

TEACHER  
RESOURCE

# UNIT 1

From Creation to Jacob's Ladder

LEVEL TWO

# SON SEEKERS

.COM.AU

AGES 6-7

**Creation**  
In the beginning  
God created ...

**NOAH  
AND THE  
FLOOD**

Name:

Learning to serve ...  
**REBEKAH**

# Teacher Resource

## Contents

Teaching Sonseekers ..... 1

A teacher's guide ..... 2

Publisher's note ..... 3

### Unit 1 (Lessons 1-16):

1. *Creation 1* ..... 4
2. *Creation 2* ..... 10
3. *Adam and Eve* ..... 14
4. *The fall* ..... 22
5. *Cain and Abel* ..... 26
6. *Noah builds an ark* .... 30
7. *The flood, Noah and his sons* ..... 34
8. *The Tower of Babel* ... 38
9. *Abram and Lot* ..... 42
10. *The covenant with Abraham* ..... 46
11. *Ishmael and Isaac* ..... 50
12. *Sodom and Gomorrah* 56
13. *The sacrifice of Isaac* 58
14. *Rebekah, Isaac's bride* 62
15. *Jacob and Esau* ..... 66
16. *Jacob's ladder* ..... 70

Unit 1 Awards ..... 75

Curriculum Outline ..... 76

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**visionone** inc

ABN 37 430 685 890

10 Old Goombungee Rd

Toowoomba Qld 4350

Australia

Phone: 1300 885 048

Fax: 1300 728 293

Email: [info@visionone.org.au](mailto:info@visionone.org.au)

Web: [www.visionone.org.au](http://www.visionone.org.au)

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## Teaching Sonseekers ...

Dear Teacher

Teaching young people about God's Word is a great honour and privilege. We note God chose Abraham, a man of faith because he "would teach his children and his household after him, to know the Way of The Lord" (Gen 18:19)

One who undertakes such a task will understand they have accepted a responsibility to become a witness of God's great love and faithfulness. As an example of Christian faith and integrity they have a wonderful opportunity to share their love for God's Word. The tremendous blessing for those who commit themselves to this task is that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and equip you to shine as a light to your class.

Recent trends away from Sunday School structures towards child minding activities have, we believe, been unfortunate as they fail to recognise the impact and effect the message of God's love through Christ has on young people.

Children are the Church's future. As such they are precious and well worth any investment in quality resources and dedicated teachers.

The 'Sonseekers' curriculum offers children Sunday School material that gives them a sound background in Biblical events, people and places. Secondly it offers a pastoral approach for the children to know God is able to help them and change their lives.

Structurally, any program will operate effectively if those teaching are faithful, zealous and committed to a team approach that might include:

- regular prayer and discussion in relation to curriculum issues, student needs and upcoming events and presentations;
- organisation and management of resources;
- training and development needs of teaching staff.

Teaching Sunday School is a rich and rewarding task. May God bless and guide you as you serve in this way.

Yours in Christ

*The Sonseekers Team*

# A teacher's guide to using the Sonseekers materials . . .

## Timeline

4000BC	<i>Creation</i>
	<i>Adam and Eve</i>
	<i>The Fall</i>
2500BC	<i>Noah</i>
	<i>The Flood</i>
	<i>Tower of Babel</i>
2000BC	<i>Abraham</i>
1900BC	<i>Isaac</i>
1800BC	<i>Esau and Jacob</i>
1750BC	<i>Joseph</i>
1360BC	<i>Moses</i>
1280BC	<i>Exodus from Egypt</i>
	<i>and Journeys</i>
	<i>Joshua</i>
1240BC	<i>Entry into and</i>
	<i>Conquest of Land</i>
1220BC	<i>Judges</i>
1100BC	<i>Gideon</i>
1070BC	<i>Samson</i>
1063BC	<i>Samuel</i>
1020BC	<i>Saul as King</i>
980BC	<i>David as King</i>
940BC	<i>Solomon as King</i>
900BC	<i>Kingdom Divided</i>
839BC	<i>Elijah Emerges; Mt Carmel</i>
	<i>Jehoshaphat</i>
814BC	<i>Elisha's Ministry</i>
749BC	<i>Jonah</i>
662BC	<i>Hezekiah; Isaiah</i>
576BC	<i>Josiah</i>
540BC	<i>Daniel taken to Babylon</i>
527BC	<i>Exile into Babylon</i>
457BC	<i>Restoration from Babylon</i>
4BC	<i>Birth of Jesus</i>
26AD	<i>Baptism of Jesus</i>
	<i>Call of Disciples</i>
28AD	<i>Feeding of 5000</i>
	<i>Parables</i>
29AD	<i>Miracles; Transfiguration</i>
30AD	<i>Raising of Lazarus</i>
	<i>Parables</i>
	<i>Palm Sunday</i>
	<i>Jesus' Crucifixion and</i>
	<i>Resurrection</i>
	<i>Day of Pentecost</i>
	<i>Peter's Ministry</i>
33AD	<i>Conversion of Paul</i>
45AD	<i>Paul's Missionary Journeys</i>
60AD	<i>Paul as Prisoner to Rome</i>

## What are the Sonseekers materials?

The Sonseekers Sunday School materials are a four year course of 128 Bible lessons. The lessons are written with the twin aims of teaching the students an accurate chronology of Biblical events and also drawing from each lesson pastoral points relevant to the age and stage of each child. They are written at four levels to cover from Prep to 12+ age groups. The 128 lessons are organised into 8 units, each of sixteen lessons. The table below indicates the suitable age group for each level:

Sonseekers Level	Student Age	School Level
Level One	4 - 5	Kindergarten, Prep
Level Two	6 - 7	Lower Primary
Level Three	8 - 10	Middle Primary
Level Four	11 - 12+	Upper Primary

The Sonseekers materials comprise two related elements:

- **Teacher Resource** – including lesson plans & activity masters which can be photocopied;
- **Student Handbooks** – including homework activities;

There is also a Bible timeline showing chronology of major events, with the dates of the current unit's lessons highlighted, included in each Teacher Resource.

## What's in my Sonseekers Level Two Teacher Resource?

Each Level Two Teacher Resource contains sixteen lesson plans for the relevant age of your students. Each lesson plan comprises:

- a summary of the Bible passage for the lesson;
- two alternative pastoral messages to be drawn out of each lesson; each pastoral message includes a theme, key thought, aim and a memory verse;
- a suggested teaching approach, which although only a guide, outlines a possible way of putting the lesson together;
- two alternative class activities - the first activity (A) is written in a more practical hands-on style and the second activity (B) is of a written nature.

Note: The photocopy masters for each activity are included with the lessons in the Teacher Resource.

.../cont'd



# ... teacher's guide ...

## **How do I best use my Teacher Resource?**

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The art of serving as an effective Sunday School teacher is linked to the degree of diligence in preparing for each lesson. The Sonseekers materials are only designed to assist the teacher in this process. They do not take away from the teacher his or her responsibility to prayerfully consider the needs of the children in the class and to seek God's revelation and wisdom in presenting each Bible lesson. The following suggestions are then made with regard to using this resource.

### **Prior to the lesson**

- ◆ Prayerfully read the Bible passage for the lesson. The reference is provided in the header on the first page of the lesson plan. All Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version (1983 edition).
- ◆ Read through the lesson plan and decide which activities will be most appropriate for the students in your class. Generally, aim for a variety of activities over a unit.
- ◆ Think about how you will combine the various elements of your lesson. Refer to the suggested teaching approach for ideas if necessary. Link the activity to the story so that the significance of the activity is clear to the students.
- ◆ Prepare all activities thoroughly prior to the lesson. Rehearse any planned activity at home to make sure:
  - that you know how to do it yourself;
  - that you have all the relevant materials in the quantities you will need;
  - that you know the length of time that the children will need for the activity.

### **During the lesson**

- ◆ Hear the students' memory verses from the previous lesson. Also check on the completion of the homework activity page.
- ◆ Make sure all students clearly indicate in their Student's Handbook which memory verse they are to learn.
- ◆ Revise the previous lesson before going on to a new story. You may like to use the timeline to help you do this.
- ◆ Encourage students to go over the story themselves during the week and to read ahead for the next lesson.

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### **Publisher's note:**

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The publisher wishes to acknowledge the use of clip art from Coreldraw, Clickart, Bible View Clip Art by Pastoral Computer Services and Logos Bible Clips.

The publisher gives permission for artwork masters to be photocopied for the use of the students in the Sonseekers classes. However, no other part of this publication may be produced or transmitted in any form without permission in writing from the publisher.



# Creation 1

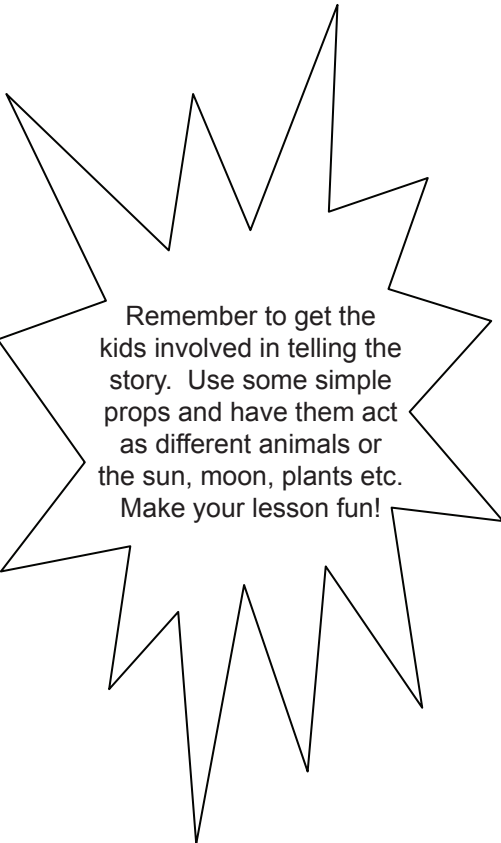
Genesis 1& 2

## Storyline

God created the heavens and the earth and made day and night. He created all of the living plants and creatures on the earth and in the sea and the birds of the air. God also created the sun, the moon and the stars in the sky. It took six days for God to create all things and He was pleased with His work because it was very good. On the seventh day God rested. He blessed the seventh day and made it holy because He rested from all His work.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Explain the sequence of God's creation. Have a large chart in the shape of a wheel showing each day of creation. As each day is discussed, stick appropriate pictures for each day onto the chart.
2. Present the activity.



Remember to get the kids involved in telling the story. Use some simple props and have them act as different animals or the sun, moon, plants etc. Make your lesson fun!

## Theme One

### “God desired creation”

All things were made as a result of God's will. He had a plan and so He created the heavens and the earth and all the things in them very carefully so that everything would be just the way He wanted it. The heavens and the earth were going to be the place where God's plan would take place.

### Key Thought

God is the creator of all things.

### Aim

For the children to understand that God took great care and interest in everything He made.

### Memory Verse

*“God created the heavens and the earth.” (Genesis 1:1).*

## Theme Two

### “God's nature expressed in creation”

When we look at the beauty of a sunset, or the wonderful colours of reef fish and parrots, we know that God loves beauty. When we see pictures of tall, snow-capped mountains, or mighty waterfalls, we understand that God is powerful. The beauty and the variety (explain to children) of God's creation helps us to know that God is great and that He loves us. We can be sure of this when we think of the great care He took to make our world so wonderful.

### Key Thought

God's creation shows us how mighty God is.

### Aim

For the children to appreciate and to express thankfulness to God for His wonderful creation.

### Memory Verse

*“I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth.” (Matthew 11:25).*

## Activity A - The Days of Creation

### Materials

- 2 Activity Sheets per child.
- Glue, scissors, felt pens/coloured pencils.

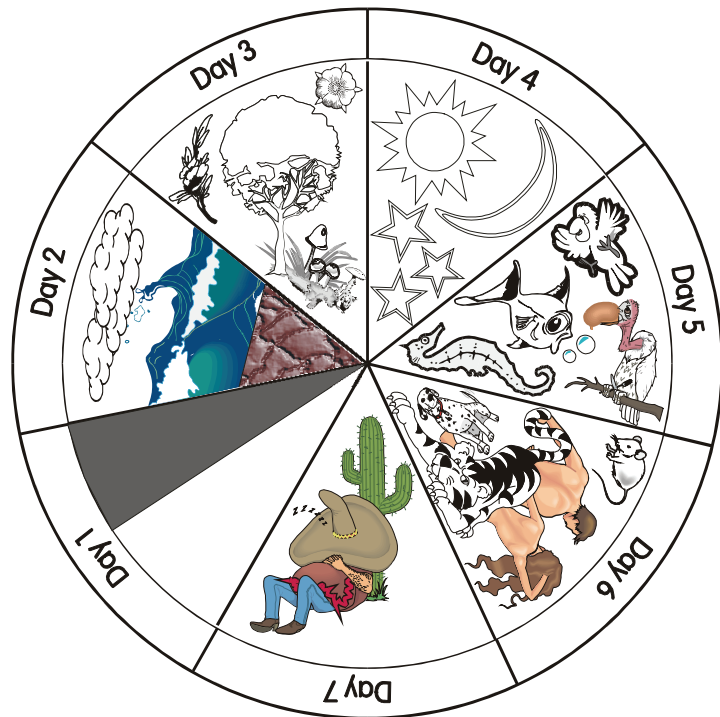
### Steps

#### At Home

- Cut out the circles with the pictures of creation.

#### In Class

- Children colour the six days of creation.
- Cut out wedges, and glue corresponding days on blank circle sheets (see Activity Master).



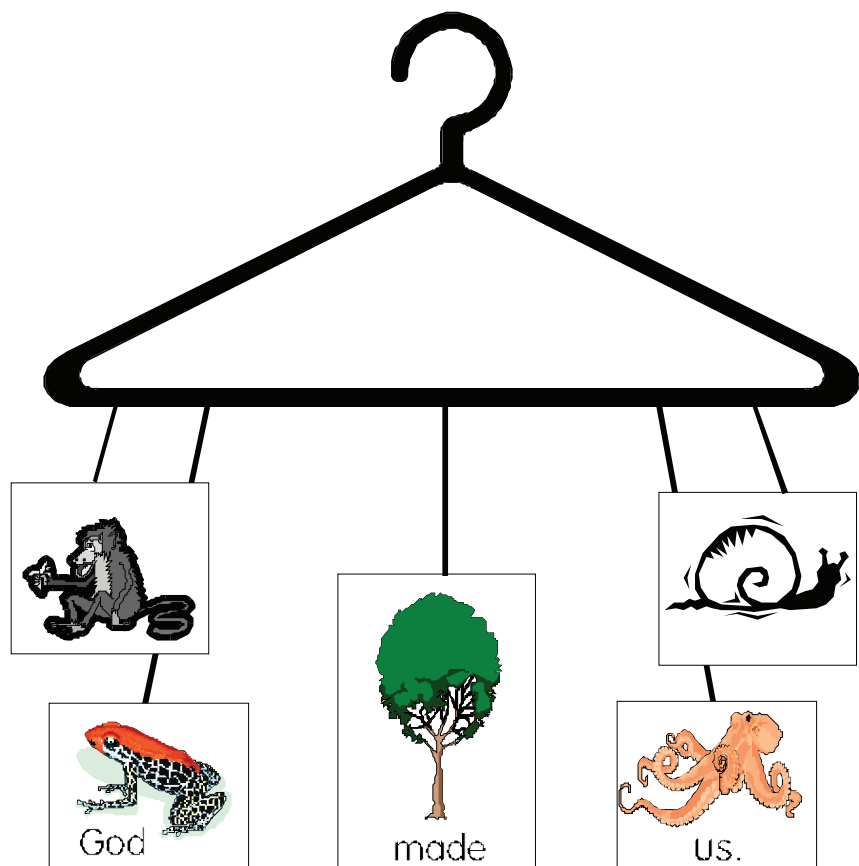
## Activity B - Creation Mobile

### Materials

- 1 wire coat hanger with 5 lengths of wool pre-tied, for each child.
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Safety scissors.
- Felt pens or coloured pencils.

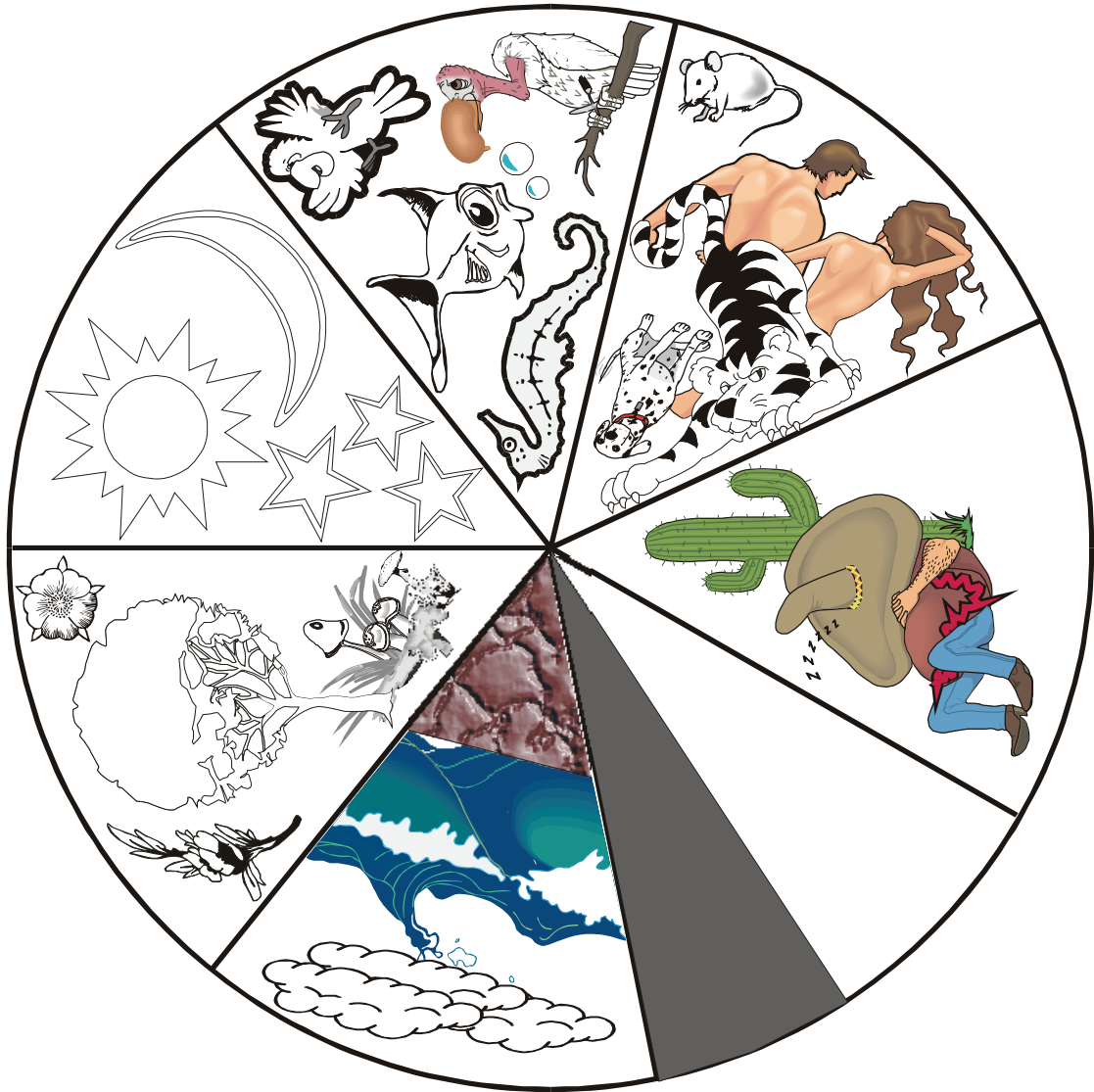
### Steps

- Children write over dotted words ("God", "made" and "us").
- Colour and cut out pictures.
- Staple cut-outs to the wool on the hanger, putting the three words on the bottom, as per diagram.



# Creation 1

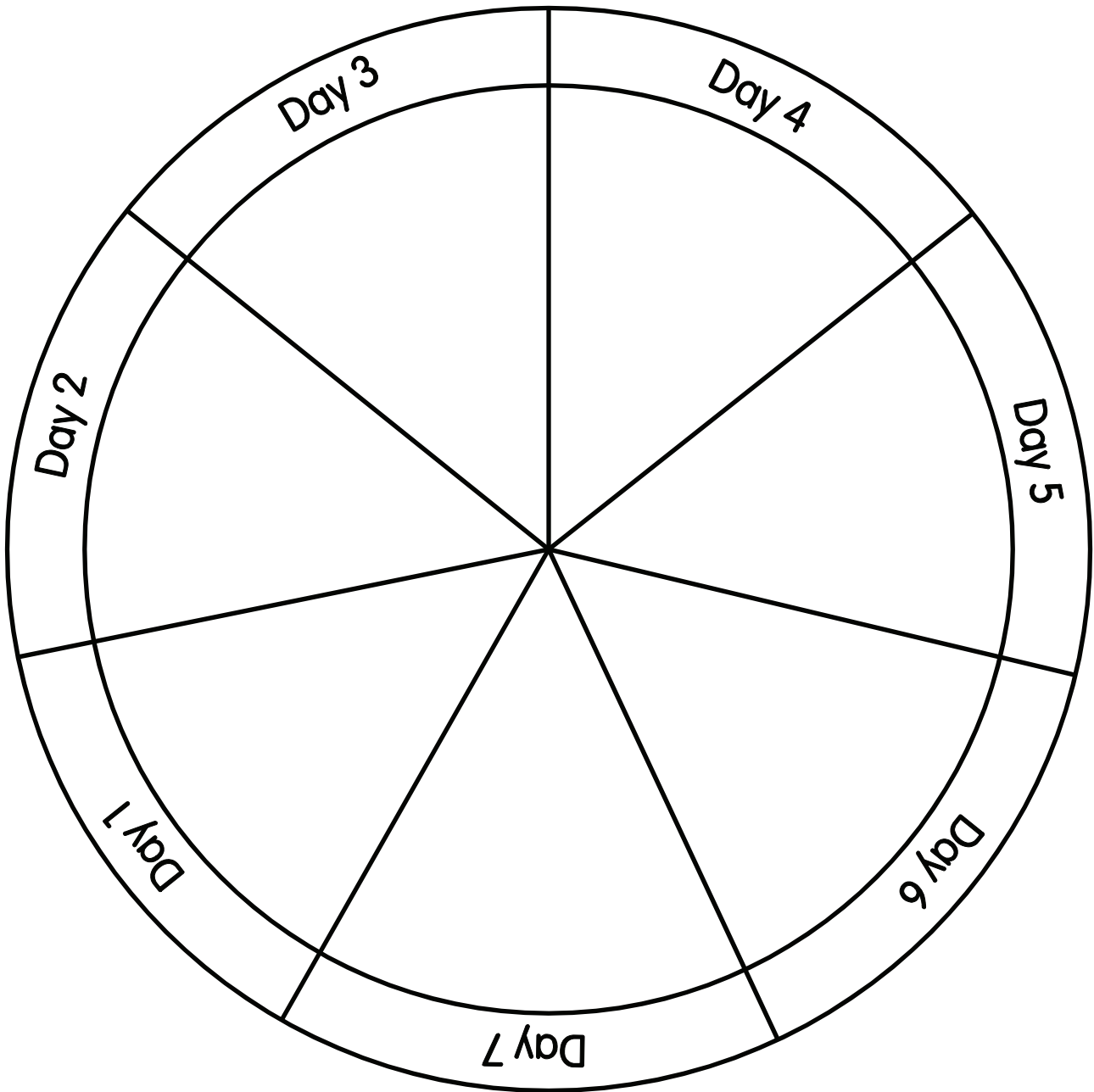
## Activity A - The Days of Creation





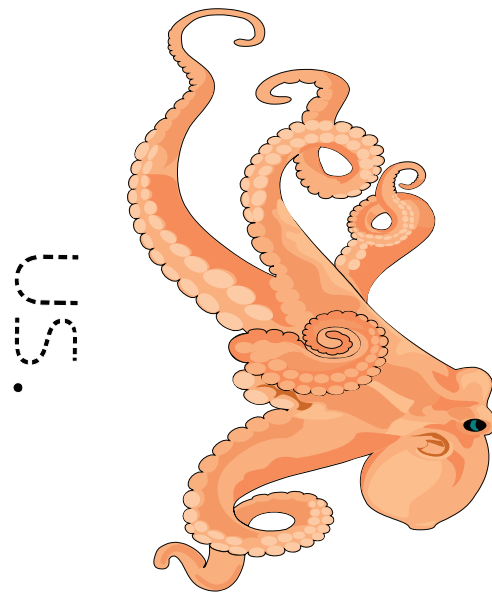
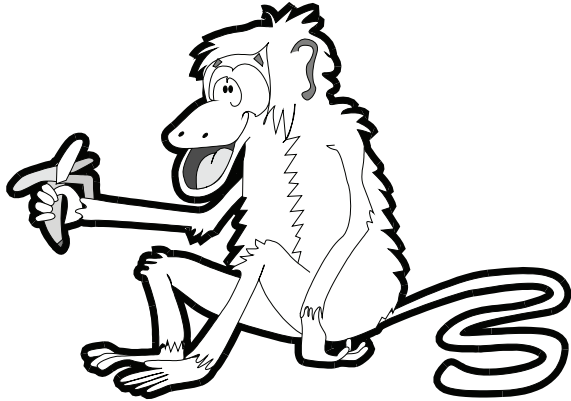
# Creation 1

## Activity A - The Days of Creation



# Creation 1

## Activity B - Creation Mobile



mode



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# Creation 2

Genesis 1& 2

## Storyline

God blessed His creation, allowing the creatures to have families so that the seas and the land would be filled with His creatures. He gave green herbs for every animal, bird and creeping creature to eat. God also made man and created a special garden in which he could live. The man's job was to look after the garden. In this garden, God placed every tree which was lovely to look at and which was good for food. God also provided a river to water the garden. There were also two very special trees that God placed in the garden. They were called the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Have picture books available (borrowed from a library, if necessary) which depict various animals and birds with their babies - include pictures of human families also. Pictures of different types of fruit would also be helpful. Use these pictures when discussing families and God's provision for them.
2. Plant a seed in a flower pot or in a garden and discuss how it will have to be tended, in order for it to grow. Discuss how Adam had to care for the garden of Eden.

## Theme One

### "God provides for His creation"

When we think about how well God planned creation, we realise that He took great care to look after every creature He made. There is no need for us to ever worry about anything. We know that God never changes and He will look after us very lovingly and carefully as we trust Him as our Heavenly Father.

### Key Thought

God blessed His creatures with all they needed to live, so that they would never be hungry, lonely or without a place to live.

### Aim

For the children to be secure in the knowledge that God cares for us.

### Memory Verse

*"Do not worry about your life." (Matthew 6:25).*

## Theme Two

### "God gave man responsibility"

God cares for children by putting them in families where they can be loved and helped. Our parents show us how to be helpful at home, so that we become thoughtful, caring and helpful people. We learn how to be responsible by doing the work that our parents and teachers give us in the best way we can.

### Key Thought

God gave Adam work to do caring for the garden of Eden.

### Aim

To show that God gives us responsibilities so that we learn to be thoughtful and caring towards one another.

### Memory Verse

*"We are God's fellow workers." (1 Corinthians 3:9).*



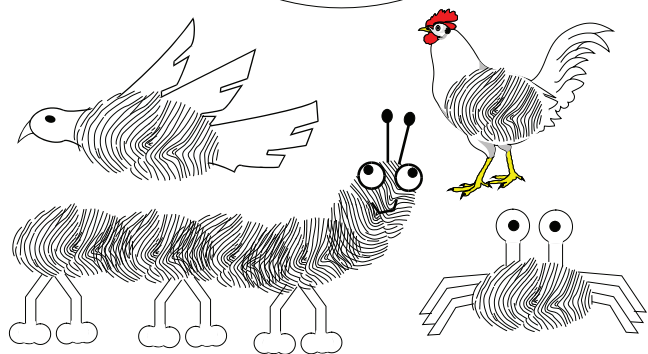
## Activity A - Fingerprint Creations

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet.
- Stamp pads and ink (sponge and paint will probably be too wet to give the desired result).
- Sheet of paper for each child, or paper plate (not plastic or plastic coated).
- Felt pens/pencils/crayons.
- Aprons, or other protective gear.
- Clean up equipment for fingers, eg. plastic bowl, soap and towels.

### Steps

- Show children examples given.
- Print with fingers, onto paper plate/sheet of paper.
- Wash hands.
- Add legs/whatever to make your special picture.
- Print underneath, or around edge of plate, "No one else is like me" or "God made me special." (Teacher may have to complete writing for most. Those who can, could copy themselves.



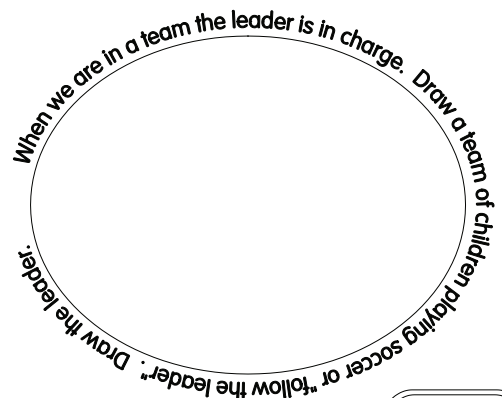
## Activity B - Drawing Activity - "God is in Charge"

### Materials

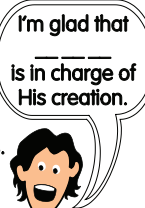
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Felt pens/pencils.

### Steps

- Children draw picture in circle, fill in missing word from speech balloon, and draw pictures of flowers and plants beside watering can.

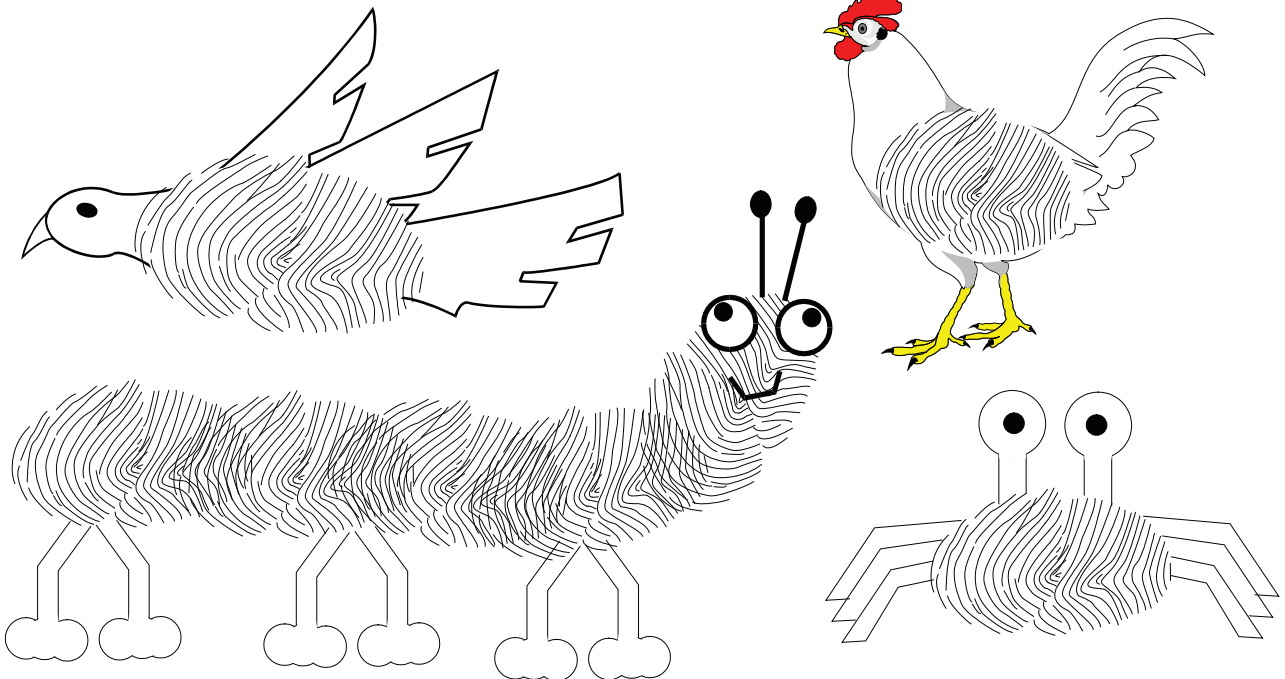


How can we care for something God has made?  
Draw some flowers and plants.



# Creation 2

## Activity A - Fingerprint Creations

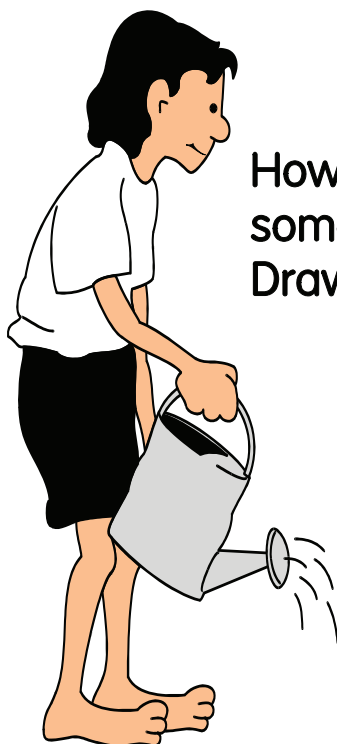




# Creation 2

## Activity B - Drawing Activity - "God is in Charge"

When we are in a team the leader is in charge. Draw a team of children playing soccer or "follow the leader". Draw the leader.



How can we care for something God has made?  
Draw some flowers and plants.

I'm glad that  
\_\_\_\_\_  
is in charge of  
His creation.



# Adam and Eve

Genesis 1:26 - 2:25

## Storyline

God created man in His own image. He put the man in the garden and told him he could eat the fruit from every tree there except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He warned Adam that he would die if he did eat from this tree. God then said that He would make a helper for Adam. The Lord God then caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep and He took one of Adam's ribs from his body. God made a woman from the rib and brought her to Adam to be his helper.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Compare and contrast the similarities and differences between the way God created man and the animals, emphasising how God made man in a special way, for a special reason.
2. Relate the events of Genesis 1:26 - 2:25 and complete the relevant sections of Activity B as they are discussed. Then complete any unfinished sections of the Activity.
3. Make face masks.



## Theme One

### "God created man in a special way"

God loves us just as much as He loved Adam and Eve. He took great care to make them in a special way, different from the animals, because He wanted them to be like God Himself. He wants us to be like Him too and so He sent Jesus and the Holy Spirit to change us so that we become more and more like God.

### Key Thought

God has a special plan for man that He doesn't have for the animals.

### Aim

To show that we are wonderfully made and that God's plan is still taking place.

### Memory Verse

*"God created man in His own image." (Genesis 1:27).*

## Theme Two

### "God's commands are good"

God is a loving Heavenly Father. He looks after His people very carefully. He knows what is safe and good for us and He also knows what is dangerous and harmful. He has placed us in families so that children can be cared for by parents who teach them what is safe to enjoy and what is dangerous. It is important to obey in order to live long, happy lives.

### Key Thought

Because God wanted Adam to live, He told him he must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

### Aim

For the children to realise that all instruction from the Lord is for their own good.

### Memory Verse

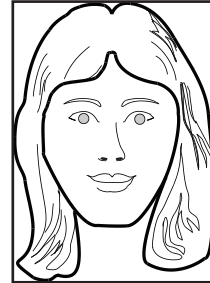
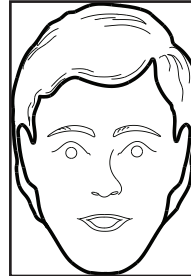
*Children, obey your parents in all things." (Colossians 3:20).*

Some lessons may require an extra assistant to help with activities. Make sure you explain to any helpers all the details of the activity.

## Activity A - Face Masks

### Materials

- 1 face mask drawing per child (some may need to be enlarged on photocopier).
- A hole punch.
- Elastic or ribbon.
- Sheets of cardboard onto which the drawings can be glued.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.
- Glue.
- Wool for hair or whiskers.



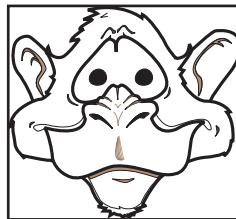
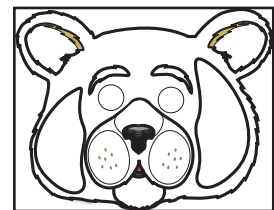
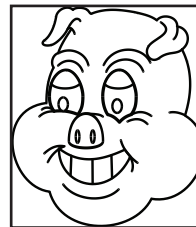
### Steps

#### At Home

- Determine the lengths required for elastic or ribbon and have these lengths prepared. If there is a large number of children in your class, it may be helpful to have the cardboard and the outlines of the drawings already cut to shape.

#### In Class

- Colour the drawing.
- Glue the drawing onto a sheet of cardboard.
- Help children to cut out the eyes and the outline.
- Punch holes in the sides of the mask.
- Attach pieces of elastic or ribbon to the mask.
- Glue on pieces of wool.
- Children can wear their masks.



## Activity B - Colouring/Word Matching

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

### Steps

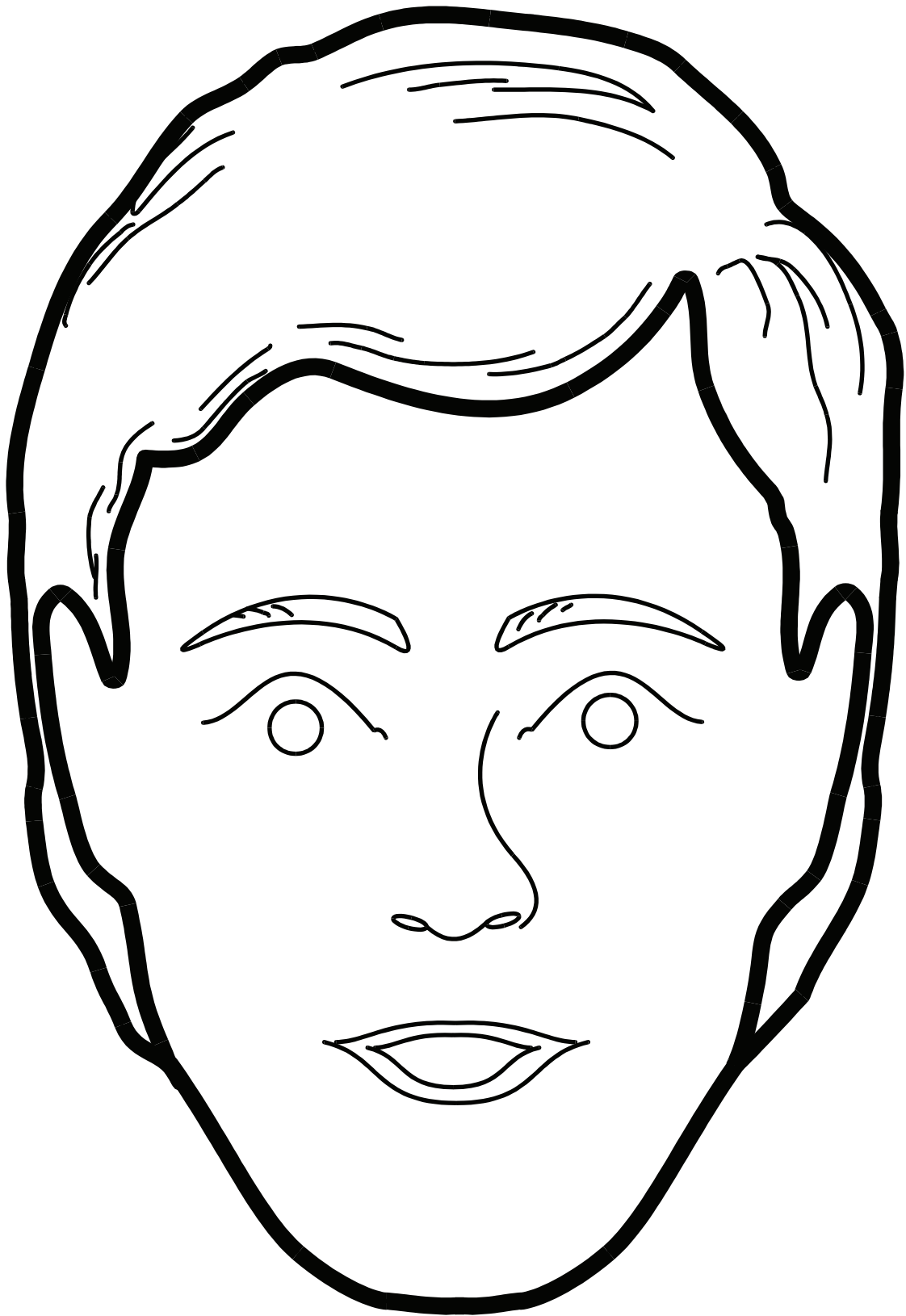
- Complete Activity Sheet as per instructions.

God Made People	
What is your name?	
Draw a picture of yourself in the box. →	
<p>Here is the garden. These are the first people God made. Write their names on the dotted lines. Colour the picture.</p>	
<p>Adam named the animals. Draw a line from each animal to its name. Colour each animal. →</p>	
	<p>snake fish pig bird mouse</p>



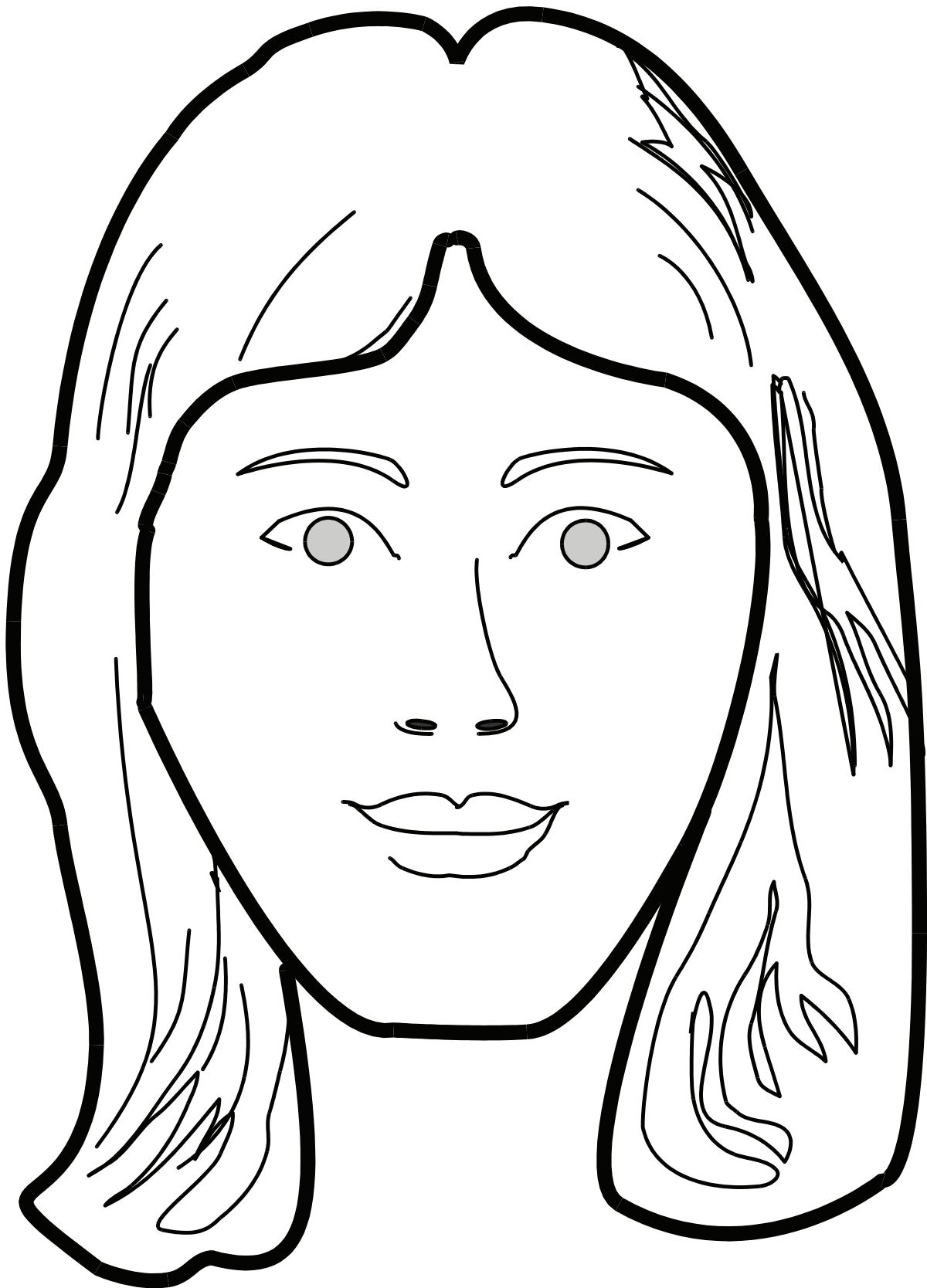
# Adam and Eve

## Activity A - Face Masks



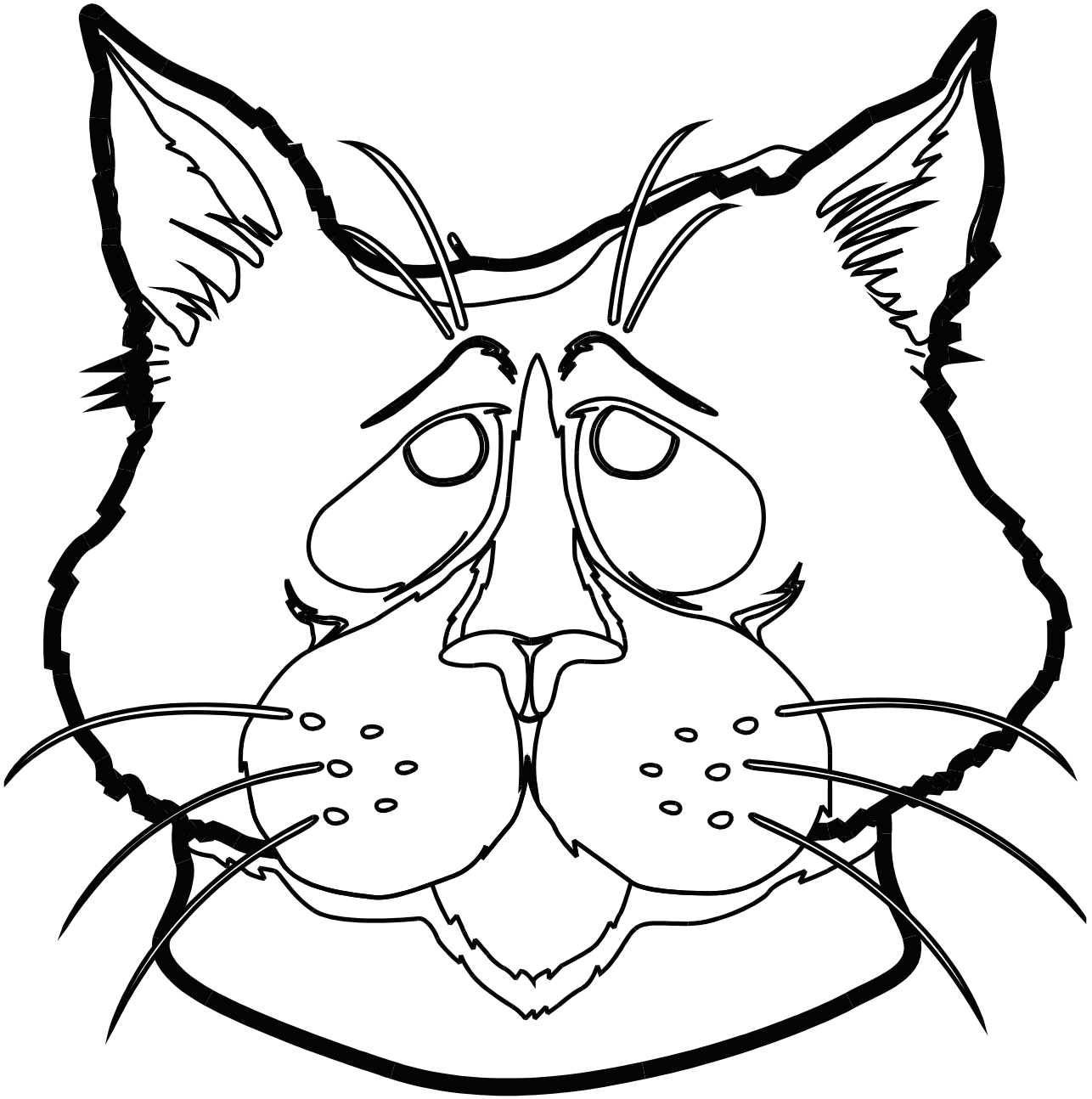
# Adam and Eve

## Activity A - Face Masks



# Adam and Eve

## Activity A - Face Masks



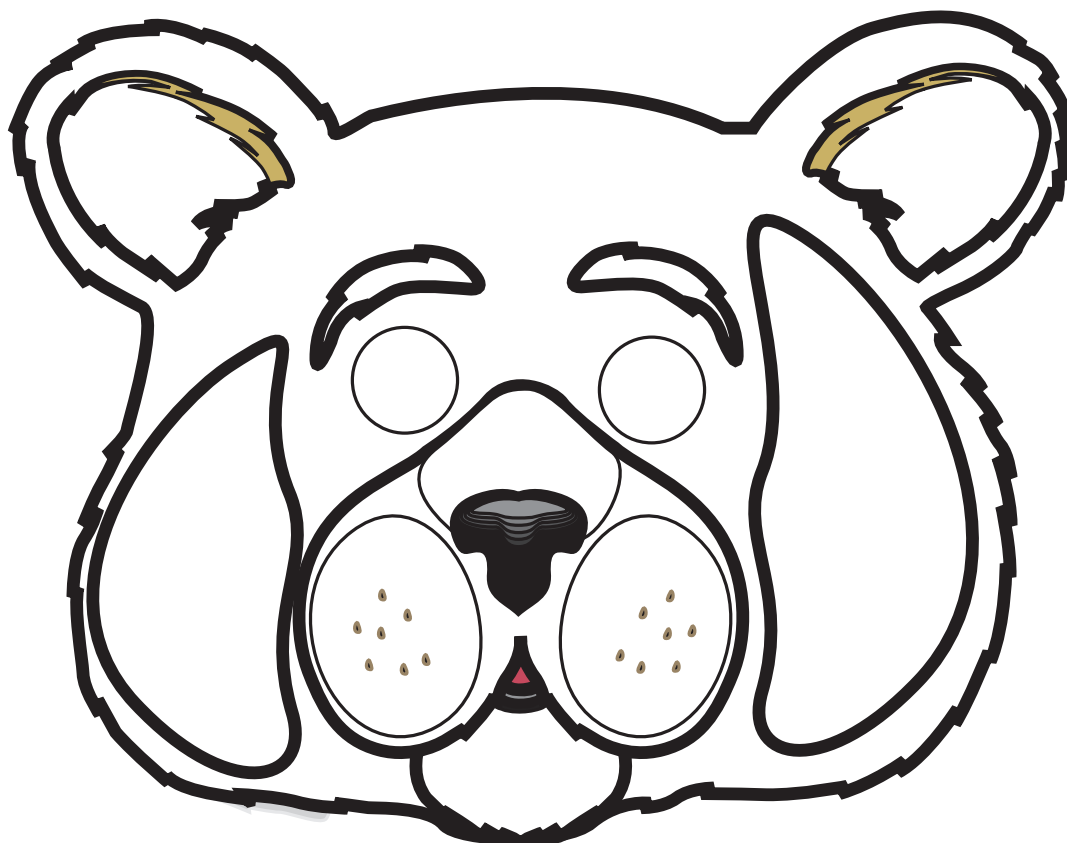
# Adam and Eve

## Activity A - Face Masks



# Adam and Eve

## Activity A - Face Masks





# Adam and Eve

## Activity B - Colouring/Word Matching

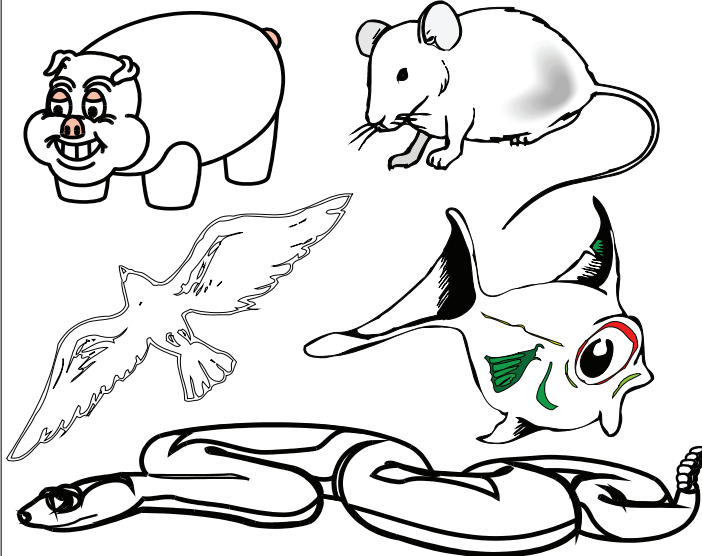
### God Made People

What is your name?

Draw a picture  
of yourself  
in the box. →



Adam named  
the animals.  
Draw a line  
from each  
animal to its  
name.  
Colour each  
animal. →



snake

fish

pig

bird

mouse

# The fall

Genesis 3

## Storyline

God had told Adam that he was to look after the garden and could eat the fruit of any trees except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Of all the creatures that God had created, the serpent was the most cunning. The serpent spoke to Eve and tricked her into thinking that God did not really mean what He had said. Eve disobeyed God and ate the fruit God had told them not to eat. Then she shared it with Adam. Once they had eaten, they felt ashamed and wanted to cover themselves. They felt afraid to face God when He came looking for them, and hid themselves. God knew what they had done. He was very sad and disappointed at their disobedience, and punished them, sending them out of the garden.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

### Theme 1

Use a possible situation from the children's lives to introduce the concepts of disobedience and making excuses (eg. sneaking two pieces of cake when Mum had said, "only one"). What are some of the 'buts' the children may use to justify their disobedience? Explain how seriously God views disobedience. Tell the story of the Fall, and the consequences of disobedience.

### Theme 2

Have children close their eyes and imagine:

- You are supposed to be having an afternoon sleep. You decide to try out your sister's new bike instead. You have a fall, break a spoke and buckle the wheel. You decide to try to hide what you have done, push the bike back into the garage and creep back to the bedroom before anyone wakes up. How do you feel? What will you do now?

Discuss possible options with children:

- Owning up/pretending you know nothing/lying. Which is better? Who knows all about it anyway?

Lead into story of the fall.

## Theme One

### "No excuses for disobedience"

Even though God had told Adam and Eve not to eat of the fruit of that tree, they thought they could see some good reasons for eating it, so they did. When we do not want to do as we are told, we can usually find lots of good reasons or excuses not to obey. But disobedience, to God or to our parents, is sin.

### Key Thought

God asks for pure obedience from His children, with no 'buts' or excuses.

### Aim

For the children to recognise their own propensity to 'justify' disobedience, and to understand that this is not acceptable to God.

### Memory Verse

*"We ought to obey God." (Acts 5:29).*

## Theme Two

### "Don't try to hide your sin"

Adam and Eve felt ashamed after they sinned, and tried to hide from God. But God called to them, so that they would come out and face Him. When we are disobedient or naughty, we don't like to be found out, but God knows about it. He wants us to own up and be honest about it, so we can be at peace with Him again - and with our parents or anyone else involved.

### Key Thought

God wants us to repent and find forgiveness, rather than try to hide the things we do wrong.

### Aim

To encourage the children to be open with their parents and the Lord when they have sinned, to tell them they are sorry, so they can be forgiven.

### Memory Verse

*"My sins are not hidden from You." (Psalm 69:5).*

Young children need to be taught how to answer questions and participate in discussions. Take time to establish good routines:

- put up hands to answer
- only one person speaking at a time
- do not call out

## Activity A - Serpent and Tree

### Materials

- Playdough or plasticine.
- Small branches from trees (one for each child).
- Plastic knife.
- Pencil.

### Steps

- Roll shape of snake.
- Make markings on snake with scissors or knife.
- Make eye imprints with pencil.
- Place snake in branch.

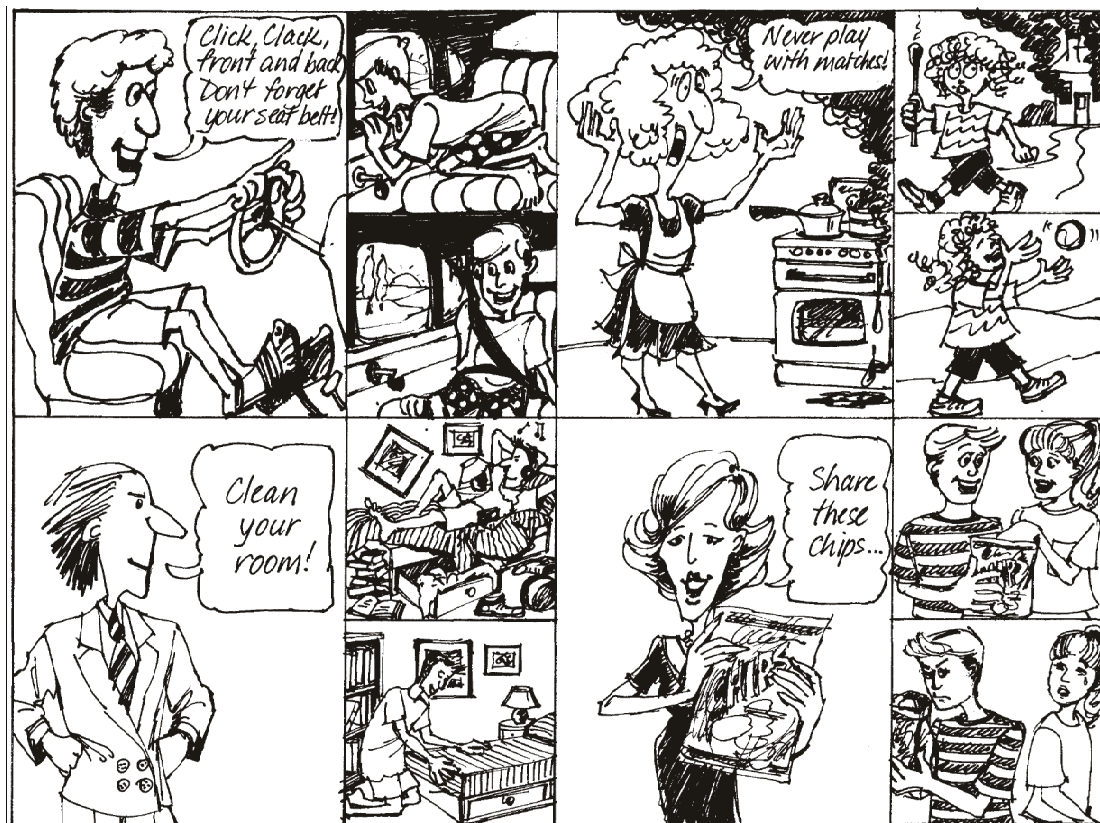
## Activity B - Choices

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Crayons/coloured pencils.

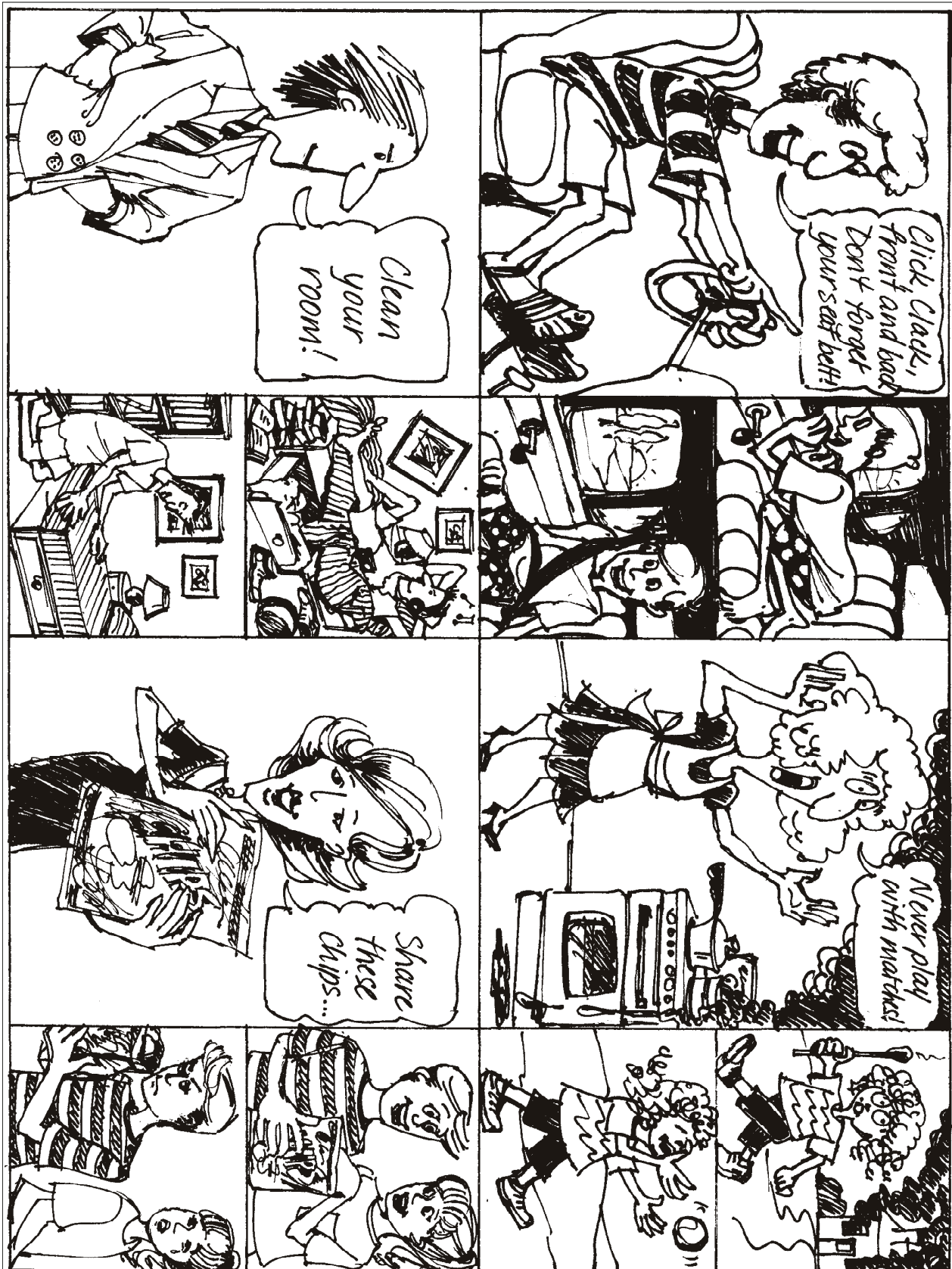
### Steps

- Discuss the cartoons and the different responses.
- Children can then put a tick on the obedient response and a cross on the disobedient response.
- Colour the obedient responses.



# The fall

## Activity B - Cartoon: Choices



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# Cain and Abel

Genesis 4

## Storyline

Some time after God sent Adam and Eve out of the garden of Eden, they had two sons who were called Cain and Abel. Cain grew up to be a farmer, and Abel was a keeper of sheep. The time came when both men brought an offering to the Lord. God accepted Abel's offering, but He was not pleased with Cain or his offering. Cain was very angry at this, so God explained to him how he needed to change. But Cain did not change. He remained angry and was so jealous of his brother Abel that he killed him. God punished Cain for this, and although He promised to protect him, He sent him away from his home and from God's presence. After this, Adam and Eve had another son, called Seth.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

### Theme 1

Begin with a brief discussion with the children about how they feel when someone begins to correct them. Do we then refuse to accept the correction, simply because we don't like it? What is the goal of correction? Proceed to the story of Cain and Abel, highlighting God's desire to bring change in Cain and the consequences of his refusing to respond to God's correction.

### Theme 2

Discuss with the children what it means to be jealous or envious. Suggest/ask them to suggest situations where they might feel envious. Explain God's attitude to jealousy. Tell the story of Cain and Abel, showing what Cain's jealousy led to. How could things have been different?

When asking questions, always direct your question to a specific student eg. 'Sarah, how do you feel when your mum or dad corrects you?' rather than asking an open question to the whole group.

## Theme One

### "Respond to correction"

God spoke to Cain to show him how he needed to change. But Cain refused to change his attitude. God's word comes to us, too, usually through our parents. When our parents speak to us to correct us, it is because they are helping us to change to be the way God wants us to be. If we soften our hearts and respond to what our parents are saying, God is able to change us. If we are stubborn, like Cain, and refuse to respond properly, sin will get a stronger and stronger hold over us.

### Key Thought

Responding to correction will bring godly change. Refusing to respond will entrench us in sin.

### Aim

For the children to recognise the importance of responding to correction, as an opportunity to change to be more like the Lord.

### Memory Verse

*"Whom the Lord loves He corrects." (Proverbs 3:12).*

## Theme Two

### "Jealousy"

Cain was jealous of his brother because God treated him differently. All of us find it difficult when others seem to be treated better than we are, or are better at things, or get more attention. This is very natural to us. Yet God is against jealousy or envy, because it is so self-centred. It can also lead to other things like hating, or stealing, or fighting, or even murder. God's nature is love - to be thinking of what is good for others, not wanting things for ourselves. If we are willing to let go of wanting what is not ours, God is able to make us content.

### Key Thought

It is sometimes very hard not to be jealous of others, but God does not want jealousy to be part of our nature, and will replace it with contentment and care for others, if we are willing.

### Aim

For the children to recognise jealousy in their lives, and be willing to put it aside.

### Memory Verse

*"Love does not envy." (1 Corinthians 13:4).*



## Activity A - Jigsaw Puzzle

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Cardboard.
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- Coloured pencils/felt pens.

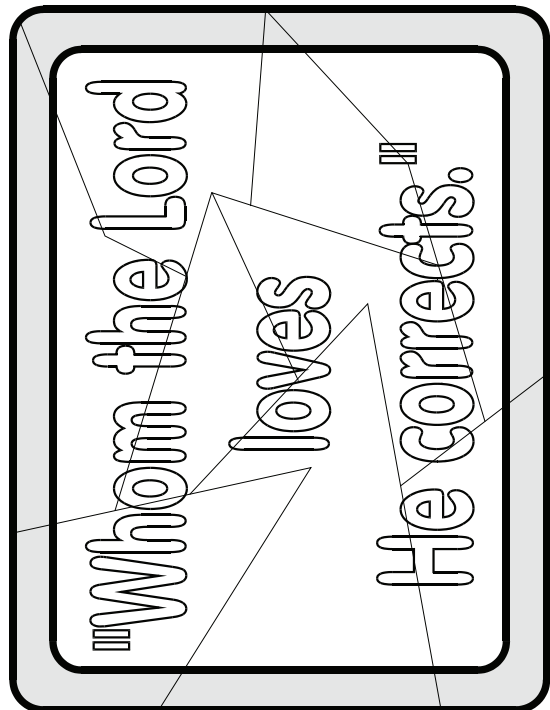
### Steps

#### At Home

- Glue Activity Sheet to cardboard backing.

#### In Class

- Children colour in the letters and background of the sheet.
- Teacher (or children if able) cut along the lines to make the jigsaw.
- Pieces of jigsaw are jumbled, and children reassemble.



## Activity B - Heart Attitudes

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 3 ice-cream containers - 1 labelled "Pleasing to God",
- 1 labelled "Not Pleasing to God" and 1 not labelled.

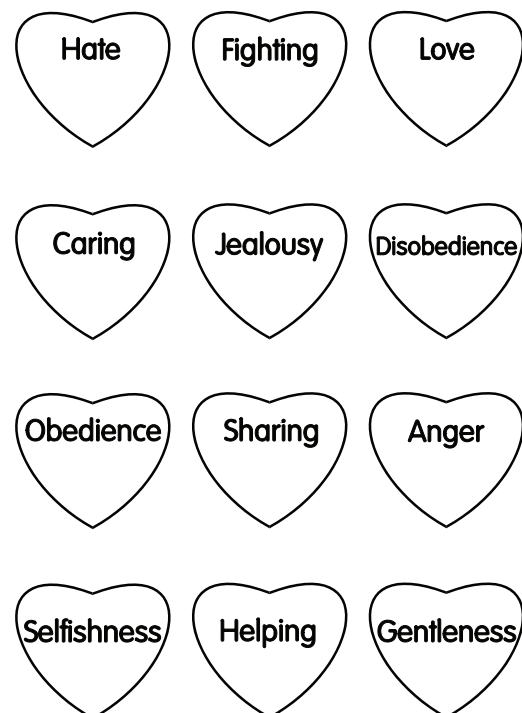
### Steps

#### At Home

- Cut out hearts and put in unlabelled ice-cream container.

#### In Class

- Allow each child to have a "lucky dip", (one at a time) and after discussion, decide if the attitude written on the heart is pleasing or not pleasing to God and place it in the appropriate container.



# Cain and Abel

## Activity A - Jigsaw Puzzle

"Whom the Lord  
loves  
He corrects."

# Cain and Abel

## Activity B - Heart Attitudes

Hate

Fighting

Love

Caring

Jealousy

Disobedience

Obedience

Sharing

Anger

Selfishness

Helping

Gentleness

# Noah builds an ark

Genesis 6:1 - 7:16

## Storyline

The number of people in the world multiplied. These people were very wicked and were only thinking evil thoughts. God saw that violence was everywhere and was sorry He had ever made man. He decided to destroy man as well as the animals. However, Noah walked with God and pleased God. Noah's three sons were Shem, Ham and Japheth. God told Noah that He planned to destroy all the wicked people. God told Noah exactly how he should build an ark. IN the ark, God would keep Noah and his family and a male and female of every kind of bird, animal and creeping thing safe from the flood. God shut the door of the ark and after seven days the flood came.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Tell the story using a children's picture Bible book as a visual aid. Check the text for accuracy. Tell the story in your own words if necessary.
2. At home, make a large number of simple paper people cut-outs naming only the eight who were saved in the ark. In class, scatter the cut-outs over the floor. Ask the children to find the eight people who were saved and put them in the ark, (perhaps a shoe box), illustrating the stark division between the saved and unsaved.
3. Continue with your selected activity.
4. If planning to do the painting activity next week, send a note home asking parents to dress the children appropriately.

If planning to do the painting activity next week, send a note home asking parents to dress the children appropriately. Collect sets of painting shirts or plastic aprons

## Theme One

### "Obedience to God makes us different from other sinners"

In II Peter 2:5 Noah is described as a preacher of righteousness and one of only eight people who were saved from the flood. Only Noah and his family obeyed the word from God that Noah preached. Maybe people laughed at the boat Noah was building. People may laugh at us when we are obedient to God. People may reject us if we talk about the Lord. It is all right to be different to other people when obeying God.

### Key Thought

Noah walked with God even when everyone else around him was wicked.

### Aim

For the children to understand that we must be obedient to God even if it makes us different to everyone else.

### Memory Verse

*"God ... saved Noah, ... a preacher of righteousness."*  
(II Peter 2:4, 5).

## Theme Two

### "There is only one way to be saved"

The only people who were saved from the flood were those inside the ark. The only people who will be saved from eternal judgement will be those in Christ. There was only one way to enter the ark and that was through the door. Jesus is the only door to our salvation. Through Him we have eternal life. Like Noah, we can find a place of protection when our lives are in Christ.

### Key Thought

The only way of salvation is by faith in, and obedience to, the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Aim

For the children to understand that they need to accept Jesus as their Saviour.

### Memory Verse

*"Believe on ... Jesus and you will be saved."* (Acts 16:31).



## Activity A - Colour the Animal Parade

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Coloured pencils/crayons/felt pens.
- Sticky tape.

### Steps

#### At Home

- Photocopy one ark for each child either directly onto light card or photocopy onto paper, then glue on to cardboard (see Activity Master). Allow drying time.
- Cut the two slits in each ark with a craft knife.

#### In Class

- Ask the children to colour their ark and animals.
- The teacher may need to help thread each strip of paper in one slit and out the other so the line of animals is showing.
- Turn the ark over and sticky tape the ends of the strip of paper to form a circle.
- Carefully slide the animals around the parade past the door of the ark.



## Activity B - Find the Hidden Word

### Materials

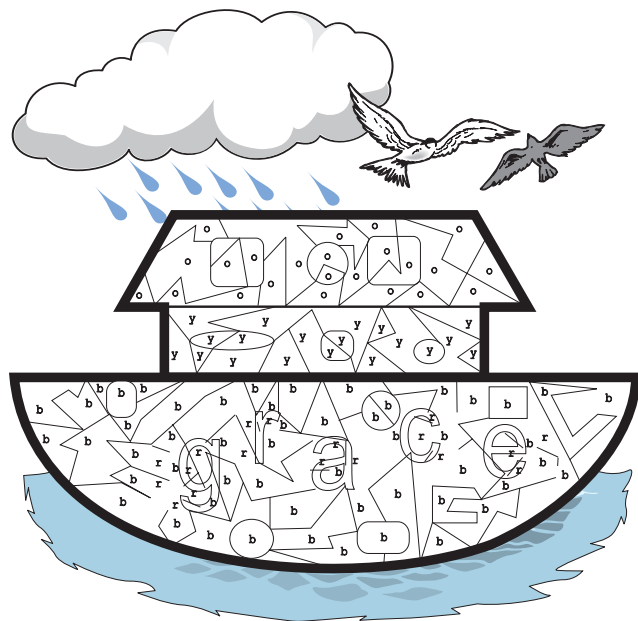
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

### Steps

- Children colour in picture according to instructions to find the hidden word.

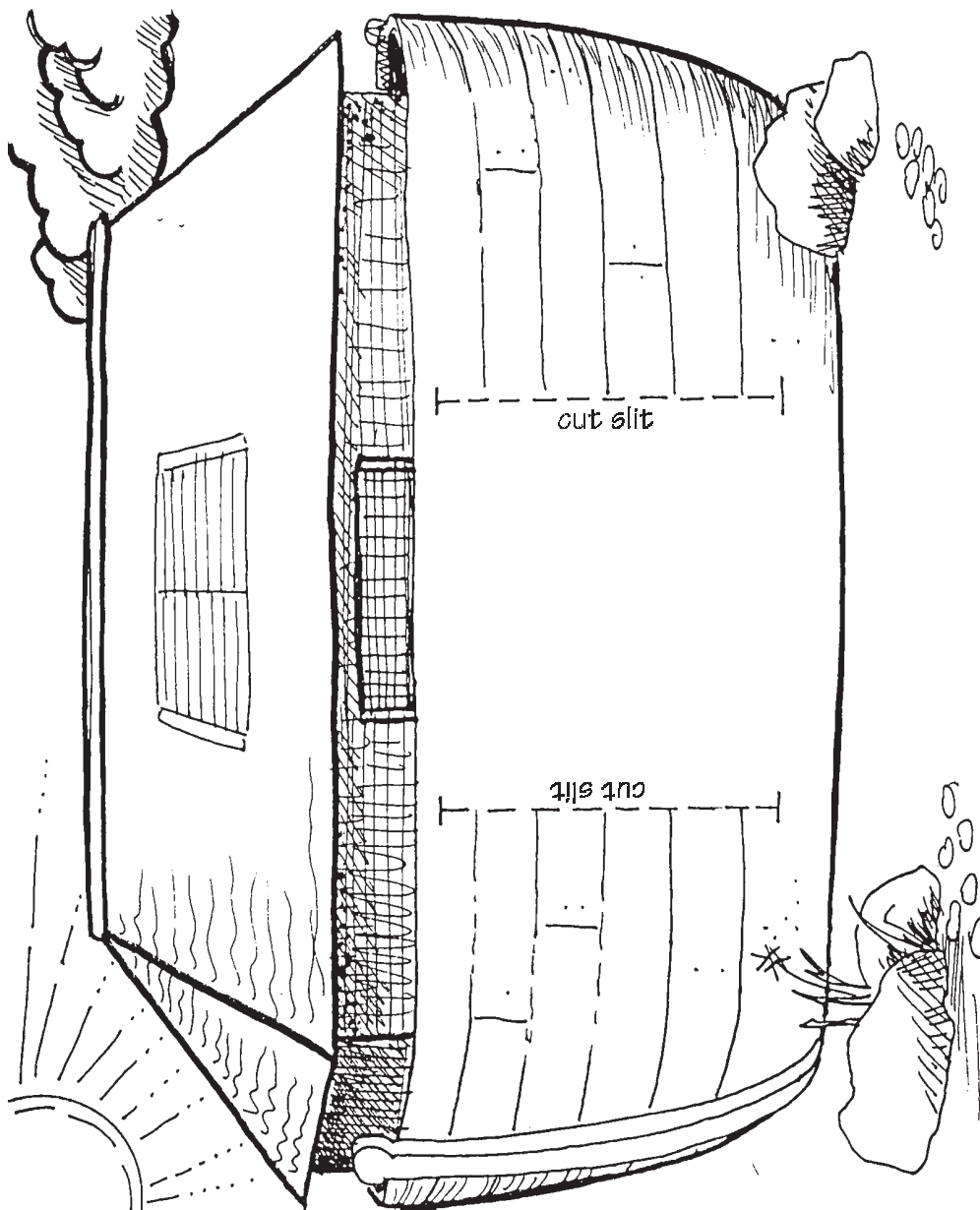
### Answer

- Grace.



# Noah builds an ark

## Activity A - Colour the Animal Parade

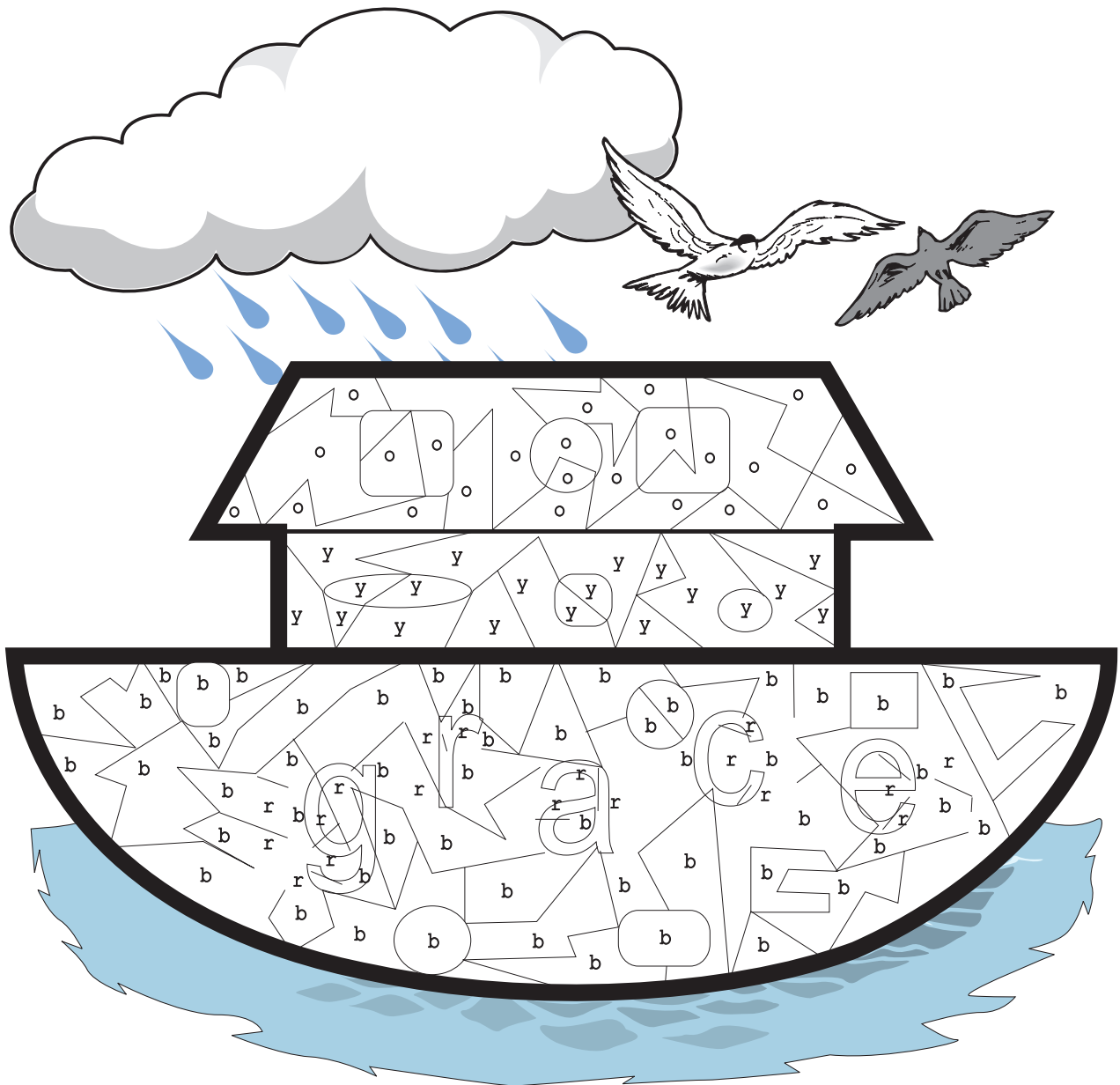




# Noah builds an ark

## Activity B - Hidden Word

What did Noah find in the eyes of the Lord?  
To find the answer, colour each shape with a  
'b' in it brown, shapes with 'r' red, 'y' yellow, and 'o' orange.



# The flood, Noah and his sons

Genesis 7:17 - 9:29

## Storyline

It rained for forty days. The whole earth was flooded. Every living thing on the earth died except Noah, his family and the animals inside the ark. When the rain stopped and the water subsided, the ark came to rest on a mountain. Noah sent out a raven and a dove to see if the ground was dry. God told Noah to leave the ark and take his family and the animals with him. Noah built an altar to the Lord and sacrificed some of the animals. God promised never to destroy the earth with a flood again. God gave the rainbow as the sign of His promise.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Review last week's lesson using the same picture book and then continue with this week's story.
2. Count out aloud with the children to forty, the number of days it rained. Compare this to time spans the children can understand.
3. Discuss how Noah gave thanks and sacrificed some animals. Relate this back to lesson five where Abel pleased God by offering the firstborn of his flock.
4. Ask the children what things they are thankful for and discuss how important it is to say thank you to God.
5. Have a time of prayer where the children can say thank you to God for something.

## Theme One

### "A new life in Christ"

In Noah's day, God's judgement came to the wicked people on earth and they were killed in the flood. Noah started a new life with his family in a very different world. Jesus has made a way for us to have a new life in Christ, even though we deserve to die because we have all sinned.

### Key Thought

By accepting Jesus as our Saviour, we can change from our old way of living and start a new life in Christ.

### Aim

For the children to understand that in Christ we can find new life.

### Memory Verse

*"You must be born again." (John 3:7).*

## Theme Two

### "A family in God's order"

Noah heard from God. He told his wife and sons what God had said and his wife, his sons and their wives all obeyed, even though what Noah was telling them to do would have seemed strange at the time. God wants each child to obey and trust his/her parents as this is the place of salvation and safety for him/her. God blesses a family where every member is in right order.

### Key Thought

As Noah submitted to God and his family submitted in God's order to him, God was able to bless them.

### Aim

For the children to see that through trusting and obeying their parents, they can find grace and blessing.

### Memory Verse

*"By faith Noah ... prepared an ark." (Hebrews 11:7).*

When praying with young children, have them nominate what they are going to pray for in discussion eg. 'John what will you thank God for?'

## Activity A - Rainbow Painting

### Materials

- Groundsheet.
- Large piece of white butcher's paper.
- Water based paint in rainbow colours.
- Brushes.
- Protective clothing.

### Steps

#### At Home

- Prepare white butcher's paper by writing on top: "You must be born again", but the words "born again" should be dotted.

#### In Class

- Place ground sheet on floor and butcher's paper on top of it.
- Have children take turns at filling in dotted letters, then paint a large rainbow.

## Activity B - Make a Dove

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet.
- White cardboard.
- One half page of white A4 paper per child.
- Pencils/crayons/pens.
- One length of string for each child.
- Hole punch.
- Craft knife.

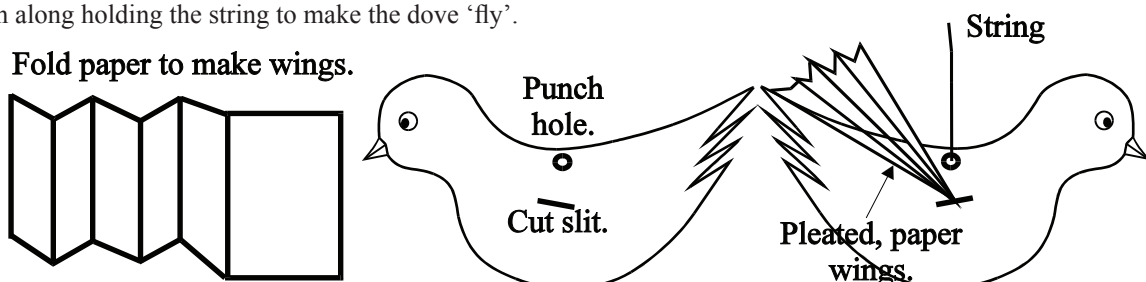
### Steps

#### At Home

- Cut out dove body from Activity Master Sheet. Make a template of it on thick cardboard and trace around it onto white cardboard to make enough for each child, or alternatively, photocopy the dove body onto white cardboard. Cut out the doves. Using a craft knife, cut 1-1/4cm slit for the wings.

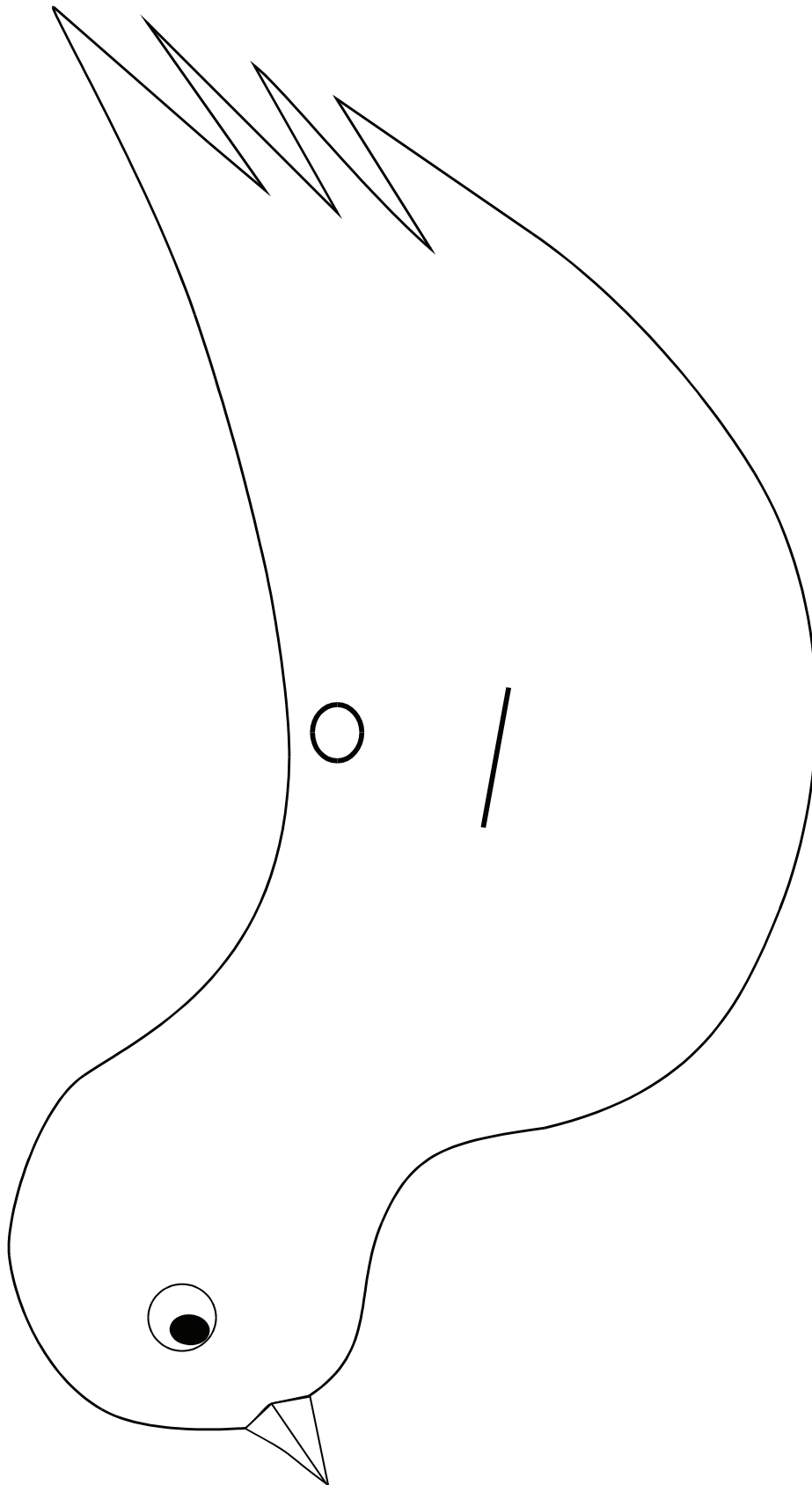
#### In Class

- Using a hole punch, make a hole for the string.
- Colour the eyes and the beak on both sides.
- Pleat the half sheet of A4 white paper backwards and forwards (concertina) to make the wings.
- Slot the wings through the slit so that there is an equal length of paper on each side of the body.
- Fan out the wings.
- Tie a length of string through the punched hole.
- Run along holding the string to make the dove 'fly'.



# The flood, Noah and his sons

## Activity B - Make a Dove



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# The tower of Babel

Genesis 11:1-9

## Storyline

After the flood, Noah's sons had families, and soon there were many people on the earth again. Everybody spoke the same language. But the people began to forget about God. They stopped trusting in Him and wanted to live without Him. They decided to build a big city for themselves, with a high tower that would reach right up into heaven. They thought this would prove how strong and important they were. But God did not want them living in this proud way. He knew it would lead them further and further away from Him. He confused their language so that they could not understand one another any more. They had to stop building. God scattered the people across the whole earth. The place where this happened was named Babel, which means 'confusion'.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

### Theme 1

Begin by role playing a parent-child scene, where child resists holding parent's hand to cross the road. (Teacher can play the part of the child.) Why does child not want to hold hand? (Independence.) Why does parent want to hold hand? (Caring, protection.) Explain that some people are like this with God - resisting His hand. Proceed to story of people of Babel, focussing on their desire to be independent of God. Discuss implications of 'independence' for children, in relation to parents/God.

### Theme 2

Wearing a crown or some other symbol of 'kingship', teacher takes on role of a king. Discuss what this means, explaining words like 'reigning' and 'ruling'. Who is the greatest King of all? Tell story of Babel, focussing on God's sovereignty and ability to intervene in the affairs of men. This means the children can have great confidence in Him.

## Theme One

### "Depending on God"

When we are young, we like to show how grown up we are by doing things for ourselves. We don't like people helping us. God does not want us to be this way with Him. He wants all of us, young and old, to live our lives by depending on Him and doing what He says. Proud people, like the people in Babel, don't like doing this. They like to try to live without God. But God made us and knows what is best for us. That is why He wants us to live our lives relying on Him.

### Key Thought

Our pride makes us want to be independent of God, but God calls us to live by depending on Him.

### Aim

For the children to understand that God calls everyone, young and old, to trust Him.

### Memory Verse

*"In You, O Lord, I put my trust." (Psalm 71:1).*

## Theme Two

### "God rules"

The people of Babel united together to build a place of safety and power for themselves without God. Despite all their strength and capability, God came down and with one swift action, put an end to all their plans. Still today, people try to be more important than God, and some even fight against Him. But God is stronger than all the power of people. We can trust Him to have His way in our lives and to work out His plan for all people.

### Key Thought

Despite the power of the systems of the world, it is God who is in charge.

### Aim

For the children to be assured that God is in control in their lives, and to actively trust Him.

### Memory Verse

*"The Most High rules in the kingdom of men." (Daniel 4:17).*



## Activity A - Model of Tower of Babel

### Materials

- Lego or other building blocks.
- Stiff cardboard/ply to form a firm base.

### Steps

#### At Home

- Make a tower so as an example.

#### In Class

- Have children to work individually or in pairs to build the tower.

## Activity B - Kingly Crown

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 long piece of cardboard per child.
- Glue.
- Scissors.
- Coloured pencils/felt pens.
- Stapler.
- Other materials for decorating crown, eg. buttons, sequins, glitter, beads, coloured paper, etc.

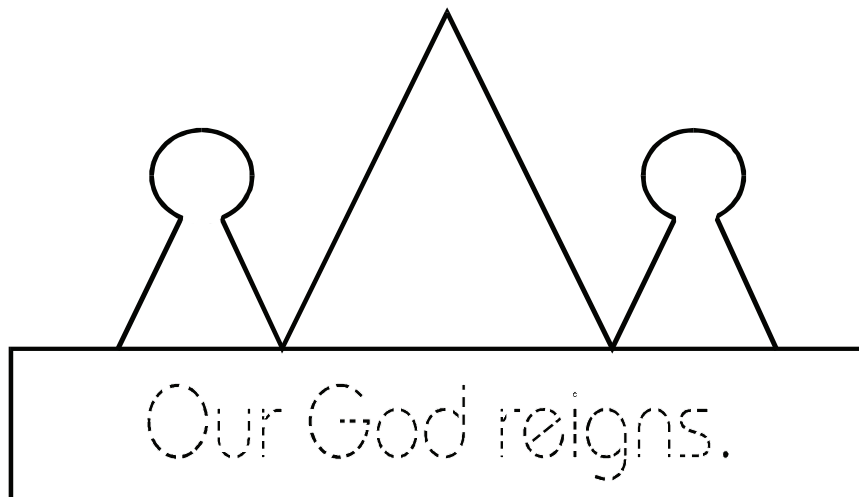
### Steps

#### At Home

- Glue Activity Sheets to cardboard backing. To fit around the children's heads, the cardboard will need to be longer than the Activity Sheet.
- Cut out crowns if children are not up to doing so during the lesson.

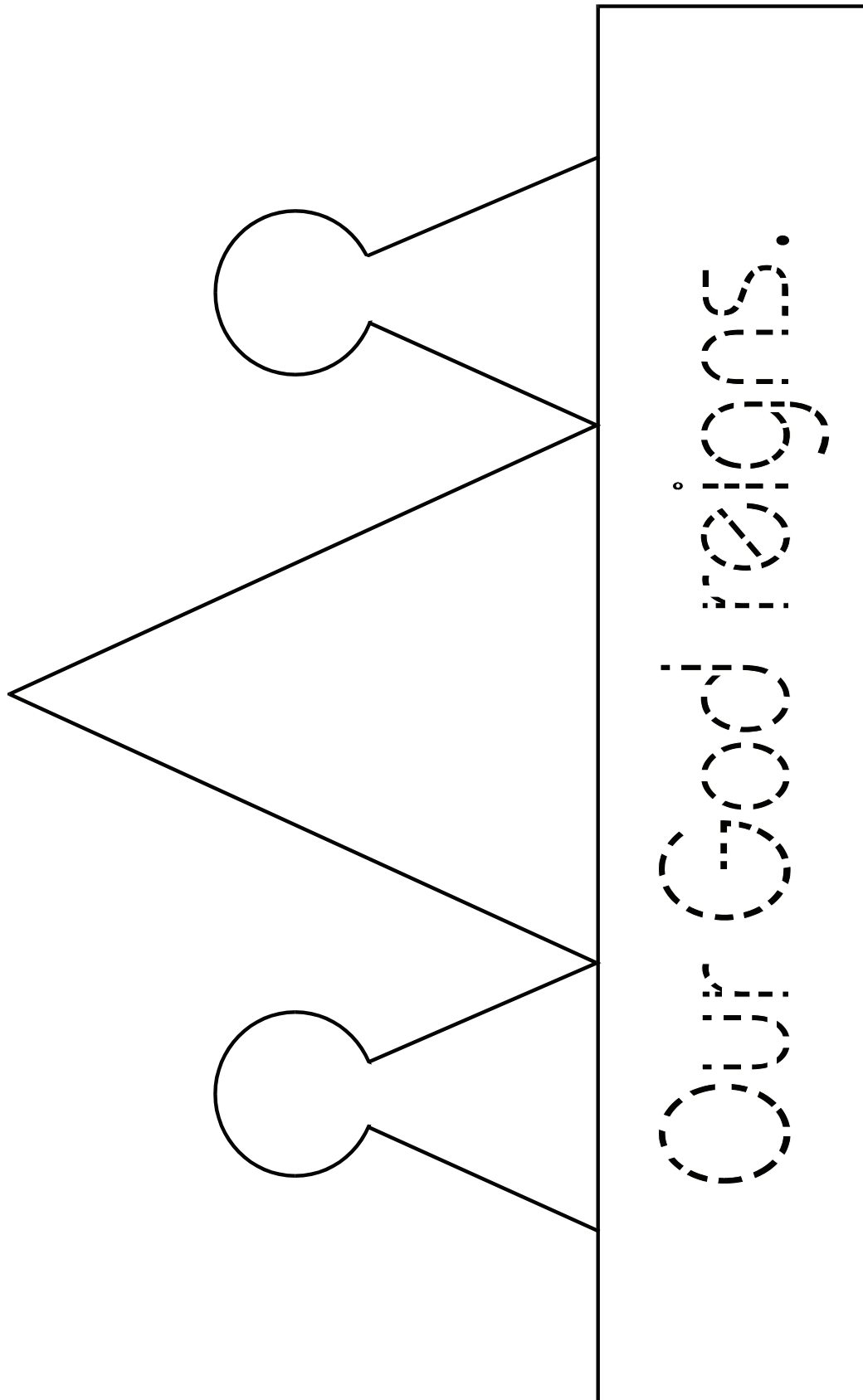
#### In Class

- Children complete dotted words, "Our God reigns."
- Children colour/decorate their crown.
- Teacher measures decorated crown around each child's head and staples to appropriate size.



# The tower of Babel

## Activity B - Kingly Crown



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# Abram called, Abram and Lot

Genesis 12 - 14

## Storyline

Abram was called by God to leave his country and go to the land God showed him. God promised Abram that He would make a great nation out of him, and that if he obeyed, He would always bless and protect him. When there was a famine in Canaan, they moved to Egypt for food. Abram was afraid of Pharaoh, so he said Sarai was his sister. God protected Sarai from Pharaoh. Abram and Lot travelled together, both men with their own families, animals and servants. God blessed them and the herds became too large for one place. Fights broke out between Abram's men and Lot's men so Abram let Lot choose where he wanted to live. They separated, with Lot taking the best land. Lot and his family later moved into one of the wicked cities. Again God promised to bless Abram. Lot was captured by bad kings and Abram rescued him and all his possessions.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Discuss some of the things that can be a bad influence on children.
2. Discuss how a good friend can encourage us to do right. Are we good friends or bad friends?
3. Discuss the difficulties of moving schools, town, or country. We may have a lovely place to live and friends, but have to shift. At the new place, we have to ask God to help us to find and choose the right new friends.
4. For the dramatically inclined teacher, an Arabian style head dress, (made from a bath towel) and a sports bag containing the basics of a nomadic life, eg. bed roll, cup, plate, etc, could transform the teacher into Abram. He/she could journey around the room, from Ur to Canaan, telling the story as he/she goes.

## Theme One

### "Trust and obey"

God asks us to trust Him because He is worthy to be trusted. We may safely trust Him. However it is not enough to just say we trust God. We need to show that trust by obeying Him. There will be times when it will be hard to trust God, and even harder to obey Him. If we don't trust Him, we will just get into a big mess. If we don't obey Him, we will also get into a big mess.

### Key Thought

Just like Abram, we must learn to trust the Lord so that we obey His word even when we don't understand.

### Aim

To encourage the children's confidence in the Lord.

### Memory Verse

*"In the Lord I put my trust." (Psalm 11:1).*

## Theme Two

### "Don't be led astray"

All sorts of things look good and interesting and attractive. If we pursue these things, we may find they lead us into danger and trouble. Only the things God wants for us will prove to be truly good for all of our life. If we make choices for selfish reasons, we will find ourselves needing to be rescued.

### Key Thought

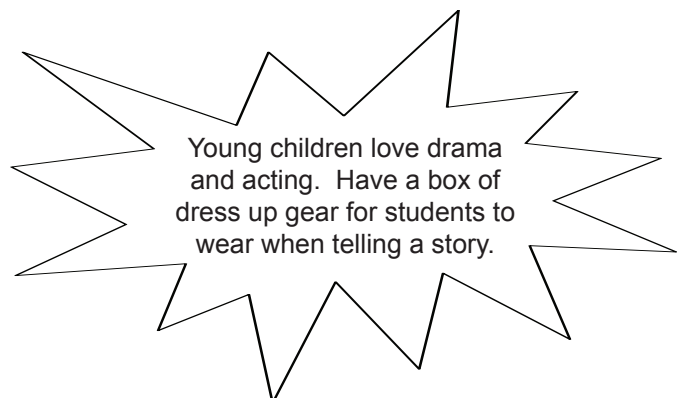
Watch out that we are not drawn away from God by things that look good, like Lot was. If we are, we must quickly repent.

### Aim

To have the children understand that bad friends can lead us astray.

### Memory Verse

*"Cease to do evil, learn to do good." (Isaiah 1:16, 17).*



## Activity A - Pack up a Picnic

### Materials

- Picnic rugs, plates, cups, food, etc.
- Carry bags, boxes, baskets, or anything you have that the children can carry.

### Steps

- Have all the picnic gear out on a table or even spread on the floor.
- Get the children to pack all the gear into the bags, boxes, baskets, or whatever you have supplied.
- Walk from the class area to a picnic spot, with the children carrying all of the gear. (Finding or choosing the picnic spot can either lead to the story, or refer back to the story, depending on whether you have the lesson at the picnic spot, or before you go.)
- Have your picnic.
- Children can now clean up and repack all the gear, under specific directions, eg. “Tommy, would you gather the scraps and put them in the rubbish tin?”, “Mary, would you fold the rugs with Jimmy?”, etc. Make opportunity to talk about the hard work involved in Abram’s packing up and going where God sent him.
- NB: If rain or circumstances restrict, the whole exercise can be done within the room, by packing in one spot, and simply walking round the room a couple of times, then picnicking on the other side of the room. If you have another room available, you could picnic in there.



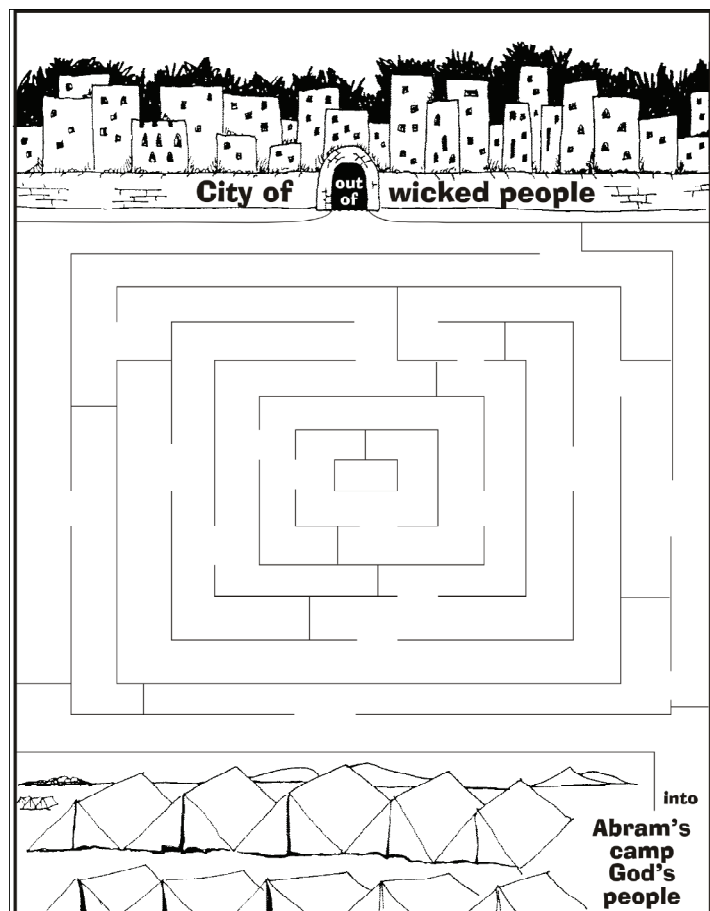
## Activity B - Maze

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/crayons/felt pens.

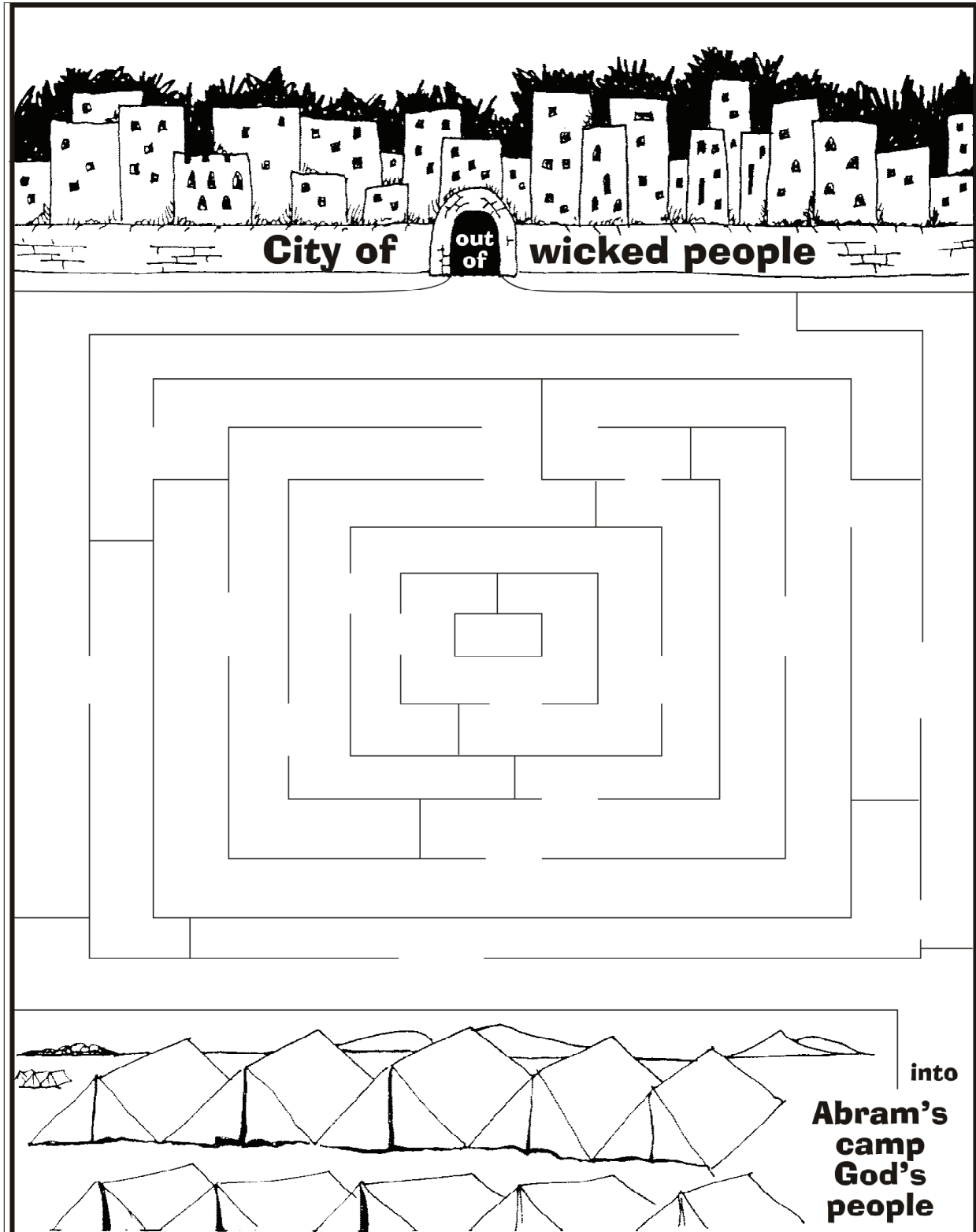
### Steps

- The children find the route from the wicked city to God’s people by pencil.
- They can then colour in the wicked city and Abram’s camp.
- Then draw themselves in Abram’s camp.



# Abram called, Abram and Lot

## Activity B - Maze



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# The covenant with Abraham

Genesis 15 - 17

## Storyline

Years passed and Abram and Sarai had no children. Abram talked with God about it and God told him He would give him lots of descendants, and Abram believed God. The Lord told Abram to bring a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon to God. When Abram had the animals and birds ready, (he had to cut the animals in half) it had become dark. Abram fell into a deep sleep, and God sent fire to pass between the pieces of animals and the birds. God now talked to Abram about his descendants. Sarai decided she was too old to have children and told Abram he should have a baby with her maid, Hagar. Abram did this and Ishmael was born. This ended up causing much trouble. God made a covenant with Abram and changed his name to Abraham and also changed Sarai's name to Sarah. Abraham was 99 years old now and God still said He was going to give him and Sarah a son.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Bring a small bucket of sand to class. Discuss how many grains of sand there are on the beach, and have the children try to count the grains in a spoonful of sand. How many stars are there in the night sky? Stress how Abram's descendants were to be uncountable.
2. Talk about promises people make to us. Some are kept, some are not. Discuss feelings here. Discuss why we are sure some people will keep their promises to us. Do we keep our word?
3. Abram could believe God's promises because he had seen Him do so much for him and because he had a close friendship with Him.
4. Relate fear of the dark to the tunnel activity and how Abram had to respond.

## Theme One

### "God keeps His promises"

God shows His love to us in many ways. One of the ways He shows His love is by making promises to us. His promises are sure and certain. God will always do what He says He will do. Even when we cannot see the proof of His promises, He keeps repeating them to remind us that He will keep them.

### Key Thought

It seemed that God's promise would never come to Abram and Sarai, but they had to keep believing that the promised son would come.

### Aim

For the children to understand that when God gives a promise, He keeps it.

### Memory Verse

*"It is impossible for God to lie." (Hebrews 6:18).*

## Theme Two

### "Individual faith"

God does not always give us immediately what He has promised. In fact, He often keeps us waiting for one reason or another. It can be very hard to understand and believe God's promises, when nothing seems to be happening, but this is what God wants us to do. Each one of us has to get to know and trust the Lord for him/herself.

### Key Thought

Just like Abraham, we must have the faith to believe God's word. It will come to pass.

### Aim

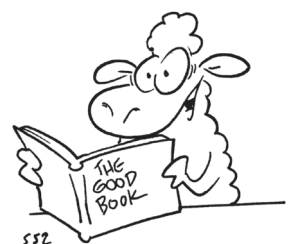
For the children to begin to get to know and trust the Lord and believe that He will do what He says He will.

### Memory Verse

*"Without faith it is impossible to please Him." (Hebrews 11:6).*

Young children enjoy rewards. Keep a wall chart for: good behaviour memory verses

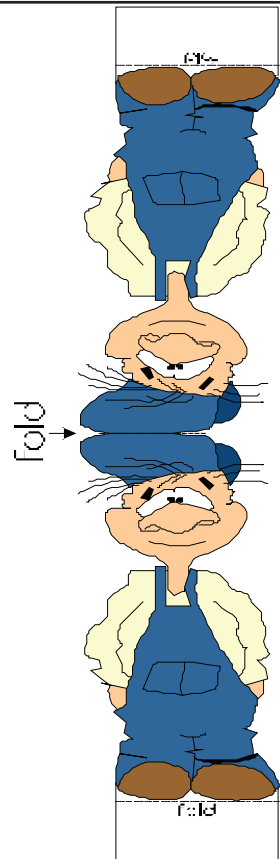
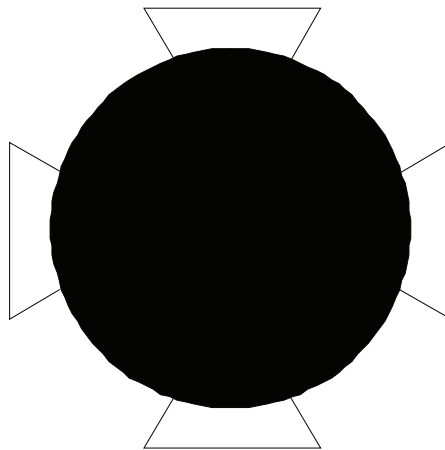
Reward and praise students regularly.



## Activity A - Tunnel

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 piece of black cardboard per child, 24cm x approx. 15-17cm (make the most of the large sheet you will have to buy).
- Hole punch.
- Stapler.
- Sticky tape.



### Steps

- Make a tunnel by joining the two short sides of the black cardboard with stick tape, overlapping the edges by 1½ cm.
- Cut out the black circle with the tabs from the Activity Sheet, punch a hole in the centre of approximately ½cm in diameter and attach it with sticky tape or glue it to one end of the tunnel. Make sure that the black side is facing into the tunnel, and the hole is just big enough to see through when held up to the eye.
- Cut out the figure from the Activity Sheet, fold it according to the instructions and attach it by sticky tape or staple to the other end of the tunnel.
- Discuss the concept of faith, by relating it to the idea of going into a dark tunnel and being afraid when we don't have faith in God. (Look at the figure going into the tunnel and only seeing black at the end). But when we do have faith in God it is like coming out of the end of a tunnel into the light. (Look through the tiny hole at the covered end of the tunnel.)

## Activity B - Crossword

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Felt pens/pencils.

### Steps

- Teacher reads out clues.
- Children fill in missing letters to complete the crossword.

### Clues

Across

1. Another word for trust.

5. The Bible is whose word?

Down

2. The name Abraham had in the beginning.

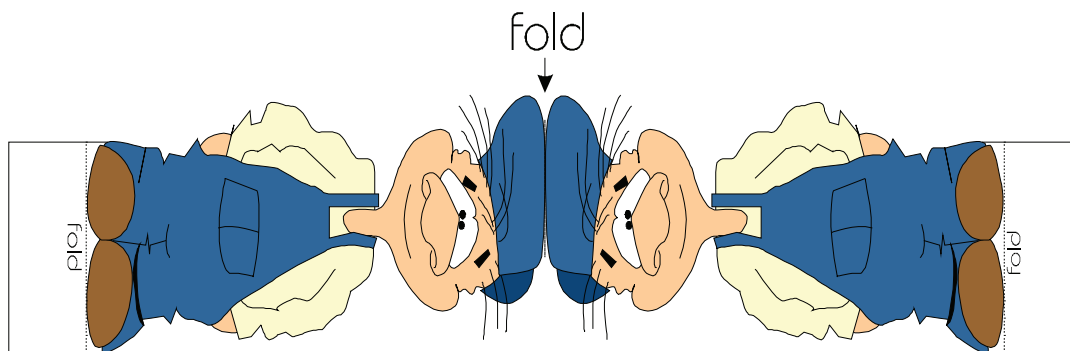
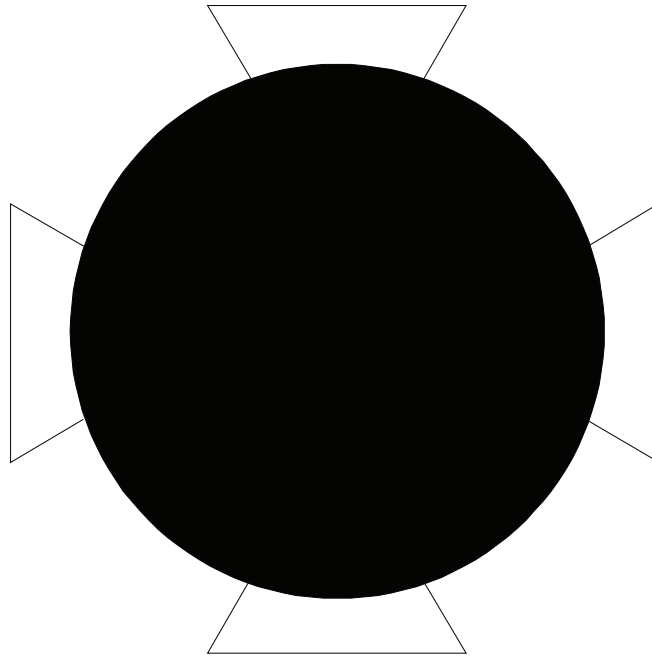
3. Something we do when we're given a promise.

4. The Bible is God's \_\_\_\_\_?



# The covenant with Abraham

## Activity A - Tunnel



# The covenant with Abraham

## Activity B - Crossword



# Ishmael and Isaac

Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-21

## Storyline

Abraham was 100 years old when Sarah gave birth to their son Isaac. When Isaac was weaned, Abraham gave a great feast and it was at this feast that Sarah saw Ishmael making fun of them in a way that was not very nice. Sarah told Abraham he should send Hagar and Ishmael away, because she wanted Isaac to be his only son. This upset Abraham because he loved both of his sons, but the Lord told Abraham to listen to his wife. So the next day Abraham gave Hagar a water bag, some bread and Ishmael, and sent them away into the desert. Hagar wandered around for a long time, and when all the water was gone, she thought they would both die. Hagar put the boy under a bush for some shade and went a little way away because she did not want to watch him die. But God heard Ishmael's voice and an angel called out from heaven to tell Hagar God was going to make a great nation out of Ishmael. When God opened Hagar's eyes, she saw a well of water and she filled the water bag and gave Ishmael a drink. They lived in the wilderness and Ishmael grew up to be an archer. When he was old enough, Hagar got him a wife from the land of Egypt.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Talk about how excited people get when babies come.
2. Do old people usually have babies?
3. What was special about Isaac? What did his name mean?
4. How hard would it have been for Ishmael and his mother when Isaac was born and he really was the promised son?
5. Incorporate Activity A into the Teaching Approach.

## Theme One

### "Nothing is too hard for God"

God is able to do all things. Nothing is too hard for Him; all things are possible to God. Often we look at the problems and they look like huge mountains. Rather, we should look to God and know that He can help us in all the difficulties. As we remind ourselves of God's power we will keep on trusting Him.

### Key Thought

Because Abraham and Sarah were so old it was hard for them to wait and believe that God would give them children.

### Aim

For the children to think about God's power in creation and realise that He is using this same love and power in looking after us.

### Memory Verse

*"Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Genesis 18:14).*

## Theme Two

### "God's ways bring happiness; our ways bring confusion"

God has a clear path for our lives to follow. We must be willing to wait for God to show us each step. Sometimes we get impatient, so instead of waiting for God, we try to work things out for ourselves. If we rush to make our own plan, we will make a muddle. We will probably get ourselves into a lot of trouble and we may cause trouble to other people. God's way is always the best way.

### Key Thought

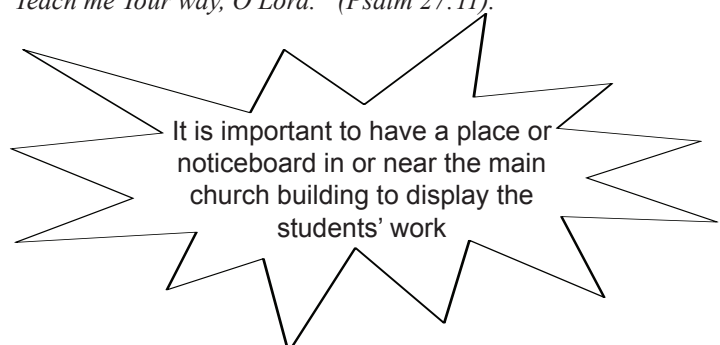
Abraham made it hard for himself because instead of waiting for God, he tried to work things out for himself.

### Aim

For the children to realise they must be patient and trust God; He can do things much better than we can.

### Memory Verse

*"Teach me Your way, O Lord." (Psalm 27:11).*



## Activity A - Picture of God's Creation

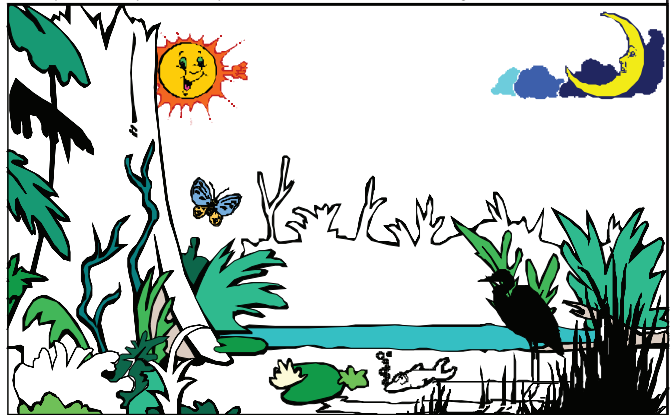
### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Glue.
- Felt pens.

### Steps

- Take children for a walk outside, to look at the things that only God can make, eg. seeds, grass, leaves, feathers, small stones, flowers, clouds, sun, water, insects, lizards, vines, trees, snails, etc.
- Allow the children to collect some things that could be glued to the Activity Sheet.
- Children glue their collection onto the Activity Sheet.
- If time permits, the children could draw themselves on the Activity Sheet as well.

God can do the things we can't. He gave Abraham and Sarah a promised baby when they were very old. He also made these things, that we cannot make.



## Activity B - Weaving to a Pattern

### Materials

- 1 of each Activity Sheet per child, No 1 copied onto white paper, No. 2 copied onto coloured paper.
- Stanley knife.

### Steps

#### At Home

- Using a Stanley knife, cut along all the dotted lines on Activity Sheet No. 1.
- Cut Activity Sheet No. 2 into strips along the dotted lines.

#### In Class

- Explain to the children, that when we work to a plan, we will always see an end result. This is especially true of working to God's plan.
- Give each child an Activity Sheet and a set of weaving strips.
- Show them how to start with the first one so that the letters are all visible, then move onto the second one, etc. until the whole message is readable. When finished it should read "Show me Your way Lord".

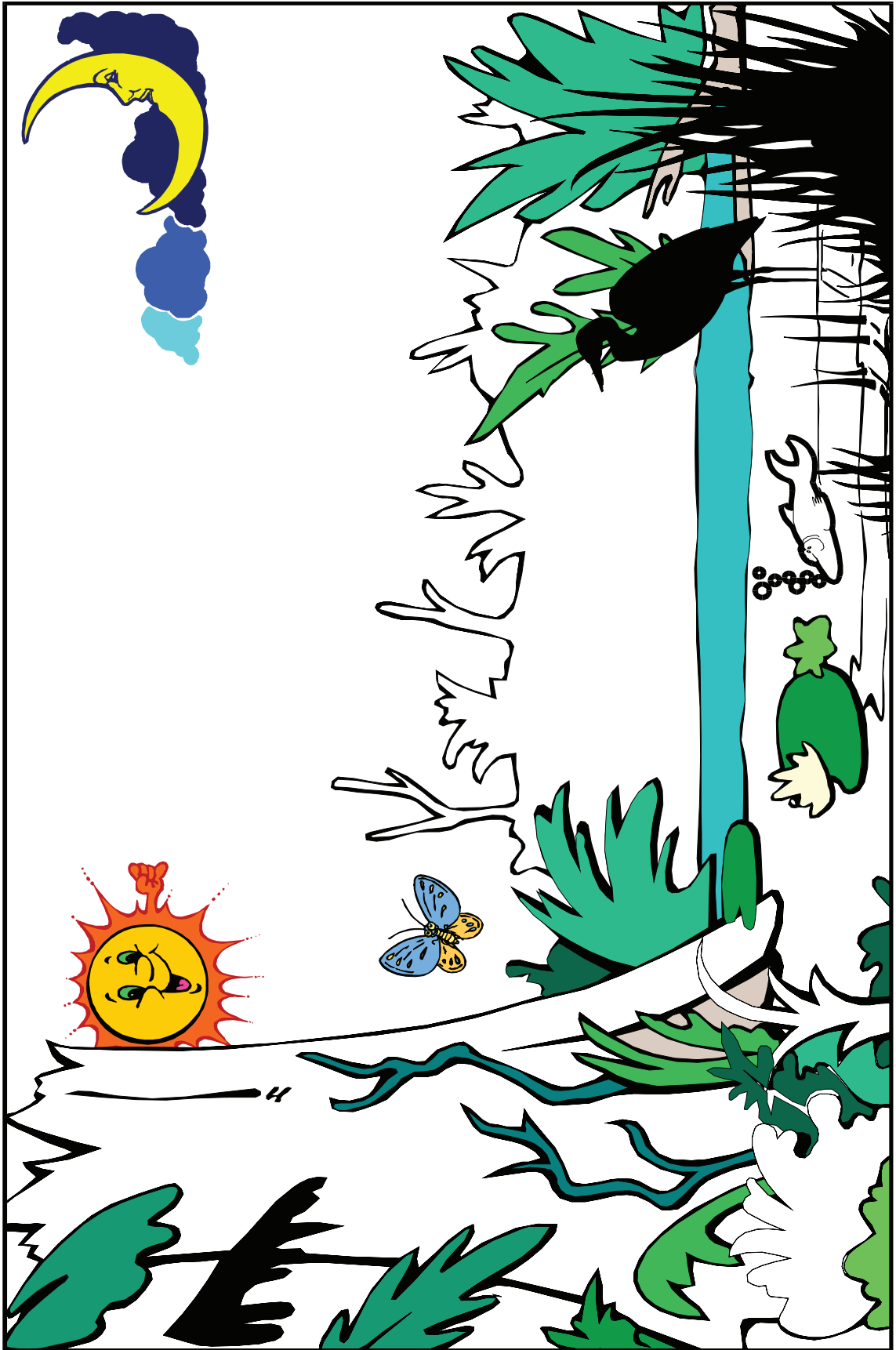
The shaded areas represent the coloured woven strips.

S	h	o	w
m	e		
y	o	u	r
w	a	y	
L	o	r	d

# Ishmael and Isaac

## Activity A - Picture of God's Creation

God can do the things we can't. He gave Abraham and Sarah a promised baby when they were very old. He also made these things, that we cannot make.





# Ishmael and Isaac

## Activity B - Weaving to a Plan

Activity Sheet No. 1

	h		w
m			
	o		r
w		y	
	o		d

# Ishmael and Isaac

## Activity B - Weaving to a Plan

Activity Sheet No. 2

1.

**s**

**c**

2.

**e**

3.

**y**

**u**

4.

**a**

5.

**l**

**r**

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# Sodom and Gomorrah

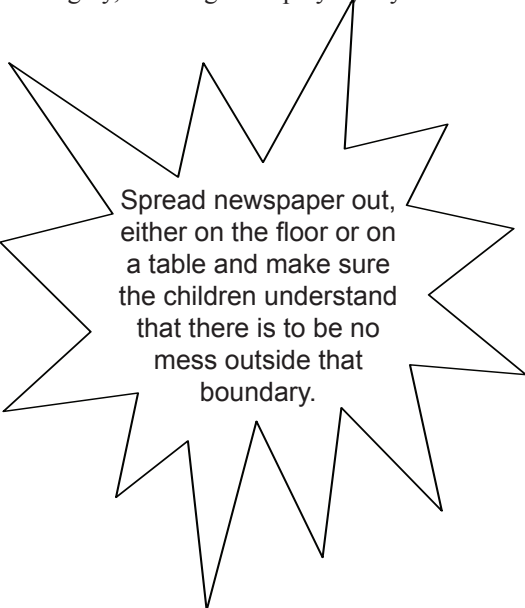
Genesis 19

## Storyline

There were two wicked cities called Sodom and Gomorrah and Lot lived in Sodom. God said that He must destroy these cities because the wicked people were a danger to all around. God sent two angels to warn Lot. Wicked men tried to capture the angels and attacked Lot's house but the angels blinded the wicked men. The angels helped Lot, his wife and his two daughters leave Sodom. They were told to hurry and not to look behind. Lot's wife looked back at the city and was turned into a pillar of salt. God sent fire and brimstone out of heaven to destroy the cities and Abraham looked from where he lived and could see the smoke in the distance. Everyone in the two cities was killed except Lot and his two daughters. The whole area became a wilderness and is now the Dead Sea.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

You could use Activity A as a teaching approach, or talk to the children about choosing, which is sometimes hard. When other kids at school are being mean to someone, do I choose to be mean as well? When others are being naughty, do I choose to be naughty, or do I go and play by myself?



Spread newspaper out, either on the floor or on a table and make sure the children understand that there is to be no mess outside that boundary.

## Theme One

### **“Do not be selfish and choose the best for ourselves”**

It's easy to be selfish and to choose what looks good for ourselves. Often, what we think is good is actually bad. That's why our parents sometimes don't give us what we ask. They know that what we are asking for would not be good for us. Our own selfish ways will take us far from God and bring us into a lot of trouble.

### **Key Thought**

We do not want to end up like Lot, whose selfishness ruined his life. We can be content without the best the world can offer.

### **Aim**

For the children to realise that when we get selfish, we forget others, even the Lord.

### **Memory Verse**

*“My God shall supply all your need.” (Philippians 4:19).*

## Theme Two

### **“It is dangerous to play with evil and to be friendly with wicked people”**

People are often told not to play with fire. When we choose to disobey God and enjoy things that do not please Him, we are playing with fire. This is very dangerous. It also means that we shall find ourselves being friends with other people who disobey God and do wrong things. This is very dangerous and can result in disaster.

### **Key Thought**

Lot was a good man, but he made wrong choices. He found that living with evil people gets us into a lot of trouble.

### **Aim**

For the children to begin to realise that God hates wickedness, and cannot bless those who disobey Him by living wickedly.

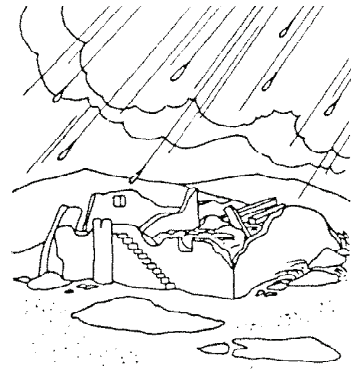
### **Memory Verse**

*The Lord is far from the wicked.” (Proverbs 15:29).*

## Activity A - Retell the story

### Materials

- One or two empty egg cartons.
- Black marker pen.
- Four pipe cleaner figures.
- Some shredded red cellophane.
- Some gravel size pebbles, painted yellow (students could also make pebbles out of yellow playdough).
- Enough salt to cover one of the pipecleaner figures.
- Some newspaper.



### Steps

#### At Home

- Make a cardboard city out of the egg cartons, by breaking up the bottom halves into various shapes and painting windows and doors on them with the black marker.
- Make four pipe cleaner figures.
- Shred some red cellophane.
- Dip the gravel in some non-toxic yellow paint.

#### In Class

- Give one child the container of salt.
- Give each of the other children some cellophane or some yellow pebbles.
- Set up the cardboard city, and have the children tell you the story, raining down the fire and brimstone on the city, and covering Lot's wife with salt.
- Note: Brimstone is a yellow crystalline solid which burns easily in air (sulphur).

## Activity B - Statue Tiggy

### Materials

- Open space, preferably outdoors.

### Rules

- One child is chosen to be "up". As each child is tagged, he/she turns into a 'pillar of salt' and must remain frozen until all children are frozen. The last child to be tagged, is then "up" and must tag all the children.
- If restricted to indoors, choose one child to be "up". This child stands with his/her face to the wall. The rest of the children begin at the other end of the room, and try to creep up on the child who is "up". At any time, he/she may call out "freeze" and turn around quickly. If he/she spots anyone moving, they may be sent back to the start. The first child to reach the other end of the room without being spotted moving is then "up".



# The sacrifice of Isaac

Genesis 22

## Storyline

God tested Abraham many times but the hardest came when his son Isaac was growing up. God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son as a burnt offering. Abraham loved his son dearly, but he put God's command first. He took Isaac, two servants and some wood for the offering on a three day journey to the mountain. He told the servants to wait while he and the boy went to worship. Isaac asked where the animal was for the offering and his father said that God would provide. Abraham built the altar, put wood on it and tied up Isaac. He was ready to plunge a knife into Isaac when God called his name and said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad ... for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Abraham and Isaac then saw a ram, caught by its horns in some bushes. This was the sacrifice instead of Isaac. Because of his obedience, God told Abraham He would make his descendants as numerous as the sand on the seashore.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

Have children role play the story of Abraham taking Isaac up Mount Moriah. Divide the children into pairs of Isaacs and Abrahams. Supply for each pair, a few large sticks, a soft belt/skipping rope/dressing gown cord, or similar, for tying sticks onto backs. Remember at this age, the children are not into a lot of dialogue, so just the act of tying the sticks on, and walking up the mountain should be enough to introduce the story.



## Theme One

### "God expects obedience"

Sometimes our parents may ask us to do things we don't want to do. Sometimes God, too, asks us to do difficult things we don't want to do. God wants us to know Him, and our parents, so well that we can trust Him and them and obey them. If we really trust God and our parents, we shall obey them when we are asked to do very hard things. We need to know that God and our parents love us, and because of this, we can obey them without hesitation.

### Key Thought

God asked Abraham to do something very hard and strange. Abraham was able to do this because he knew and trusted God.

### Aim

To encourage obedience, even if they don't understand why they have to do something.

### Memory Verse

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart." (Proverbs 3:5).*

## Theme Two

### "The Lord looks after those who obey their parents"

God is our Father and He only wants the best for us. Sometimes He disciplines us and tests us, but this is always for our good. In the same way our parents want the best for us. Their discipline is for our good. As we obey God and our parents, He will bless us.

### Key Thought

God has promised that if we obey and honour our parents, He will look after us, even if we make mistakes.

### Aim

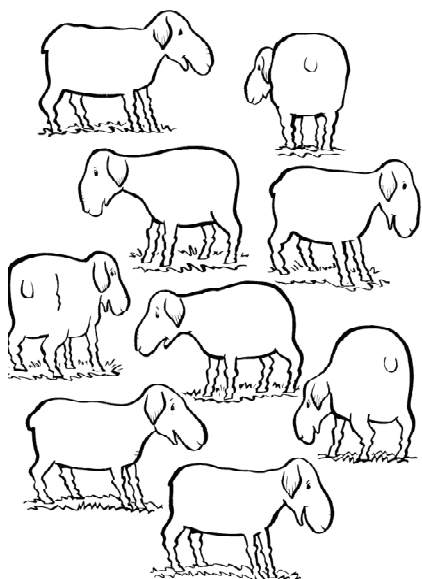
To have the children realise that being happy to obey our parents, is the beginning of being happy to obey the Lord. This is honouring.

### Memory Verse

*"Children, obey your parents in all things." (Colossians 3:20).*

When working with props or equipment, always think 'Safety First' eg. no sharp sticks, don't tie ropes tight etc.

## Activity A - Ram in the Thicket



### Materials

- Photocopy Activity Sheet enough times to give each child one sheep.
- 1 cotton wool ball for each sheep.
- Glue.
- 1 dry twig (small branch), about twice the size of the sheep, for each child.
- Playdough, stones, twigs, red cellophane (cut into strips).

### Steps

#### At Home

- Mount Activity Sheet/s on cardboard.
- Cut out sheep.

#### In Class

- Glue cotton wool ball onto the body of sheep.
- Place sheep in thicket.
- Give each child a lump of playdough and some stones.
- Children press stones into outside of playdough to make an altar.
- Place strips of cellophane and twigs on top.
- Place ram on altar.

## Activity B - Happy/Sad Faces

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Safety Scissors.
- Glue.

### Steps

- Children cut out squares faces.
- Teacher reads first situation and children glue appropriate face in the space.
- Teacher continues reading down through situations until activity is completed.

## Happy/Sad Faces

This is Abraham's face when God told him to sacrifice Isaac.



This is Isaac's face when his father, Abraham, asked him to come on a trip.



This is Abraham's face as he takes Isaac up Mt Moriah.



Isaac's face as Abraham binds him to the altar.



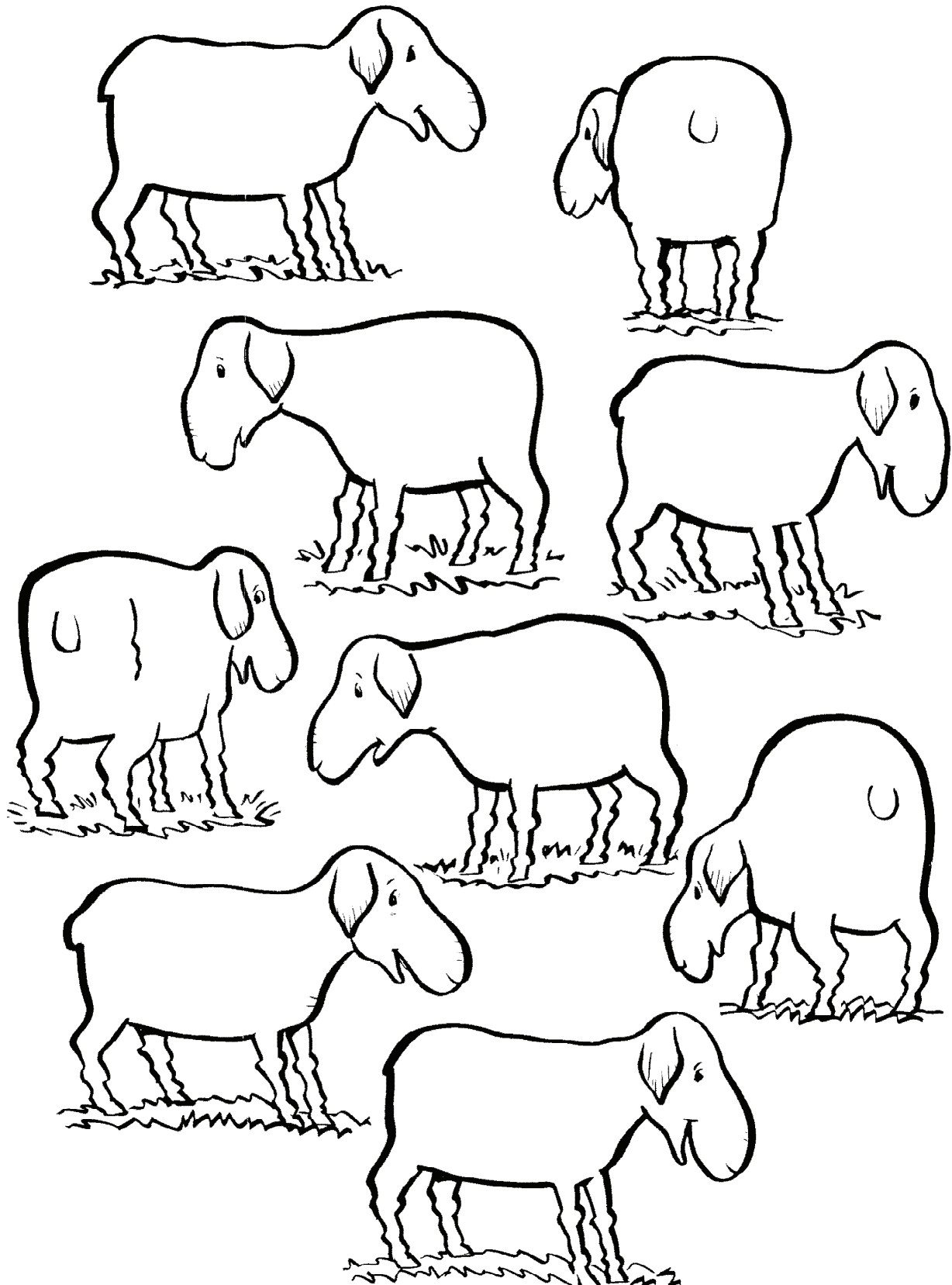
Abraham and Isaac's faces when God sends a lamb for an offering.





# The sacrifice of Isaac

## Activity A - Ram in the Thicket



# The sacrifice of Isaac

## Activity B - Happy/Sad Faces

### Happy/Sad Faces

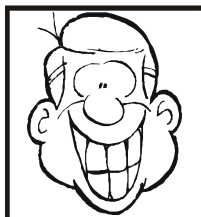
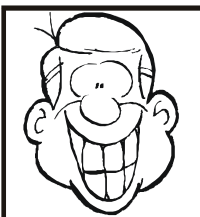
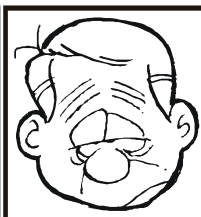
This is Abraham's face when  
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on a trip.

This is Abraham's face as he takes  
Isaac up Mt Moriah.

Isaac's face as Abraham binds  
him to the altar.

Abraham and Isaac's  
faces when God sends  
a lamb for an offering.



# Rebekah, Isaac's bride

Genesis 24

## Storyline

Abraham wanted Isaac to marry, but not to marry a Canaanite who worshipped idols. His servant, Eliezer, was given the job of going back to Mesopotamia and finding a wife for Isaac from Abraham's relatives. Eliezer prayed for help in choosing the right woman. He asked that when he asked for a drink, the woman would offer to draw water for his camels also. He wanted someone who was kind and thoughtful and his prayers were answered in Rebekah. Eliezer gave her gifts from his master, discovered that she was related to Abraham, and thanked the Lord. When he was invited, he went to stay with the family. They knew that the Lord had led Eliezer to find Rebekah for Isaac, and Rebekah was willing to go straight away to marry Isaac. The family was sad to lose Rebekah, but knew it was God's will. Isaac loved Rebekah and they married.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Give the children a practical example of trusting, and doing what is asked of us, even when we don't understand.
2. Blindfold one child, and have them walk according to your instructions. Make it very simple, and be sure not to allow any accidents to happen. Keep it short too, just long enough for them to get the idea of trusting and being obedient, then lead into the story.

## Theme One

### "The Lord will give us wisdom and help if we ask Him"

There are times, even each day, when we do not know what choices to make or which direction to follow. Sometimes the jobs we have to do, or the problems we have to face, cannot be worked out by ourselves. However, we can expect God to show us His wisdom as we ask Him to guide us.

#### Key Thought

Just like Eliezer, who was not disappointed, we have to rely on God's wisdom, and trust in His leading.

#### Aim

To help the children to understand that the Lord is waiting to lead and guide them if they will ask.

#### Memory Verse

*"And He shall direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:6).*

## Theme Two

### "Ready and willing"

God wants us to be trained in ordinary and not so ordinary things. He also wants us to be quick to use our skills to help others. We need to keep saying, "Yes," to the Lord when we are asked to do something, or to help others. Being ready and willing to help others will bring blessing to them and to ourselves.

#### Key Thought

Just like Rebekah, we must be willing to quickly do whatever is asked of us by God or our parents.

#### Aim

For the children to develop an attitude of willingness.

#### Memory Verse

*"Do not grow weary in doing good." (II Thessalonians 3:13).*

Useful tools for telling the stories include:

- a well illustrated Children's Bible
- a flannel board and pictures
- a hand puppet figure (to ask questions or tell the story).

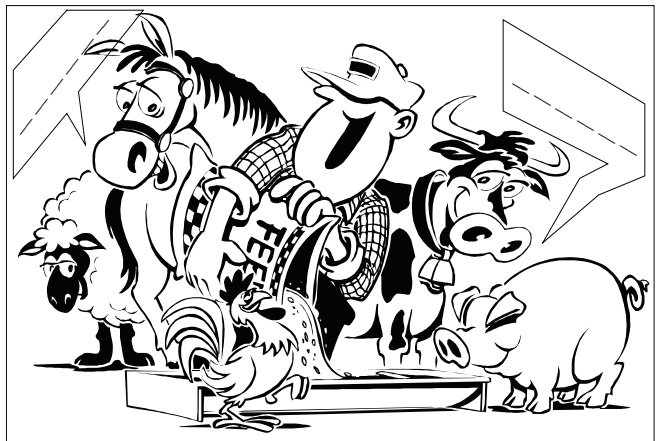
## Activity A - 'Serving' Cartoons

### Materials

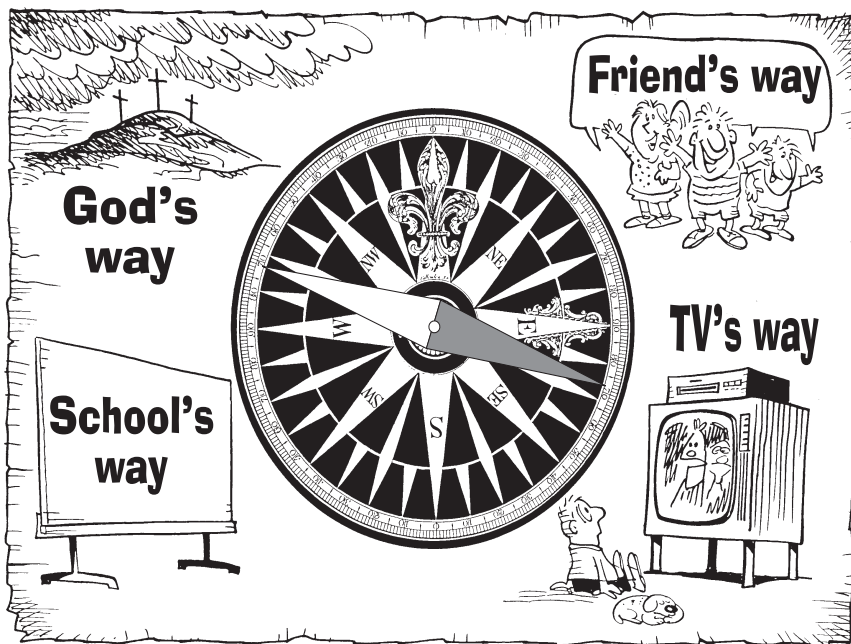
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils or felt pens.

### Steps

- Discuss how, in each cartoon, someone is serving by doing a chore.
- Children can then colour the cartoons and write the word 'thanks' in the spaces.



## Activity B - God's Way' Compass



### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 paper binder per child (this is a two piece fastener, consisting of a split pin and a washer, and is available at newsagents).
- Colouring pencils.

### Steps

#### At Home

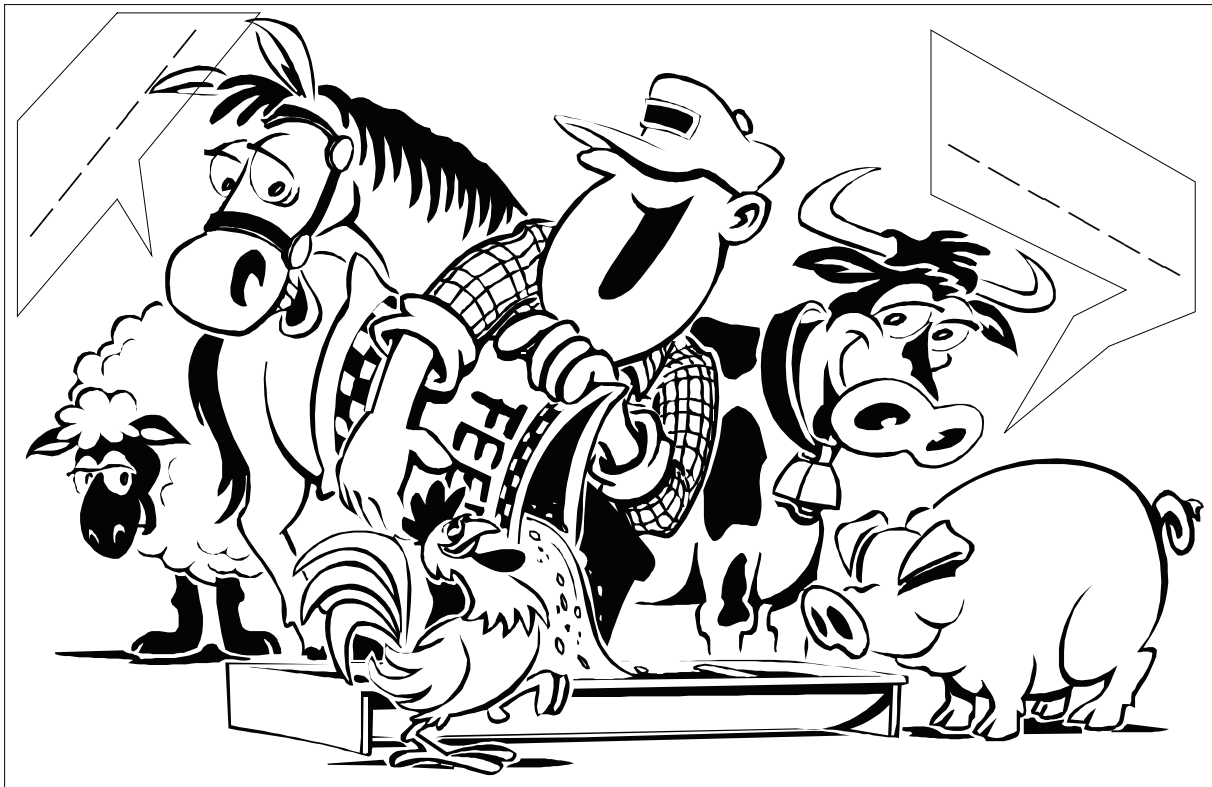
- Cut out arrow pointers.

#### In Class

- Children colour compass pictures.
- Talk about choosing God's way with children, during colouring time.
- Help children attach pointer to compass using paper binders

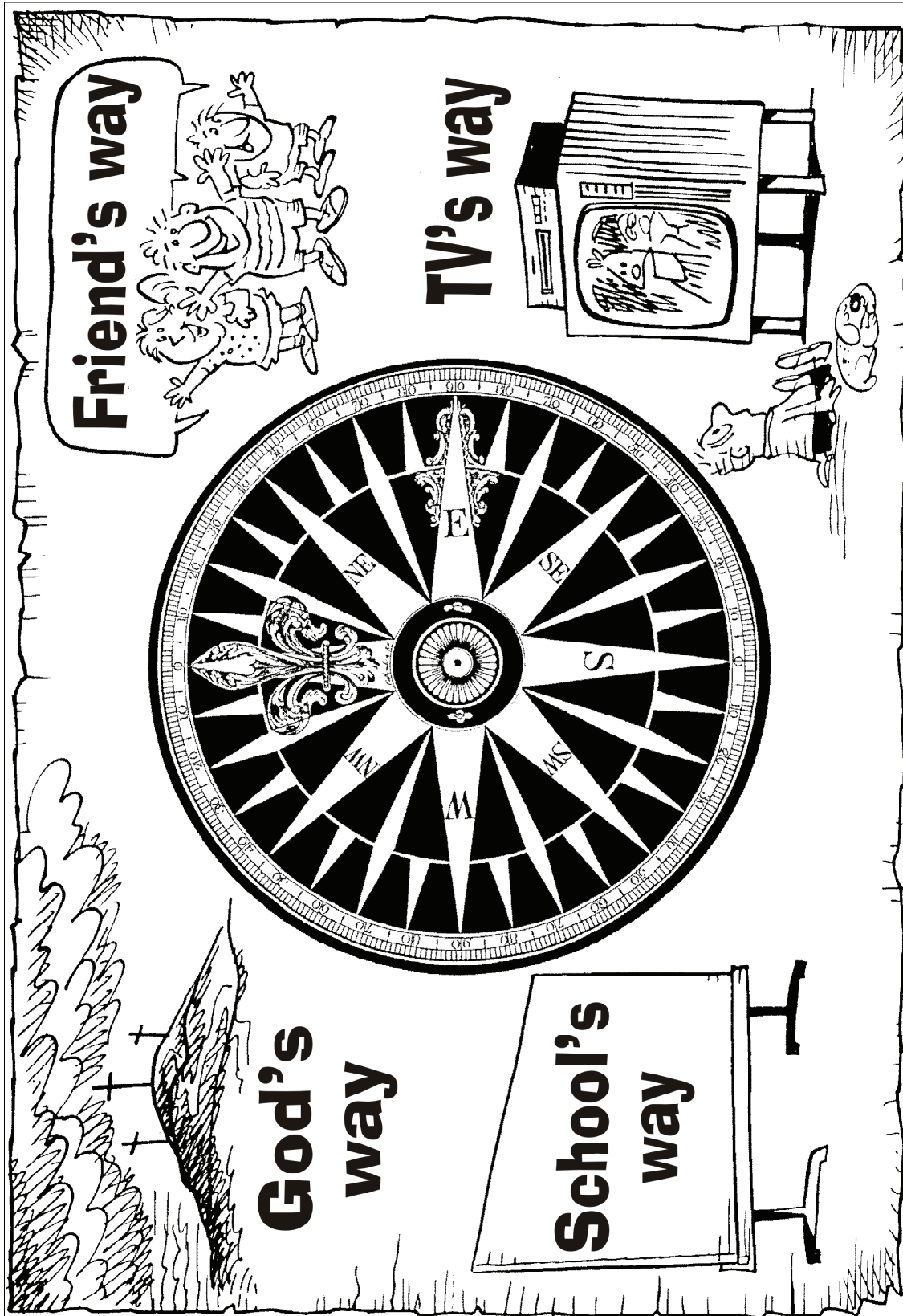
# Rebekah, Isaac's bride

## Activity A - 'Serving' Cartoons



# Rebekah, Isaac's bride

## Activity B - 'God's Way' Compass





# Jacob and Esau

Genesis 25:19-34; 27

## Storyline

Isaac and Rebekah had no children for a long time. Isaac asked the Lord with all his heart, for Rebekah to have a child and the Lord said yes. The Lord gave Rebekah twins, and before they were born, He told her that the baby that was born second, would be the more important. The first baby born was called Esau and the second baby born was called Jacob. Esau was very hairy and grew up to be a very good hunter. Jacob had smooth skin and stayed around home. Esau came home one day from hunting and he was very hungry. Jacob had just made a stew and Esau wanted to eat it, so Jacob got Esau to trade his birthright for the stew. Because Esau didn't care about the birthright, he gave it up for Jacob's stew. When Isaac was very old and almost blind, he wanted to give a special blessing to his eldest son. Rebekah and Jacob tricked Isaac into giving the blessing to Jacob instead. Esau wanted to kill Jacob because he now had the birthright and the best blessing as well. Isaac sent Jacob away to Rebekah's brother Laban's place which was a long way away.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

Using two Lego figures (or similar) name one Esau and one Jacob. Take along to class quite a few things that the children would recognise as precious, eg. jewellery, some money, etc. Explain to the children that, as the firstborn, Esau should have received a double portion of Isaac's treasures. This was his birthright. (Divide the goods up so Esau has twice as much as Jacob.) Then show how it was reversed when Esau gave up his birthright to Jacob. (Now push the larger portion over to Jacob.) Explain to the children, that once we are born again into God's household, we have a birthright too. Not money or jewels, but being able to live forever with God, and we must guard that treasure and not give it away like Esau.

## Theme One

### "Cheating hurts others"

God has a plan for each of our lives. God will bring that plan to pass at the right time and in the right way. Even if we are sure what that plan is, it is best to let Him work it out. If we try to use clever tricks to get what we want, we shall hurt ourselves and others.

### Key Thought

If we try to work out God's plan for us by cheating, we will lose our friends and will always be afraid of being found out.

### Aim

For the children to understand that God will work things out His way and His way will keep us loving each other.

### Memory Verse

*"Let brotherly love continue." (Hebrews 13:1).*

## Theme Two

### "Treasure what God has chosen for you"

Sometimes we can take for granted the things God has given us. Our families, our church life, the special way He has made each one of us and His plan for us. If we don't really get to know the Lord and stay close to Him, we can become unthankful, unhappy, and lose everything He has set aside for us.

### Key Thought

As we guard the treasure God has given us now, we are making sure that we will receive everything God has for us in the end.

### Aim

To help the children understand what their 'birthright' in God is and how important it is that we not be robbed of it.

### Memory Verse

*"Hold fast what is good." (1 Thessalonians 5:21).*

If you have any disruptive students, try ignoring their attention seeking behaviour and praise students who are working well. Reward these students by focussing all your questions on them. When the disruptive students display compliance in any way, praise them or direct a question to them as a reward.



## Activity A - Blind Man's Bluff or "Who Am I?"

### Materials

- 1 Blindfold.

### Steps

- For Blind Man's Bluff, one child is blindfolded, turned around three times and has to find and identify someone else.
- For "Who Am I?", one child is blindfolded, while another from the group sneaks up behind the blindfolded child and says, "Father, father, who am I?". The blindfolded child has to try and guess who is behind him/her.

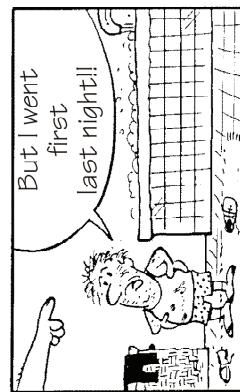
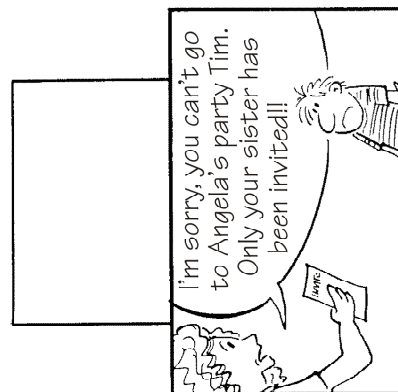
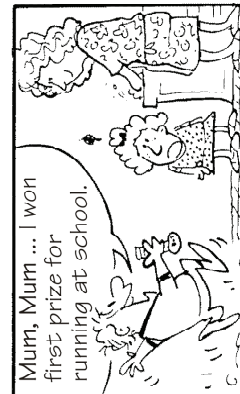
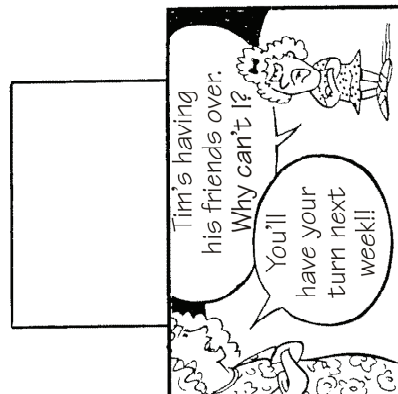
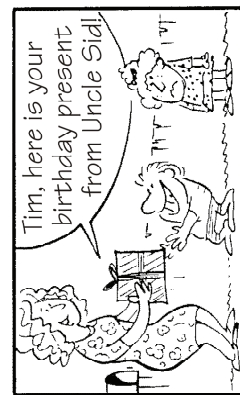
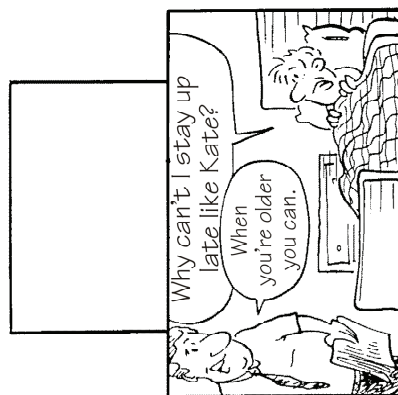
## Activity B - How does Jesus want me to feel?

### Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pencils.

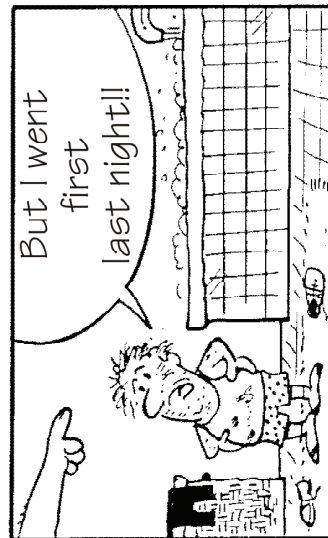
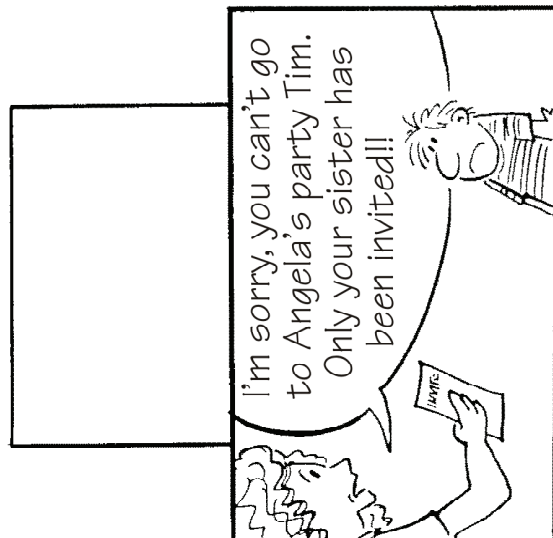
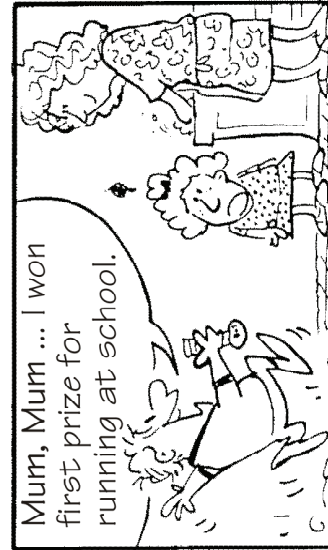
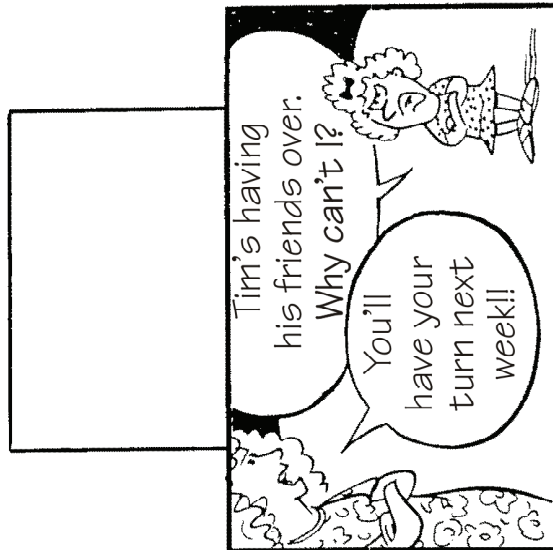
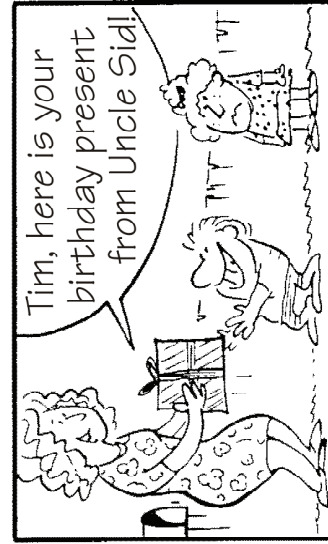
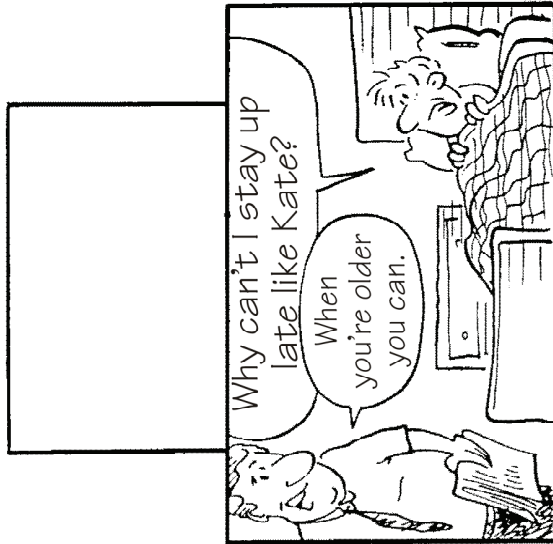
### Steps

- Teacher reads out captions, one by one, and discusses how the children feel about each situation, and then how Jesus wants us to feel.
- The children then draw a happy or angry face beside the pictures, depicting how Jesus would like us to respond to our brothers and sisters.



# Jacob and Esau

## Activity B - How does Jesus want you to feel?



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# Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel

Genesis 28 - 30

## Storyline

Because of Esau's anger, Jacob had to leave home. Isaac told him to get a wife from his relatives far away and he blessed him again before he left. Jacob felt alone and unhappy and because of the trouble he had caused, he felt far from God. But God was with him. He lay down on the ground to sleep that night with a stone for his pillow, and had a dream of a ladder reaching right up to heaven, with angels going up and down. The Lord stood above it and told Jacob that He would give him many children and grandchildren and great grandchildren until they could not be counted, like the sand. This was the same promise God had given Abraham, Jacob's grandfather. Jacob made his first promise to God here. He promised to keep the Lord as his God and to give the Lord a tenth of everything God gave him. His uncle, Laban, had two daughters, Leah and Rachel. Jacob loved Rachel and said he would work seven years so he could marry her. Laban tricked Jacob and he ended up married to Leah, so he had to work another seven years to marry Rachel. Jacob learned what it was like to be cheated. Jacob wanted to take his family back to Canaan, but Laban stopped him many times. One night the Lord spoke to Jacob and reminded him of their promises to each other and told him to return to his land and his brother Esau. Jacob then knew it was time to go.

## Suggested Teaching Approach

1. To tell the story, prepare a flannel graph or some cut out characters you can Bluetack to a board.
2. Show the children how God stayed close to Jacob, through the "Ladder" experience and how Jacob worshipped God there.
3. Remind the children of Jacob's trickery. Discuss how Jacob must have felt when his uncle tricked him.

## Theme One

### "The Lord is always ready to forgive"

We often make mistakes and sometimes we fall into sin. God knows when a person's heart is truly His. If we ask Him, He will forgive us. He will also draw us closer to Himself. If we want to be changed, He will change us so that we become like Jesus.

#### Key Thought

Even when we are doing wrong, the Lord stays with us, waiting for us to call on Him and repent. He loves us, and watches over us.

#### Aim

For the children to see the difference between God's love for us and the way we sometimes love each other.

#### Memory Verse

*"I am with you always." (Matthew 28:20).*

## Theme Two

### "When we forgive, the Lord hears our prayers"

We often find people who are difficult to get on with or who are unfair to us. We have to learn to forgive them, just as God forgives us. As we forgive others, we will find that God will give us grace to face the difficulty or unfairness. Sometimes the circumstances may change, but, in any case, our attitudes will change.

#### Key Thought

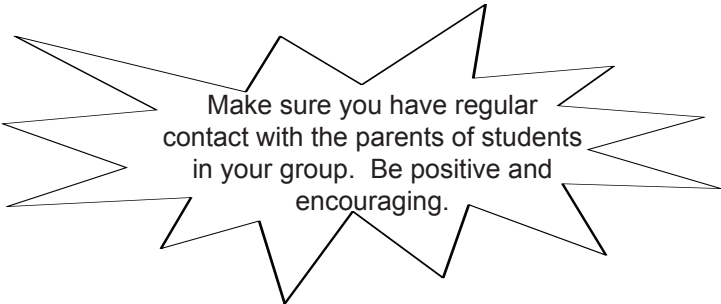
Unless we forgive those who cause us problems, the Lord cannot use those circumstances for our good. Indeed, unless we forgive, the Lord will not forgive us for our wrongdoings.

#### Aim

To help the children understand that when we obey those who are over us, and forgive those who have hurt us, God is able to change our hearts and bless us.

#### Memory Verse

*"Forgive, and you will be forgiven." (Luke 6:37).*



Make sure you have regular contact with the parents of students in your group. Be positive and encouraging.

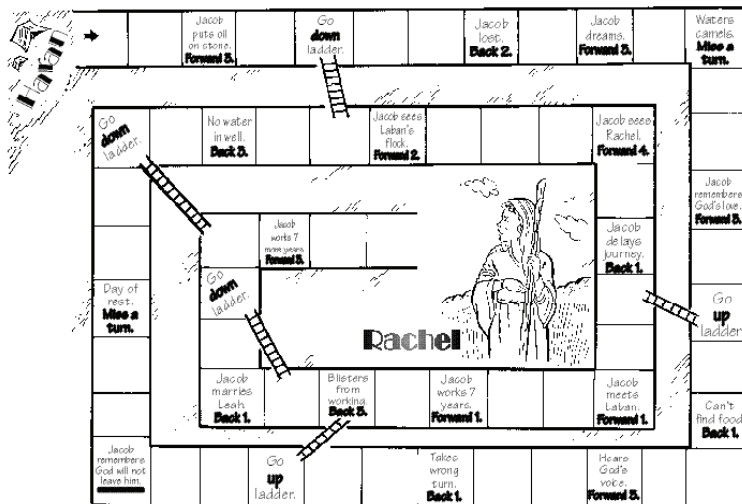
## Activity A - Board Game

### Materials

- Enlarge 1 copy of Activity Sheet and either laminate or mount on cardboard. (If you have plenty of time, you could colour game before laminating.)
- 1 normal size copy of game for each child to take home.
- 1 dice and button.

### Steps

- It is suggested that this game be played in a non-competitive way, eg. children take turns throwing dice and teacher moves 1 button. Thus the children are all participating, by throwing dice and counting spaces, but no one wins or loses.



## Activity B - Telephone to Jesus

### Materials

- 1 x 1 litre milk carton for each child.
- Glue (Aquadhere), or sticky tape.
- 1 Activity Sheet for each child (cut header and footer off Activity Sheet and photocopy onto centre of plain A4 paper so it can wrap around milk carton).
- Colouring pencils.
- 1 red heart sticker for centre of telephone per child (optional).

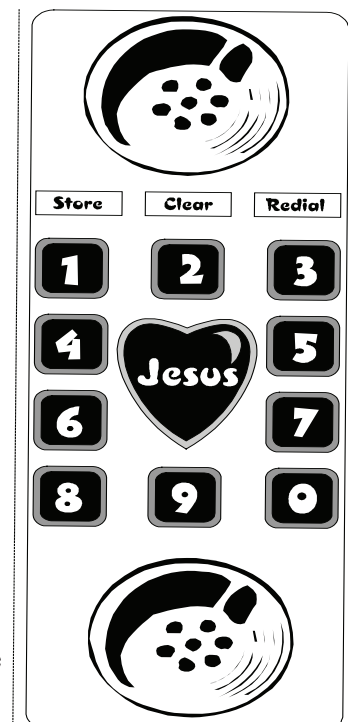
### Steps

#### At Home

- Collect and clean milk cartons (clean with vinegar, bleach, or antiseptic to kill bacteria and smell).
- Fold pattern along dotted lines.
- Tape top of carton flat.

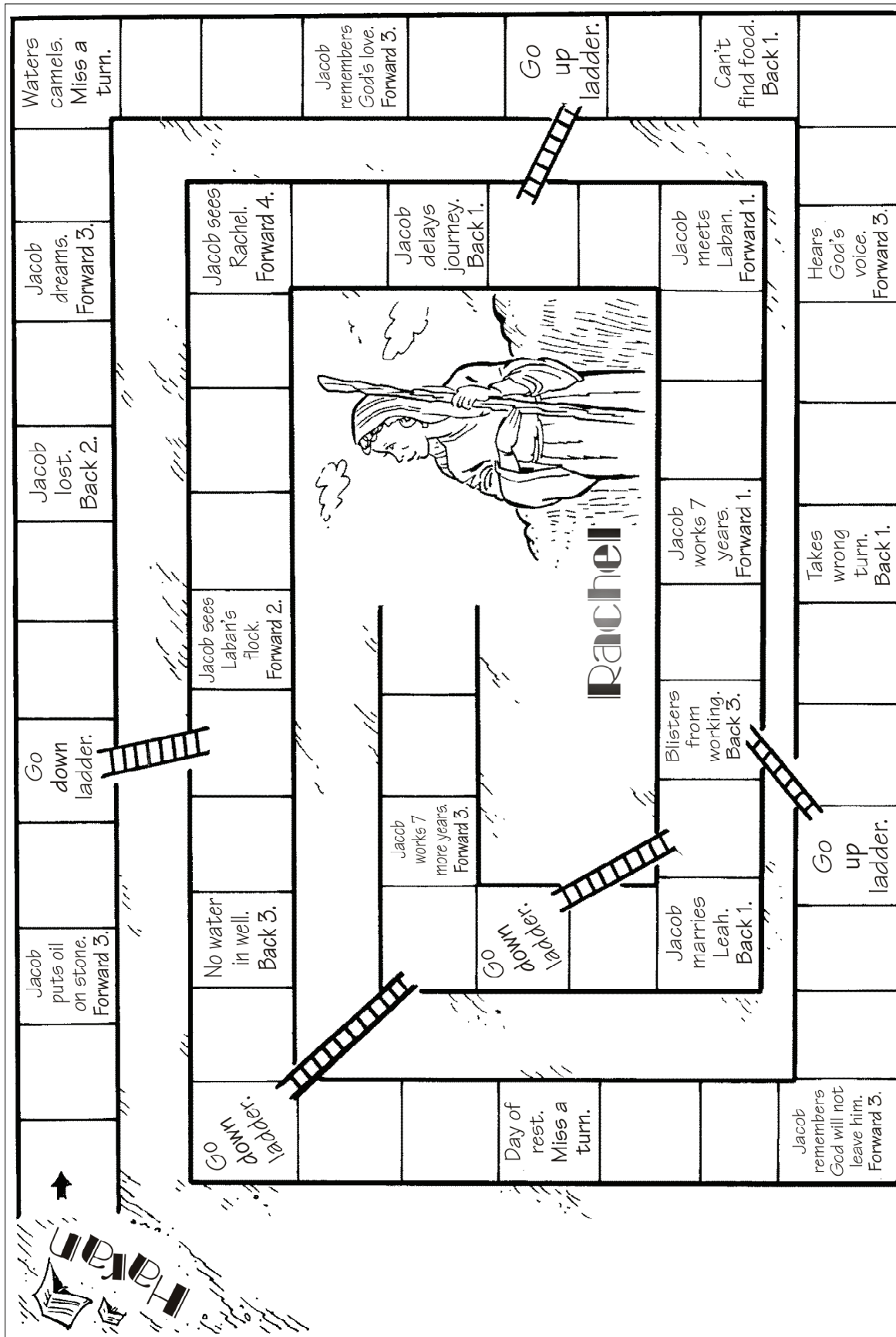
#### In Class

- Children colour telephone. (If using heart stickers, put them in place now.)
- Tape or glue pattern to milk carton.
- At this point, emphasise that this is a game - Jesus can't really be talked to on the telephone, but is closer to us than a phone call.



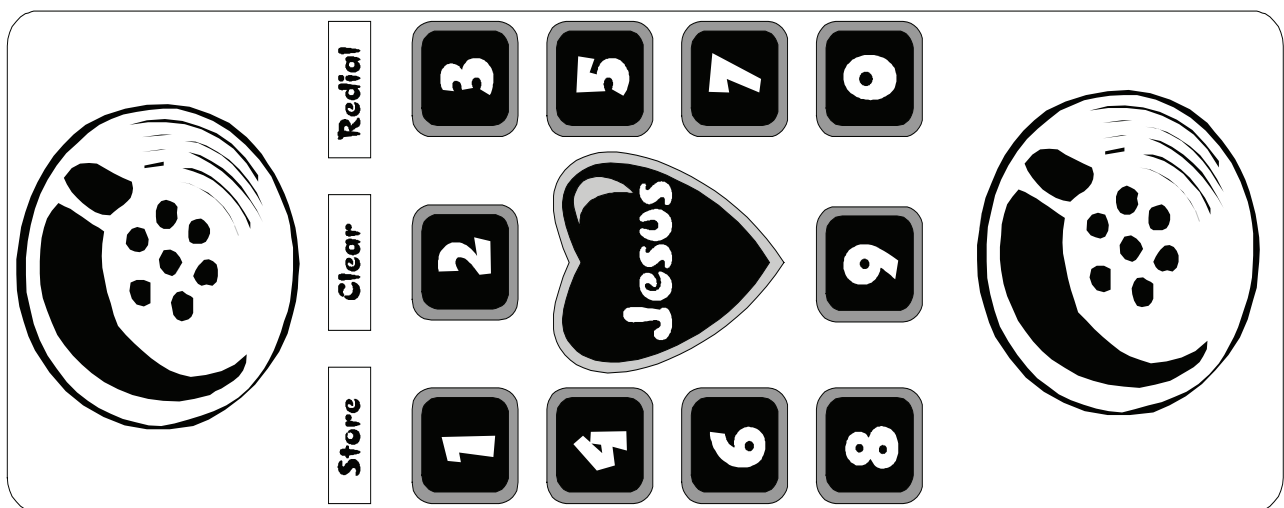
# Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel

## Activity A - Board Game



# Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel

## Activity B - Telephone to Jesus

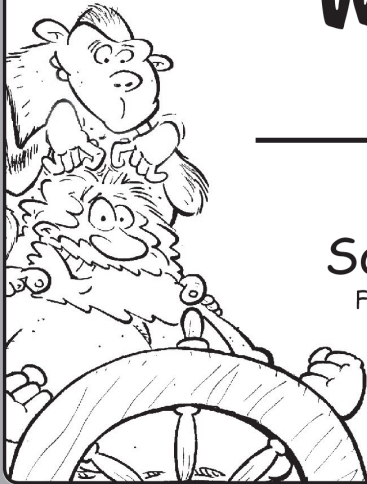


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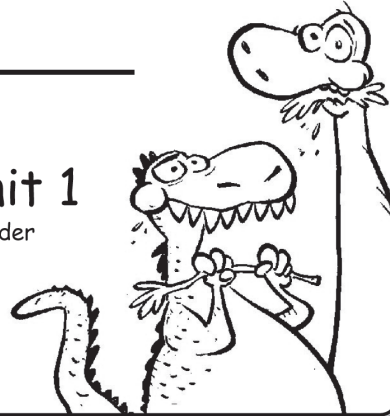


# Well Done!



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for completing  
**SonSeekers Unit 1**  
From Creation to Jacob's Ladder

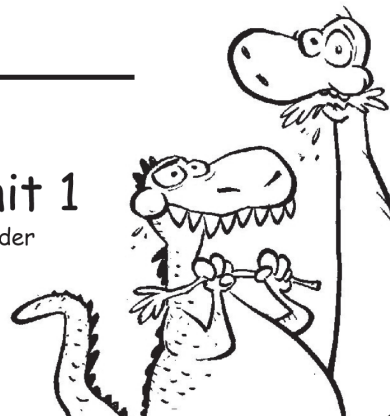


# Well Done!



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for completing  
**SonSeekers Unit 1**  
From Creation to Jacob's Ladder



# Sonseekers Curriculum

Unit One	Unit Two	Unit Three	Unit Four
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creation 1</li> <li>Creation 2</li> <li>Adam and Eve</li> <li>The fall</li> <li>Cain and Abel</li> <li>Noah builds an ark</li> <li>The flood, Noah and his sons</li> <li>The tower of Babel</li> <li>Abram called, Abram and Lot</li> <li>The covenant with Abraham</li> <li>Ishmael and Isaac</li> <li>Sodom and Gomorrah</li> <li>The sacrifice of Isaac</li> <li>Rebekah, Isaac's bride</li> <li>Jacob and Esau</li> <li>Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jacob becomes Israel</li> <li>Joseph, the favourite son</li> <li>Joseph goes to Egypt</li> <li>Joseph interprets the dreams</li> <li>Joseph's brothers</li> <li>Israel in Egypt</li> <li>Israelite slaves, Moses born</li> <li>Moses flees and returns to Egypt</li> <li>"Let My people go"</li> <li>The first passover, Israel delivered</li> <li>Crossing the Red Sea</li> <li>Manna, water from the rock</li> <li>Sinai and the ten commandments</li> <li>Moses and the tabernacle</li> <li>The golden calf</li> <li>Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aaron's rod</li> <li>Moses hits the rock</li> <li>The bronze serpent</li> <li>Balaam and his ass</li> <li>Joshua and Rahab</li> <li>Crossing the Jordan, Jericho</li> <li>The sin of Achan</li> <li>The sun stands still</li> <li>Gideon's fleece</li> <li>Gideon and his army</li> <li>Samson</li> <li>Samson and Delilah</li> <li>Ruth, Naomi and Boaz</li> <li>Hannah</li> <li>Samuel hears God speak</li> <li>Eli, Hophni and Phinehas</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saul chosen</li> <li>Saul and the Amalekites</li> <li>David chosen</li> <li>David and Goliath</li> <li>David and Jonathan</li> <li>David and Saul</li> <li>David crowned</li> <li>David and the ark</li> <li>Absalom</li> <li>Solomon becomes king</li> <li>Solomon's temple</li> <li>Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam</li> <li>Elijah and the widow</li> <li>Elijah on Mount Carmel</li> <li>Good King Jehoshaphat</li> <li>Elisha and the double portion</li> </ol>
Unit Five	Unit Six	Unit Seven	Unit Eight
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The widow's oil, a boy raised</li> <li>Naaman</li> <li>Famine in Samaria</li> <li>Jonah</li> <li>The captivity of Israel (the northern kingdom)</li> <li>Hezekiah and Sennacherib</li> <li>Isaiah</li> <li>Josiah</li> <li>Jeremiah</li> <li>The captivity of Judah (the southern kingdom)</li> <li>Daniel interprets the king's dream</li> <li>The fiery furnace</li> <li>The writing on the wall</li> <li>Daniel in the lions' den</li> <li>Esther</li> <li>Restoration</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary and John</li> <li>The birth of Jesus</li> <li>Jesus in the temple</li> <li>John the Baptist</li> <li>Jesus baptised and tempted</li> <li>The call of the disciples</li> <li>Water turned to wine</li> <li>The temple cleansed, Nicodemus</li> <li>The woman at the well</li> <li>Healing of the paralysed man</li> <li>The house built on the rock</li> <li>Jesus stills the storm</li> <li>The feeding of the 5000</li> <li>The centurion's servant</li> <li>Forgiveness in Simon's house</li> <li>The sower and the seed</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jairus' daughter, a woman touches Jesus</li> <li>Jesus walks on the water</li> <li>Miracles of healing</li> <li>The transfiguration</li> <li>A boy is healed</li> <li>The unmerciful servant</li> <li>A man born blind</li> <li>The good Samaritan</li> <li>Prayer</li> <li>The raising of Lazarus</li> <li>The lost sheep, coin and son</li> <li>Attitudes of a servant</li> <li>The marriage of the king's son</li> <li>The ten lepers</li> <li>The ten virgins</li> <li>The talents</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Palm Sunday</li> <li>The last supper and Gethsemane</li> <li>The crucifixion</li> <li>The resurrection</li> <li>Peter restored</li> <li>The risen Christ and His ascension</li> <li>The day of Pentecost</li> <li>Peter and John</li> <li>Peter and the Gentiles</li> <li>Stephen</li> <li>Philip</li> <li>Paul's conversion</li> <li>Paul's first missionary journey</li> <li>Paul's second and third missionary journeys</li> <li>Paul's capture and imprisonment</li> <li>Paul's final journey</li> </ol>