represent ourselves to God through Christ.
- † We can worship God anywhere. Today, it is <u>how</u> we worship, not where.
- † Under both laws, God wants His people to be cheerful/willing givers.
- Application story/activity on sharing/giving, worship/God's house, obedience
- Draw a picture or diagram of the tabernacle. Label parts and furnishings
- Play act this story let students dress up, act out the work that went into building the tabernacle (building, carving, melting, beating, molding the metal, sewing the holy garments, curtains, etc.)
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. God required the Israelites to follow His instructions to the smallest detail. How might that apply to us under the New Testament law?
- 2. Why could the Israelites not do any work on the Sabbath? Does that apply to us today?
- 3. What kind of "givers" were the Israelites? How does your giving compare to theirs?
- 4. How does worship under the Mosaical law compare to our worship today?
- 5. What materials did they donate for the tabernacle and holy garments? What skills did they donate?
- 6. Who was in charge of supervising this enormous project? Who gave final approval?
- 7. Would it have mattered if they cut some item an inch or two short? Explain.
- 8. Describe the layout of the tabernacle and its furnishings.
- 9. Describe the holy garments of the priests and high priest.
- 10. When was the tabernacle completely erected? How/why was it sanctified? Was God pleased?

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# Old Testament Lesson 33: Review Genesis, Exodus

Goals:	Student will:
	• review the material previously covered from the
	books of Genesis and Exodus.

		l				
*** <b>V</b>	Vith younger students	s, you may give an <u>or</u>	r <u>al</u> quiz as a group using previo	ous visual aids. ***		
1.	There are bo	ooks in the Bible;	in the Old Testament,	_ in the New		
	Testament.					
2.	Genesis 1:1 "In the	e beginning cr	reated the and the	·"		
3.	What did God crea	What did God create on each day: Genesis 1,2 (match)				
	first day		God rested			
	second day		sun, moon, stars			
	third day		light			
	fourth day		beasts, cattle, mar	1		
	fifth day		firmament			
	sixth day		dry land, vegetation	on		
	seventh day		fish, fowl			
4.	The first man creat 2,3	ed was named	. The first woman was named	Genesis		
5.	Who deceived Eve	? What was the puni	shment for Adam and Eve's sin	n? Genesis 3		
6.	Genesis 4:9 "And	the Lord said unto Ca	ain, Where is Abel thy?	And he said, I		
	know: Am I	my?"				
7.	Why did Cain kill l	nis brother? Genesis	4			
8.	Who was the oldes	t man to ever live? C	Genesis 5			
	a) Mehalaleel	b) Enoch	c) Methuselah			
9.			t of wood. Because the			
	, God destro	yed it with a great	that lasted days and	l nights. Noah took		
			and When the flood wa			
			troy the earth with a flood again	in. Genesis 6		
10.			ated by God? Genesis 11			
11.	<u> </u>		e with Abram? Genesis 12			
12.	•	_	ve together? What area did Lor	t choose? What		
		ft with? Genesis 13				
13.			The writer of Hebrews	draws a parallel		
			esis 14, Hebrews 5-7			
14.		he believed in the L	ord; and He counted it to him	tor''		
15.	Define "faith."			D . 1		
16.			len, His name was			
			was, the child of promis	e was born. His		
17	name was		1	1.0		
17.			pon and upon bri	mstone and fire		
	from the Lord out of	or neaven."				

Review: Genesis & Exodus

18.	What happened to Lot's wife? Why? Genesis 19
	a) She turned to a pillow of salt because she disobeyed her husband.
	b) She turned to a pillow of salt because she disobeyed God.
	c) She turned to a pillar of sugar because she looked back at the city.
	d) She turned to a pillar of salt because she disobeyed God.
19.	What was the great test of Abraham's faith? How did Abraham respond? Genesis 22
20.	Abraham buried Sarah in the of He sent his trusted servant to the city of
	in to find a wife for Isaac at's house. Gen. 23, 24
21.	Genesis 24:67 "And Isaac brought her into his mother,'s tent, and took,
	and she became his wife; and he her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's
	death."
22.	Genesis 25:1 "Then again Abraham took a wife and her name was"
23.	Rebekah had twins. Isaac favored and Rebekah favored How did one
	deceive the other? Genesis 25
24.	Who saw a ladder that reached to heaven with angels on it? Genesis 28
	a) Adam b) Noah c) Abraham d) Jacob
25.	Genesis 29:18 "And loved; and said, I will serve thee seven years for
	thy younger daughter."
26.	Jacob was blessed with 2 wives, 2 concubines, and 13 children. Find them all: Genesis 29,30,34
	47,3U,3T

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

Review: Genesis & Exodus

<ul> <li>27. Genesis 37:3, 4 "Now loved more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a of many And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they him and could not speak peaceably unto him."</li> <li>28. Genesis 35:10 "And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but shall be thy name: and He called His name"</li> <li>29. What were Joseph's 2 dreams? How did he interpret them? Genesis 37</li> <li>30. At Dothan, what do Joseph's brothers do to him? Genesis 37</li> <li>31. Which of Jacob's sons was heir to the Messianic line?</li> <li>32. Joseph interprets dreams for what 3 people? Genesis 40,41 (circle 3) <ul> <li>a) his father</li> <li>b) his brother, Benjamin</li> <li>c) Potiphar</li> <li>d) the baker</li> <li>e) the butcher</li> <li>f) the candlestick maker</li> <li>g) Pharaoh</li> </ul> </li> <li>33. Joseph's brothers came to to buy The famine Joseph predicted lasted years. Joseph accused his brothers of being Joseph held in prison until his brothers returned with They were for what they had done to Joseph. Genesis 42</li> <li>34 was very hesitant to go to Egypt. But when he arrived with his sons, Joseph presented them to who graciously gave them the land of to settle and live. Genesis 47</li> <li>35. A generation later, how did the new Pharaoh treat the Israelites? What did Pharaoh command the midwives to do? Did they obey Pharaoh? Exodus 1</li> <li>36. Moses' parents were and His older brother was and older sister was Exodus 6,15</li> <li>37. Exodus 2:10 "And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's, and he became her And she called his name; and she said, Because I drew him out of the"</li> <li>38. After killing an Egyptian taskmaster, Moses fled to and lived with who gave his daughter, to be Moses' wife. Exodus 2</li> &lt;</ul>						
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Review: Genesis & Exodus

43. God inflicted 10 plagues upon Egypt when Pharaoh refused to let His people leave: Exodus 7-12

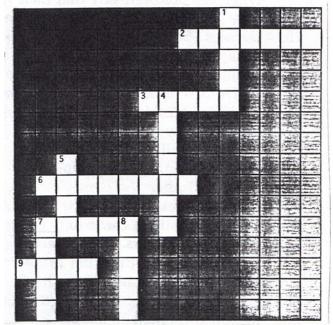
## ACROSS:

- 2) The 5th plague was very grievous \_\_\_\_ of the cattle, oxen, sheep, & camels.
- 3) The 4th plague was grievous swarms of \_\_\_\_.
- 6) The 9th plague was \_\_\_ over the land which could be felt.
- 7) The 1st plague was when the waters in the river turned to \_\_\_\_.
- 9) The 3rd plague was when the dust of the land became \_\_\_\_.

#### DOWN:

- 1) The 2nd plague was \_\_\_\_ over all the land, even in their beds.
- 4) The 8th plague was \_\_\_\_ that covered the face of the earth.
- 5) The 7th plague was grievous \_\_\_ in Egypt as never before.
- 7) The 6th plague was ashes of the furnace sprinkled toward heaven which became \_\_\_ upon the people's bodies.
- 8) The 10th plague was \_\_\_\_ of the firstborn.

got tired. Exodus 17



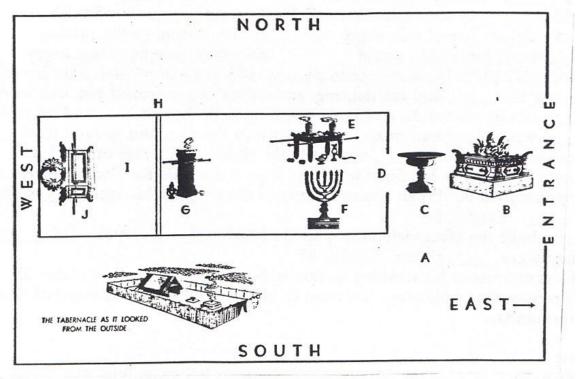
44.	Explain "Passover." Exodus 12
45.	Define "Exodus."
46.	Exodus 13:21 "And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a, to lead
	them the way; and by night in a pillar of, to give them light; to go by day or
	,,
47.	How did God put an end to Israel's fear of Pharaoh and the Egyptians? Exodus 14
48.	Exodus 16:35 "And the children of Israel did eat manna years, until they came
	unto the borders of the land of"
49.	The day was sanctified by God as a holy day of rest and worship. Today, God has
	sanctified as the Lord's day. Exodus 16, Acts 20
50.	God enabled Israel to defeat when Moses raised his hands toward heaven
	was chosen to lead Israel in battle while and held Moses' hands up when he

Review: Genesis & Exodus

51.List the 10 commandments: Exodus 20

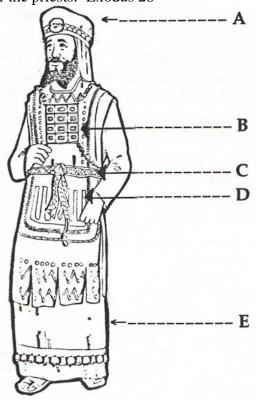
52. Where does God give Moses the 10 Commandments? Exodus 19

53. Label the parts of the tabernacle and its furnishings: Exodus 25-27



Review: Genesis & Exodus

54. Label the holy garments of the priests: Exodus 28



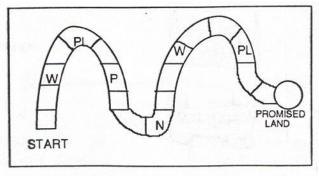
55.	Moses was on Mt. Sinai a long time while God wrote His commandments with His
	to build them a golden to
	worship. God and Moses were Exodus 32
	a) finger, Aaron, calf, angry c) toe, Aaron, goose, pleased
	b) stick, Jacob, calf, absent d) pencil, Joseph, sheep, angry
56.	Exodus 32:19,20 "And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he say
	the, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the out of his
	hands, and brake them beneath the mount. And he took the which they had made,
	and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to, and strawed it upon the, and made
	the children of Israel drink of it."
57.	Moses returned to Mt. Sinai for days and nights for God to rewrite the ten
	commandments. When Moses returned to the people his face, so he wore a
	Exodus 34
58.	Israel built the tabernacle exactly as God had Everyone had to do. They
	were givers. Exodus 35
59.	The consequence for working on the Sabbath day was Exodus 35
60.	To receive God's blessings, we must be obedient to (all, most, some) of God's commands.

Review: Genesis & Exodus

#### Activities:

• "Tell-A-Fact" is a review activity where students tell something they know about several different things they have studied. Points or "prizes" may be used per student or team. Use visual aids, pictures, words, or names. Example subjects: Adam, ark, Babel, Abram, tribes, coat of many colors

- Age-appropriate handwork
- Use word or phrase flash cards to complete memory verses in order.
- Use labeling or matching activities. Examples: what was created on which day; Bible husbands/wives; parents/children; Bible divisions; plagues; tabernacle/furnishings; holy garments
- Make a game board and spinner from posterboard. Make sets of cards with questions about 4 categories: **People**, **PL**aces, **W**ords to know, and **N**umbers. As players move the number of spaces on the spinner, they pick a question to answer according to the space they land on. If a player answers correctly, he moves on. The 1st player to reach the "Promised Land" is the winner. Example:



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Review: Genesis & Exodus

#### Answers:

- 1. 66; 39; 27
- 2. God; heavens; earth
- 3. 1st = light; 2nd = firmament; 3rd = dry land, vegetation; 4th = sun, moon, stars; 5th = fish, fowl; 6th = beast, cattle, man; 7th = God rested
- 4. Adam; Eve
- 5. the devil in the form of a serpent; they were driven out of the garden of Eden
- 6. brother; not; brother's keeper
- 7. envy (jealousy, revenge)
- 8. c) Methuselah
- 9. Noah; gopher; wicked; flood; 40; female; rainbow
- 10. the building of the tower of Babel
- 11. God would make of him a great nation
- 12. the crowded conditions of their flocks and cattle and the quarreling of their herdsmen; the valley of Jordan near Sodom and Gomorrah; Canaan
- 13. king; high priest; Christ
- 14. righteousness
- 15. believing what we cannot see
- 16. Hagar; Ishmael; 100; 90; Isaac
- 17. Sodom; Gomorrah
- 18. d) She turned to a pillar of salt because she disobeyed God
- 19. offering his son Isaac; he obeyed God's command without question
- 20. Cave of Machpelah; Nahor; Mesopotamia; Laban's
- 21. Sarah's; Rebekah; loved
- 22. Keturah
- 23. Esau; Jacob; Jacob tricked Esau out of his birthright and blessing
- 24. d) Jacob
- 25. Jacob; Rachel; Rachel
- 26. Leah; Rachel; Bilhah; Zilpah; Reuben; Simeon; Levi; Judah; Issachar; Zebulun; Dan; Naphtali; Gad; Asher; Joseph; Benjamin; Dinah
- 27. Jacob; Joseph; coat; colors; hated
- 28. Israel; Israel
- 29. sheaves in the field bowing to him; stars and moon bowing to him; his brothers would some day bow down to him
- 30. put him in a dry well or pit and later sell him to Ishmaelite merchants
- 31. Judah
- 32. d) baker; e) butcher; g) Pharaoh
- 33. Egypt; corn; 7; spies; Simeon; Benjamin; sorry
- 34. Jacob; Pharaoh; Goshen
- 35. cruelly (as slaves), the Egyptians feared the Israelites' great numbers and thought they might overtake them; kill all the boy babies; no
- 36. Amram; Jochebed; Aaron; Miriam
- 37. daughter; son; Moses; water
- 38. Midian; Jethro (Reuel); Zipporah
- 39. shoes; holy ground
- 40. burning bush; reluctant; Aaron

Review: Genesis & Exodus

- 41. b) serpent (snake)
- 42. Pharaoh; go
- 43. across: 2=murrain; 3=flies; 6=darkness; 7=blood; 9=lice; down: 1=frogs; 4=locusts; 5=hail; 7= boils; 8=death
- 44. became one of 3 Jewish feasts observed once a year. At its institution, a perfect lamb was sacrificed and its blood sprinkled over the door post (lentel) to protect the firstborn from death.
- 45. departure; going out; exit
- 46. cloud; fire; night
- 47. drowned them in the Red Sea as they pursued Israel
- 48. 40; Canaan
- 49. Sabbath; Sunday (first day)
- 50. Amelek; Joshua; Aaron and Hur
- 51. Thou shalt have no other gods before me

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven images

Thou shalt not take the Lord's name in vain

Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy

Honor thy father and mother

Thou shalt not kill

Thou shalt not commit adultery

Thou shalt not steal

Thou shalt not bear false witness

Thou shalt not covet

- 52. Mount Sinai
- 53. A=court; B=altar of burnt offerings; C=laver; D=holy place; E=table of shewbread; F=candlestick; G=altar of incense; H=vail; I=holy of holies (most holy place); J=ark of the covenant
- 54. A=headdress (mitre); B=breastplate; C=girdle (belt); D=ephod; E=robe
- 55. a) finger, Aaron, calf, angry
- 56. calf; tables (tablets); calf; powder; water
- 57. 40; glowed; vail
- 58. commanded; something (work); generous
- 59. death
- 60. all

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# Old Testament Lesson 34: Acceptably Approaching God Nadab And Abihu Leviticus 1-16

Memory Verses:	Leviticus 10:1, 2	And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He commanded them not.  And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord.
	Romans 12:1	I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
	Hebrews 10:12	But this man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;
	I Peter 2:9, 10	But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light:
		Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• we must approach God in a reverent and holy manner, always		
	showing Him proper respect.		
	• we must follow God's commands <u>exactly</u> as He has specified.		

# Outline:

<b>1.</b> .	Laws	ot	sacri	fice.
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A.	Burnt offerings.	Leviticus 1
B.	Meal (meat) offerings.	2
C.	Peace offerings.	3
D.	Sin offerings.	4
E.	Trespass offerings.	5

# II. Priestly system.

A. Aaron and his sons appointed. Leviticus 8

Leviticus 1-16

B. Aaron offers sacrifices.C. Nadab and Abihu offend God.910

III. Laws of purity.

A. Clean/unclean meats.

B. Childbirth.

C. Leprosy.

Leviticus 11

12

13, 14

IV. Day of atonement. Leviticus 16

# Facts:

1. "Leviticus" means "pertaining to the Levites." This book deals with sacrifices, the priesthood and their tasks, Israel's holy celebrations, and a continuation of laws given to govern God's people as they sought to approach Him in worship. These laws were given to Israel while still at Mt. Sinai. Moses, God's chosen recorder of the law, is its author.

- 2. Leviticus points forward to the coming of Jesus Christ, one "perfect sacrifice" and high priest, the redeemer of mankind. Israel was to remain set apart from other nations to maintain their purity and commitment to God. It was important that they recognize sin and the need for and method of atonement. (Romans 6:23, John 1:29, Hebrews 10) Their sacrifices could not take away their sins but rolled them forward until Christ could atone for them. The book of Hebrews elaborates on this groundwork and the necessity of Christ's coming.
- 3. Leviticus centers around the holiness of a perfect God and how unholy/imperfect people can acceptably approach Him and remain in fellowship. The way to God is only through blood sacrifice, and continued fellowship with God is only through obedience to Him.
- 4. The Levites were one of the twelve tribes, set apart for the work and worship of God. They were supported by tithes of the Israelites. Of the tribe of Levi, Aaron and his four sons were selected to be high priest and priests of the tabernacle. Other Levites were assistants to them: teachers, scribes, judges, and caretakers of the tabernacle. This honor was passed from one generation to the next.
- 5. <u>Burnt offerings</u> were to be offered solely by the priests in holy attire daily, at sunrise and sunset. A male bull, ram, goat, dove, or pigeon was offered (depending on economic ability). Neither the offerer nor the offering could be blemished or defiled. The animal was killed on the northern side of the altar. It was bled, skinned, and divided at its joints. (II Chronicles 29:35) It was completely burned, signifying a complete surrender/self dedication to God. This smelled good to God, and it pleased Him.
- 6. Meal (meat) offerings were offered to God as a "gift or present" or as a "tribute or memorial." It was either a meat or grain offering. (Genesis 4) Grain offerings were of fine grain, flour, or baked cakes without honey or leaven. (Leaven and honey are subject to fermentation. Leaven also was associated with corruption.) The flour or grain was mixed with oil, frankincense, and salt. (Salt was a precious commodity in ancient times.) A handful was sacrificed, and the rest was given to the priests to be eaten in the court area. The meat offered was completely burned. These offerings signified a person's labor (first fruits) should be dedicated to God.
- 7. <u>Peace offerings</u> were made as an act of thanksgiving or as a result of a vow or voluntary offering, usually on a joyous occasion. It signified the serenity or completeness found

only in serving God and developing a close relationship with Him. The person making the peace offering joined the officiating priest in eating the sacrificial meal that remained. The fat of a cow, sheep, or goat was burned. It could be male or female, but without blemish (only the best for God). It was supplemented with three types of cakes to be eaten the day of the sacrifice.

8. <u>Sin offerings</u> were offered to remove impurity for those who had sinned through ignorance or unintentionally. Different offerings were required for different sins. The fat was burned; sometimes, the meat was eaten by the priests. The skin of the offering was retained by the officiating priest. The carcass of all offerings was taken outside the camp to be burned. (Hebrews 13:10-13) The sin offering signified the acknowledgment of sin/guilt before God and the need for His help.

If a <u>priest</u> sinned: he brought guilt on his tribe and had to offer a young bull. Its blood was sprinkled before the vail in the tabernacle and upon the horns of the altar.

If a <u>ruler</u> sinned: (one responsible for a godly walk before his people) a male goat was offered

If a <u>common person</u> sinned: a female goat or lamb was offered.

Three instances a sin offering was required:

- ♦ A person withheld information about a crime.
- ♦ Someone accidently touched something unclean or defiled themselves.
- ♦ Someone made a rash oath or vow (swears).
- 9. A <u>trespass offering</u> was similar to a sin offering. It was for guilt felt after having wronged another. It generally dealt with damage to another's property by fraud or violence. It signified the need for restitution for sin and pointed forward to the sacrifice of God's son. (Hebrews 10) The offering again was determined by economic ability. It could be a bull, ox, goat, ram, turtledoves, or pigeons. (Exodus 22:7,8)
- 10. God had Moses assemble the Israelites at the door of the tabernacle as he consecrated (dedicated for God's holy service) Aaron and his sons. He washed them, had them put on the holy garments, then with holy oil he anointed the tabernacle, its furnishings, Aaron and his sons. The oil was symbolic of a bond with God's spirit and His power. (Exodus 28, 29) A bull was sacrificed as a sin offering and a ram as a burnt offering.
- 11. Another ram was offered as a peace offering. Blood from the ram was put on the priest's right ear that he would listen to God's words, his right hand that he would perform God's tasks, and his right foot that he would go quickly about the Lord's errands. These rituals were repeated for seven days without anyone leaving the tabernacle.
- 12. On the eighth day, Aaron made sacrifices for himself and the people. Moses and Aaron entered the tabernacle. Aaron made atonement for himself and the people before God in the Holy of Holies. As they returned to the people, God sent down fire upon the altar consuming the burnt offering. The Israelites in fear, wonder, and humility, showed God respect by lying prostrate on the ground.
- 13. Nadab and Abihu, Aaron's oldest sons, began to make sacrifices to the Lord, but did not do as God had commanded; they used "strange fire." Whatever their motive, God was not pleased and saw them worthy of death. He consumed them with fire. Their improper offering detracted from glory to God.
- 14. The normal expressions of mourning/grieving were denied Aaron and his remaining two sons lest it appear they were dissatisfied with God's judgment. Instead, Moses told them

- to stay secluded in the tabernacle while Aaron's cousins, Mishael and Elzaphan, handled the burials. They did as Moses said.
- 15. The Lord forbade the priests to cloud their minds by drinking wine or strong drink while serving Him. Moses reviewed God's laws concerning the eating of sacrifices. Animal fat and blood were never to be eaten. Aaron burned the portion of the sin offering that day which should have been eaten by the priests. When Moses asked why, Aaron explained, in light of the judgment suffered by Nadab and Abihu, he was not sure he and his other sons were worthy to eat the designated portion so he offered it all to God.
- 16. God labeled certain animals as clean or unclean for eating or touching. This helped to preserve Israel's physical health as well as set them apart as a nation distinct from her idolatrous neighbors. Clean animals had: parted hooves and chewed the cud, were fish with fins and scales, or were winged insects that crawled on four legs. Examples:

Clean: cow/bull, goat, lamb/ram, trout, locust, salmon, grasshopper, cricket, beetle Unclean: camel, hare(rabbit), pigs, eagle, raven, coney(rockbadger), vulture, mole, owl, pelican, chicken, bat, mouse, cat, dog, ferret, lizard, snail, shellfish, eel, swan, tortoise, snake, weasel

- 17. Contact with these animals required you to wash your clothes and be considered unclean until evening. Any dishes or utensils of pottery touched by unclean animals had to be destroyed. Obedience to these laws of purity again, showed honor to God.
- 18. <u>Childbirth</u>: When a baby boy was born, the mother was considered ceremonially impure for seven days. On the eighth day, the baby was circumcised. For thirty-three more days, as she recovered, she could not touch anything sacred nor enter the tabernacle. If a baby girl was born, the mother was considered ceremonially impure for fourteen days. Then she was to bring a year old lamb as a burnt offering and a young pigeon or turtledove as a sin offering. One too poor to bring a lamb would bring two pigeons or two turtledoves with which the priest would make atonement for her.
- 19. <u>Leprosy</u>: When anyone noticed a swelling of their skin, scab, boil, burn, or pimple, leprosy was suspected. They went to the priest to be examined. If the hair in this spot turned white or it looked to be more than skin deep (ulcerated/infected), the priest declared them a leper. Otherwise, they were quarantined seven days. The priest examined them again; if it had not spread, they quarantined them seven more days and reexamined. If it was ulcerated or spreading, they were diagnosed a leper. If, again, there was any doubt, they were quarantined seven days and re-examined.
- 20. Anyone pronounced a leper had to tear their clothes, let their hair grow, cover their upper lip and call out "unclean, unclean." They were banished to live in exile outside of the camp or city. "Leprosy" could develop on man, on clothes, or in houses. On clothes and in houses, the priest looked for red or green streaks. Again, he might quarantine the items. If it spread, it was to be burned or destroyed and disposed of. If not, it could be washed and ceremonially cleansed.
- 21. Not all skin diseases were actually leprosy, and some declared lepers got better. They were to be re-examined by the priest outside the camp or city. If declared clean, there was a purification ceremony. The priest asked for two live birds, cedar wood, scarlet cloth or string, and a hyssop branch. One bird gave its life as a symbol of and in place of the leper. The other bird, cedar wood, scarlet string, and hyssop branch were dipped in its blood. The blood was sprinkled on the leper seven times, and he was declared clean.

He then would set the live bird free symbolizing his new found freedom to return to his people and the tabernacle. He washed himself and his clothes, shaved all his hair and remained in camp, but outside his tent for seven days. On the eighth day, he made a meal offering, a trespass offering, a wave offering, a burnt offering, and a sin offering for his atonement.

22. Day of Atonement: The high priest was the only one who was allowed by God into the Most Holy Place, and he was only allowed in one day a year, the Day of Atonement, the tenth day of the seventh Hebrew month (Tishri). In spite of all the sacrifices made during the year, there still remained sins and uncleanness to be atoned for. The high priest needed to dress in the holy garments and first offer a burnt offering and sin offering for his own cleansing and that of his family. He then entered the Most Holy Place with incense and a censer of hot coals to create a "cloud" of incense to cover the mercy seat. He was to sprinkle the blood of the bull and goat upon the mercy seat. He then repeated this procedure for the people of Israel. Of the two goats brought for the sin offerings, lots were cast and one was used for the sacrifice. The sins of Aaron or the people were confessed over the other goat and it was released to the wilderness (presumably to die) symbolically carrying their sins away. On the Day of Atonement, no one could do any work. They were to spend the entire day in self-examination and quiet humility. Atonement means cover. This atoning covered the sins of God's people until the perfect sacrifice was made at Calvary. (Hebrews 9, I John 1:9)

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

previously used visual for Mt. Sinai tabernacle model

assistants to the priests: teacher - glasses, chalk

judge - gavel

scribe - pen, paper, quill caretakers-dust cloth, broom

altar - box spray painted bronze, small table

peace/burnt offering - toy cow, sheep, goat, dove, pigeon

meal offering - flour, communion bread, oil, spice, salt

blood - water with red food coloring

trespass offering - "damaged property," something broken

fire - red/orange/yellow tissue paper, construction paper

clean/unclean animals - toy animals, clay figures, pictures, animal crackers, fish crackers

pretend washing machine (box), wash board, tub of water, doll clothes pottery dish and trash bag

doll baby - pink and blue hats, blankets, diaper, rattler

leprosy - doll or yourself - use makeup, white out, patch or bandaids, magnifying glass or toy doctor examining instrument, red and green streaks on a cloth/clothing 2 toy birds, red string, tree branch, small piece of wood, red water

incense - let children smell it

- Puppets/Dolls Moses, Aaron as high priest, Nadab & Abihu
- Flannelgraphs

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- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- 12 Sons Had Jacob
- Because It Pleases God
- Cheerfully Obey
- Come Bless The Lord
- · Glory To God
- God Is So Great
- Hallowed Be Thy Name
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- Let Us Sing The Books Of Moses

- Marvelous Grace Of Our Loving Lord
- Moses
- Praise Ye The Lord
- Redeemed
- Surely Goodness
- The 10 Commandments
- The Crayon Song
- To God Be The Glory
- Unto Thee O Lord

#### Activities:

- Separate "clean" and "unclean" animals. Use a glove, tongs, or tweezers to separate the unclean from the clean. Use toy animals, animal crackers, or animal cut outs or pictures.
- *Name That Person, Place, Or Thing*: With younger students, you may want to use pictures or visuals to reinforce who, what, and where questions from the lesson. With older students give a hint or description of people, places, and things from the lesson. They may be as brief or detailed as necessary for them to guess.
- *Concentration*: (for younger students) Match pictures of tabernacle furnishings, clean and unclean animals, items of holy attire for the priest, etc.
- Application stories/activities on reverence and respect in worship.
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How can we show reverence and respect to God in our worship?
- 2. How do we show disrespect to God in worship? How do you think God feels when we do these things?
- 3. Which commands of God do we have to follow to the letter and which ones can we overlook/minimize?
- 4. Name five types of offerings/sacrifices and their significance.
- 5. What five men were originally appointed as priests?
- 6. Who offended God? How? What did God do?
- 7. Name as many clean and unclean animals as you can. What was God's command concerning unclean animals? Why were some animals considered unclean? Are they unclean for us today?
- 8. How was it determined if someone had leprosy? If diagnosed a leper, what became of that person?
- 9. What three things could develop leprosy?
- 10. What was the Day of Atonement? When was it?

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# Old Testament Lesson 35: The Makings Of A Holy Nation Leviticus 17-27

Memory Verses:	Leviticus 19:18	Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: I am the Lord.
	Leviticus 20:9	For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood shall be upon him.
	Leviticus 20:26	And ye shall be holy unto Me: for I the Lord am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be Mine.
	Leviticus 22:32, 33	Neither shall ye profane My holy name; but I will be hallowed among the children of Israel: I am the Lord which hallow you,
		That brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the Lord.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• God wants His people to be special - different from those of the	
	world. His judgments are conditional to our obedience.	
	• if we obey His commands, He will bless us. If we ignore His	
	commands, He will punish us.	

## Outline:

1.	Lav	ws for a holy people.	
	A.	Concerning food.	Leviticus 17
	В.	Concerning marriage.	18
	C.	Concerning society.	19
	D.	Punishment for disobeying.	20
II.	Lav	ws for a holy priesthood.	
	A.	Prohibited practices.	Leviticus 21
	B.	Prohibited sacrifices.	22
III.	Lav	ws for holy worship.	
	A.	Holy feasts to the Lord.	Leviticus 23
	B.	Elements of worship.	24

IV. Laws for a holy land.

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Leviticus 17-27

A. The sabbatical year. Leviticus 25
B. The year of jubilee. 26

V. Final words.

A. Results of obedience and disobedience. Leviticus 26 B. Vows. 27

### Facts:

1. All animals suitable for sacrifice (ox, lamb, goat) were to be brought to the priest and slaughtered at the door of the tabernacle so the blood and fat could be used as a peace offering to God. Slaughtering in an open field was prohibited, for this was common of (devil) heathen worshippers. To disobey was to be guilty of "having shed blood wrongly" (murder), and they were "cut off" (rooted out, destroyed) whether Israelite or Proselyte. Exodus 31:14 implies the death sentence.

- 2. No one, whether Israelite or Proselyte, was to eat blood in any form or they too would be "cut off" by God. Blood is the fluid which carries "life" through the body. Atonement for sins was made by offering the life of an animal as a substitute for one's own life. This included animals having died a natural death or having been killed by another animal, for the blood is retained making it unclean for eating.
- 3. God again reminded Israel they were a nation through which the Savior of all mankind would come. They must maintain moral purity and walk in the way God their leader had set for them. The immoral/idolatrous practices of those they had left in Egypt were forbidden.
- 4. It was forbidden for one to marry a blood (near) relative (father, mother, sister, brother, half-brother/sister, grandparent, grandchild, aunt, uncle, in-laws, step parents, step-children).
- 5. They were not to offer their children as sacrifices to the heathen god Molech. To do so would bring dishonor and an insult to Jehovah God. The penalty if they did was stoning.
- 6. Such sexual sins as adultery, homosexuality, and bestiality were strictly forbidden. Such vile and evil deeds were committed by heathen nations and angered God. The penalty was death.
- 7. Leviticus 19 is similar in many ways to Matthew 5-7's sermon on the mount or the ten commandments. God reminds Israel of several laws on holy living such as:

Respect your parents. To curse mother or father meant death.

Keep the Sabbath (Lord's) day holy.

Do not make or worship idols.

Allow some of your crops to remain in the field for the poor.

Do not steal, lie, cheat, or swear to something untrue.

Pay your hired workers on time.

Do not curse someone deaf or trip someone blind (ridicule).

Always be fair (rich or poor).

Don't gossip or falsely accuse someone.

Love your neighbor as yourself.

Don't hate, seek revenge, or bear a grudge.

Do not use fortune telling or witchcraft. That also was an insult to God and worthy of death.

Distinguish yourselves from the heathen by not trimming (rounding) your beard, making cuts on yourself, or using tattoos.

Give honor and respect to the elderly.

Do not take advantage of foreigners.

Be holy because you belong to God and He is holy.

- 8. Any outward signs of mourning or touching the dead disqualified a priest from his priestly duties, so he was denied this outward expression except for <u>immediate</u> family members. The <u>high priest</u> could not show mourning for even immediate family (father, mother, son, daughter, unmarried sister, brother). Clipping bald spots in their hair or beards was forbidden, for these were signs of mourning among heathen nations.
- 9. A woman widowed, defiled, or divorced was an unacceptable wife for a priest. He had to marry a Levite virgin. Any Levite with a bodily defect was disqualified as a priest (blind, lame, flat nose, disfigured face, broken foot or hand, humped back, dwarf, skin irritations).
- 10. The priests were not to defile the gifts (sacrifices) to be offered to God by handling them while unclean. He could not eat sacrificial food if unclean or defiled in any way. Only a person of the priest's household could eat of the sacrificial food, no visitors or hired servants (although a bought slave could). A daughter who married outside of the tribe of Levi was unauthorized to eat sacrificial meat.
- 11. An offering had to be a young male, eight days old or more, without <u>any</u> defect. It could not be blind, with a sore, disproportioned, or castrated. God continually reminded them not to take His commands lightly, but to follow them exactly as He had specified. They were also reminded to honor and revere Him in high esteem, for He is Jehovah God, the God that brought them out of Egypt and made them holy to be His chosen people.
- 12. God established seven annual religious feasts for His people. They were practically designed to bring the Israelites together for rest, worship, praise, and thanksgiving. They were prophetic in that they were a "shadow" of God's divine plan of redemption. (Colossians 2:17)
  - <u>Feast of Passover</u> was celebrated the latter part of March/first of April to commemorate the "passing over" of them in Egypt. This feast lasted one day. (Exodus 12)
  - <u>Feast of Unleavened Bread</u> immediately followed the Passover Feast for seven days. No work was allowed on the first and seventh day. Sacrifices were offered to the Lord each of the seven days. (Exodus 12, Numbers 28:19)
  - <u>Feast of First Fruits</u> This command looked forward to when the Israelites would raise crops in the promised land. They were to bring the first sheaf of grain harvested to the priest as an offering. He would wave it toward the altar then away. This denoted dedicating one's harvest to the Lord and receiving it back from the Lord. Next they offered a male yearling lamb, a grain offering (1/5 bushel fine flour with olive oil), and a drink offering (3 pints wine). They were to give God His portion of their harvest <u>before</u> they ate one bite themselves. This feast foreshadows Christ as the first fruits from the dead. (I Corinthians 15:20-23, Romans 8:29)
  - <u>Feast of Pentecost</u> (same as Feast of Weeks or Feast of Harvest) was observed fifty days after the Feast of First Fruits. Their offering was to be two loaves of bread made with leaven (yeast). This was the <u>only</u> offering to contain leaven. Along with the bread, a drink offering (wine), burnt offerings (seven yearling lambs, one

- young bull, two rams), a sin offering (one male goat), and a peace offering (two male yearling lambs) were made. No work was allowed on this day. All the year's harvest was blessed by God between the Feast of First Fruits and the harvest end with the Feast of Pentecost. (Fifty days after Christ's resurrection, the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles and the church was established at Pentecost.)
- <u>Feast of Trumpets</u> was on the first day of Israel's seventh month (Tishri); the day was set aside for worship and rest (September-October). No work was allowed. The observance started with the blowing of a trumpet or ram's horn. A burnt offering was required.
- <u>Day of Atonement</u> was nine days after the Feast of Trumpets; the people again came together to be saddened by their sins and confess them. Sacrifices for atonement were made. This was the only day the High Priest entered the Holy of Holies. This offering "covered" the sins of the people until the perfect sacrifice at Calvary (Christ) could be made. (The Jewish day went from sunset to sunset.)
- <u>Feast of Tabernacles</u> or ingatherings was five days later (September-October), fifteenth day of Israel's seventh month; the last feast of the year was observed for seven days. It commemorated Israel living in tents as they journeyed through the wilderness of Sinai after being liberated by God from Egyptian bondage. The people lived in booths outside their homes and listened to the reading of the law. There was a solemn assembly of the people on the first and eighth day. Burnt sacrifices were made each of the eight days. It was a joyful occasion, a time to "gather" together. No hard work was allowed. It remembered the most important period of their history the birth of the Hebrew nation and the result of God's direct intervention.
- 13. Pure olive oil was to be provided by the people to keep the candlestick in the tabernacle lit at all times. Every Sabbath they also provided twelve new loaves of unleavened bread to be lined up in two rows on the table of shewbread, sprinkled with frankincense as a memorial to God's covenant with Israel.
- 14. The son of an Egyptian, who had a Jewish mother, got into a fight with another Israelite and cursed God. For this he was brought before Moses for judgment. God told Moses to take him outside the camp. Anyone who had heard him curse God was to put their hands on his head, symbolically transferring the sin to the "scapegoat." Then he was to be stoned to death by the people. God's penalty for anyone cursing Him was death.
- 15. All murderers were to be killed themselves. If you accidently killed someone's animal, you must replace it. The penalty for injuring someone was to be injured in the same way an eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth. The principle of civil law was not condemned by Christ in Matthew 5:38 but the spirit of retaliation and revenge was.
- 16. The Sabbatical Year This was a whole year of meditation and rest. The land was allowed to rest and was not to be sown nor cultivated. Work ceased and the law was read. The sixth year produced twice as much to provide food for the seventh year. Any crops that did come up were available to anyone.
- 17. <u>The Year of Jubilee</u> Every fiftieth year on the Day of Atonement, trumpets sounded the beginning of Jubilee. It was a happy year of liberation. All Hebrew slaves were set free, all debts were cancelled, and family estates returned to their original owners or heirs. Because of this provision, every tribal and family record had to be kept quite accurately. These records help us trace the Messiah's descent. The land was not to be sown or

- cultivated. This celebrated time taught that all belongs to God. The land is His as well as the people; we are merely tenants and sharecroppers. (Isaiah 5:7-10, 61:1,2, Ezekiel 7:12, Ezekiel 46:16-18)
- 18. The year of Jubilee was a factor in every contract of sale. If near that time, land was worth a smaller price than if it was several years away. You were actually selling the predicted amount of crops the new owner might get from the land before it reverted back to the original owner.
- 19. A house in a walled city, if not redeemed in a year, became the buyer's property, not affected by Jubilee. A house outside a walled city did not apply to Jubilee. A Levite's land could not be sold, only his house. Loans made to someone in need could not include interest. A hired Hebrew was to be treated kindly. Slaves bought from foreign nations became permanent property and could be passed on to one's heirs.
- 20. God reaffirmed with Israel that if they followed all His commands they would have the best agricultural conditions, an abundance of crops, peace, happiness, and safety. They would have easy victory over foreign nations and many children. They would always be aware of His presence with them.
- 21. If they chose not to follow God's commands, the opposite would occur. God would punish them with disease, fear, loss of crops, and slavery to other nations. If they failed to repent, He would punish them seven times more severely.
- 22. If, however, they realized their sin and their hearts were humbled, if they confessed their sin in repentance and accepted the punishment God sent them for their sins, God would remember His covenant with Abraham, forgive them and be their God once more.
- 23. Vows were <u>not</u> required, but if they were made, they absolutely had to be kept. If one vowed himself to the Lord, he gave an amount to the priests according to his worth as a laborer. A person too poor could pay the amount decided by the priest. If an animal was vowed to God, it must be given. If the animal was not worthy of sacrifice, it was sold and the value given to the Lord. To redeem something vowed, one had to pay its value plus twenty percent.
- 24. A tenth of everything the Israelites grew or produced belonged to God. Every tenth animal of their herds and flocks belonged to God. The custom was to cause the animals to pass single file marking each tenth animal by a rod dipped in a coloring material. Trying to make any substitutions required you to give both animals. You cannot deceive God.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

tabernacle model, altar model - box with sticks, tissue paper "fire" toy animals - bull, lamb, goat blood - water with red food coloring, ketchup marriage - bouquet, veil, ring pillow, wedding bells centerpiece model of idol god mourning - handkerchief, tissues beard - cotton batting, fur-like material blind priest - patch over eye/broken foot/hand - cast or ace bandage humpback - pillow under clothing skin irritations - pimples, cuts, rash by makeup feasts - use same visuals as in Exodus 12 toy animals, altar

Leviticus 17-27

grain offering - wheat stalks, flour, grape juice
small loaves of bread, biscuits
rest - pillow, blanket
trumpet - horn, cone shaped from heavy paper
tent - sheet, child's indoor pup tent, triangled folded paper tent
olive oil, bread, frankincense (spice)
stoning - rocks, gravel
jubilee - examples of freedom - bill marked paid-in-full
abundance - artificial fruits, vegetables
victory - sword, helmet
punishment - thermometer (fever), toy doctor instruments, crops - shrivelled fruits,
slavery - paper chains, hunger - plate with 1 small item
shekels - pennies, play money

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video
- Puppets/Dolls

### Songs:

- 10 Commandments
- Because It Pleases God
- Cheerfully Obey
- God Is A Rock & His Ways Are Perfect
- God Is My Father
- He's My Rock My Sword My Shield
- Holy Holy Holy
- I Will Listen To God's Word

- Let Us Break Bread Together
- My God Is So Great
- My Helping Hands
- Nothing But The Blood
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Praise Him Praise Him
- Rejoice In The Lord Always
- Unto Thee O Lord

#### Activities:

• File Folder Activities:

"Israel"

"10 Commandments"

- Pick out laws of chapter 19 to illustrate. Examples: parents, worship on the Lord's day (model of church building), sharing with the poor (cookies), honesty, pay your workers (play money), trip the blind, kind deeds, witchcraft (crystal ball, wand, hat, spell book), tattoos (stamp or stick on)
- Create a Matching, Bible Tic Tac Toe, To Tell The Truth, or Jeopardy activity on Levitical offerings or sacred celebrations
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why does God give such specific laws?
- 2. What happens if we don't follow some of them?
- 3. Would God punish us like He did the Israelites? Why?

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4. What laws did God give Israel concerning the slaughter of animals, blood, marriage?

- 5. What laws does He repeat in the New Testament?
- 6. Name seven sacred feasts Israel was to observe each year. Why did God require these celebrations?
- 7. How does God feel about capital punishment?
- 8. Explain the Sabbatical year and the Year of Jubilee. What were their purpose?
- 9. If Israel followed God's commands what would happen? If Israel chose not to follow God's commands what would happen?
- 10. Which choice have you made? Why?

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## Old Testament Lesson 36: Israel's Roll Call Numbers 1-6

Memory Verses:	Numbers 1:46	Even all they that were numbered were six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty.
	Numbers 3:4	And Nadab and Abihu died before the Lord, when they offered strange fire before the Lord, in the wilderness of Sinai, and they had no children: and Eleazar and Ithamar ministered in the priest's office in the sight of Aaron their father.
	Numbers 6:24-26	The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:
		The Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:
		The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God was meticulous about Israel representing Him in an orderly
	fashion and being prepared for their upcoming journey. We are to
	come prepared ourselves when we serve and worship God and do so
	in an orderly, organized fashion.

### Outline:

I. Still at Sinai. Numbers 1

A. Introduction.

B. The first census.

II. The arrangement of the camp. Numbers 2

A. Tribal locations.

III. Levite responsibilities. Numbers 3

A. Aaron's sons.

B. Census of the Levites.

C. Census of the first born males.

IV. Duties of the Levite work force. Numbers 4

A. Aaron and his sons.

B. Kohathites, Gershonites, Mararites.

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Numbers 1-6

- More laws and instruction.

  A. Separating the unclean.
- B. Restitution for a trespass.
- C. A test for adultery.

VI. The Nazarite.

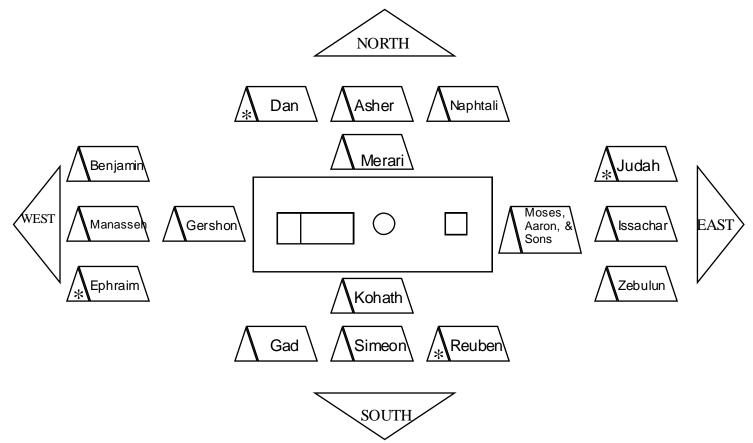
Numbers 6

Numbers 5

- A. Nazarite vow.
- B. The Lord's blessing.

#### Facts:

- 1. Moses is the author of Numbers. Numbers, in Hebrew, means "in the wilderness." In Greek, it means "two numberings." It is also called the "Book of March" and the "Roll Call." "Numbers" includes two number takings (census) and various laws and regulations, but primarily it is an important historical record of the experiences of Israel wandering in the wilderness for forty years.
- 2. God taught Israel to become organized with military precision, and He continued to prepare His nation for its work. Israel's lack of faith was responsible for their long period of wandering, but it taught them a valuable lesson in discipline. Moses gave us several examples of how one cannot distrust the Lord in times of crisis without suffering the consequences. God cared for their every need, yet so quickly they would forget His past goodness and murmur or rebel against Him.
- 3. Israel arrived at Mt. Sinai three months after leaving Egypt. For nine months they had camped at Mt Sinai, receiving the commandments of God and the instructions for building the tabernacle. Once built, God instructed them on how to worship Him, how to sacrifice and required priestly duties. Now, in nineteen days, the cloud would lift, the silver trumpet would sound and Israel would once again be on the move toward the promised land.
- 4. To prepare for their journey, they had to get organized. They faced a barren wilderness and tough enemy resistance. God told Moses to take a poll (census/count) of all the men twenty and older able to go to war and sort them by tribe (pedigree) and family (clan). A tribal leader (prince) was chosen for each tribe. (The record of the genealogies made it possible to trace the descent of the Messiah through Abraham, Judah, and David.)
- 5. The number of available fighting men was 603,550. The tribe of Levi was exempt from any military duty, for they had been assigned to the work and transport of the tabernacle. It is estimated the entire camp numbered two-three million people.
- 6. Each tribe had a specified camping spot and tribal banner or flag (standard). Each encampment (groups of three tribes) had its own banner as well. In order that the tabernacle might be kept pure from any sin or ceremonial contaminations and because of the fact that God's presence was in their midst (in the Holy of Holies), the Levites camped in the middle, directly around the court of the tabernacle. Moses and Aaron and his family guarded the entrance. The circumference of the camp arrangement measured about twelve miles.



- 7. When traveling, the eastern tribes led the way. The southern tribes followed. The Levites traveled in the middle with the tabernacle, followed by the western tribes. The northern tribes marched in the rear. Everyone stayed with their own tribe and family while traveling. One tribe in each encampment was given the leadership role, Judah, Reuben, Ephraim, and Dan. \*
- 8. Aaron and his sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar, were selected to perform the duties of the priesthood. Nadab and Abihu had died for using a strange fire, leaving Aaron only two sons to assist him. The other Levites assisted with maintenance and transporting the tabernacle.
- 9. The Levites were "substituted" for all the first born sons of Israel. (Since the first born children were "passed over," they, as well as one's first born animals and first fruits, were declared for God.)
- 10. Levi had three sons, Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. Gershon's clan (family) totaled 7,500. They camped on the west side of the tabernacle. Their responsibilities included: maintaining the tabernacle's tent, outer coverings, doorway coverings, the courtyard fence panels round the altar, and ropes for the tabernacle. Kohath's family totaled 8,600. They camped on the south side of the tabernacle. They cared for the ark, the table of shewbread, lampstand, altars, utensils, the vail, and any necessary repairs. Merari's family totaled 6,200. They camped on the north side. Their responsibilities included the care of the tabernacle's frames, posts (pillars), bases, sockets, hooks, pegs, ropes, and maintenance equipment. Anyone not a priest or Levite that came into the tabernacle was put to death.

12. Next, God had Aaron and Moses take a census of the Levite work force - those men between thirty and fifty. Kohath's family had 2,750; Gershon's family had 2,630; Merari's family had 3,200, a grand total of 8,580.

- 13. When it was time to move the camp, Aaron and his sons would go into the tabernacle first, taking down the Vail and covering the Ark of the Covenant with it.
- 14. After Aaron and his sons packed every item within the tabernacle, Kohath's family would carry these items as they traveled. They were forbidden to touch any of these holy items or peek at them or they would die. Aaron and his sons would tell each of them what to carry so they did not stare at the items and die as a result. Eleazar was responsible for supervising all the tasks inside the tabernacle and those tasks of Kohath's family.
- 15. The Gershon family was to carry all the curtains of the tabernacle, the tabernacle, its coverings, and the entrance curtains. They also carried the curtains for the courtyard fencing, the entrance curtain, ropes, and accessories. They answered directly to Ithamar.
- 16. God reiterated to Moses to preserve ceremonial purity. Those unclean due to a definite case of leprosy, a long sustained issue (having open sores), or one defiled by touching death and failing to be properly cleansed were to be cut off and put outside the camp. (Leviticus 13:15, Numbers 19) Anyone committing a trespass must make complete restitution plus one-fifth (twenty percent). Any sin against another is also against God. (Leviticus 5:16, 10:12-15)
- 17. If a woman was suspected of adultery by her husband, she was brought to the priest and made to stand before God, giving her oath of innocence. Then she would drink bitter curse-bringing water made from the dust of the tabernacle floor. If her body swelled and her thigh rotted, she was guilty, but if there were no telltale effects, she was declared innocent. (Illegitimate children were not allowed to become a burden or impurity in the camp. Deuteronomy 23:2)
- 18. God wanted His people to be a kingdom of priests, a holy nation. (Exodus 19:6) Any Israelite (man or woman) could take the "vow of a Nazarite," consecrating (separating) one's self to God, striving for a life similar to the standards of the High Priest. A Nazarite must abstain from wine or anything that came from the vine (juice, grapes, raisins). He could not cut his hair. He could not go near any dead body. At the conclusion of the time period of his vow, he was to offer a burnt offering (yearling lamb), a sin offering (yearling ewe), a peace offering (a ram), unleavened bread, grain, and drink offerings. His hair was then shaved and offered in the fire under the peace offering (symbolizing himself as a "living" sacrifice).
- 19. There may have been an additional free will offering above and beyond those required to demonstrate true distinction, above the ordinary. The vow of a Nazarite was never required, but once made it must be kept. Samson, Paul, and James, the elder at Jerusalem, all took Nazarite vows. (Hosea 3:1, I Samuel 25:18,36, Acts 18:18, 21:24)
- 20. God closes chapter 6 with a special blessing for His beloved Israel (6:24-26); a message much needed by a young nation facing the uncertainties and hostile forces of the wilderness. It reassured them of God's goodness and protection for his chosen ones, the happiness, health, peace and security found in God alone.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

census - class roll, list of names, telephone book

### Numbers 1-6

wanderings - camping gear, canteen, walking stick, shoes, back pack military - military hat, whistle, salute, march, helmet, sword Mt. Sinai - map, model model of Israel's encampment, tabernacle, tribal tents, flags example of a 12 mile circumference shekel - silver coins, dimes, nickels, play money blue cloth, red cloth, fur, leather piece poles - dowels, pencils, sticks sprayed gold; framing - tent, pegs, poles, rope curtains - cloth material, old curtains, sheets, tent, tablecloth example of restitution plus 1/5 - cookies, money, toy animals bitter water - water with dust/diet cola; Nazarite vow - grape juice, wig

- Puppets/Dolls/Pictures Levite, first born males, Kohath, Gershon, Merari, Samson, Paul, James
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- 12 Sons Of Jacob
- A Helper I Will Be
- Be Careful Little Eyes
- Bind Us Together Lord
- Father Abraham
- God's Family
- I Want To Be A Worker
- I Will Listen To God's Word

- Lord My Desire
- May The Lord Bless & Keep You Forever
- Seek Ye First
- The Lord Bless You & Keep You
- Till Every Tribe Shall Hear
- Tiptoe Tiptoe In God's House
- To The Work
- Unto Thee O Lord

#### Activities:

- "Organize" students by name, "tribe," gender, hair color, flags, etc. Use a bar graph to illustrate tribal numbers.
- Create together a model of Israel's encampment.
- Who Am I? Give a brief description of individuals/tribes/groups relative to today's lesson.
- Application story/activity on orderly worship, being a helper
- *Blessings in Disguise:* Have students list the ways God has blessed them and the ways He blessed Israel. Give a time limit, then share with the class.
- *Helping Hands*: Trace child's handprint. On the fingers, write ways that the child can be a helper.
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How should we come to worship? How should we act in worship? Why?
- 2. Why did God require Israel to be so organized?
- 3. What was the purpose of taking so many censuses?
- 4. Who was exempt from military duty? Why?

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5. What was the purpose of specified camping spots in Israel's encampment? Who camped

- 6. Name who had what Levitical duties. What was God's purpose in this?
- 7. Who were Levi's sons?
- 8. What was the test for a woman suspected of adultery? What was the test for a man suspected of adultery?
- 9. Explain the vow of a Nazarite. What was the value of such a vow?
- 10. How has the Lord blessed you? How has He been gracious toward you? How has He given you peace?

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## Old Testament Lesson 37: Israel Leaves Sinai Numbers 7-12

Memory Verses:	Numbers 11:1	And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and His anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the utter most parts of the camp.
	Psalms 105:39	He spread a cloud for a covering; and fire to give light in the night.
	John 19:36	For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of Him shall not be broken.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God's people are to separate themselves from the impurities of the
	world, for we belong to God.
	• God is displeased with our complaining, whining, and ingratitude.
	Instead we need to count our blessings.
	• not worshipping and honoring God at the appointed time shows
	contempt and dishonor toward God.

Numbers 9

### Outline:

I. Offerings of the tribal princes. Numbers 7

A. God speaks with Moses.

II. Dedication of the Levites. Numbers 8

A. Lampstand.

B. Dedication/retirement.

III. God's guidance.

A. Passover observed.

B. Time to go.

IV. Israel leaves Mt. Sinai Numbers 10

A. Trumpets sound.

B. The journey from Sinai to Paran.

V. Taberah. Numbers 11

A. Israel's ingratitude.

B. Moses feels overwhelmed.

C. Seventy elders.

D. Quail.

OT-Lesson 37 Numbers 7-12

VI. Miriam and Aaron criticize.

Numbers 12

A. Leprosy.

#### Facts:

- 1. The princes (chiefs) of each tribe brought gifts necessary for transporting the tabernacle. They gave six covered wagons and twelve oxen to Gershon and Merari. None were given to Kohath because they were forbidden to carry the most holy things on wagons; they must suspend them on poles and carry them on their shoulders. Each prince brought additional gifts for the dedication of the altar on one of twelve days.
- 2. The gifts were brought by the princes in their tribal marching order beginning with Nahshon, prince of Judah. Each brought the same gift.
- 3. God communicated with Moses by speaking to him from above the mercy seat of the ark of the covenant, between the two cherubims. (Exodus 25:22) He tells Aaron to set the candlestick so it would shed its light most effectively in the tabernacle. (John 8:12, Exodus 24:2, Exodus 25:31-40, Exodus 37:17-24, Exodus 40:24, 25)
- 4. To complete the dedication of the Levites as "substitutes" of the first born of Israel, God instructed them to be sprinkled with purifying water or "sin water." This water represented the cleansing of sin (as did the sin offering) and was made with the ashes of a red heifer. They were also to shave their entire bodies and wash their clothing and themselves. (The ceremonial cleansing foreshadowed Christ's spiritual cleansing of the church. Ephesians 5:25-27 It also involved the necessity of obedience to God's commands.)
- 5. Once clean, the Levites presented offerings of atonement and presented themselves before all of Israel at the tabernacle door. In some representative way or in actuality, the first born sons of Israel laid their hands on each Levite to convey the symbolism of substituting the Levites in dedicated service to God for themselves. The Levites would in turn lay their hands on the offerings of atonement they had brought to be sacrificed in their stead. The offerings were "waved" before God and returned to Aaron and the priests, again indicating the Levites belonged to the Lord, to minister as living sacrifices in the tabernacle.
- 6. Reflected here is the fact God demanded a separation of clean from unclean. God is holy and His people were to be holy, for they belong only to Him. Christ came to call men to holiness living a life distinctly different from those of the world. (Matthew 10:28-39, Mark 10:45, Ephesians 4:11) As the Levites were "substituted" for the first born of Israel, so Christ substituted himself for us as the only perfect atoning sacrifice acceptable to God giving us the opportunity of ceremonial purity upon obedience.
- 7. The Levites began serving in the tabernacle at age twenty-five and retired at fifty. (Although Numbers 4:35 says thirty years of age, there may well have been a five year apprenticeship. II Samuel 6:6,7) At fifty, a Levite was relieved of his regular occupation but continued to serve in some capacity of light duty.
- 8. The first commemorative Passover was observed before they leave Sinai, on the fourteenth day of the first month of the second year (Abib). (This was originally observed in early spring at the ripening of the barley. But after the Exile, 587 B.C., the Israelites gradually adopted the Babylonian calendar. It is observed by present day Jews in the fall Rosh Hashana.)
- 9. Breaking the laws of appointed times and places indicated contempt for the Lord, but a funeral had just preceded Passover here and some were ceremonially defiled. By law,

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- they could not eat Passover. God made a provision here that if you were defiled or on a trip at Passover time, you would celebrate it one month later in exactly the same way. Proselytes (Israelite converts) followed the same instructions as Israel.
- 10. Note that Numbers 9:12 indicates a parallel between the Passover lamb and Christ at Calvary as the last "Passover" lamb to finally atone for all the sins of the world. (John 19:36)
- 11. By the movement of the cloud that hovered above the tabernacle, the people of Israel traveled or camped. This was God's means of divine guidance throughout their travels of the wilderness in unquestioning obedience. They were to rest or go with it, whether a day or two, a month or a year at a time.
- 12. The Lord told Moses to make two silver trumpets for summoning the people to assemble at the tabernacle or break up camp. The two trumpets blown together signaled for all Israel to gather at the tabernacle entrance. If only one was blown, it meant only the princes came. Only the priests could blow the trumpets. They were to blow them as they went to war with their enemies, so God would hear and save them. They were blown at times of rejoicing and celebration and the beginning of each month to remind God of them. It symbolized their dependence on God.
- 13. Finally, the day arrived. The cloud lifted and all of Israel in military sequence, tribe by tribe, fell in line behind each flag leaving Sinai. Each prince or tribal chief directed his group in proper order keeping the Levites with the tabernacle in the middle. Merari and Gershon's groups went ahead of Kohath's to set up the tabernacle and have it ready for the holy items.
- 14. Moses' in-laws were called Midianites or Kenites. These were nomadic coppersmiths. (Midianite and Ishmaelite are names for the same people.) Moses asked his brother-in-law, Hobab, to join him and the Israelites on their journey. He declined the invitation saying he had to get back to his own family and homeland. Moses insisted to Hobab that he would be a great help to Israel because he knew the wilderness so well and could make the journey and camping easier. In return, Hobab would enjoy God's blessings. Judges 1:16 indicates Moses convinced him to come, for he entered Canaan with them.
- 15. Shortly after their journey had begun, Israel began to murmur and complain. Because of their senseless ingratitude, God's anger flared out against them, and He caused fire to destroy those at the extremities of the camp. They cried out to Moses for help. He prayed for them and it stopped. This place was then called Taberah or "the place of burning."
- 16. But still, those who had come with them longed for meat, fish, and the succulent fruits and vegetables of Egypt. They were tired of manna.
- 17. Moses became displeased as well. Being neither humorous nor sarcastic with God, he reminded Him that these were His people, a nation He built and promised a land to. Moses no longer wanted the responsibility and burden of these "whining babies." He had no way to give them all meat. Moses asked God, out of mercy, to just kill him and relieve him of this impossible situation.
- 18. God had a better idea. He told Moses to bring Him seventy leaders (elders) of Israel to help him bear the responsibility of the people. He also told Moses to let the people know He had heard their complaints and would provide them with meat for a month, until they were sick of it! Moses couldn't understand how God was going to feed well over 1,800,000 people meat for a month. God assured Moses He was capable of anything.

Moses went to the people and selected seventy elders upon whom God gave the ability to prophesy.

- 19. God also included two others within the camp as prophets, Eldad and Medad. When it was reported they were prophesying, Joshua asked Moses to make them stop, but Moses was happy for them to share in this gift. He wished that all of Israel was worthy of the gift of prophecy.
- 20. Then, as He promised, God sent a strong wind with quail from the sea. They fell all around the camp as far as one could walk in a day's time. Israel caught quail for one and a half days non-stop. The least gathered by anyone was 100 bushels. Before they could finish all the quail, God caused a plague which killed large numbers of Israelites who had made gluttons of themselves.
- 21. On another occasion, Miriam and Aaron criticized Moses because his wife was an Ethiopian or Cushite. (The land of Midian from which Zipporah came was sometimes called Cush.) They challenged Moses' sole right to speak for God to the people. They were jealous and wanted more honor for themselves. God summoned all three of them to the tabernacle entrance. He made it clear Moses was His choice with which to communicate.
- 22. Because Miriam had been the instigator of this rebellion against Moses, God punished her with leprosy. Aaron saw what was happening and immediately begged forgiveness for himself and his sister. Moses prayed to God also for mercy upon Miriam. Although the Lord forgave Miriam and healed her leprosy, she was still made to suffer the shame and humiliation of being excommunicated from the camp for seven days. (Deuteronomy 25:9)
- 23. Once Miriam was able to return to camp, Israel left Hazeroth and traveled on to Paran.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

princes, tribal chief - hat, headdress 6 wagons, 12 oxen - toys, clay, boxes with wheels, popsicle sticks silver platter and bowl with flour and oil - spray painted, check party store gold spoon with incense - spray painted spoon with incense or spices bull, ram, lamb, goat, oxen - toy animals, animal crackers, forms made of clay model of the Ark of the Covenant, Candlestick purifying water - water with ashes Christ at Calvary - doll, cross, picture cloud - white or blue sheet hung from ceiling, cotton batting on a cloud shaped

posterboard, cotton mass moveable with invisible thread or fishing line silver trumpets - grey/silver paper cones, toy

sirver trumpets - grey/sirver paper cones, toy

flags - dowels, with paper or cloth flag, handkerchief

fire - tissue paper, construction paper flames, colored cellophane

70 elders - paper dolls

wind - fan

quail - toy birds

"bushel" basket for gathering quail

leprosy - white dots on Miriam

• Puppets/Dolls - Hobab, Miriam, Moses' wife

OT-Lesson 37 Numbers 7-12

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- I Don't Want To Be A Goat, Nope
- 12 Sons Had Jacob
- Because It Pleases God
- Deep Down In My Heart
- God Is Watching Over You
- His Banner Over Us Is Love
- I Know The Lord Will Make A Way
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I've Been Redeemed
- Jehovah Jireh

- Lord My Desire
- Moses
- My God Is So Great
- Seek Ye First
- The Lord Has Been Mindful
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- There's A Royal Banner
- Unto Perfection
- Were You There
- When Roll Is Called Up Yonder

#### Activities:

- Application story/activities on: jealousy, greed, making fun of others, whining, time to go to worship
- *Bible Geography* "Where Is It?" Give a description of a place Israel has visited. Let students answer orally or chart the places on a map.
- Who Am I? Give a brief description of different persons in the lesson. Let students guess who they are. You may want to use flash cards.
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. What gifts did the tribal princes bring? To whom were they given?
- 2. Explain the process of substituting the Levites for the first born of Israel. Why was this necessary?
- 3. What was the provision made for those who could not observe a ceremonial feast at the proper time? In what cases did this apply?
- 4. When were the silver trumpets to be used?
- 5. Who was Moses' brother-in-law? Why did Moses want him to join Israel?
- 6. What happened shortly after leaving Mt. Sinai? How did God react? How did Moses react?
- 7. How did God relieve some responsibility of the people from Moses' shoulders?
- 8. How did God provide meat for Israel? What happened to those that were greedy?
- 9. Why did Miriam and Aaron criticize Moses and his wife? How did God react to Miriam?
- 10. How do you suppose God feels when we criticize others? When we are greedy and gluttonous? When we whine and complain? When we don't come at appointed times to worship and honor God?

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# Old Testament Lesson 38: Spying Out The Land Numbers 13,14

Memory Verses:	Numbers 13:30,31	And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.
		But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.
	Numbers 14:8	If the Lord delight in us, then He will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.
	Numbers 14:34	After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know My breach of promise.
	Romans 8:31	What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• all things are possible with God on our side.
	• God knows our hearts and our thoughts. He hears the things we say.
	There is nothing we can hide from God.
	• a stubborn, negative, rebellious will hurts ourselves the most.

### Outline:

I. Mission (im)possible.

Numbers 13

- A. Spies selected and briefed.
- B. Mission accomplished.
- C. The report.

II. Israel's critical turning point.

Numbers 14

- A. Israel heeds the fearful ten.
- B. Joshua and Caleb appeal to Israel.
- C. God provoked.
- D. Moses pleads for Israel.
- E. The consequences.

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### Facts:

- 1. God instructs Moses to send one leader from each tribe to spy out the promised land of Canaan. According to Deuteronomy 1:22, God yielded to a request from the people that the land be canvassed. The Lord did not object to such an intelligent approach. Thus, they go looking to see if the land is good or bad, wooded or barren, the people few or many, weak or strong, nomads or established settlements with walled fortresses.
- 2. Moses sends twelve spies.
- 3. Moses changes "Oshea's" name to "Joshua." "Oshea" means "salvation or deliverance." "Joshua" means "Jehovah is salvation." Joshua is the same name in Hebrew as the Greek name "Jesus." The name designates God as the great "I Am."
- 4. "Negeb" is translated "southward" because it is in the southern portion of Canaan. Israel's spies actually travel northward from Kadesh, through the wilderness of Zin to Rehob, near Hamath. (Genesis 10:18) They pass through Negeb to Hebron. (Genesis 13:18, 23:19) "Negeb" means dry area.
- 5. The spies were to bring back samples of the crops they saw. Grapes were being harvested this time of year. In the Brook Valley of Eshcol, they cut down a cluster of grapes so large it took twenty-two men to carry it on a pole between them. They sampled the pomegranates and figs. Eshcol means "cluster." Brook Eschol referred to an area with a dried river bed where water was held beneath the surface after long rains ceased, thus contributing to the fruitfulness of the land.
- 6. They observed the Ahimanites, Sheshites, and Talmites, who are all descendants of Anak, the founder of Hebron. These were a race of giants of whom the Israelites were terrified. "Anak" means "long necked." Goliath was a descendant of these people. King Og's bed measured approximately 15 feet x 7 feet, signifying again an unusually large people. (Genesis 14:5, Deuteronomy 2:10,20, Deuteronomy 3:11, Deuteronomy 9:2, II Samuel 21:16-22, Joshua 10:36, 39, Joshua 11:22, Joshua 15:14)
- 7. After forty days of searching out the land and its inhabitants, the spies returned to Moses and the Israelites to show them the samples of fruit and make full report of their findings.
- 8. All of them agreed that it was truly a marvelous land, flowing with milk and honey, just as God had promised. (Exodus 3:8, 33:3) All agreed the inhabitants were strong and powerful and their cities were fortified with fifty foot walls and very great. All agreed they saw a race of giants there. The spies mapped out the location of the cities for the people.
- 9. The Amalekites lived in the southern portion of Canaan. In the mountains lived the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites. Along the coast of the Mediterranean and in the Jordan River valley dwelt the Canaanites. Amalekites were descendants of Esau. (Genesis 36:12) Abraham bought the cave of Machpelah from a Hittite. (Genesis 15:21, Genesis 23:1-20, Exodus 3:8) Canaanites were descendants of Canaan, son of Ham.
- 10. Caleb had confidence in God Almighty who had cared for and protected them thus far. He encouraged Israel to go at once and possess the land, for with God's help they could conquer the inhabitants. Joshua agreed, but the other ten spies protested. They perceived the inhabitants to be too large and powerful to possibly be overcome. They thought their cities too strong. They felt like small grasshoppers in stature next to the children of Anak. They started a negative campaign against Caleb and Joshua.
- 11. Israel now made a critical turning point by listening to the ten fearful spies. They forgot all about what they had witnessed God do for them. They wailed and complained against Moses

- and Aaron. They complained they wished they had died in Egypt or the wilderness, for now they would die in battle against these giants and their families would become slaves once again. A call went throughout the camp for a new leader to take them back to Egypt.
- 12. Moses, Aaron, Joshua and Caleb couldn't believe their ears. They fell down on the ground before the people. Joshua and Caleb ripped their clothes in exasperation and disbelief. They begged the people not to rebel against God, but to be confident in His love and protection, for He was the very one who had brought them thus far to this magnificent, fertile land. Don't be afraid, for God would cause the strength of the Canaanites to fail them.
- 13. The people of Israel talked of stoning Moses and Aaron, Caleb, and Joshua. The Lord's presence appeared to Moses in the tabernacle. He wondered in anger and disappointment what it would take to prove to Israel His power. Why did they keep rejecting Him? God talked to Moses of destroying them with a plague and disinheriting them as His people. He suggested starting over and making a greater nation of Moses and his descendants.
- 14. Looking to honor God above himself, Moses pleaded with God not to do that. He reasoned that the surrounding nations might misinterpret God's actions. They might think He destroyed Israel because He couldn't take care of them or make good on His promise to give them the land He had promised them. Surely the fame of Jehovah God's power had spread from Egypt to the inhabitants and they were already aware of what God had done and could do for His people.
- 15. Moses continued his plea to God on behalf of the people for mercy and forgiveness. Even though God could not overlook their sin, He was merciful and did provide a means of atonement, as He had many times before with Israel. (Romans 3:21-26)
- 16. God agreed to pardon Israel as Moses requested, but because of their lack of faith, everyone twenty years old or older would die wandering in the wilderness with the exception of Joshua and Caleb and their families. Instead of entering the promised land as planned, they would turn back into the wilderness area, toward the Red Sea and for every day the spies had spied out the land and found fault with it, Israel would wander a year in the wilderness making a total of forty years. God would let their fears come true as consequence for their lack of faith in Him. He would fulfill His promises through their children instead of them. Their lack of faithfulness to God was to Him spiritual adultery.
- 17. The ten spies who had created this rebellion were struck dead by a plague. Moses relayed God's message throughout the camp. At this point, they became sorry for what they had done.
- 18. Early the next morning, they attempted to show a belated enthusiasm for trusting God and assumed to go ahead into the promised land. Moses told them they were too late. God's orders now were to go back to the wilderness. If they tried to go ahead into Canaan, the inhabitants would crush them because they didn't have God to protect them.
- 19. Despite Moses' warning, they tried to go anyway without Moses and the ark of the covenant. The Amalekites and Canaanites came out of the hills and attacked them and chased them to Hormah. (Romans 1:17)

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

"spy" equipment - binoculars, magnifying glass, hat, trench coat, compass map

grapes, pomegranates, figs (newtons, raisins, prunes)

Numbers 13,14

giant grapes - balloons, papier maché walled city - model, cardboard, blocks, Legos grasshopper - toy, picture stones Ark of the Covenant - model swords, shield, bow, arrows, spear for Amalekites and Canaanites

- Puppets/Dolls 12 spies, giants
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- Anywhere With Jesus
- As I Travel
- Be Not Dismayed
- Cheerfully Obey
- Encamped Along The Hills Of Light
- God Is Watching Over You
- He's Got The Whole World
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- I've Been Redeemed

- Joshua
- My God Is So Big
- Seek Ye First
- Stand Up And Shout It
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- This Little Light Of Mine
- Trust And Obey
- When You Say Lord
- Without Faith It's Impossible
- Without Him

### Activities:

• File Folder Activities:

"Israel"

"Bible Lands - Geography"

- From Which Tribe Am I? Match spies and their tribes. May be open or closed book.
- Who Said It? Give students phrases or responses from the lesson. Let them match it to the correct person who said it.
- Chalkboard fun Sketch a simple drawing from scenes in today's lesson or prior lessons. Let students identify them.
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. Who did God send to spy out the promised land? Why? For what were they looking?
- 2. Chart their forty day search.
- 3. What did they report? Who were the descendants of Anak?
- 4. How many spies were in favor of moving forward to possess the land? Who? How many discouraged Israel from going forward?
- 5. How does this report become a critical turning point for Israel?
- 6. How could Israel so quickly have forgotten God's love and power? Do we do the same?
- 7. Who was surprised by Israel's reaction to the report? How did God react?

Numbers 13,14

8. What were the consequences for Israel's lack of faith? How do we sometimes show a

9. Who did their stubborn rebellious will hurt?

lack of faith? What consequences might we deserve?

10. Does God hear our complaints as He did Israel's? How do they make Him feel?

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## Old Testament Lesson 39: Rebellion In The Camp Numbers 15-19

Memory Verses:	Numbers 17:5,8	And it shall come to pass, that the man's rod, whom I shall choose, shall blossom: and I will make to cease from Me the murmurings of the children of Israel, whereby they murmur against you.  And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds.
	II Corinthians 9:7	Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.
	II Thessalonians 3:6	Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.
	Hebrews 13:17	Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• rebellion against God's appointed leadership is unacceptable to God.
	Instead, we should show leaders great respect for the responsibility
	they bear.

## Outline:

I. Offerings and punishments.

Numbers 15

- A. Offerings.
- B. Sabbath breaker.
- II. Rebellion in the camp.

Numbers 16

- A. Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.
- B. Their punishment.
- C. The plague.
- D. Aaron stays the plague.

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Numbers 15-19

III. Aaron's rod buds. Numbers 17

A. God identifies His chosen servant.

B. A reminder against rebellion.

IV. The priests and Levites.

Numbers 18

A. Responsibilities.

B. Provisions and tithes.

V. Defilement and purification.

Numbers 19

#### Facts:

- 1. Looking forward to the time when the people would eat food in the promised land of Canaan, God gave more specific instructions on meal offerings. (Leviticus 2:1-11, 23:13) The amounts used for the meal offering increased with the size of the animal offering. The underlying principle of all offerings was a man gave according to his ability. (Leviticus 5:7-13) The expression "a sweet savour" to God told the people God was pleased with them and their sacrifices. Any strangers invited to travel with Israel were obligated to worship God in the same appointed way, not as they chose.
- 2. Instructions for a heave offering, an offering of their first fruits is repeated. (See Leviticus 2) God also repeated directions for sins of ignorance as a group or individually. (Leviticus 4) Deliberate sin showed blasphemy toward God and resulted in death.
- 3. An example is given of one caught gathering sticks on the Sabbath. He was brought before Moses and Aaron and God instructed Moses to have the people take him outside the camp and stone him to death. God had the people sew tassels on the hem of their clothes with blue cord to serve as a reminder to obey God's commands rather than follow their own desires. (Matthew 18:8,9)
- 4. On a later occasion, Korah (a Levite) persuaded Dathan, Abiram, and On, all of the tribe of Reuben, along with 250 of Israel's men of prominence (princes) to rebel against Moses. They accused Moses and Aaron of assuming they were better than anyone else and said that they had no authority to tell them what they must do.
- 5. Korah and his fellow Levites wanted to serve as priests in the tabernacle in place of Aaron and his family. The Reubenites were upset by the fact that they had not received those fields and vineyards of the promised land they had envisioned, and they rebelled against Moses for having to wander in the wilderness.
- 6. Moses' anger was kindled by their false accusations. He challenged them to return to the door of the tabernacle the next morning with lighted censers and incense in hand. God would determine who His chosen leadership was before all who were there. Korah stirred the entire camp, so everyone showed up the next morning to watch.
- 7. Knowing God's wrath upon sin, Moses and Aaron pleaded with God not to punish the entire camp, but only those men who started the rebellion. The Lord told Moses to have everyone stand back away from the tents and possessions of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. Moses announced God would show who He had chosen. The ground opened beneath Korah, Dathan, and Abiram swallowing them, their families, supporting friends, and belongings. The Israelites ran in fear. God then sent fire to consume the other 250 family leaders who had also challenged Moses.

8. Eleazar was told to take the 250 censers, scatter the burning incense and beat (reshape) the brass censers into a cover for the altar to remind Israel no unauthorized person could come before God to burn incense lest they receive the same punishment as Korah and his friends.

- 9. Still, the people of Israel blamed Moses for the deaths of those who had rebelled. A mob gathered against Moses and Aaron. God intended to destroy them all, but Moses and Aaron again interceded for the people. They took a censer with incense and quickly carried it among the people to make atonement for their sin. Even so, before Aaron could carry the censer between the people, God had inflicted a plague on Israel which killed 14,700 more Israelites. (Hebrews 5:4-6)
- 10. To further clarify to Israel who God's chosen leadership and priesthood was, the Lord told Moses to have each tribe's leader (prince) bring a wooden rod with his name written on it. Aaron put his name on the one for the tribe of Levi. The rods were placed in the Holy of Holies before the ark.
- 11. The next day, Moses retrieved the rods and returned to the people. Each rod was returned to its owner the same as it was, except Aaron's. Aaron's rod had blossoms and buds and ripe almonds hanging from it. God instructed Moses to place Aaron's rod with the ark of the covenant as a reminder of Aaron's authority and to discourage any further rebellion. The people still expressed self pity and whined that everyone who came close to that tabernacle died.
- 12. The Lord reiterated to Aaron the sole responsibility of priestly duties and how they were conducted were his and his descendants'. The other Levites had responsibility as assistants but could not perform priestly functions or they would die. (Exodus 28, 29, Leviticus 16, 21, 27) Hebrews 8 discusses the replacement of this system.
- 13. The heave, grain, sin, and guilt offerings could all be eaten by the priests (males only). Any other contributions made, such as offerings of the first fruits, first born, all their household could eat. This was God's provision for them.
- 14. The priests could not own property nor have another source of income. God would care for them. Other Levites were paid for their work by tithes from Israel. The Israelites gave one tenth of their inheritance. The Levites in turn gave one tenth of what they received to the priest's (Aaron's) family. Any offering to God was to be the best of the best, given and received in a reverent manner. (Philippians 4:19)
- 15. Eleazar was to take a perfect red heifer (cow) outside the camp. He was to watch as someone killed and burned it. He was to take its blood and sprinkle it seven times toward the front of the tabernacle. Cedar wood, hyssop branches, and scarlet thread were to be burnt with the heifer. Then he and his assistant were to wash themselves and their clothes. Someone else was to gather the ashes to a purified location outside the camp. The ashes were used in water for purification ceremonies to "remove" sin or defilement (water of impurity).

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

toy lamb, ram, bull graduated amounts of flour, oil, juice sticks, robe and cuffs, paper chains, gravel, small stones tassels of yarn, blue cord, ribbon, thread censer (holder) and incense brass censers, toy hammer, pot lid 12 sticks with princes' names on them 1 "stick," branch with flowers and nuts, a "vail" (Holy of Holies) box - ark examples of offerings - meat, grain, cereal, first fruits, fruits, vegetables money - explain/demonstrate 1/10 (\$1:10¢) (\$10:\$1) (10 cookies:1 cookie) water, ashes

- Sandbox or shoebox scene with trap door
- Puppets/Dolls Korah, Dathan, Abiram
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- Because It Pleases God
- Give Me Oil In My Lamp
- God Has A Purpose For You
- God Is Watching Over You
- He Paid A Debt
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- Make Me A Sanctuary

- May I Call You Father
- My God Is So Great
- My Helping Hands
- Nothing But The Blood
- Seek Ye First
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- Twelve Sons Of Jacob

#### Activities:

- Application story/activity on church leadership (elders, deacons), giving, right and wrong decisions and consequences
- File Folder Activities:
  - "Moses Exodus"
  - "Israel"
  - "Church Leaders (Elders/Deacons)"
- Who Made The Headline? Suggest an event from our lesson and ask children to name the people who would have made the headlines if this event were written in modern newspaper form. Write the headlines. Older students may divide events among them and "report" the news.
- *I Wish To Know* Divide the class into two groups or if the class is small, do as a class. A student from group 1 (or teacher) will begin by saying, "I wish to know more about \_\_\_\_\_ (person, place, or thing)." A student from group 2 must answer by telling 1 identifying fact about that person, place, or thing.
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. What happens as a result of rebelling against God and/or His chosen leadership?
- 2. What happened to the Sabbath breaker? Why?
- 3. What happened to Korah, Dathan, and Abiram? Why?

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- 4. What happened when Israel continued to grumble and complain?
- 5. Out of love for the people of Israel, who interceded for them? Out of love for us, who intercedes for us? How often?
- 6. How did God identify His chosen priesthood? What was kept as a reminder not to rebel again? Where was it kept? What did they put on their clothes?
- 7. How did God provide for the Levites? Why?
- 8. What procedure was used for purification? Why was this necessary?
- 9. Who are God's appointed leaders of the church today? What are their responsibilities? (Ephesians 4:11-16, Titus 1:5-16, I Timothy 3)
- 10. How can we show our appreciation and respect toward our leaders?

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# Old Testament Lesson 40: Water From The Rock/Fiery Serpents Numbers 20,21

Memory Verses:	Numbers 20:12	And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed Me not, to sanctify Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.
	Psalms 106:32,33	They angered him also at the waters of strife, so that it went ill with Moses for their sakes:  Because they provoked his spirit, so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.
	John 3:14, 15	And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:  That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• with God on our side, all things are possible.	
	• no one escapes the consequences of sin, not even our leaders.	
	whining and complaining does not please God.	

### Outline:

I. Water from the rock.

Numbers 20

- A. Miriam dies.
- B. Murmuring.
- C. Moses strikes the rock.
- D. Israel journeys on.
- E. Aaron dies.

II. En route to Canaan.

Numbers 21

- A. Fiery serpents.
- B. Brass serpent.
- C. Israel travels on.
- D. Israel defeats the Amorites.
- E. Israel defeats Og.

### Facts:

1. Thirty eight years of wandering in the wilderness were about to end. All the Israelites who left Egypt had died except Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Caleb, Miriam, and those who

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- were under twenty when the spies searched out the land. Israel camped at Kadesh in the desert of Zin and here Miriam died.
- 2. There was a shortage of water at Kadesh for this large group and their animals, so again, they blamed Moses. Moses and Aaron sought God's advice at the tabernacle door. He told them to get Aaron's rod, summon the people and as they watched, <u>speak</u> to the rock and it would give water for the people and their cattle.
- 3. Moses took the rod and gathered Israel together. He struck the rock twice. Exasperated with Israel's complaints, he said, "Hear now ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?" An abundance of water gushed out of the rock. For not thinking before he spoke and by striking the rock (disobeying God), God forbade Moses to finally lead Israel into the promised land. Moses was heart broken. (I Corinthians 10:1-6)
- 4. Moses and Aaron shared the punishment for this sin. The water (not the place, as at Rephidim) was called Meribah after this incident because Israel argued against Jehovah. Meribah means "waters of strife/rebel waters." (Exodus 17:1-7)
- 5. While still camped at Kadesh, Moses sent messengers to Edom requesting safe passage through their land. He explained some of what they had been through, hoping for a sympathizing ear and promised not to impose on their fields, vineyards, or water supply. The King's Highway was an old caravan route used as a major public artery long before Moses' day.
- 6. The king of Edom adamantly refused them and brought out his army to stand in their way. (God saved Israel's fighting strength for the Amorites whose land was needed to gain access into Canaan.) So Israel turned southward to Mt. Hor along Edom's coastal border.
- 7. Here, God decided it was time for Aaron to die. Because of his and Moses' rebellion toward God's instructions at the water of Meribah (the rock), God had Moses, Aaron, and Eleazar mount the summit of Mt. Hor. As all the people watched, Moses removed the priestly garments from Aaron and placed them on Aaron's son Eleazar. Aaron died there. Moses and Eleazar returned to the people and they mourned for Aaron thirty days. Eleazar was then God's chosen high priest.
- 8. As Israel continued on, they traveled along a caravan route the Arabians called "the footprints." King Arad of Canaan was notified of their approaching and mobilized his army to attack Israel. Forced into battle, the Israelites asked God for His help and protection. The Lord heeded their request and these Canaanites were defeated. Israel completely destroyed their cities and this area was renamed Hormah meaning "utterly destroyed," a token of future conquests.
- 9. Their spirits should have been high, but as they reunited with their families and continued on their southward journey, avoiding Edom, they traveled a long desolate route and once again began to whine. They complained of the traveling through this wilderness with little to drink and manna to eat.
- 10. As a result of their complaining again, God sent poisonous snakes. Many were bitten and died. They rushed to Moses and admitted their sin. They begged Moses to pray for them. The Lord had Moses make a brass replica of the snake and attach it to a pole. Anyone who looked at it having faith God could heal him would live.
- 11. Christ drew an object lesson from this incident to His own suffering, being lifted up on the cross. (John 3:14) In later history, we read of Israel making an idol of a brazen serpent called "Nehushtan." Young King Hezekiah destroyed this idol. (II Kings 18:4)

Numbers 20,21

- Israel again traveled toward the promised land camping at Oboth, Ije-abarin (east of Moab), and on to the valley of Zared. (The Moabites are descendants of Lot.)
- Israel traveled on to Beer, meaning "a well." Moses summoned the people for water and 13. they sang a song called "The Song Of The Well." (Verses 17, 18) (Genesis 26:19, II Kings 3:16-18)
- 14. Leaving the desert, they charted their course through Mattanah, Nahaliel, Bamoth, the valley of Moab, to the top of Mount Pisgah overlooking the Salt Sea. Israel sent ambassadors to King Sihon of the Amorites requesting safe passage through his land. They promised as before, not to touch their fields, vineyards, or water supply.
- 15. But King Sihon refused. He mobilized his army and attacked Israel. With God's help, Israel slaughtered the Amorites and occupied their land and cities. Moses had hoped to gain access to the land west of Jordan.
- The poets or ballad singers again created a song/poem of satire saying in essence, "You 16. Amorites have beaten the Moabites, but we (Israel) have beaten you."
- 17. Moses sent spies to Jazer. He attacked capturing all its towns and driving out more Amorites. Now they have secured all the land between the Arnon River and the Jabbok River as well as the city of Jazer (east of Jordan to Mt. Hermon).
- 18. Moses turned his attention to King Og's city of Bashan. They met his army (of giants). The Lord assured Moses that Israel would win; they were not to be afraid. Again, Israel was victorious, killing King Og, his sons, and all of his people. They now possessed Bashan as well. (Deuteronomy 3:1-11) (Deuteronomy tells us King Og's bed measured 13 1/2 feet long by 6 feet wide.)

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

traveling gear - walking stick, canteen, hat, backpack, tent

map - chart Israel's course

Aaron's rod - previously used visual (flowering branch)

large rock

small indoor fountain - pitcher of water with flat dish on which the rock can sit

"written message" - requesting passage

helmet, sword, shield, spear

priestly garments - actual clothes, doll clothes, paper cut outs

manna - crackers, packing chips

snakes - toy, clay, paper cutouts, spaghetti, gummy worms

snake on a pole - above on a stick painted brass/gold

spies - hat, coat, binoculars (2 tubes)

- Puppets/Dolls Esau, Lot, king of Edom, King Abad, King Sihon, King Og
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

Angry Words

• Bind Us Together Lord

- Books Of The Old Testament
- Come Fill My Cup
- Deep And Wide
- Encamped Along The Hills Of Light
- Have You Seen Jesus My Lord
- He's My Rock My Sword My Shield
- I Am Bound For The Promised Land
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way

- I'm In The Lord's Army
- Jesus Loves Even Me
- Moses
- My God Is So Big
- Seek Ye First
- Sing And Be Happy
- Standing In The Need Of Prayer
- Without Faith It's Impossible

### Activities:

• File Folder Activities: "Geography - Bible Lands"

"Moses (Exodus)"

"Israel"

- Application story/activity on whining, right/wrong choices, miracles
- *I Visited*... List Bible cities (from this lesson and previous ones). Give the students the name of a city. Let them tell you an event that took place there.
- *Choosing Bible Friends* Prepare a list of Bible people. As you give them a name, students are to tell you if they should choose them for a good friend or not and why.
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How did God instruct Moses to get water for the Israelites? What did Moses do? Why?
- 2. What were the consequences of Moses' and Aaron's sin?
- 3. What consequences have we suffered for sins?
- 4. Who takes Aaron's place as high priest?
- 5. Which kings do Israel fight? What are the results? Which king do they not fight? Why?
- 6. What do the Israelites begin to whine and complain about the second time? What are the consequences?
- 7. Of what 2 locations do the poets or song writers of Israel make up songs? About what?
- 8. How can this lesson apply to us?
- 9. How often do we whine and complain? About what? Is God pleased with us when we whine and complain?

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## Old Testament Lesson 41: Balaam's Donkey Talks Numbers 22-24

Memory Verses:	Numbers 23:19	God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?
	Numbers 24:13	If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the Lord, to do either good or bad of mine own mind; but what the Lord saith, that will I speak?
	II Peter 2:15, 16	Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;
		But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God protects us and blesses us when we obey Him.
	• when we realize we have sinned, we must ask God's forgiveness, as
	Balaam did.

Numbers 22

### Outline:

I. Balaam's donkey talks.

A. Balaam refuses King Balak.

- B. Wealth and honor entice Balaam.
- C. An angel in the way.
- D. Balaam is sorry.

II. Balaam prophesies for God. Numbers 23

- A. Balak sacrifices.
- B. God blesses Israel.
- C. Balak sacrifices.
- D. God blesses Israel.
- III. Balaam foretells of Israel. Numbers 24
  - A. Balak again sacrifices.
  - B. God again blesses Israel.
  - C. Balaam foretells of Israel's conquests.

# Numbers 22-24

#### Facts:

1. Having conquered the Amorites and the city of Bashan, Israel moved on into the plains of Moab camping east of the Jordan River across from Jericho. (Moabites are descendants of Lot.) Balak, king of Moab, was terrified when he heard the Israelites were in his land, for he knew what they had done to the Amorites. He quickly consulted the elders of Midian for advice.

- 2. King Balak sent his top leaders to a prophet named Balaam in northern Mesopotamia near the Euphrates River. He begged Balaam to come and curse these mighty people from Egypt (Israel) that were so numerous they covered the earth. King Balak sent money or "fees of divination" to persuade Balaam to come. The heathen's concept of a prophet was that he was a manipulator of the gods. But Balaam was a prophet of God so he told Balak's men to stay the night and he would give them God's answer in the morning. (Joshua 13:22 calls Balaam a soothsayer.)
- 3. God came to Balaam in the night and told Balaam not to go with them nor curse Israel for He had blessed them. Balaam told the men to go home; God would not allow it.
- 4. Determined, King Balak sent more important princes to Balaam pleading with him to reconsider. He promised Balaam great honors and riches if he would only come and curse Israel so the Moabites might be spared. Balaam told them no matter what King Balak promised him, even a house full of silver and gold, he could only speak what God told him. He had Balak's princes stay the night to see what God would say.
- 5. God told Balaam to go but say only what God told him to say. The next morning, Balaam saddled his donkey and headed for Moab. God became angry at Balaam's eager attitude and anticipation for honors and riches from King Balak, so He sent an angel to kill Balaam.
- 6. Balaam's donkey saw the angel with a sword and ran off the road into a field. Not seeing the angel, Balaam beat his donkey. They traveled on a bit further and again the donkey saw the angel on the path between two vineyard walls. She squeezed past, but crushed Balaam's foot against the wall in the process, so he beat the donkey again. On farther, the donkey saw the angel again, but could not get past, so she laid down. Balaam was furious and beat his donkey a third time.
- 7. God caused the donkey to speak to Balaam, "What have I done to cause you to beat me three times?" Balaam answered, "Because you have mocked me. If I had a sword, I would kill you." The donkey asked Balaam if she had ever done anything like this before and Balaam had to answer "No."
- 8. The Lord now allowed Balaam to see the angel. The angel warned Balaam he was doing the wrong thing. The donkey was only trying to spare him. Balaam confessed he had sinned. The angel told Balaam to go to Balak, but say only what God told him to say.
- 9. The next morning, King Balak took Balaam to the top of Mount Bamoth-Baal (Kirjath Huzoth). There, they saw the Israelites' huge camp. Balaam had King Balak build seven altars and sacrifice seven bulls and seven rams. Then Balaam went a distance to see what God would tell him.
- 10. Balaam returned to Balak with a "parable" or poem which blessed Israel rather than cursed them. It told of how King Balak had brought him here to curse Jacob's (Israel's) family, but he could not curse a people God had blessed.
- 11. King Balak couldn't believe Balaam blessed his enemy. He took Balaam to the top of Mt. Pisgah. Balak built seven more altars and offered seven more bulls and seven more

Numbers 22-24

- rams. He wanted Balaam to at least curse a portion of Israel. Balaam went a distance to see what God would tell him.
- 12. Balaam returned to King Balak with another "parable" or poem. It again blessed Israel saying God doesn't change His mind like man does. He keeps His promises and God has blessed Israel. He was their God that could not be changed. God brought them out of Egypt; they were strong as an ox or a lion and nothing would stop them.
- 13. King Balak begged Balaam if he was not going to curse them, don't bless them! But Balaam reminded Balak he must say what God told him to. King Balak took Balaam to yet another place on top of Mt. Peor. He built seven more altars and offered seven more bulls and seven more rams.
- 14. Knowing God would only bless Israel again, Balaam looked out over Israel's camp and waited for God to speak through him. He told Balak God had shown him all the joys awaiting Israel. He saw Israel as fruitful, living abundantly, spreading out among many areas. Their king would be greater than the Amalek king, Agag. They would devour all the nations that opposed them.
- 15. King Balak shouted at Balaam to curse Balak's enemies, but instead, Balaam had blessed them three times! Balak had promised Balaam honors and riches. Now Balak wanted Balaam to go home! Balaam reminded Balak again he could only speak the words of Jehovah God. Before he went, he foretold to Balak what Israel was going to do to his people, the Moabites.
- 16. Balaam's eyes had been fully opened by God to the future of Israel. King David was predicted here as the star of Jacob who would crush Moab, Edom, and Seir. Israel would rise to a great power, destroying many cities.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

model of Israel's camp

map showing Moab, Jericho, Jordan River, Midian

king - crown, royal colored robe

messenger - note, scroll, money, pennies

"stay the night" - pillow, blanket

small house model with silver and gold coins

donkey (horse) - stuffed toy, paper, cardboard

angel - seasonal ornament

sword - toy, hors d'œuvre pick

stick - Balaam uses on donkey

mountain peaks - 3 humps of green clay, dirt with artificial grass, green spray paint, floral picks

altars - clay, gravel, toothpicks

bulls, rams, lion, ox - toy, paper cut outs, animal crackers

- Puppets/Dolls King Balak, Balaam, angel
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

# Numbers 22-24

## Songs:

- A Rainbow Made Of Christians
- God Is So Good
- God Is Watching Over You
- God's Love
- Happy All The Time
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I'm Happy Today
- Jesus Loves Even Me

- My God Is So Great
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Peace Like A River
- Take The Blame
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- The Very Best Life
- Unto Thee O Lord
- Walking In The Enemies' Camp

#### Activities:

- Application story/activity on obedience, forgiveness
- Who Said It? Prepare a list of Bible phrases from the lesson. Let students tell you who said it. Let them use their Bibles if necessary. Older students may also want to pick phrases from the lesson to ask each other.
- Bible Animals Write the name of Bible animals from lessons studied on slips of paper and give one to each student. Have students identify the event associated with their animals. (You could use animal crackers or picture cut outs.)
- File Folder Activities:
  - "Israel"
  - "Geography Bible Lands"
  - "Miracles"
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. How does God bless us? How did God bless Israel?
- 2. What must we do when we realize we have sinned? What did Balaam do?
- 3. Of what was King Balak afraid? What was his solution? Did it work? Why?
- 4. Why did Balaam ask God twice about going to King Balak? Should he have done that? Why?
- 5. How did Balaam's donkey see the angel and Balaam did not at first? How did the donkey talk? Why did the donkey talk?
- 6. How did Balaam feel when he realizes he was wrong?
- 7. What was the purpose of all the altars and sacrifices?
- 8. Why was King Balak angry?
- 9. Who was the "star of Jacob"?
- 10. The restoration plea was to "speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where it is silent." Do any verses from today's lesson teach this?

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## Old Testament Lesson 42: A New Generation Joshua Chosen Numbers 25-36

Memory Verses:	Numbers 32:6	And Moses said unto the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben, Shall your brethren go to war, and shall ye sit here?
	Numbers 32:23	But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord: and be sure your sin will find you out.
	Matthew 9:36	But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God is not pleased when we allow our friends to lead us away from
	serving Him.
	• our worship to God must include all He has asked us to do exactly as
	He has asked us to do it.
	• we must keep our word or it is a sin to God.

## Outline:

I. The reorganization of Israel.

Numbers 25-27

- A. Israel worships Baal.
- B. Second census.
- C. Israel's new leader Joshua.

II. Offerings and vows.

Numbers 28-30

- A. Commemorative feasts.
- III. Conquests and dividing the land by tribes.

Numbers 31-36

- A. Victory over Midian.
- B. The land east of Jordan.
- C. Reminiscing the journey.
- D. Dividing the land west of Jordan.
- E. Cities of refuge.
- F. A daughter's inheritance.

#### Facts:

1. While Israel was camped at Shittim, Balaam could not turn God away from His people, but Balak and his people turned some of Israel away from God. The young women of Moab enticed the young men of Israel to commit fornication. Before long, they were worshipping

- Moab's god, Baal. God's anger was fierce. He ordered Moses to openly kill all those guilty of such sin.
- 2. One of these young Israelite men arrogantly brought a Midianite girl into Israel's camp in front of everyone. Phinehas, Eleazar's son (Aaron's grandson) grabbed a spear and followed after them into the man's tent. In disgust and anger for their sin, he thrust the spear through both of them. 24,000 Israelites died because of this sin. God was pleased with Phinehas for defending the right. As a result, he would follow his father as high priest. (I Samuel 14:3, 22:11-20)
- 3. The Midianite girl killed by Phinehas was Cozbi, the daughter of a Midianite king. Slaying a king's daughter meant war. God told Moses they had a righteous reason to go to war with Midian and Moab. They would destroy them because of the evil they led Israel to be a part of. (Numbers 31)
- 4. Israel prepared to possess the promised land and divide their inheritance. A second census was taken of all men twenty years old or older, able to go to war. They totaled 601,730, almost the same number as at Mt. Sinai. Only three of the original census were still living, Moses, Joshua, and Caleb. This census was also a basis for dividing the land. The larger tribes would get a larger portion of land, the smaller tribes less land.

Reuben	43,730	Zebulun	60,500
Simeon	22,200	Ephraim	32,500
Gad	40,500	Manasseh	52,750
Judah	76,500	Benjamin	45,600
Issachar	64,300	Dan	64,400
Asher	53,400	Naphtali	45,400

- 5. The law of inheritance usually followed from father to sons. In the case of Zelophehad, he only had five daughters, no sons. The daughters petitioned Moses for their father's share of the inherent land. God allowed them their father's share. (In Egypt, inheritance passed through mothers.)
- 6. God now told Moses to go to the top of Mt. Abarim and look out across the Jordan River to the land of Canaan, the land of milk and honey He had promised to Israel. He told Moses he could not go there because he did not glorify God at the "waters of Meribah" in Kadesh, the wilderness of Zin. Without self-pity, instead moved with compassion for the people, Moses asked God to appoint Israel a new leader before he died. (Matthew 9:36) (Abirim is a mountain range that abuts the Jordan valley and the Salt Sea. A part of this mountain range is Mt. Pisgah, with a peak called Mt. Nebo where Moses eventually died. Deuteronomy 34:1)
- 7. God appointed Joshua, son of Nun, as Moses' successor. He had Moses take Joshua to Eleazar, before the Israelites, and publicly passed on to Joshua the responsibility and authority to lead Israel. The Lord spoke to Eleazar through the urim and Eleazar passed God's instructions on to Joshua. (Exodus 28:30)
- 8. Chapters 28 and 29 review again the offerings expected by God and in what specific quantities. God also reminded Israel not only of their daily and monthly requirements but all other annual and weekly observances such as: Sabbath, Passover, Pentecost, Feast Of Weeks, Feast Of Unleavened Bread, Feast Of Trumpets, Day Of Atonement, and Feast Of Tabernacles. (For more information on these refer back to Leviticus 23.)
- 9. Every culture devises ways to make human intention binding. In religious matters, people made vows. In chapter 30, special emphasis is given to the validity of a woman's vow. A father had absolute authority over an unmarried daughter and a husband over a wife. Women at this time were largely untaught and, therefore, sometimes made rash

vows jeopardizing their estate. Thus, legally, a father or husband could disallow a vow by his daughter or wife when he first heard of it; a day later it would stand valid. A widow was bound by her vow. To fail to keep a vow was a sin. (Leviticus 27, Numbers 6, Deuteronomy 23)

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- 10. The time came for Israel to go to war with Midian. Moses gathered 1,000 men from each tribe (12,000). Phinehas led them into battle with the ark of the covenant. Trumpets blared. Every Midianite man was killed, including all five kings, yet not one Israelite soldier lost his life. Israel's army captured all the women and children, all their cattle and flocks and useful goods. They burned all Midian's cities and villages.
- 11. When they brought the spoils and captives to Moses and Phinehas, Moses was angry. He asked the officers why they spared the Midianite women who were responsible for leading them astray in the first place to the idol Baal. Moses had them kill all the women and boys lest they corrupt Israel and dishonor God again; only the young virgin girls were spared. All those involved in the fight were to be purified, as well as all the spoils, by fire or water.
- 12. The Lord got one-five-hundredth of all the spoils (booty). The men of war and the rest of Israel split the rest. Of the half that those remained behind received, two percent was to go to the Levites.
- 13. Moses and Eleazar totaled the spoils as God commanded:

675,000 sheep 61,000 donkeys 72,000 oxen 32,000 young girls

- 14. The tribes of Reuben, Gad and one-half of Manassah had lots of cattle. They saw that the area of Jazer and Gilead was perfect for grazing, so they asked Moses that their inherited portion might be east of the Jordan. But Moses was concerned that if these tribes stopped and settled now, the morale of the others would be broken and they might not have enough fighting men to secure the rest of the promised land. He also feared God's wrath upon Israel if they became discouraged, as they had with the spies thirty-seven years ago and did not want to go on.
- 15. Reuben, Gad, and Manassah agreed to continue to help their brethren fight until <u>all</u> the inherited land was secured for each tribe. They asked only for a little time to re-fortify the cities and cattle enclosures so they could safely leave their families and herds behind.
- 16. Moses cautiously gave his approval and assigned them this land, warning them of the consequences if they did not keep their word. (Further along in history we'll find Moses' concerns were well founded. The geographic separation of these tribes by the Jordan River eventually produced an indifference in them toward the rest of Israel. Judges 5:16, 17)
- 17. In chapter 33, Moses gave a quick synopsis of Israel's itinerary from Egyptian bondage to their present point at the brink of Canaan. God had Moses record each stop. Now, upon entering Canaan, Israel was reminded to completely drive out the heathen nations and destroy all their idols as they go, lest they infect Israel with idolatry and Israel be destroyed along with them.
- 18. Chapter 34 gives the borders of the promised land of Canaan. This land was to be divided by lot among nine and a half tribes. Eleazar, Joshua, and the prince (leader) of each tribe would handle the dividing. (Israel did not actually attain all its borders until the time of King David and King Solomon.) (Joshua 14:1-5)

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Numbers 25-36

19. The Levites were to be given forty-eight cities and the surrounding pasture land among the other tribes. Six cities were to be designated cities of refuge for anyone who had accidentally caused a death. Premeditated murder witnessed by more than one witness warranted execution.

20. Moses' last legislation was among the elder of Manasseh, who complained that if the daughters of Zelophehad married outside of their tribe, it would adversely affect their property rights as a tribe. (Remember these daughters inherited their fathers' portion of the land.) To marry into another tribe meant their property rights would go with them. So God told Moses whenever daughters inherited their fathers' property, they must marry within their own tribe (cousins).

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

map - Canaan, Egypt to Sinai to Moab

idol/god, Baal - piñata, knick-knack sprayed gray, gold, toy animal

noose, rope

spear - stick, toy arrow

census - long list of names, numbers

Mt. Abarim - grassy mount - clay, papier maché, moss, easter grass

offerings, annual feasts - previously used visuals

examples of rash/appropriate vows: "I vow if I'm not home by sundown, I will give you everything I own."

"I vow I will replace your cow, with 3 of our cows."

war with Midian - toy sword, helmet, ark of the covenant, toy trumpet, paper cone, 5 crowns for kings

divide (among students) the "booty" - toy cows, sheep, donkeys, girl dolls, animal crackers, gold coins, play money, pennies, jewelry, other goods

map - Reuben, Gad, 1/2 Manasseh's portion

- Puppets/Dolls Moses, Joshua, Phinehas/Eleazar
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- 12 Sons Had Jacob
- Books Of The Old Testament
- Don't You Want Go To That Land
- Encamped Along The Hills Of Light
- God Is Watching Over You
- I Am Bound For The Promised Land
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Will Call Upon The Lord

- I'm A Hard Fighting Soldier
- I'm In The Lord's Army
- Jehovah Jireh
- May I Call You Father
- Moses/Joshua
- My God Is So Great
- The B-I-B-L-E
- Without Faith, It's Impossible

OT-Lesson 42 Numbers 25-36

#### Activities:

• File Folder Activities:

"To The Promised Land"

"Geography"

"Moses"

"Moses Blackout"

- Locate Bible Cities Prepare a list of cities/places from Israel's journey thus far. Let students locate them on a map.
- *Jeopardy* Use facts from the lesson to create questions. Use 3 categories: persons, places, things. Students may compete for points or "prizes." For younger students you may use pictures to identify.
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why did some of Israel begin to worship Baal? How might we be led astray as they were?
- 2. Who took a second census? Why was this necessary?
- 3. Who did God choose to succeed Moses? What qualities made him a good choice?
- 4. Why does God emphasize again their offerings and commemorative feasts? How might this apply to us today?
- 5. Describe the fight with Midian. Why was this war necessary?
- 6. Why was it necessary to kill all the inhabitants of the land?
- 7. How were the spoils divided?
- 8. Who settled east of the Jordan River? Why?
- 9. How was the land of Canaan to be divided?
- 10. What were cities of refuge?
- 11. Discuss capital punishment. Discuss the difference between first degree murder and manslaughter.

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## Old Testament Lesson 43: Moses' Farewell Address (Part I – In Retrospect) Deuteronomy 1-4

Memory Verses:	Deuteronomy 1:21	Behold, the Lord thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the Lord God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged.
	Deuteronomy 3:22	Ye shall not fear them: for the Lord your God He shall fight for you.
	Deuteronomy 4:2	Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.
	Deuteronomy 4:24	For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	God loves and cares for His children.		
	• we must obey all His commands to please God.		
	• the evidence of Jehovah, the true and living God, is all around us.		

### Outline:

I. What God had done for Israel. Deuteronomy 1

A. Introduction.

- B. Review of the exodus.
- C. God's anger at disobedience.

II. Wanderings in the wilderness. Deuteronomy 2

- A. Edomites.
- B. Moabites.
- C. Ammonites.

III. The inheritance. Deuteronomy 3

- A. King Og.
- B. Moses' plea to go to Canaan.
- C. Moses sees Canaan.

IV. An appeal for pure devotion. Deuteronomy 4

- A. Obedience.
- B. Idolatry forbidden.
- C. Cities of refuge.

#### Facts:

- 1. Deuteronomy is Greek for "the second law" or "the law repeated." It was written by Moses as the last book of the Pentateuch. It covers the last month or two of the fortieth year after the exodus. Moses' death was at hand. This was his farewell address to the people of Israel encamped in the plains of Moab.
- 2. Moses addressed Israel three times in Deuteronomy: 1) In retrospect of Israel's history of covenant breakers and postponed inheritance, he pleaded with Israel to renew their covenant with God and pledge their obedience (keeping in mind what disobedience had cost their parents). 2) He addressed them in introspect, in light of present opportunities, conditional upon obedience. He reviewed the requirements of the covenant and warned against idolatry and pagan practices. 3) Moses addressed Israel prospectively, looking into the near future of fulfillment and blessings. Joshua was appointed as Moses' successor and final preparation was made for entering the promised land.
- 3. As Deuteronomy 1:2 points out, it was only an eleven day journey from Mt. Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea (Paran), the southern edge of the promised land. Yet Israel, because they had not trusted in God, had wasted forty years wandering in the wilderness to come back to this same point. (Numbers 12:16) The promised land included the hill country of the Amorites, the valley of Arabah, Negeb, all of Canaan, and Lebanon from the Mediterranean Sea to the Euphrates River.
- 4. When treaties (covenants) were renewed, the historical recordings were reviewed and brought up to date. This explains the repetition of Israel's history from Mt. Sinai to Moab in the book of Deuteronomy. (Exodus 20)
- 5. Moses reviews:
  - The appointment of the tribal elders/judges (Exodus 18) due to the multiplying of Abraham's seed. (Genesis 12-15)
  - Spying out the promised land; twelve spies (Numbers 13, 14); the complaining of Israel against God, thus their punishment of postponing their inheritance and the lost opportunities of that generation.
  - x Israel's further rebellion in trying to fight the Amorites and enter the promised land without God's help. (Numbers 14)
  - page Forty years of wandering compassing Mt. Seir. (Numbers 20, 21)
  - Heading toward Moab; Edom (Esau's descendants) not to be bothered. (Numbers 20:20, Genesis 32:3, Genesis 36, Deuteronomy 23:7,8)
  - Nor were they to contend for the land of the Moabites and Ammonites (Lot's descendants). (Numbers 21, Genesis 19:37, 38)
  - Israel crossed Zered Brook, the southern boundary of Moab. (Numbers 21)
  - Israel went to war against King Sihon and King Heshbon to possess their land.(Numbers 21)
  - Israel's victory over King Og possessing his sixty cities. (Numbers 21)
  - The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and one-half of Manasseh asked this newly conquered territory as their inheritance. (Numbers 32)
  - Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh's men must continue to fight and help conquer Canaan for the other tribes. (Numbers 32)
- 6. The struggle for the birthright between Jacob (Israel) and Esau (Edom) had long since been settled. Canaan was to be Jacob's (Israel's). Mount Seir was given to Esau (Edom). Israel

- was forbidden by God to contend for it. Esau's fear of Israel was displayed by his blocking entry into Seir. (Numbers 20:20)
- 7. Moses continually reminded Israel of God's mercy and benevolence, even during their wilderness wanderings. He pointed out to them God's providence where He had repeatedly dispossessed great nations such as the Anakin (tribe of Anak) whose giant presence in Canaan had frightened Israel's spies into causing a rebellion against God. He reassured them God would conquer their enemies for them when they went forward and possessed the land as He commanded.
- 8. The fall of King Sihon was very similar to the fall of Amenophis II, the Egyptian Pharaoh of the exodus. Each was asked to favor the Israelites which they refused because God hardened their hearts. Each advanced upon Israel and suffered defeat as the Lord fought for His people.
- 9. The tribes of Reuben and Gad were given King Sihon's land including the Jabbok river, one-half of Mt. Gilead south to Arnon. Gad settled north of Reuben toward Mt. Pisgah and the Dead Sea. He also received the Jordan valley. The half tribe of Manasseh received the rest of Gilead and Argob (Bashan), formerly King Og's territory.
- 10. King Og was of the last of the giants of Rephaim. His iron bed measured 13 1/2 feet long by 6 feet wide.
- 11. Moses pleaded with God to let him cross over into the promised land with Israel, but his request was denied. God told Moses to climb to the top of Mount Pisgah and look out in every direction and he would see the land of promise. Moses' duties were coming to an end. God had a better place in mind for Moses. It was time for Moses to pass on his responsibilities as Israel's leader to Joshua.
- 12. Moses warned Israel not to add anything to God's laws nor disregard the ones they didn't like. God's laws may not be amended or abridged to suit ourselves. Interestingly, God extended this warning toward the beginning of the Bible (Deuteronomy 4:2) and He repeated it toward the end. (Revelation 22:18, 19) Moses illustrated this point by reminding Israel of those who suffered the plague of death for worshipping Baal. (Numbers 25:1-9)
- 13. Obedience and devotion to God is the only way to enjoy God's richest blessings.
- 14. Israel was commanded to tell each generation of God's wonders and miracles especially the giving of the law at Mt. Sinai (Horeb). They were to teach their children how to worship God in a pleasing manner.
- 15. Idol worship of visible things or creatures was characteristic of Gentile nations whom God abandoned to their perverseness. The exclusive privilege Israel enjoyed as God's chosen people required exclusive service and devotion, lest God curse them by abandonment. Moses reminded Israel Jehovah God is a jealous God.
- 16. Moses gave Israel a brief glimpse of their future as a nation. He told them they would enjoy the promised land for a while, but idolatry would creep in among them. God's anger at their sin would destroy them. They would be scattered among other nations but eventually search out Jehovah and return to Him. God, being merciful, would never forget His promise to Abraham nor forsake them.
- 17. Moses set aside three cities of refuge for those tribes east of the Jordan River: Bezer for the tribe of Reuben, Ramoth Gilead for the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan for the tribe of Manasseh.

## Deuteronomy 1-4

## Visuals:

• Characterization props:

map - plains of Moab, exodus route, trans-Jordan area, Kadesh-Barnea, the promised land, Canaan, Mt. Seir, Edom

"treaty" - recognizable U.S. treaties, paper with a seal

review with previously used visuals from events in Genesis-Numbers

appointed judges, elders - gray wig, glasses, cane, beard

Abraham's seed - sand, seeds, stars

spies - binoculars, spyglass, coat and hat, magnifying glass

Amorites - sword, shield, helmet

wandering - walking stick, sandals, backpack, suitcase

King Og's bed - measure/tape an area 13 1/2' x 6'

idols/Baal - statue, clay model, toy cow sprayed like stone or gold

- Puppets/Dolls Lot, Esau, Jacob, giants, King Og, King Sihon, Pharaoh
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- Balm In Gilead
- Bind Us Together Lord
- Books Of The Old Testament
- Cheerfully Obey
- He Paid A Debt
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- Moses
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- The 10 Commandments

- The B-I-B-L-E
- The Lord Has A Will
- The Very Best Life
- This Little Light Of Mine
- Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus
- To Christ Be True
- Trust And Obey
- We Are Walking In The Enemy's Camp
- Without Faith It's Impossible
- Without Him

#### Activities:

- Application story/activity on obedience, God's love and blessings, worship
- File Folder Activities:
  - "Geography"
  - "Moses"
  - "Moses Blackout"
  - "My Choice"
  - "To The Promised Land"
  - "Worship"
- Review by: flip chart, student drawn mural on craft paper, hang pictures progressively on a "clothesline," puzzle pictures cut copied pictures into puzzle pieces, memory crutches any visual that reminds students of a previous story
- Lacing cards cardboard/poster board cutouts, laminated. Hole punch then sew with yarn or shoe strings could be shaped like hand, heart, praying hands, Moses

• Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. What had God done for Israel? What has God done for you?
- 2. What is essential to pleasing God and receiving His blessings?
- 3. What is the purpose of Moses' farewell address?
- 4. Why would God not allow Israel to take the land from the Edomites or the Moabites?
- 5. Who was King Og?
- 6. Why would God not allow Moses to go into the promised land?
- 7. Do you pick out God's commands you want to keep and ignore the ones you don't like? Why?
- 8. How do we worship God in a pleasing manner?
- 9. How is God jealous?
- 10. What evidence do you see that proves God is real?

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## Old Testament Lesson 44: Moses' Farewell Address (Part II – In Introspect) Deuteronomy 5-11

Memory Verses:	Deuteronomy 6:5	And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
	Deuteronomy 6:7	And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.
	Deuteronomy 6:16	Ye shall not tempt the Lord your God, as ye tempted Him in Massah.
	Deuteronomy 7:6	For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto Himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.
	Deuteronomy 11:26-28	Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;
		A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day:
		And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• if we truly love the Lord with all our heart, we will try our best to		
	please Him every day.		
	• God's children are "special" to Him.		
	• we should be learning more about God every day.		

## Outline:

I.	Requirements of the covenant.	Deuteronomy 5
	A. 10 commandments.	
	B. Moses as mediator.	
II.	Teach the law at home.	Deuteronomy 6

III. Conquering Canaan. Deuteronomy 7

A. Avoid idolatry at all cost.

IV. Remember the Lord. Deuteronomy 8

A. The reward of obedience.

V. Avoid self-righteousness. Deuteronomy 9

A. Israel's rebellions.

VI. God's mercy. Deuteronomy 10

VII. A blessing and a curse. Deuteronomy 11

A. Obey.

#### Facts:

1. In Moses' second address to the Israelites, he looked introspectively and focused on adapting the laws of God's covenant, given in Exodus, to the new situations Israel would face in the promised land. Again, when treaties of that historical period were renewed, this one being between God and Israel, the stipulations were repeated. Here we see the ten commandments repeated and Moses' strong charge for them to obey <u>each</u> one.

- 2. Moses reflected upon God speaking His commands directly to Israel at Mt. Sinai in the fiery cloud. (Exodus 20:18-21) Such reluctance to experience God's presence was much different than that seemingly experienced by Adam in the garden or Enoch or Abraham. Yet, their fear was godly and reverent and they committed themselves to do His will. Moses reminded this generation to commit themselves as well in every detail of God's laws in order to live long, prosperous lives in the promised land.
- 3. The most important principle of all the laws' stipulations is stated in Deuteronomy 6:5. We are to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, and might. Jesus called this the first and greatest commandment. (Matthew 22:37, 38, Luke 10:25-28) God is unique. Deity is His alone. We, as well as Israel, are to submit totally with intense devotion to God in everything we do. The history of God's love and mercy was meant to prompt love and devotion in us (and Israel) for God and make us want to reverently obey Him.
- 4. Moses instructed Israel to think constantly about God's commands. They were to teach them to their children daily whether at home or out walking, going somewhere, at night before going to bed, and in the morning when they got up. He told them to put God's commands on their hands, their foreheads or upon their door posts and gates if that would help them remember God's law. (Proverbs 1:7, Proverbs 6:21, John 6:44, 45, II Timothy 2:15)
- 5. The literal practice of wearing scriptures came to be popular among the Jews many years later in the form of phylacteries worn on their heads or a mezuzah over the door post.
- 6. As Israel entered the great cities of Canaan, with pre-dug wells and plenty of water, vineyards and fruit groves already planted, lush fields ready for harvest, and houses already built and furnished, they were not to forget God was the sole provider of all these good things (not the idol gods of the inhabitants of Canaan). Moses warned them not to tempt God as they had before to prove His presence and power (Exodus 17:7), but to continue to obey and reverence Him, teaching their children of His goodness and God's blessings would continue.

- 7. God was about to destroy the following seven nations that inhabited the promised land: the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. Each of these nations was physically larger and mightier than Israel.
- 8. Moses reminded Israel in conquering these nations they must do a complete job of destroying them. They must show no mercy. They must kill them all. They were not to make treaties with them. They were not to intermarry with them lest idolatry creep back in among the Israelites. They were to completely destroy all altars, pagan images, and idol gods.
- 9. Moses reminded Israel they were "special," chosen by Jehovah God over all the nations on earth. He was the God of fertility in the fields, among their flocks and in their families, not Baal. They were to remember His might and miracles, as He delivered their fathers out of Egypt. God would exemplify that same might in Canaan, but again they must be loyal and obedient.
- 10. Israel was to remember it was God who, during their forty years of wandering, did not allow their clothes to wear out and, during all their travels, did not allow their feet to blister or swell. So when they prospered in the land of milk and honey, they were to remember it was not on their own they acquired their prosperity. God brought them out of slavery in Egypt, cared for them in the wilderness, provided them manna and water. To forget the giver of all good things would mean punishment.
- 11. For Israel to assume that the promised land was a reward for their righteousness would have been wrong. Moses passionately let them know that the blessings they would enjoy in Canaan were by God's mercy, not their own merit. Moses foresaw the possibility of a self righteous attitude as God made easy each conquest. The wickedness of the pagan nations were why God destroyed them and because of the promise He had made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. (Genesis 15:16)
- 12. Moses went on to remind them further of how they were undeserving of God's goodness. He reflected on their rebellion in the wilderness, especially at Mt. Horeb (Sinai). While he was with God receiving the ten commandments Israel was worshipping a molten calf. Moses reminded them of how he broke the tablets in anger for their sin and God wanted to destroy them. He also mentioned their rebellion at Kadesh-Barnea when they would not enter Canaan.
- 13. Thus, the renewal of God's covenant with Israel was due solely to God's grace and goodness. Despite God's anger with Aaron at Mt. Sinai, God allowed him to become Israel's high priest and his son Eleazar after him.
- 14. A true follower of God will: listen carefully to God's word, obey His commandments, love and worship Him with all his/her heart. He/she will also get rid of sin in their hearts, stop being stubborn toward God's commands. We must fear God, cling to Him, and appreciate His blessings. (True fear (respect) and love go together.)
- 15. In chapter 11, Moses repeated again the importance of obeying God, loving Him and serving Him alone. He repeated the importance of teaching each generation, for if one generation strayed from God, He would punish them. As long as they obeyed and served God, He would bless them, if they refused Him, He would curse them. It was their choice.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

OT-Lesson 44 Deuteronomy 5-11

map of promised land (Canaan)
treaty - rolled paper, scroll
Mt. Sinai with fiery cloud - green/brown clay with red cotton batting "cloud"
suspended over it with hidden wire or toothpicks
teaching children:
at night - darkened room, moon, stars
walking - pathway, in the car, at the mountains, beach, park
at bedtime - bed, Bible story book, Bible reading schedule
phylactery/mezuzah - Bible scripture on a headband, plaque over the door
land of milk and honey - water, grapes, fruit, toy house, furnishings
altar, idols - gravel, clay, toothpicks glued to can painted black or gray, toy cow
sprayed gold, gray, idol image-knick knack, piñata
being "special" - paper crowns, plastic jewels, pearls, gold, silver tinsel, garland

- necklace, ribbon with "gold" medallion
- wanderings clothing, shoes, sandals, manna (cereal, popcorn, oyster crackers), water true follower ear (listen), hand (obey), heart (love), something black (sin) cutouts examples of blessing, choices
- Puppets/Dolls Adam, Enoch, Abraham
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- Deep Down In My Heart
- Down In My Heart
- Father Abraham
- God's Love
- I Have Decided To Follow Jesus
- I Love To Take A Walk
- Jesus, Jesus
- Live In Me Lord Jesus
- Lord My Desire
- More About Jesus
- Seek Ye First

## Activities:

- Discuss examples of loving and pleasing God:
  - studying, learning His word singing His praises talking to Him in prayer coming to worship bringing, teaching a friend acts of kindness

- Swiftly We're Turning
- Teach Me Lord
- Thank You Lord
- The B-I-B-L-E
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- The Very Best Life
- This Is My Commandment
- Trust And Obey
- Walking With Jesus
- Whisper A Prayer
- You Are Special

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- File Folder Activities:
  - "God's Promises"
  - "To The Promised Land"
  - "Geography"
  - "10 Commandments"
  - "My Choice"
- *Password* use Bible words for the lesson. Divide students in teams. One student attempts to help his team member guess the Bible word through one word clues. With younger students they may "act out" the word.
- *Count Your Blessings* make a "Blessings" chart or mural. Let each student draw or list as many blessings as they can. This may also be done in the form of collage pictures cut from old magazines (collectively or individually).
- Make a flip chart or book using drawing of each student. Draw ways we show we love God, how we can please Him, or what makes us special.
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. Do we truly love the Lord? How do you try to please Him each day?
- 2. What makes you special to God?
- 3. How do you try to learn more about God every day?
- 4. When do you study God's word? Where? With whom?
- 5. Why did Moses keep reminding Israel to obey all of God's laws?
- 6. What was the purpose of reminding them of their history of rebellion?
- 7. Who teaches you about God? When?
- 8. What nations would God help Israel conquer? Why was it necessary to completely destroy all of them?
- 9. Who is the giver of all our blessings? How has He blessed you?
- 10. Who is most merciful? Define mercy. How has God been merciful to you?
- 11. What will a true follower of God do? Give an example of choices one must make to receive God's blessings or to receive His curses.

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## **Old Testament** Lesson 45: Jehovah God Is God Alone **Pagan Practices Forbidden Deuteronomy 12-15**

Memory Verses:	Deuteronomy 12:32	What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.
	Deuteronomy 13:4	Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear Him, and keep His commandments, and obey His voice, and ye shall serve Him, and cleave unto Him.
	Proverbs 3:5-10	Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
		In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.
		Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.
	Proverbs 28:13	He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• we must put God first in our lives and worship only Him.
	• the more we seek to help others, the more God will bless us.

#### Outline:

Deuteronomy 12 Honor Jehovah God alone. I. Destroy pagan idols. A. One place of worship. B. C. Care for the Levites. Deuteronomy 13 II. Idolatry – Death penalty. III. Clean and unclean. Deuteronomy 14 What may/may not be eaten (beast, fish, fowl) Tithes and charity. B. Deuteronomy 15

The year of release. IV.

> A. The poor.

Hebrew servants. B.

#### Facts:

- 1. Moses emphasized to the Israelites, as they possessed and settled the land of Canaan, they must <u>completely</u> destroy all altars, shrines, idols, any remembrance of the Canaanite pagan cults and gods. God knew these would be a temptation to some of His people. They would find these in the hills and mountains, under trees, private as well as public places. To avoid any of their idolatrous practices contaminating Israel's worship to Jehovah, they must be obliterated.
- 2. To further insure Israel's worship to God, He stipulated they may <u>not</u> worship Him just anywhere, as the Canaanites had worshipped their idol gods, but they must go to a location chosen by God to worship and offer sacrifices.
- 4. They were to express their love for God in joyous worship, as well as showing love and kindness to each other. Moses emphasized they were to always share with the Levites who were dependent on the generosity of the other Israelites.
- 5. Moses also clarified the difference in animal meat slaughtered for family meals and animals for sacrifice. They could kill animals for meals anywhere, but for sacrifice and tithes, that was only to be done at God's place of worship. Again, they were to remember to share with the Levites and always pour out the blood on the ground, not consume it.
- 6. For Israel, to even ask how these Canaanite nations worshipped their idols was an insult to Jehovah. Moses explained that their practices in the name of religion were horrible. God hated these practices. Some even offered their children as sacrifices. God wanted them to follow His commands for worship, not adding anything to them or taking any part away.
- 7. Moses warned Israel again to serve <u>only</u> Jehovah. They would be tempted by those claiming to be prophets having dreams and visions who would say they should worship other gods. Jehovah would test their love and loyalty. <u>Anyone</u> trying to lead them astray was to be put to death by stoning, even a close family member or friend. You could not cover up for them or you would be sinning too. (Joshua 7 Achan, Galatians 1:6-8)
- 8. If these stipulations were not vigorously carried out, the rebellion would increase to community proportions. Then the whole city would have to be destroyed by war and become as a "burnt offering" to appease God's wrath. That city could never be rebuilt and none of its spoils/booty could be kept.
- 9. In all ancient treaties among nations, as well as this one between God and Israel, the vassels (the people) must never speak evil of their leader either as an insult or a conspiracy to revolt. Any form of rebellion was to be immediately reported. Whatever military measures necessary were taken against the offenders no matter who they were, even a prince or near relative. Always fidelity to one's Lord was to be maintained, at all cost.
- 10. God's people were a holy people, made in God's own image, the creator of life. Therefore, they were to reflect a holy image. The heathen nations they were about to conquer often cut and mutilated themselves or shaved part of their heads as a form of worship to their idols or in mourning a death. Israel was not to practice such things. (Exodus 4:22, 19:5,6)
- 11. Moses repeated the distinction between clean and unclean animals (those Israel could eat and those they could not). This was not only for the sake of hygiene purposes but also served as a test of submission to God. (Deuteronomy 8:3, Leviticus 11, 17:15)

Deuteronomy 12-15

- 12. <u>Clean Animals</u>: Any animal that had cloven hooves <u>and</u> chewed the cud, sea animals with fins and scales, birds, except those listed as unclean, ox, sheep, goat, deer, gazelle, roebuck, wild goat, pyqarg (white antelope), chamois (leaper).

  <u>Unclean Animals</u>: Those animals that have cloven hooves but do not chew the cud or vice versa, sea animals without fins and scales, any winged insects, any animal that has died a natural death, camel, hare (rabbit), coney (badger), pig, eagle, vulture, osprey (fish eating eagle), buzzard, falcon, raven, ostrich, hawk, sea gull, owl, pelican, cormorant (plunging bird), stork, heron, lapwing (hoopoe), bat.
- 13. Every year a tithe (one-tenth portion) of their crops was to be given to the Lord in recognition of the fact the land was His and Jehovah was the giver of life and fertility, <u>not</u> the Canaanite pagan gods (of fertility). This included the first born of their flocks and herds. If transporting these a far distance was very difficult, they could sell these offerings for money and replace them when they got to the temple. (Leviticus 27:30-33)
- 14. Again Israel was reminded to share their wealth with the Levites. Every third year their entire tithe was to be divided among the Levites, dependent foreigners, widows, and orphans. The Lord always has provided for the poor and less fortunate. (Numbers 18:21-32, Deuteronomy 26:12)
- 15. Continuing the subject of love toward the needy, Moses reminded Israel every seventh year (the year of Jubilee) there was a canceling of all debts. Everyone's debts became paid in full (except that of foreigners, one temporarily visiting for commercial purposes). God guaranteed Israel He would bless them well beyond the debts they forgave others if they kept His commands. To refuse a poor man a loan because the year of Jubilee was close at hand would anger God and reap punishment. (Exodus 23:10,11, Leviticus 25:4)
- 16. Any Hebrew slave (bond servant) was to be set free the year of Jubilee. He was to be sent away with a gracious portion of the wealth the owner had been blessed with during the time the servant served him. Occasionally, a servant wished to stay with his master. If so, his ear was to be pierced as a slave for life. (Leviticus 25)

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

map of Canaan
altar - gravel, clay, toothpicks, box with colored in "stones"
idol - image of clay, papier maché, figurine, toy animal sprayed gold/gray
tabernacle model
blood - colored water, ketchup
pagan worship - baby doll on altar
stoning - gravel, small stones
clean/unclean animals - toys, animal crackers, pictures
tithe of crops - fruit, vegetables, oatmeal, meal, cereal
flocks and herds - toys
money - play, pennies, candy
paid-in-full - stamp, sticker
slave set free - take off paper chains, handcuffs

- Puppets/Dolls Levite
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart

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Deuteronomy 12-15

- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- A Charge To Keep I Have
- A Helper I Will Be
- Because It Pleases God
- For The Beauty Of The Earth
- God Is Watching Over You
- God's Love
- Love Love Love
- Moses

- My God Is So Great
- O Thou Fount Of Every Blessing
- Pass It On
- Psalms 19 The Law Of The Lord
- Rejoice In The Lord Always
- Sing Hallelujah To The Lord
- Take My Life And Let It Be
- We Are Family

#### Activities:

- File Folder Activities:
  - "Worship"
- Application stories/activities on :

Worshipping God

Giving

**Sharing and Helping Others** 

- Crossing Jordan Create a "Jordan River" using chairs/ blankets/sheet dividing the room. In order to "cross over" students must answer questions relating to the lesson.
- Age-appropriate handwork
- See also suggested activities from the lesson on Leviticus 1-16

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why did Moses keep warning Israel about idols? Do people today worship idols? Give examples.
- 2. How did the Levites "make a living" in the promised land?
- 3. Where was Israel to worship God? Where are we to worship God?
- 4. With whom were the Israelites to share and for whom were they to do kindnesses? With whom are we to share and for whom are we to do kind deeds? Why?
- 5. What were they to do with the blood of animals? Why?
- 6. Who might tempt the Israelites to worship other gods? What was to be done to those tempters?
- 7. Who might tempt you to serve another "god"? How might they tempt you? What would you do?
- 8. What were some specific practices the Canaanites did that God's people were not to do? What are some things that other people do today that a Christian should not do?
- 9. How did Israel tithe to the Lord? Why did they do this? Do we tithe to God?
- 10. What happened the seventh year the year of Jubilee? Why?

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## Old Testament Lesson 46: Ceremonial, Civil And Social Law Deuteronomy 16-26

Memory Verses:	Deuteronomy 16:17	Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which He hath given thee.
	Deuteronomy 18:15	The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;
	Deuteronomy 19:21	And thine eye shall not pity; but life shall go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.
	Acts 7:37	This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, a prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God is the giver of all blessings.
	• all God's laws must be obeyed. Sin will be punished.
	• our love for God is demonstrated by the kindnesses we show others.

## Outline:

Juun	e.		
I.	Ceremonial law.		Deuteronomy 16
	A.	Annual feasts.	
	B.	Judges.	
II.	Civi	Civil law.	
	A.	Idolaters and controversial issues.	Deuteronomy 17
	В.	Prophesies of a king.	
	C.	Priests and prophets.	Deuteronomy 18
	D.	Abominations.	
	E.	Jesus.	
	F.	Cities of refuge.	Deuteronomy 19
	G.	Boundary landmarks.	
	H.	The law of witnesses.	
	I.	Warfare.	Deuteronomy 20
III.	Social law.		
	A.	Authority at home.	Deuteronomy 21
	B.	Humanitarian behavior.	Deuteronomy 22
	C.	Sexual sin.	

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Deuteronomy 16-26

D. Who may enter the assembly of Gods' people. Deuteronomy 23

E. Property rights.

F. Laws of family life. Deuteronomy 24

G. Laws of justice and charity.

H. Fairness in all things.I. God's own people.Deuteronomy 25Deuteronomy 26

### Facts:

- 1. Moses reminded Israel of three annual feasts to always be observed: the Passover, Feast of Weeks (also called Feast of Harvest, First Fruits, or Pentecost), and the Feast of Tabernacles. He reminded them of the purpose of the occasion and the proper sacrifices to bring. Each of these feasts must always be observed at the tabernacle/temple of God. Once the promised land was settled, they could not observe these festivals in their local city. These feasts were designed to keep God at the forefront of Israel's thought. (Exodus 12, Exodus 23, Exodus 34, Leviticus 23, Numbers 28, 29)
- 2. Although the priesthood possessed the dominant judicial voice, judges were to be appointed in every city to administer fair justice among the Israelites. "God-like" images were <u>never</u> to be erected near an altar to the Lord, specifically, Asherah, the Canaanite "goddess of oracles," associated with judicial procedure.
- 3. Moses illustrated a case requiring capital punishment by one caught worshipping other gods. Such an accusation required a thorough investigation and adequate evidence by at least two witnesses. Those witnesses carried the dreaded responsibility of throwing the first and possibly lethal blows in stoning the condemned individual.
- 4. Any case too difficult to decide in the local (lower) courts was to be brought to the priests and chief judge at the tabernacle. Their decision was representative of God himself and could not be appealed. Any rebellion against this decision warranted the death penalty.
- 5. Knowing Israel would, in time (400 years, I Samuel 8:4,5) demand an earthly king, as other nations had, God outlined the kind of king to be selected. God would reveal His choice through a prophet. He must be an Israelite, one who was not a successful horse trader, especially with those of Egypt. He should not be a man with many wives or excessive wealth. Once chosen, he must copy God's laws and read them every day. He must respect God and all His commands. (I Chronicles 29:23, I Samuel 10:24, I Samuel 16:12, I Kings 10)
- 6. Israel was reminded the support of the Levites fell on their shoulders as a nation. Israel was to be generous to them.
- 7. Israel was warned <u>not</u> to adopt the corrupt customs of the nations they would replace in Canaan such as: sacrificing their children to heathen gods, black magic, fortune telling, snake charming, sorcery (witchcraft, wizardry) or one who calls forth the spirits of the dead. These practices disgusted the Lord.
- 8. In Deuteronomy 18:15-19, Moses foreshadowed the coming of Christ as ..." a prophet from the midst of thee of thy brethren, like unto me..." This Hebrew nation had been founded to pave the way for Christ to come into this world with a new system Christianity. No person, except Jesus, was connected with so many manifestations of divine power as Moses. (Matthew 17:5, Acts 3:22, Acts 7:37) They were to follow and obey Him. They were also to discern between prophets of God and false prophets. A false prophet's prophesies would not come true.

- 9. Six cities of refuge were designated for those causing accidental deaths. All were Levitical cities geographically placed so one was reasonably close to every Israelite. (Numbers 35:6) Three were east of Jordan Bezer, Ramoth, and Golan. Three were west of Jordan Kedesh, Shechem, and Hebron. As their boundaries grew, they were instructed to add three more cities of refuge, of which we have no historical record.
- 10. If an Israelite purposely killed someone and fled to a city of refuge, the elders of his city were to have him brought home and killed. Murderers were to be purged from Israel, not pitied. A man's land was not to be stolen from him by his neighbor by moving the boundary markers. Anyone committing perjury (lying) in court cases was to receive the punishment he thought the accused would receive, therefore, deterring liars among them. (Matthew 18:16)
- 11. In wars of the Lord, victory was not determined by the might of Israel's army, but by God's might, therefore anyone just having built a new house, planted a new vineyard, engaged to be married, or anyone afraid could go home and be excused from military duty. Cities outside the boundaries of the promised land were first offered a truce. If accepted, their people became Israel's servants. If not, Israel would conquer it, killing the men and keeping what women, children, and spoils they wanted. Those cities of the promised land were completely destroyed and everyone killed.
- 12. If a murder victim was found and the guilty party could not be determined by the elders and judges of the local court, a heifer was to be offered and the priests would come to remove defilement (guilt for this sin) from the local people and the land.
- 13. If a man was convicted of a crime and hanged, his body must be buried that same day.
- 14. If an Israelite man took a captive slave girl to be his wife, then he wanted to divorce her, he must let her go free. He could not sell her and reduce her to slave status again. (Exodus 21:7-11)
- 15. If a man had two wives who both gave him children, but he loved the second wife more, he could <u>not</u> give his favorite wife's child the greater inheritance (birthright) if indeed the firstborn child was by his first wife.
- 16. If an Israelite had a stubborn, rebellious child who would not obey, the child was taken before the elders of the city and he was stoned to death.
- 17. Loving God required reverence for His laws at every level of creation. The laws of God must be obeyed even in our secret actions and go beyond merely keeping within the law to avoid punishment. It seeks the best for others as if it were our own, for in all we are privy to in this world, we are but God's stewards.
- 18. The Israelites were instructed to give back to their neighbors what had been lost and found and to help a neighbor in need. Women were not to dress like a man, nor a man like a woman. When building a house, a guardrail was to be around the roof to keep someone from falling and getting hurt. Unlike things were not to be mixed together, planting, plowing, or in your clothing.
- 19. If a man falsely accused his wife of premarital sex, he was fined and whipped and he could never divorce her. If she was guilty, she was stoned to death. Adultery was punished by stoning. Incest was forbidden.
- 20. Those who were eunuchs, those born out of wedlock (even to a tenth generation), a Moabite, or an Ammonite could never enter God's tabernacle/temple. The military camp was not to be defiled in any way because in war, as in peace, God's presence was among His people. Those defiled must leave camp.

## Deuteronomy 16-26

21. Escaped slaves were not forced to return. Prostitution and homosexuality were detestable to God and strictly forbidden. Interest could not be charged on loans to an Israelite brother. Vows to God must be fulfilled.

- 22. A man must give his wife a formal (legal instrument) letter to divorce her. A newly married man was exempt from military or public service for one year to spend time with his wife.
- 23. Kidnapping was punishable by death.
- 24. Laws on contagious diseases such as leprosy must be followed to the letter.
- 25. God protected the dignity and rights of the needy. Their wages were to be paid daily. Migrant workers, orphans, and widows were to be aided and allowed to glean the fields and vineyards for food, remembering all of Israel had once tasted slavery and bondage in Egypt.
- 26. Just punishment was always preceded by a fair trial. A beating was personally supervised by the judge and the stripes counted so not to exceed the sentence.
- 27. An ox was worthy of grain to eat for his work. (I Corinthians 9:9, I Timothy 5:18)
- 28. If a man died without a child, the widow must marry within his family where they shared the same estate. If the man's brother refused to marry his brother's widow, he was publicly stigmatized before the local elders.
- 29. All business dealings were to be made with accurate scales and honest measures. God detests a cheater. (Amos 8:5)
- 30. Moses' long list of stipulations drew to a close in chapter 26. He reiterated the need to always express grateful thanksgiving to Jehovah the provider of all their blessings and the giver of this great land flowing with milk and honey.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Passover Feast - blood - ketchup, food coloring, unleavened bread

Feast of Weeks - fruit, oats, cereal, vegetables

Feast of Tabernacles - fruit, oats, cereal, vegetables

tabernacle/temple - model, picture

judges - black robe, gavel

investigation/evidence - magnifying glass, fingerprints, pictures, idol

stoning - gravel, small stones

king - crown, robe, scepter

heathen customs - magic tricks, wand, sorcerer's/witch's hat, snake in basket, crystal

map - cities of refuge

boundary marker - stake with surveyors ribbon, block, stone wall, Legos, bricks military forces - toy sword, helmet

one who builds a house - hammer, toy house, monopoly houses

one with new vineyard - grapes

one engaged - ring, bouquet, wedding favor

afraid - hide your face, tremble, scared facial expression

heifer - toy cow

something borrowed from a neighbor

wages - pennies, play money, chocolate coins

## Deuteronomy 16-26

scales - measuring scoop, spoons, cup, yard stick, tape measure charity - clothing, food, money, toys

- Puppets/Dolls family, prophets, Christ
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- Are We Walking In The Enemies' Camp
- God Is So Good
- God Needs Helpers
- God's Love
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- I'm In The Lord's Army
- O Be Careful Little Eyes
- O Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

- Rejoice In The Lord Always
- Standing On The Promises
- Thank You Lord
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- This Is My Father's World
- This Is The Day That The Lord Hath Made
- Where He Leads I'll Follow
- Wonderful, Wonderful

#### Activities:

- File folder activities:
  - "God's Promises"
  - "To The Promised Land"
  - "Moses Black Out"
  - "My Choice"
- Application story/activity on: helping, sharing, obeying, lying/stealing, being fair
- Discussion on capital punishment. (OT/NT)
- Make a "stand up" book with your students on: how we can help others, sharing, obeying, being fair. Each student contributes at least one page. (See handwork folder for directions sheet)
- Separated Sentences write part of a Bible verse or law on a tongue depressor or craft stick or piece of colored paper. Write the other part on another. Make several pairs for students to match. Mix them up and let students put them together individually or as a group. (If possible, make a set for each student.)
- Age-appropriate handwork

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1. What annual feasts were the Israelites to observe? Why?
- 2. How was their judicial system organized? (Higher courts, lower courts)
- 3. Whose coming was foreshadowed?
- 4. What things does God hate?
- 5. What was the purpose of cities of refuge? Where were they?
- 6. How might an Israelite soldier be excused from war?
- 7. Who is the giver of all good things? How have you been blessed?
- 8. How might you demonstrate your love for God?
- 9. To whom was charity to be extended? To whom should we be charitable?

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- 10. Which of the various laws in this lesson do you find most interesting? Why?
- 11. What happened to a stubborn, rebellious child?

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Old Testament Lesson 47: Moses' Farewell Address / (Part III – In Prospect Of The Future) Deuteronomy 27-30

Memory Verses:	Deuteronomy 30:16	In that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.
	Deuteronomy 30:19	I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:
	Ephesians 2:12, 13	That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:  But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far
		off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• God is the source of all our blessings.	
	• God rewards us when we obey and reverence Him, and He punishes	
	us when we disobey Him.	

## Outline:

I. Ratifying the covenant with God. Deuteronomy 27

A. Building an altar.

B. The ceremony at Gerizim and Ebal.

II. Warning sanctions. Deuteronomy 28

A. Blessings for obedience.

B. Curses for disobedience.

III. Restating the oath of allegiance. Deuteronomy 29

A. Reflecting on God's power and goodness.

B. Parties of the covenant.

C. Warnings - exile.

IV. Prophesies of a new covenant. Deuteronomy 30

A. God's mercy.

B. A new hope through the Messiah.

#### Facts:

- 1. Moses instructed Israel, as they crossed over the Jordan River into the promised land on the other side of Mt. Ebal, to take large stones and erect a type of monument. The stones were to be coated with plaister (lime) and God's laws written in the plaister. Everyone could read them. (Joshua 8:30-35)
- 2. Israel was also to build an altar of uncut stones to God, making burnt offerings and peace offerings. They were to hold a ceremonial feast of rejoicing. (Exodus 20:25)
- 3. Six tribes then stood on Mt. Gerizim and six tribes on Mt. Ebal. Those on Mt. Gerizim would proclaim God's blessings. Those on Mt. Ebal would proclaim curses for disobedience. The ark of the covenant and the Levites were stationed in the valley between to lead Israel in their oath of allegiance to God. An "Amen" response was customary following each blessing or curse.
- 4. God cursed those that: worshipped idols (even secretly), were disrespectful to his/her parents, stole his neighbor's land, took advantage of the blind (handicapped), a foreigner, orphan or widow, committed adultery, incest, or bestiality, murdered. (Leviticus 26)
- 5. Yet God blessed Israel as the greatest nation in the world when they were obedient and loyal to Him. He blessed their commercial and domestic affairs in the city and in their fields. He gave them many children, ample crops, flocks, and herds, and plenty of food. God blessed their foreign and military affairs, defeating their enemies for them. He would bless them spiritually, making them a holy people other nations would admire and respect. Upon their devotion and obedience to God, they would maintain the upper hand.
- 6. Of course, failure to obey and be loyal to God meant Israel would be cursed in these same areas by God's vengeance. They would be banished from their inherited land; they would lose God's presence and favor. Israel would be plagued by disease, war, drought, and dust storms. Their dead bodies would be eaten by the birds and beasts. They would go mad. They would be oppressed as slaves and robbed. The locusts and worms would relentlessly eat their crops.
- 7. Moses gave Israel a glimpse of the exile Israel would suffer in the distant future as a result of their disloyalty. He would allow Israel to be destroyed and enslaved by other nations because of sin. They would live in constant fear. They would become so callused by sin and so hungry they would engage in cannibalistic practices of the heathen and eat their own children.
- 8. Moses concluded this section with the reminder, in order to avoid God's curses, to obey the law of the covenant and reverence Jehovah.
- 9. This renewing of the covenant between God and Israel at Moab renewed their covenant at Mt. Sinai which renewed God's covenant with Abraham which renewed God's covenant with Adam. (Genesis 3:15, Deuteronomy 5:2,3) This occasion required the presence of everyone including women, children, those non-Israelites living among them, and servants. (Exodus 12:38, Numbers 10:29, Joshua 9:21)
- 10. He continued to warn against being drawn to idolatrous worship or not taking the oath of allegiance made to Jehovah seriously. Even those that thought they could do such in secret or indifference, God would expose and punish.

## Deuteronomy 27-30

11. Although there are wonders and divine mysteries not yet revealed to us, our time and concentration should focus on those things God has revealed. Our life's business as God's children is obeying and pleasing Him.

- 12. As Moses predicted the exile of Israel, he told them they would be reminded of his warnings of this punishment as they served those nations that had enslaved them. They could not plead ignorant to not knowing God's expectation. (Jeremiah 31:33, 32:39, Ezekiel 11:19, 36:26, 27)
- 13. Yet, if they sincerely returned to obeying Jehovah, He would have mercy on them and gather them from their captivity once again. God would offer them restoration and a new hope, the Messiah. He would turn Israel's curses on their enemies and make Israel prosper once again. God loved His people and always rewarded obedience. We must love Him too. Our love for God is expressed by our obedience.
- 14. Thus, Moses, in Deuteronomy 28-30, has outlined Israel's future history the Babylonian captivity, their destruction, their return from captivity, and the destruction by the Romans. The "eagle" in Deuteronomy 28:49 was later the ensign of the Roman army.
- 15. With the "new hope" of a Messiah, would come a new exodus and a renewal of the covenant with God. But ethnic distinctions would become a thing of the past. No longer would God reserve Himself to the Jews, but to those who would keep His covenant.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

map of Canaan

stone monument - stones, gravel, clay w/ commands - styrofoam sprayed gray altar - gravel and clay, blocks, box, tissue paper "fire"

Mt. Gerizim/Mt. Ebal - clay or dirt mount painted green, craft "grass," moss small people figures or "flags" with tribal names

curses - idol, parent doll, figure, land, blind - sunglasses

blessings - play money, baby doll, fruits, vegetables, oats, flour, grain, toy animals - cows, sheep, sword, helmet, shield, cross

exile - paper chains, cuffs, baby doll

covenant law - 10 commandments visual, God's commands

Babylonian captivity, Jerusalem's, Israel's destruction - pictures

- Puppets/Dolls Jesus
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

### Songs:

- All Things Bright And Beautiful
- I Love The Lord Messiah
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- Jesus Loves Me
- Make Me A Servant
- Open The Bible

- Seek Ye First
- Sing Amen, Amen
- Study To Show Yourself Approved
- The Lord Has Been Mindful Of Me
- This Is The Day
- Trust And Obey

Deuteronomy 27-30

• Why Do You Wait?

### Activities:

• File Folder Activities:

"Worship"
"To The Promised Land"
"God's Promises"

"Ezekiel"

- *Pringle Puzzles* To help students visualize people, places, or things, cut pictures into puzzle pieces for students to put together. One picture per can. Use pictures such as Mt. Gerizim and Mt. Ebal, monument, altar, Moses, etc.
- *Follow The Brad* (for younger students) Use a picture form of something from today's lesson. Outline it with brads. Number them. Wind yard around each brad in the numbered order.
- Compare blessings & curses for the Israelites to blessings & punishments of today.
- Application story/activity on:

obedience

God's gifts/blessings

right and wrong

keeping our promises

• Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. What was Israel instructed to do at Mt. Ebal? Why?
- 2. Which tribes stood on Mt. Ebal; which on Mt. Gerizim? What did they do there?
- 3. What sins displeased God and brought His curses? In what ways did God curse Israel for sin?
- 4. How did God bless Israel? How has God blessed you?
- 5. Define "exile." Why does God give Israel a glimpse into their future? Did they heed the warning?
- 6. How do we express our love for God?
- 7. If we sin, will God forgive us? Why?
- 8. Define "mercy."
- 9. Where in the Old Testament do we read of Israel's destruction and years of exile? Where do we read of the remnant restored?
- 10. Whose coming is also prophesied about in this lesson? What would He change about the covenant?

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## Old Testament Lesson 48: The Last Days Of Moses Deuteronomy 31-34

1	1	
Memory Verses:	Deuteronomy 31:6	Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, He it is that doth go with thee; He will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.
	Deuteronomy 32:4	He is the Rock, His work is perfect: for all His ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He.
	Deuteronomy 34:10	And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face.
	Hebrews 10:30, 31	For we know Him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto Me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge His people.
		It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Goals:	Student will learn:	
	• Moses was a great servant of God. God can use us in His service as	
	well.	
	• God is the King of all kings, the Lord of all lords, the one and only	
	true God.	

## Outline:

ie.		
Final arrangements.		Deuteronomy 31
A.	Moses encourages Israel and Joshua.	
B.	Moses delivers the law to the priests/Levites.	
C.	Joshua commissioned by God.	
The	song of Moses.	Deuteronomy 32
A.	God is our refuge.	•
B.	Remember the old days.	
C.	Curses and blessings.	
D.	Go to Mt. Nebo.	
Mos	es' last will and testament.	Deuteronomy 33
A.	The majesty of God.	J
B.	Blessing the twelve tribes.	
The death of Moses.		Deuteronomy 34
	Fina A. B. C. The A. B. C. D. Mos A. B.	Final arrangements.  A. Moses encourages Israel and Joshua.  B. Moses delivers the law to the priests/Levites.  C. Joshua commissioned by God.  The song of Moses.  A. God is our refuge.  B. Remember the old days.  C. Curses and blessings.  D. Go to Mt. Nebo.  Moses' last will and testament.  A. The majesty of God.  B. Blessing the twelve tribes.

Deuteronomy 31-34

- Moses ascends Mt. Nebo.
- B. Thirty days mourning.
- C. Joshua succeeds Moses.

#### Facts:

- 1. Moses was now 120 years old. It was time for Moses to die. Moses could not cross over Jordan into Canaan because of his sin at Meribah-Kadesh.
- 2. As he concluded his farewell address to Israel, Moses encouraged Israel to be courageous and follow through with God's mission. God would be with them and defeat their enemies. Moses publicly encouraged Joshua, as their new leader, to also be strong and have courage. God would direct him in all he should do.
- 3. Moses then gave the priests and elders all the laws of God written out. He assigned them the duty of regularly reading and copying the law of the covenant. It must be read publicly to <u>all</u> the Israelites and those foreigners who had joined them at the end of every seventh year, the Year Of Release, at the Feast Of Tabernacles. Parents were instructed to teach their children all of God's laws so they would reverence and obey Him.
- 4. God had Moses bring Joshua (son of Nun) into the tabernacle before His presence (in a great cloud). He personally commissioned Joshua to his new responsibility. Warning that once Israel became secure and prosperous in the inherited land, they would begin to ignore Jehovah God and be entranced with the idol worship of the pagan Canaanites. He warned of the consequences of their sin. He would abandon them to their enemies.
- 5. God had Moses write a poetic song of warning to Israel. He taught them the words to this song to be sung from generation to generation. (Deuteronomy 32)
- 6. The song began by reflecting on God as our glorious king, a perfect, reliable rock or refuge upon whom we can always depend. In contrast, the Israelites, the children of God, had become children God no longer wanted to claim as His because of their sin, their disloyal love of idol "no-gods."
- 7. Moses reminded them of their past history when God chose Israel as His own, how He cared for them so protectively, how He provided for them the lush, fertile land of "milk and honey," and in their prosperity they denounced their need for God almighty. They "traded Him" for heathen idol gods, forgetting all Jehovah had done for them. Their insult and ingratitude to God was unspeakable.
- 8. Thus, God abandoned Israel to their lusts. His anger burned hot and deep as the depths of Hades (Sheol). He hated their unfaithfulness as one whose spouse had been unfaithful. He would punish them with hunger, fatal disease, wild animals, war, and famine. He would scatter them to distant lands and threaten their existence as a nation.
- 9. Yet, lest the neighboring nations misinterpret their victory over Israel as their own power, God would limit the slaughter of Israel and preserve a remnant to His own glory. He would see them feel sorrow for their sins and come back to serve Jehovah God. God then would avenge His people, taking vengeance on their captors. For their arrogance and cruelty, He would prove to all on earth He was the absolute, only true God.
- 10. Moses closed his song with an appeal to Israel to take his words seriously. Their success and happiness were dependent upon their obedience to God's laws. The Lord told Moses to climb Mt. Nebo (Pisgah) of the Abarim mountains and look out upon the promised land. Moses could see the land, but not go in because he had dishonored God at the spring of Meribah in the wilderness of Zin.

11. Before Moses left for Mt. Nebo, he blessed the twelve tribes of Israel. In ancient times, a dying father's final blessings were irrevocable legal testament. As all of Israel were God's adopted children and heirs of His blessing, He dispensed these through Moses. He declared Jehovah the majestic King of kings who loved His holy ones (children).

12. Blessings of the tribes:

Reuben	may his tribe not suffer extinction for his sin
Judah	may he accomplish his royal task of conquering his adversaries
Levi	the honor of the priesthood, divine revelation and teaching of God's laws
Benjamin	the allotment of Jerusalem, site of God's temple (the term "shoulder" denotes Jerusalem's elevated situation)
Joseph	a double portion. Military power and abundance of the choicest gifts. Moses confirms the pre-eminence Jacob gave Ephraim over Manasseh. (Genesis 48:14)
Zebulun and Issachar	together were blessed in commercial sea trade along the Mediterranean and Sea of Chinnereth (Sea of Galilee)
Gad	leadership and first fruits of the conquests
Dan	the strength of a lion. This tribe eventually migrates
	north to Bashan from their original southern coast territory
Naphtali	fertility and beauty along the shores of the Chinnereth (Sea of Galilee)
Asher	fertile land along Israel's northwest border. Moses prays
Simeon	Asher's protection might be always strong omitted from the blessings. This tribe was absorbed by the tribe of Judah early on (Joshua 19:1)

- 13. In conclusion, Jehovah was praised as the true giver of all blessings. The Lord was praised as Israel's defender. All must acknowledge His supremacy. (Psalms 90:1,2)
- 14. Now, Moses, who had spent forty years in Pharaoh's palace, forty years as a refugee in Midian and forty years as leader of Israel, climbed Pisgah Peak of Mt. Nebo, across from Jericho. God pointed out to Moses all the promised land.
- 15. When his gazing was finished God lifted Moses' soul to eternity and God Himself buried Moses' body in a valley near Beth-Peor in Moab. No one knows the exact place. Israel mourned Moses' death for thirty days.
- 16. In later history, we find God coming to take Elijah away to join Moses in glory from around Mt. Nebo. Jesus would be transfigured with Moses and Elijah 1500 years later in this same area. (Matthew 17:3, Mark 9:4, Luke 9:30, 31)
- 17. Yet there was never again a prophet of God as great as Moses. No one except Christ was connected with so many manifestations of divine power (miracles). Moses as writer of the Pentateuch (first five books of the Old Testament) wrote one-fourth of the Old Testament himself.
- 18. Now Joshua officially succeeded Moses as Israel's new leader. He was blessed with wisdom and Israel listened to his council.

## Deuteronomy 31-34

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

Moses - beard, glasses, cane

"badge of courage" - scroll

scrolls - for the priests, elders

tabernacle model

idol model - previously used

God - large rock, crown, robe, lifesaver

God's anger - mask, puppet with mad face, red face

godly sorrow - tissues, tears, handkerchief

Reuben - baby doll

Judah - crown/sword

Levi - headdress, ephod, scroll

Benjamin - tabernacle, temple model

Joseph - sword, toy cattle, fruits, vegetables

Zebulun & Issachar - toy boat, sailor hat, fishing pole, net, toy fish, fish crackers

Gad - sword

Dan - weights, muscles, toy lion

Naphtali - sea shells, fruits, vegetables

Asher - sword, shield, fruits, vegetables

map of promised land

Moses - buried, doll/puppet - put in a box or cover in a container of dirt

mourning - tissues

picture - Elijah/Christ's transfiguration

- Puppets/Dolls Israel, enemy nations, Joshua
- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- All The Way My Savior Leads Me
- God Be With You
- God Is A Rock
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- Into My Heart
- Let Us Sing The Books Of Moses
- O Be Careful Little Eyes

- O Worship The King
- On Jordan's Stormy Banks
- Praise Him Praise Him
- Rejoice In The Lord Always
- Sing Them Over Again To Me
- Study To Show Yourself Approved
- Study Your Bible Every Day
- The Steadfast Love Of The Lord
- There's A Land That Is Fairer

## Activities:

- The Song Of Moses put a tune to the song of Moses in Deuteronomy 32.
- *Blessing The Tribes* lay hands on students individually pretending they are tribal representatives. Use tribal banners and map.

## Deuteronomy 31-34

- Stand-up book Use pictures (or student drawings) to illustrate the life of Moses. Have students check themselves to make sure the events are in the right order.
- *Clothes Pin Cupboard* Make an activity board with term descriptions in each box. Match the term (on clothespins) to the correct box. These can be persons, places, or things. For older students, you could match the 12 tribes to the correct blessing. (Deuteronomy 33)
- *This Is Your Life* Write events of Moses' life on craft sticks or tongue depressors. Have students put the events in order. Numbers on the back will assist students in checking themselves. Magnet tape with a magnetic board can be used. *For older students*, write a book report on the life and times of Moses or a synopsis of Deuteronomy.
- Age-appropriate handwork

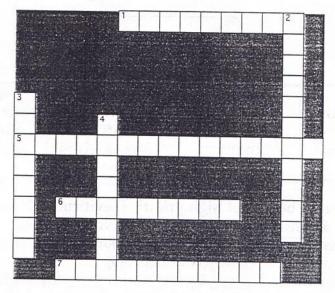
## Discussion Questions:

- 1. How old was Moses? Why couldn't he go to the promised land?
- 2. How did Moses encourage Israel? Joshua? What did he instruct the priests to do?
- 3. What is Moses' song about?
- 4. What blessings did Moses bestow on the tribes of Israel?
- 5. Who showed Moses the promised land?
- 6. Where did Moses go to die? Why? Who buried him? Where?
- 7. What other events took place in this same area?
- 8. How did God use Moses in His service? How did God prepare Moses for service?
- 9. How is God preparing you for His service? How is God using you in His service?
- 10. Who succeeds Moses as Israel's leader?

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# Old Testament Lesson 49: Review Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

- 1. What 2 sons of Aaron used strange fire and were consumed by a fire from God as a result of their disobedience? (Leviticus 10)
- 2. God established 7 annual feasts for His people to bring them together for rest, worship and thanksgiving. (Deuteronomy 16)
  - 1) Observed 50 days after the feast of first fruits with leavened bread.
  - 2) Commemorated Israel living in tents in the wilderness.
  - 3) Observed in the fall; started with the blowing of a trumpet.
  - 4) Celebrated in the spring; reminded them of the death angel "passing over" them.
  - 5) Followed the Passover feast for 7 days.
  - 6) 9 days to be sad for sins committed; the day the high priest entered the holy of holies.
  - 7) Denoted dedicating one's harvest to God.

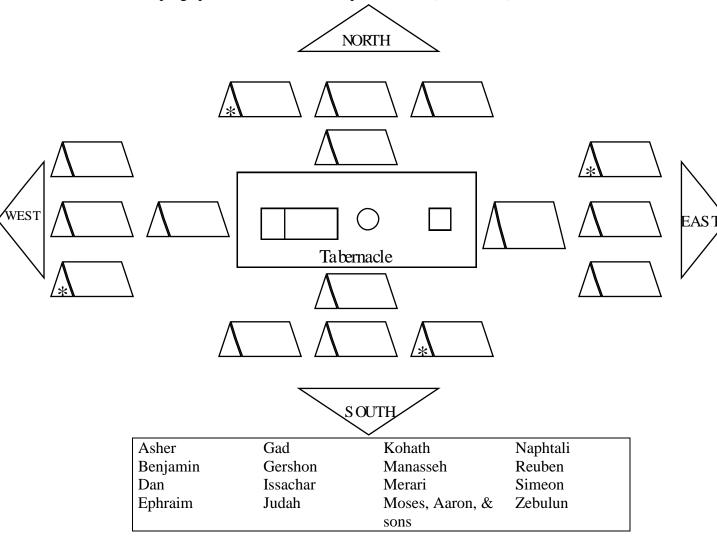


3.	Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord	thee, and _	thee.	The Lord make H	is to
	shine upon thee, and be	unto thee: The	Lord lift up	His countenance u	pon thee,
	and give thee				

OT-Lesson 49

Review: Leviticus-Deuteronomy

4. Tribal camping spots: Which tribes camped where? (Numbers 2)



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- 5. Who was chosen to be the 1st high priest? (Leviticus 8, Numbers 3,4)
- 6. What were his 4 sons' names? (Leviticus 8, Numbers 3,4)
- 7. Which tribe was "substituted" for all the 1st born sons of Israel and dedicated to a lifetime of service to God? (Numbers 3,4)
- 8. God guided Israel with a \_\_\_\_\_ by day and a \_\_\_\_ by night. (Numbers 9)
- 9. With what kind of meat did God provide the Israelites during their travels in the wilderness? (Numbers 11)
- 10. Miriam criticizes Moses' wife. As a result, God punishes her with (a broken leg, / heart disease / leprosy). (Numbers 12)
- 11. Numbers 14:8 "If the Lord delight in us, then He will bring us into this land, and give it to us; a land which floweth with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_."
- 12. Moses sent \_\_\_\_\_ spies to check out Canaan. (Numbers 13)
- 13. They searched out the land for \_\_\_\_\_ days. They brought back \_\_\_\_\_. (Numbers 13)
- 14. There were \_\_\_\_\_ fearful spies and \_\_\_\_\_ faithful spies. These that believed God could provide them the land were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (Numbers 13)

Review: Leviticus-Deuteronomy

As a result of Israel's lack of faith in God and their complaining, God sent them back into the wilderness to wander (3, 60, 40) more years. (Numbers 14) 16. One who gathered sticks on the Sabbath day was punished by (Numbers 15) a. having to gather sticks for everyone. b. being stoned to death. c. nothing happening to him. 17. When Korah and his fellow Levites wanted to serve as priests, God showed them He had chosen (Aaron / Moses / Miriam) for that responsibility by consuming them into the ground. God also showed them by making \_\_\_\_\_'s wooden rod (turn into a snake / bud and blossom / grow hair). (Numbers 16,17) The Israelites were to give (1/2, 1/5, 1/10, 1/100) of all they had in tithes to the Lord. 18. (Numbers 18) 19. Moses was forbidden to lead Israel into the promised land because he (sinned / had a bad attitude / struck the rock at Meribah and took credit due God). (Numbers 20) 20. Because of Israel's constant complaints and whining, God sends (poisonous snakes / poisonous spiders / scorpions) to bite them. Moses puts a replica of this on a brass pole so some might be spared. (Numbers 21) King Og was from a nation of (dwarfs / giants / lepers). (Numbers 21) 21. Numbers 24:13 "If Balak would give me his house full of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, I cannot go 22. beyond the commandment of the \_\_\_\_\_, to do either good or \_\_\_\_\_ of mine own mind; but what the \_\_\_\_\_ saith, that will I speak." 23. King Balak sent his top leaders to a prophet named to curse Israel. As he goes to King Balak, his donkey (refuses to go / talks / runs too fast). (Numbers 22) 24. God has this prophet (bless / curse) Israel. (Numbers 23) 25. Why was a 2nd census (counting) of all of Israel taken? (Numbers 26) 26. God appointed as Moses' successor. (Numbers 27) 27. Which tribes wanted to settle east of the Jordan River? (Numbers 32) 28. There were (6/12/18) cities designated as cities of refuge. (Numbers 35) 29. Deuteronomy 4:2 "Ye shall not unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye \_\_\_\_\_ ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_ which I command you." 30. Deuteronomy 4:24 "For the Lord thy is a consuming fire, even a God." Which books of the Bible did Moses write? These are called the \_\_\_\_\_. 31. 32. Moses viewed the promised land from atop (Mt. Pisgah / Mt. Ebal / Mt. Sinai). (Deuteronomy 3) Deuteronomy 6:5 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine , and with 33. all thy and with all thy ." 34. Deuteronomy 6:7 "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt \_\_\_\_\_ of them when thou \_\_\_\_\_ in thine house, and when thou \_\_\_\_\_ by the way, and when thou \_\_\_\_ down, and when thou \_\_\_\_ up." Deuteronomy 11:27, 28 "A if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, 35. which I command you this day; and a \_\_\_\_\_ if ye will \_\_\_\_\_ obey the commandments of the Lord your God." Moses constantly warned Israel to stay away from worship. God wants (1st / 2nd / 36. 3rd) place in our lives. (Deuteronomy 4)

Review: Leviticus-Deuteronomy

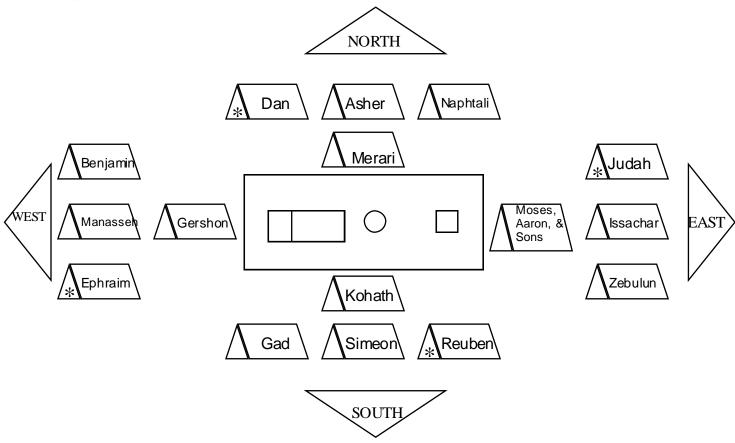
37.	Match: (Deuteronomy 14)	
	clean animal	OX
	unclean animal	goat
	clean animal	camel
	unclean animal	sheep
	clean animal	pig
	unclean animal	buzzard
38.	Deuteronomy 19:21 "And thine eye shall r	ot pity; but life shall go for, eye for
	, tooth for, hand for, fo	ot for"
39.	(God / Our parents / The government) is the gi	ver of all we are blessed with. (Some / None /
	All) of God's laws must be obeyed. Sin (wi	ll / will not / might) be punished.
40.	Our love for God is demonstrated by the (m	nean things / kindnesses / jokes) we show others.
41.	Although the priesthood had the final judic	ial voice, (kings / judges / prophets) were
	appointed in every city to administer justice	e among Israel. A crime punishable by death
	required $(1/2/3)$ witness(es). (Deuterono	my 19)
42.	Moses lived years. He spent	•
	refugee in Midian and years as Israe	l's leader. (Deuteronomy 34)
43.	What was the most important thing you lea	rned from these three books?

Review: Leviticus-Deuteronomy

# Answer Key

- 1. Nadab, Abihu
- 2. 1 Pentecost, 2 Tabernacles, 3 Trumpets, 4 Passover, 5 Unleavened bread, 6 Atonement, 7 First fruits
- 3. bless, keep, face, gracious, peace

4.



- 5. Aaron
- 6. Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, Ithamar
- 7. Levites
- 8. cloud, pillar of fire
- 9. quail
- 10. leprosy
- 11. milk, honey
- 12. 12
- 13. 40, samples of the crops/fruits they saw
- 14. 10, 2, Joshua, Caleb
- 15. 40
- 16. being stoned to death
- 17. Aaron, Aaron, bud and blossom
- 18. 1/10
- 19. struck the rock at Meribah and took credit due God
- 20. poisonous snakes
- 21. giants
- 22. silver, gold, Lord, bad, Lord
- 23. Balaam, talks

Review: Leviticus-Deuteronomy

- 24 bless
- 25. to number those able to go to war. It also gave a basis for dividing the promised land.
- 26. Joshua
- 27. Reuben, Gad, 1/2 of Manasseh
- 28. *e*
- 29. add, diminish, Lord, God
- 30. God, jealous
- 31. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, pentateuch
- 32. Mt. Pisgah
- 33. heart, soul, might
- 34. talk, sittest, walkest, liest, risest
- 35. blessing, curse, not
- 36. idol (pagan), 1st
- 37. clean: ox, goat, sheep unclean: camel, pig, buzzard
- 38. life, eye, tooth, hand, foot
- 39. God, all, will
- 40. kindnesses
- 41. judges, 2
- 42. 120, 40, 40, 40

# Old Testament Lesson 50: Israel's New Leader – Joshua Rahab And The Red Cord Joshua 1,2

Memory Verses:	Joshua 1:5, 6	There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.
	Joshua 1:9	Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.
	Joshua 2:24	And they said unto Joshua, Truly the Lord hath delivered into our hands all the land; for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us.
	Hebrews 11:31	Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• victory comes through faith in God and obedience to Him.		

#### Outline:

I. Joshua, Israel's new leader.

Joshua 1

- A. Introduction.
- B. Joshua commissioned by God.
- C. Joshua mobilizes Israel to cross Jordan.

II. Mission of the spies.

Joshua 2

- A. Rahab of Jericho hides spies.
- B. A promise to keep.
- C. Reporting to Joshua.

#### Facts:

- 1. The book of Joshua is named after its principal character and author. Joshua had been born into slavery in Egypt. He was Moses' assistant for forty years, one of the twelve spies, and a great warrior with strong faith. Josephus tells us Joshua was eighty-five when he succeeded Moses as Israel's leader. Being from the tribe of Ephraim, "Joshua" in Hebrew means "Jesus" or "Jehovah (Yahweh) is salvation."
- 2. The book of Joshua continues the history of Israel as they conquered and divided Canaan and demonstrated God's faithfulness to His promises. After twenty-five years of leading Israel, Joshua died at the age of 110 and was buried in Ephraim.

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3. Joshua attacked central Canaan first, then the southern portion and finally the northern portion. Through these military campaigns, Israel learned a crucial lesson, victory came through faith in God and obedience to Him. Key words throughout this book are courage and conquest.

- 4. God directly commanded Joshua to cross over the Jordan River and be strong and of good courage. They were to occupy the land as they went from the Negeb Desert to the Lebanon mountains (Mt. Hermon) and from the Mediterranean Sea to the Euphrates River. God assured Joshua He would not abandon him as long as he observed God's laws. He was to constantly remind Israel of God's laws as well to insure their success.
- 5. The Jordan River, at that time, was at flood stage. (3:15) Joshua mobilized Israel for crossing the Jordan in three days. They were far better organized and disciplined than forty years ago. The staff officers (scribes) made sure the people were prepared for deployment with provisions in hand. No longer were they dependent on manna alone. Soon it ceased altogether. (5:11, 12)
- 6. While still camped at Shittim, Joshua summoned the eastern tribes (Reuben, Gad, Manasseh) for their best troops. He reminded them of their agreement with Moses to leave their families and cattle settled on the east side of Jordan, but their fighting men were needed to lead the other tribes across Jordan and help conquer their territory. They fully complied and supported Joshua as their new leader.
- 7. Having some knowledge of Canaan from his own spying experience thirty-eight years ago, Joshua secretly sent two spies to check out Jericho, the strongest fortress of the southern Jordan valley. He needed to know how to overtake the hostile Canaanites on the western bank and how Israel could cross Jordan at flood stage.
- 8. The spies came to a the house of Rahab, a harlot. Josephus has argued that Rahab was an innkeeper, but the Hebrew (zônâ) and Greek (porné) definitely classify her as a temple/cult prostitute. The wicked and idolatrous Canaanites had no morals. (Hebrews 11:31, James 2:25) Her prostitution, though, brings our attention to God's great mercy in giving her faith and sparing her. (Matthew 21:32)
- 9. Although the spies had planned to spend the night there, they had been recognized as Israelites, suspected of spying, and reported to the king. The king dispatched guards to arrest them at Rahab's house.
- 10. But Rahab hid her guests on the rooftop under stalks of flax. (Deuteronomy 22:8) In Oriental ethics, guarding one's guest as an act of hospitality is one of the highest virtues. Yet with great risk to herself, she betrayed her king and told the guards the spies were at her house earlier but left at dusk toward the city gates. If they hurried, they might be able to catch them. She declared she did not know they were spies.
- 11. Rahab went up to talk with the spies. She told them she knew their Jehovah God would conquer her country for Israel. Everyone feared them, for they had heard of the path God made for Israel through the Red Sea leaving Egypt. They had heard of the defeat of Kings Sihon and Og. She recognized Jehovah God as the supreme God.
- 12. Rahab then begged them to spare her and all her family in exchange for her kindnesses toward them. They made an agreement (promise) that if she did not betray them, they would not harm her or her family.
- 13. Rahab's house was built on the city wall. She helped the spies escape by a scarlet cord (yarn rope) let down on the outer side of the city wall through her window. She told them to hide

in the mountains for three days. By then the guards would give up their search and it would be safe for them to return to their camp.

- 14. The spies reminded Rahab to leave the scarlet cord hanging out her window to identify her house that it might be spared when the city was destroyed. She and all her family must be in her house to be spared.
- 15. The spies then retreated to the mountains for three days until their pursuers gave up. A half mile west, at the edge of the Jordan valley, were limestone cliffs 1,500 feet high with many caves in which to hide. (These cliffs are only eight to ten miles north of the caves where the Dead Sea scrolls were discovered.)
- 16. Upon their return to camp, the spies reported to Joshua how afraid the Canaanites were of Israel and Jehovah God. They encouraged Joshua to go ahead into the land. This answered one of Joshua's two problems.
- 17. Rahab, we later will discover, turns her life around. Her name is in the genealogy of Christ. (Matthew 1:5) She married an Israelite named Salmon. Caleb had a son named Salmon. (I Chronicles 2:51) If this is the one she married, she entered a leading family of Israel. She is also named among the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11:31.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

map of Canaan and tribal divisions
provisions - backpack, suitcase, "bag lunch," canteen, thermos
flood stage - picture
toy sword, helmet (bowl), shield of construction paper, cardboard
spies - trench coat, sunglasses, spy glass, binoculars, magnifying glass, mask
king - crown, robe, scepter
flax - cut tall weeds, paper rolls or strips
parting the red sea - previously used visual from Kings Sihon and Og
red cord - rope, yarn, tape to window sill in class room
family picture or drawing - mother, father, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews
cave - create with a sheet and chairs, pup tent in the corner of the room

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls Joshua, 2 spies, Rahab
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

## Songs:

- A Mighty Fortress
- Be A Doer
- Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah
- He Is My Everything
- He's My King
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way For Me
- I Love The Lord Messiah
- I Will Call Upon The Lord

- I Will Listen To God's Word
- I'm In The Lord's Army
- Jordan River, I'm Bound To Cross
- Joshua
- Our God Keeps His Promises
- Seek Ye First
- Stand Up And Shout It
- Without Faith It's Impossible

#### Activities:

- Illustrate the military strategy of "divide and conquer" with a map and marker.
- File Folder Activities:
  - "To The Promised Land"
- Story or activity on Faith, Obedience, or Courage
- *This Is Your Life* Put in order the events in the life of a Bible person. (Joshua, Moses, Aaron, Caleb, etc.) Students may also draw a picture or write a short paragraph about what impressed them with this person.
- *Character Clues* Make a pocket on a poster for each of the character's in today's lesson. Write out short clues students can match with each character.
- *Make A Sticker* Use regular mailing stickers. Let students create a sticker to wear using key words or thought from the lesson. Examples: courage and conquer, faith, obey
- Age-appropriate handwork

# Discussion Questions:

- 1. Who was appointed Israel's new leader? Why was he perfect for the job?
- 2. What two immediate problems faced Joshua in possessing the land? How did he solve the first one?
- 3. How long did it take Israel to mobilize their march on Canaan? Why?
- 4. Where did Joshua send spies? Why? How many?
- 5. Who helped the spies? Why? How did she help them?
- 6. How did the spies avoid the guards searching for them?
- 7. What did Rahab do to identify her house to Israel's fighting men?
- 8. Who did Joshua foreshadow? How?
- 9. What New Testament parallels can be drawn from the story of Rahab?

# Old Testament Lesson 51: Crossing Jordan Joshua 3-5

Memory Verses:	Joshua 3:17	And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.
	Joshua 5:15	And the captain of the Lord's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.
	Exodus 16:35	And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

Goals:	Student will learn:		
	• true faith is trusting God to handle the situation even though to us the		
	situation appears impossible. There is nothing God cannot do.		
	• we must seek God's guidance in our decisions as Joshua always did.		

# Outline:

I. Crossing the Jordan.

Joshua 3

- A. Final instruction.
- B. Israel follows the ark.
- C. Israel crosses on dry ground.
- II. A memorial to God's goodness.

Joshua 4

Joshua 5

- A. Twelve men chosen.
- B. A monument to God's miracle.
- C. A memorial also at Gilgal.
- III. Joshua prepares Israel spiritually.
  - A. Canaan paralyzed with fear.
  - B. Circumcising Israel.
  - C. Passover.
  - D. Manna ceases.
  - E. An angel appears.

### Facts:

1. Encouraged by the spies' report, Israel moved from their encampment at Shittim (Acacia) six miles from Jordan to within a mile of its flooded waters at Zor. Upon leaving Egypt at the beginning of their exodus, they crossed the Red Sea. Now again at the end of their

- journeying, they crossed Jordan. Realizing the waters were flooded and once across there would be nowhere to retreat from Canaan's strong armies and fortified cities, Israel again faced a major crisis of faith.
- 2. At this point the pillar of cloud would no longer guide them. Instead, the officers instructed Israel to watch the priests carrying the ark of the covenant and follow them. The priest Levites carried the ark during this occasion not those of Kohath's family because this was a solemn and extraordinary occasion symbolizing the guiding presence of Jehovah. Israel was to follow from a distance of about 2,000 cubits (one-half mile/3,000 feet).
- 3. Before they crossed Jordan, all Israel purified themselves for this great miracle and also because they were entering a holy war. God would honor Joshua by showing Israel He was with Joshua just as He had been with Moses.
- 4. Early the next morning, Joshua summoned Israel. When the soles of the priests carrying the ark touched the water, the river stopped flowing. It backed up as if against an invisible wall at the town of Adam and Zaretan (south of Jabbok). The river bed was dry for all of Israel to cross over to a point close to Jericho. The priests carrying the ark stood in the middle of the river bed until all had crossed over to the other side. The 40,000 fighting men of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh led them.
- 5. Twelve men were selected, one from each tribe, to collect a stone from the river bed where the priests stood. A memorial was to be created by these stones to commemorate God's power and faithfulness in bringing Israel across Jordan just as He had at the Red Sea and back to the promised land. They were to teach their children for generations to come the meaning of this memorial to Jehovah God and His mighty power.
- 6. Joshua then went to the river bed and set up a heap of twelve stones (one for each tribe) in the place where the priests stood with the ark as the Israelites passed over. Both Old Testament and archaeology support the frequent use of free standing stones as memorials, vows, or covenants, or marking supernatural events. (Genesis 28:18, Genesis 31:45-53, Joshua 24:26, I Samuel 7:10-12)
- 7. As soon as the priests carrying the ark got to the other side, the river poured down and overflowed its banks as before.
- 8. They reached their camp at Gilgal at the northeastern edge of Jericho just in time to select the Passover lamb (Exodus 12:3) to be slain on the fourteenth of the month. The memorial to God was reconstructed here. Gilgal means "circle."
- 9. When the people of Canaan heard that Israel had invaded their territory, they were paralyzed with fear. They may have relied on the flooded waters as a temporary barrier, but when they heard Jehovah had divided the waters their morale was devastated. It was obvious to even the heathen of Canaan that the God of Israel is a mighty and living God.
- 10. For the second time in Israel's history, God instructed Joshua to set aside a day to circumcise all the males of Israel. All those men who had left Egypt had been circumcised, but by now had all died. Those males born in the wilderness had not been circumcised because of God's judgment against them for their rebellions. Therefore, to inherit the promised land, they must bear this mark of submission to Jehovah. After this ceremony, the entire camp rested and recuperated.
- 11. Israel celebrated Passover on the fourteenth day. This was the third recorded observance. (Numbers 9:5)

12. The next day, Israel began eating from the gardens and grain fields of the plains of Jericho. They made unleavened bread. At this point, the raining of manna ceased. Harvest was in progress at Jericho and there was plenty for Israel.

- 13. Joshua had walked off alone to size up the city of Jericho. It was strategically imperative Israel conquer this mighty fortress. By divine directive, an angel of God appeared to Joshua as a military captain with a drawn sword. Joshua walked closer to him and asked if he was a friend or an enemy. He declared he was the captain of the Lord's army.
- 14. Joshua fell to the ground and worshipped him. He asked what the Lord would have him do. The commander told Joshua to take off his shoes for the place where he stood was holy ground. Joshua immediately did as he was told. (Exodus 3:5) Although Canaan had been defiled by heathen nations, God's holy presence sanctified this spot.
- 15. The judgment of the wicked was at hand. Joshua's military strategies would all be divinely directed.

#### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

suitcase, backpack, duffle bag, camping equipment

Jordan River - blue Jello (jiggler recipe) in rectangular dish - cut and raise back or lift a section out

model of the ark of the covenant

purifying - wash cloth, wet wipe, damp paper towel per student

sandals of priests - paper cutouts, doll shoes

river bed - small pebbles, stones, gravel

memorial - small stones, clay, styrofoam, blocks - stack 12/12

lamb - toy, paper cutout, clay

flint rock - arrowhead

fruit, raw vegetables, oatmeal, cereal, bread, crackers, cookies

angel - toy sword, toy soldier

- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook
- Video

#### Songs:

- Cheerfully Obey
- God Is Watching Over You
- I Am Bound For The Promised Land
- I Know The Lord Will Find A Way
- I Will Listen To God's Word
- I'm Camping In Canaan's Happy Land

- Jordan River
- Joshua
- Let Us Sing The Books Of Moses
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- There's A Land Beyond The River
- Unto Thee O Lord

#### Activities:

- Time Line Make a time line. Give each student cards with names of Bible people studied thus far. Two students draw a card and decide which card would go first on the number line. For older students, have them tell some fact about their Bible person.
- Your Choice Make a poster with pockets for questions. Number the pockets. The higher the numbered pocket, the more difficult the questions. Have students choose a number and draw a question from that pocket. If they can answer it correctly, they hold that question until the end of the activity. If not, they return it to the pocket. Points earned are totaled at the end.
- Play acting Allow students to act out the Bible story with your direction. Have simple props available. Example: Jordan blue sheet, tarp, twelve stones
- Age-appropriate handwork

### Discussion Questions:

- 1. How did God provide passage across Jordan for the Israelites?
- 2. With what provision for guiding Israel did God replace the pillar of cloud?
- 3. What was the purpose of purification? How is this principle carried over in the New Testament?
- 4. What did the stone memorials remind them to do? Why was this important?
- 5. How did Israel's crossing into Canaan affect the inhabitants? Why?
- 6. Why was circumcision necessary?
- 7. When did the manna stop? Why?
- 8. How did God answer Joshua's concerns about conquering Jericho?
- 9. What concerns has God answered for you? How often do you consult Him with specific concerns?
- 10. How often should you consult God? Why?

# Old Testament Lesson 52: The Walls Of Jericho / Achan Joshua 6,7

Memory Verses:	Joshua 6:8	And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the Lord, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them.
	Joshua 6:27	So the Lord was with Joshua; and his fame was noised throughout all the country.
	I Corinthians 1:25	Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
	Hebrews 11:30	By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

Goals:	Student will learn:
	• God demands our obedience whether we understand His reasoning or
	not.
	• that sin affects the family.

### Outline:

I. Conquering Jericho.

Joshua 6

- A. God's battle plan.
- B. Jericho encompassed.
- C. The walls come down.
- D. Rahab spared.
- E. The rebuilder of Jericho cursed.

### II. Defeated at Ai.

Joshua 7

- A. Israel defeated.
- B. God instructs Joshua.
- C. Achan's sin exposed.
- D. Achan and his family destroyed.

### Facts:

1. Jericho was not far from the Jordan River and Israel's camp at Gilgal. It is believed that the walls of Jericho enclosed about eight acres. There were two walls about fifteen feet apart. The inner wall was twelve feet thick and both walls were about thirty feet high. The two walls were linked together by houses built along the top. Modern archaeologists have unearthed the ruins of Jericho and have found nothing to conflict with biblical history.

Joshua 6.7

2. Fearful of the Israelites and their God, Jericho's officials had locked the city's gate tightly. No one was allowed to go in or out. Jehovah informed Joshua of His divine plan to destroy Jericho.

- 3. God told Joshua to have his entire army to silently walk around the city of Jericho once a day for six days, followed by seven priests carrying trumpets (ram's horns, Exodus 19:13) walking ahead of the ark of the covenant. On the seventh day, they were to silently walk around Jericho seven times then the priests would sound a long blast on their trumpets. All the people were to shout loudly upon hearing the trumpets. When they did this, the walls of Jericho would fall and they could overtake the city from every direction.
- 4. This plan produced disciplined humility for Israel. Their faith was at one of its finest hours in all of Israel's history here. (Hebrews 11:30)
- 5. Joshua carried out God's plan exactly as He had instructed. He summoned the priests and his fighting men. Jericho was encompassed silently at dawn for six days. On the seventh day, they encompassed Jericho seven times, sounded the trumpets, and shouted. God delivered Jericho to Israel with His mighty power. They did God's work in His way in spite of how "foolish" their marching may have seemed. (I Corinthians 1:25)
- 6. Kathleen Kenyon's expedition (1952-1958) revealed Jericho, with its parallel walls of mud bricks, had fallen outward. John Garstang's excavation (1930-1936) dated this event in the late "Bronze Age" (1500-1200 B.C.) and confirms it had been previously occupied by the Hyksos about 1560 B.C. That city was burned and unoccupied 150 years until the Canaanites rebuilt the city in 1407 B.C.
- 7. Joshua instructed Israel to kill everyone except Rahab and those in her house. They were not to take any booty from Jericho. Everything was to be destroyed. The gold, silver, and bronze and iron were to be given to the Lord's treasury or used in the tabernacle by the priests.
- 8. As the trumpets were blown, the people of Israel shouted. Jericho's walls collapsed in their place except for Rahab's house. Israel rushed in to destroy the city. The spies kept their promise and rescued Rahab and her relatives.
- 9. Israel set Jericho ablaze. Joshua placed a curse on anyone who would rebuild Jericho. He would lose his firstborn son when he laid the foundation and his youngest son would die when he set up the gates. This happens 500 years later during the reign of Ahab when Heil rebuilds the walls. (I Kings 16:34) Joshua became famous throughout the land, for Jehovah was with him.
- 10. Defeating Jericho gave Israel passage into central Palestine. The village of Ai stood about two miles east of Bethel. Its location was of strategic importance to Israel's battle plans. Ai was a fortified city having its own king.
- 11. Yet there was sin in Israel's camp. Achan, son of Caram, of the tribe of Judah, had secretly taken loot from Jericho during the siege. As a result, all of Israel was about to suffer the consequences.
- 12. Joshua sent spies to Ai. They returned with an over confident report. Because Ai was a small city, they advised Joshua to send only 2,000-3,000 thousand soldiers instead of the whole army.
- 13. Joshua sent 3,000 soldiers, but they were soundly defeated. Thirty six Israelites died in the attack, others died being chased back to camp by way of the cliffs at Shebarim. Perplexed and despondent, Joshua ripped his clothes and fell before the ark of the covenant. He and the elders put dust on their heads in submission.

14. Joshua asked God why He had allowed this defeat. He feared the Canaanites now had them at a disadvantage and would surround them and kill all of Israel. Such a loss of morale so early in the war was devastating to Israel. He feared God had forsaken Israel.

- 15. Jehovah told Joshua their defeat was due to sin among Israel. Someone had secretly taken loot from Jericho. It was hidden among their belongings. The offender must be sought out and burned. God told Joshua to have all of Israel go through purification and the next day God would reveal this offender to Joshua and all of Israel.
- 16. The next morning, Israel came by tribes before the Lord. The tribe of Judah was indicated. Then the clans came before Him and the clan of Zerah was singled out. Then the families of that clan came forth and the family of Zabdi was indicated. Finally, each man of that family came and his grandson, Achan, was found to be guilty by lot.
- 17. Joshua had Achan make full confession of his sin before God and acknowledge that God's judgment would be just. Achan confessed he had sinned by taking a beautiful robe imported from Babylon, 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels. He confessed he had hidden them in the ground beneath his tent. Joshua sent men to search for these items. They were found exactly where Achan said they were.
- 18. Achan and his entire household (sons, daughters, animals, goods, and possessions) along with the stolen items were taken to the valley of Achor. There, they were stoned and their bodies burned. (Living under the same tent, his family were considered accomplices and heirs of his curse.) Infamous persons were often buried in a shallow grave under a pile of stones.
- 19. The valley of Achor (troubling) is on the northern boundaries of Judah, a mile south of Jericho (Wadi Qeti). Thus ended the Lord's anger with Israel. They had seen once again His demand for obedience.

### Visuals:

• Characterization props:

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map - Jericho, Ai, Gilgal, Valley of Achor
model of Jericho - walls may be constructed of blocks, Legos, sugar cubes
chain, lock, key - real, toy, paper
trumpets - ram's horn, paper, cardboard / ark - model
gold, silver - play money, pennies, chocolate
brass or metal utensils, pots
Jericho ablaze - tissue paper, cellophane "fire" on Jericho model
spies - trench coat, sunglasses, binoculars, small telescope, magnifying glass
soldiers - toy sword, helmet, shield / dust - baby powder, flour
purification - wash cloth, wet wipes, paper towels
by lot - draw straws, toothpicks, sticks
"loot": robe - coat, bath robe / silver, gold
tent - child's play tent, pup tent, blanket over a pole, chair, table
small stones - gravel, foam
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- Flannelgraphs
- Flipchart
- Puppets/Dolls Rahab, family
- Sandbox Map
- Storybook

Video

### Songs:

- Cheerfully Obey
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I'm In The Lord's Army
- Jericho Walls Come Tumbling Down
- Joshua
- Onward Christian Soldiers
- Praise The Name Of Jesus

- Rejoice In The Lord
- Stand Up And Shout It
- Trust And Obey
- Without Faith It's Impossible
- Without Him

### Activities:

- Play act today's lessons with props.
- Application stories/activities on obedience, stealing, keeping promises (Rahab), consequences.
- Create a picture using today's lesson using craft sticks or rounded toothpicks and a glue stick on tag board or construction paper.
- Create riddles about persons, places, and things in today's lessons. Allow students to guess answers.
- Age-appropriate handwork

## Discussion Questions:

- 1. What was Jericho like?
- 2. Give God's battle plans for Jericho.
- 3. Why was everyone/everything in Jericho to be destroyed?
- 4. What was the curse on anyone who rebuilt Jericho?
- 5. What happened at Ai? Why?
- 6. Who was responsible? How?
- 7. Why does God punish all of Israel because of one man?
- 8. What is the solution to this problem?
- 9. Give examples of how our sins have a ripple effect on others.
- 10. What would happen if we ignore one of God's commands as Achan did?
- 11. What effect does sin have on God's family today? On the church?