

BIBLE LESSONS

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LESSON 6: OUR FATHER CARES

AIM: To help children understand that God cares, provides and protects his people. Christians never need worry if they truly trust God.

OPENING IDEA: Play game, 'Crossing the River'. Have a narrow mat or draw parallel lines in chalk on floor to represent a river. Children stand single file and move to music in a circular motion, jumping the mat when they approach the 'river'. Stop the music constantly. The child jumping across the 'river' is out and sits down until one child is left.

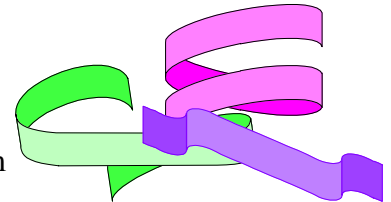
Ask children if they were nervous about being caught.

Ask the children if they have ever had a nurse or doctor wrap a rubber band and tube around their arm. The doctor pumps the tube until it is tight then checks the instrument. He is taking blood pressure. This is one way he knows if your heart is pumping the blood around inside the body correctly. Young children have a different blood pressure rate than older people. Sometimes the things we do make our heart beat faster—children may like to suggest various activities, e.g. climbing stairs, skipping, skateboarding. Sometimes if we are afraid or worried our blood pressure rises because our heart is pumping too fast. If a person's blood pressure is too high for too long, he could be in danger. We all need to relax by giving our worries over to God. He is strong, wise and powerful enough to handle them for us. (This is a good opportunity to have the children pray or to pray for them.)

MEMORY VERSE:

"Leave all your worries with God, for He cares for you." (1 Pet 5:7).

These words maybe written on long strips of paper and made into an arm band or forehead band.



DISCUSSION: Ask children if they have ever felt afraid when they have been on their own. Ask them what difference did it make when their mother or father arrived (encourage them to see that it is when we are alone that we feel most afraid).

STORY: GOD CARES AND PROVIDES FOR HIS PEOPLE

Briefly relate the story of the Israelite sin Egypt as slaves.

- Moses called by God to bring the Israelites out to a new land.
- Pharaoh unwilling to let them go.
- God sends ten plagues until Pharaoh agrees.
- When the Israelites left Egypt, they had no maps or directions, but had to trust God.
- Ask the children to suggest some ways God might have shown them which way to go. Select a child to read Exodus 13:21,22. God loved his people and did not want them to get lost so he gave them cloud and fire.
- Pharaoh changed his mind again and wanted them back.
- Pharaoh sent his soldiers to bring the people back to be slaves.



Ask: How do you think the Israelites felt?
How would you feel?
What do you think they did?

The Bible says they called out to God for help.

- God answered in some wonderful ways (Ex 14:13-30)
- God sent an angel to guard the back of the people (v.19)
- God put a cloud between the people and the army so they Egyptians could not see properly (vv19,20)
- God told Moses to hold out his arm over the sea and a strong wind blew back the water and made a dry path.
- The Israelites went through the path to safety.
- The Egyptian chariots got stuck in the mud and the water came back and drowned them.

STRESS POINTS:

- God is with us both night and day.
- We can call out for help at any time.
- God is always working to guide and protect us.
- We can trust God at all times.

SONGS: How did Moses Cross the Red Sea?
Jehovah Jireh



GOD CARES FOR HIS PEOPLE

BOOK of EXODUS

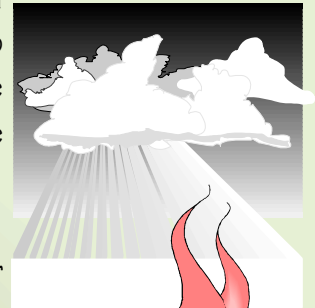


God's people, the Israelites, had been living in Egypt for a long time. As their numbers grew, the Egyptians treated them more and more harshly, using them as slaves. They did not care about the Israelites, but God did. God raised up a leader named Moses to lead the people out of Egypt and into a new land that God had promised long ago.



The Egyptian king of pharaoh, would not let them go, so God sent ten plagues upon the land until Pharaoh agreed. When the Israelites were finally free from slavery, they left Egypt but had no idea which way to go to their Promised Land. They had to trust God. Faithful God guided them through the desert with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

Meanwhile, the pharaoh had changed his mind, and sent his soldiers to bring back the Israelites to Egypt to be his slaves. On their journey, as the Israelites reached the Red Sea, they looked back and saw the Egyptians coming.

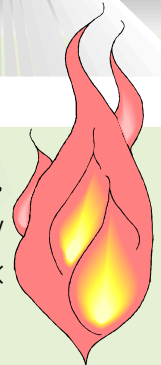


They were afraid, but God told Moses to hold out his arm over the sea, and as he did so, a strong wind blew back the water to



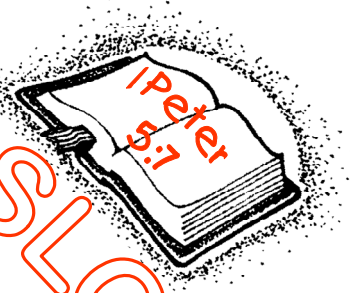
make a dry path for them to cross over to safety.

When the Egyptian chariots reached the sea, they got stuck in the mud and the water came back over them and they were drowned.



God was with His people day and night. They could call out to Him for help at any time. God was faithful to them, guiding them home and protecting them from the enemy.

We need never worry if we truly trust God



LOEPADVKENAS
 FTOYRNHCESL
 OLOMTYQOXU
 IRLWYOMR
 CRFIPES
 GSAWELI
 GTHNGROTD
 1Pet.5:7

Start at the arrow and write every second letter on the lines below.

Begin with the red circle and follow on with the green circle to find out how much God cares for you.

Check your answer in 1 Peter 5:7

L _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ ,

f _ _ _ _ _

MOSES led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. God provided a way for them because He cared.



Answer these questions from the Book of Exodus

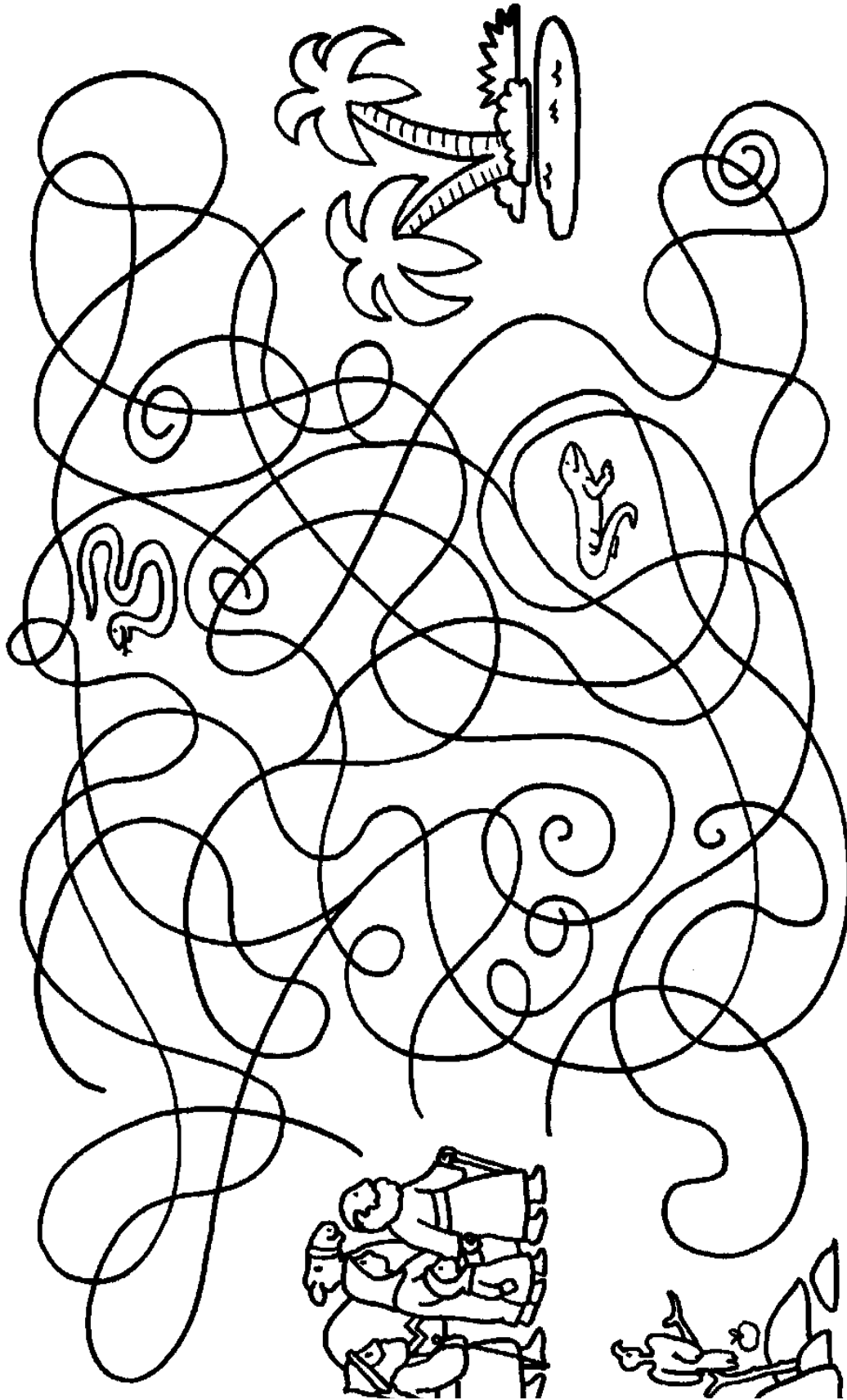
What did God call Moses to do and why? _____

How did Egypt's Pharaoh treat God's people and why?

How did God protect and provide for His people? _____

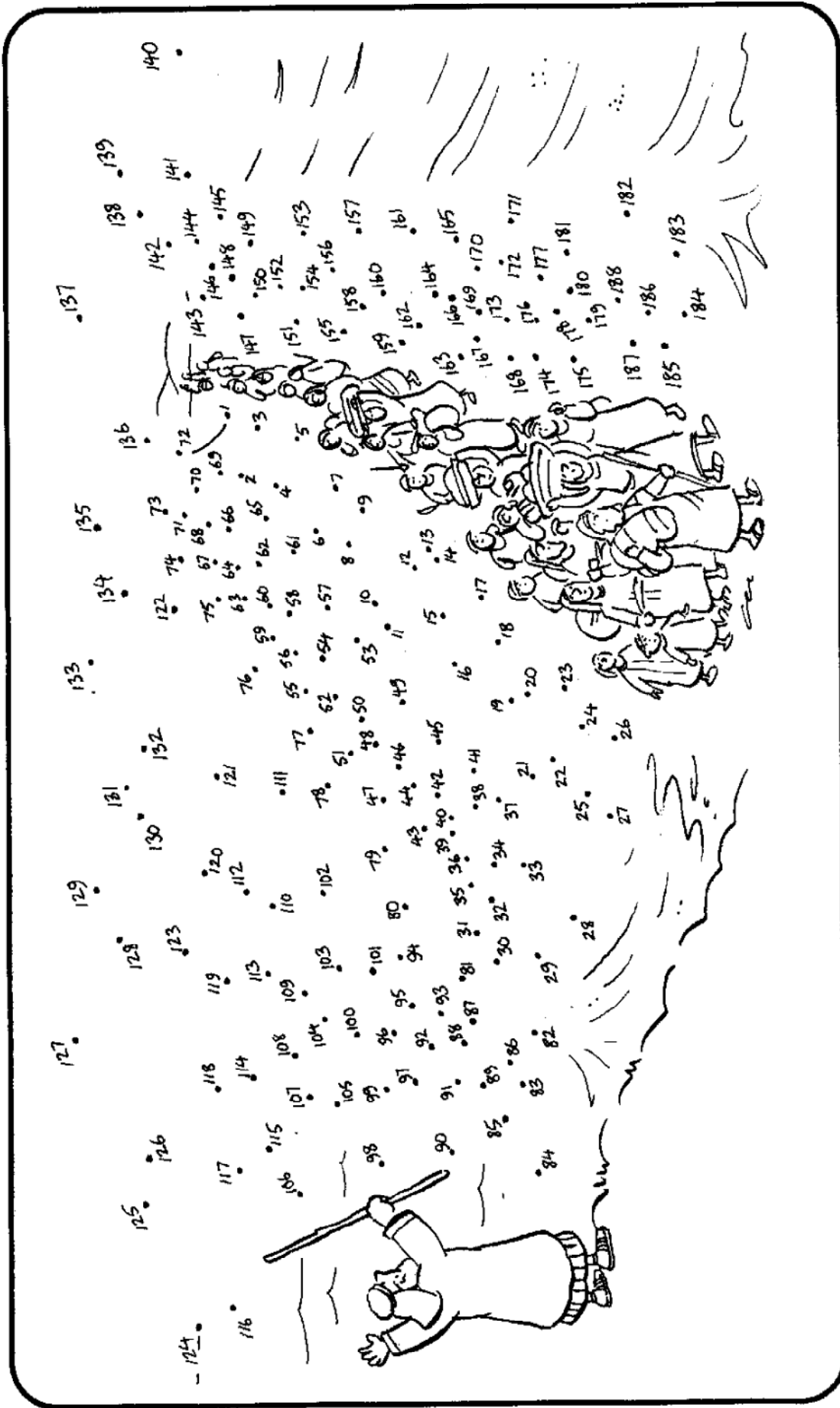
What does this story tell Christians about God when things go wrong? _____

GOD PROTECTS



Moses led God's people from Egypt to the Promised Land, through many deserts.
Which route takes the people of Israel to the oasis?
You can read this story in your Bible. Read Exodus 15:22-27.

GOD PROVIDES



Join up the dots. What happens when Moses lifts up his hands over the Red Sea?

You can find this story in Exodus chapter 14, verses 21–31.

GOD CARES

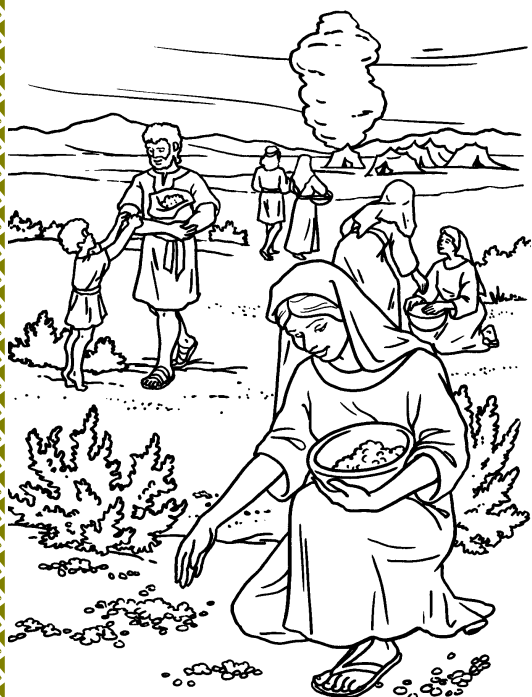
BOOK of EXODUS

God called Moses to lead His people out of Egypt where they had become slaves under a cruel pharaoh. Moses felt inadequate for such a task, but God said, my name is "I AM", and "I will be with you."



Moses went to pharaoh and said "Let my people go!" but pharaoh hardened his heart and treated God's people more harshly.

God sent ten plagues upon Egypt to show them that He was Lord. With each plague, God was giving pharaoh the opportunity to change his heart attitude. God showed them His omnipotent power and authority, pharaoh tried to match Him with the tricks of his magicians.



Moses eventually led the Israelites out of Egypt. God provided for them on their journey to their homeland. He led them with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. He provided manna in the desert for food and their shoes did not wear out.

God cares for, provides and protects His children. Christians need never worry if they truly trust God.