



Beautiful BIBLE TREASURES For Children

Lesson 35

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:

The Cloud of the Lord

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:

The Cloud of the Lord

Level C—Story Time with Jesus:

The Cloud of the Lord

Level D—What Does it Actually Say?:

The Cloud of the Lord

Level E—Bible Bits: Clothing/ Topic Treasures—

Promises for Pioneers

The Cloud of the Lord

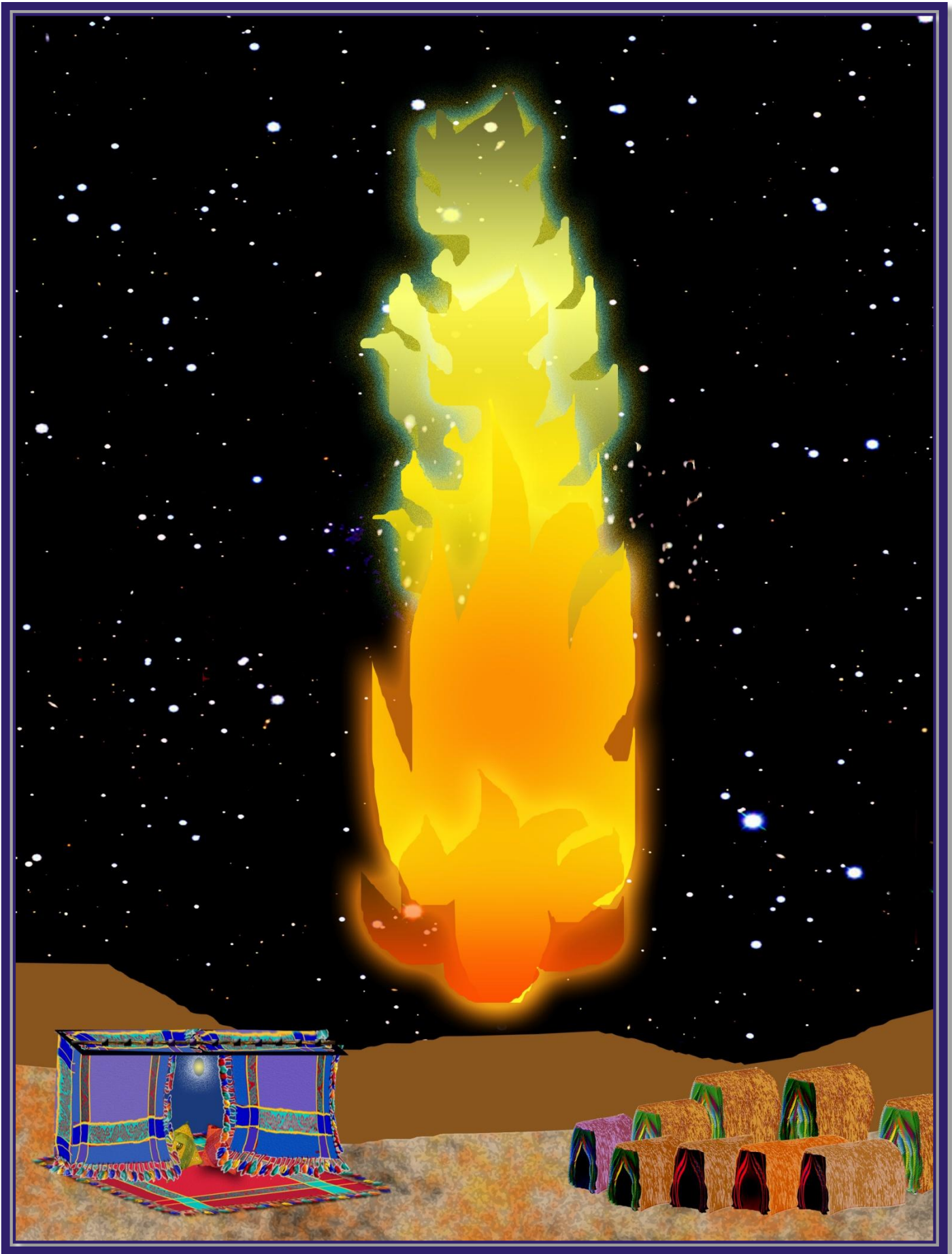
God had a very special way to lead the Israelites on their journey. He sent a big, bright and amazing cloud to show them when and where to travel.

When God moved the cloud pillar, the people packed up and moved also. They would camp at the new place for as long as God kept the cloud there. At night the cloud was bright and fiery, and could be seen in the dark night.

God also instructed them in how to build a special tent, or tabernacle for prayer. Skilled and wise people helped to make it, and they did it just the way God told Moses that it should be made.

God also instructed Moses and his helpers on how to build a special box called, "The Ark of the Covenant". It was made very nicely and would hold some special things—like the tablets of stone and a sample of the manna.

At last, after learning many new things and travelling for many years, the big team of Israelites were ready to move in to the new land, full of faith and willing to do whatever God told them to do.



The Cloud of the Lord

The way God chose to show the Israelites where to go, and when to move, was by a special cloud in the shape of a pillar which He created as a sign of His presence being there with the people. It was easy for everyone to see and to follow it.

When God wanted the people to move on and travel to a new place, this cloud would begin to move. It was a reminder to all the people that God was with them, and He was the one in charge, and would help them. At night this cloud was as a pillar of fire, giving light, and everyone could see it.

Whether it was day or night the travellers could tell what they were supposed to do—whether to camp or to move on. God knew what was best, and He knew what was going on in all the surrounding lands. He led them to the best places for them at the time.

God had a special project for Moses and others to work on. He wanted to keep reminding the people how He was real and near to them, and they could trust in His care.

God gave Moses instructions on how to have some faithful workers build and put up a beautiful, large tent—a tabernacle. It was to be a special place of worship and prayer.



They were to also make a special box too, nicely decorated and shaped. This box was called, the "Ark of the Covenant". It would be kept safely, and would hold things like a sampling of the manna, Aaron's rod when God said to place it there, the tablets of stone, and other things that were added later on.

When the people finally made it to their new land, Joshua, Caleb and others were sent to check it out. Joshua and Caleb saw it was a good place, and were eager to move there. The others that had also explored the place weren't sure it was safe. They said that some very tall people were living there already, and it seemed impossible for them to move there. They said things that discouraged everyone from entering it.

Because the people didn't have the faith to go into the new land that God had promised them, they weren't ready to live there, and had to keep travelling for many more years.

Forty years passed, and many lessons were learned. At last they were allowed another chance to enter and live in their new land. This time they had faith and courage, and were ready and eager to obediently do what God told them to in order to move in to the new country.

Activity

*Pitch a tent! Or make one out of chairs and blankets! Pretend you are going into a special tabernacle for some time to talk with Jesus. Do you have any food in your house that those who lived in Bible times might have had—like olives, grapes, almonds, olive oil, bread, honey, milk, beans, fish, dates, raisins, fruit, vegetables, barley, etc? Have a snack or a meal with what you have!

The Cloud of the Lord



God wanted to keep showing the people that He was there with them—showing Himself in more ways than you usually see nowadays—as they were all just starting to get to know Him and what He was like. God let a bright cloud appear in the day time, and at night it changed into a fiery pillar. It was God's way of saying that He was there.

This cloud displaying God's presence was with them right from the start, as they left Egypt. It was not only God's way of showing He was there with them, but also how He chose to lead and guide them. It showed them when to go and where, as they travelled through the wilderness. Wherever it stopped, they stayed for as long as it stayed still there—whether it was for a day, or a week, a month, or even years!

The cloud would come nearby Moses too at times, when he would go into his special prayer tent to talk with God. All the people could see that Moses was there taking time with God and hearing Him speak. Moses talked with God as close as friends talk—with God's voice speaking to Moses in his heart and mind and ears—and the cloud was the part of God that was visible.

One of the things God had instructed them to do was to make a large, fancy, special prayer tent, called the "Tabernacle". Everyone got very excited to help build it. People gave all kinds of things to Moses and those helping to make it—cloth of all kinds, gold, jewels and so forth.

A wise and diligent man named Bezaleel helped to make the "Ark of the Covenant"—a very special box for holding special things, and he built and made many other things too that God asked Moses to have made. He was good at making things out of wood, carving things, stone work, making things out of

gold, silver and brass, and making all sorts of things. He was very careful to do each thing in just the way God told Moses to have it done.

The special cloud would then rest on this tabernacle, showing God's presence was there, telling the big team of travellers where to stop and camp, and when it was time to move on. There was no TV telling news of what was going on in the surrounding areas, nor the internet to look up camp sites, or phone services to find out the information needed to make the trip a safe and good one. But God knew everything! And He made it simple by just telling and showing them where and when to go, using this bright cloud of light and fire.

Finally, after quite some time of not just travelling, but learning all kinds of lessons, with God helping them all to know and follow Him, He led them to the place of their destination. At long last they were right nearby the land they were to live in, build houses, raise their families, grow crops, and so forth.

Men were chosen from each of the main 12 families or "tribes" as they were called, the descendents of the 12 sons of Jacob. These men had a very exciting mission: to be the first ones to go into the new land, the place that had been promised would be theirs. These men were to check things out, to see what it was like, discover who lived there, and come back and tell everyone what they had found out.

Joshua (who was also called Oshea, and was a descendant of Joseph) and another God-following man called Caleb, were filled with faith and courage. When they saw the place, they thought it was just terrific! Crops grew well—and some of the large grapes and fruits of the land were brought back to



demonstrate this to the people. The animals would have plenty of grass and shrubs to graze on. There was water and all that was needed for the people to make the new country their home.

However, not everyone came back with a good report. There is always a good side to each situation; even things that seem difficult can work out good, if you see things in God's way. Joshua and Caleb believed God would work it out for them, and make it all a great place, but the others had noticed something that seemed way too hard.

There were some people that lived there that were very, very tall! Giant, in fact! They worried that those giant men would make things too hard for them, and not allow them all to move in.

Problems can seem big to you, or they can seem small, according to how big and powerful you think that God is. If you realise that God and His power and ability to help are bigger than the universe, then something like a tall person on Earth is so very small in comparison. It wouldn't even trouble you. You'd know that God could make that person not bother you.

However, if you think that a giant person or giant problem is even bigger than what God can do, then you feel there is no way a solution can be found. You just feel like giving up. And that's what some of those pioneers and explorers felt like—and not just felt like it, but they expressed those discouraging, despairing, doubtful words to all the people, convincing them all that what they'd hoped for all this time was impossible, and would never happen. So sad!

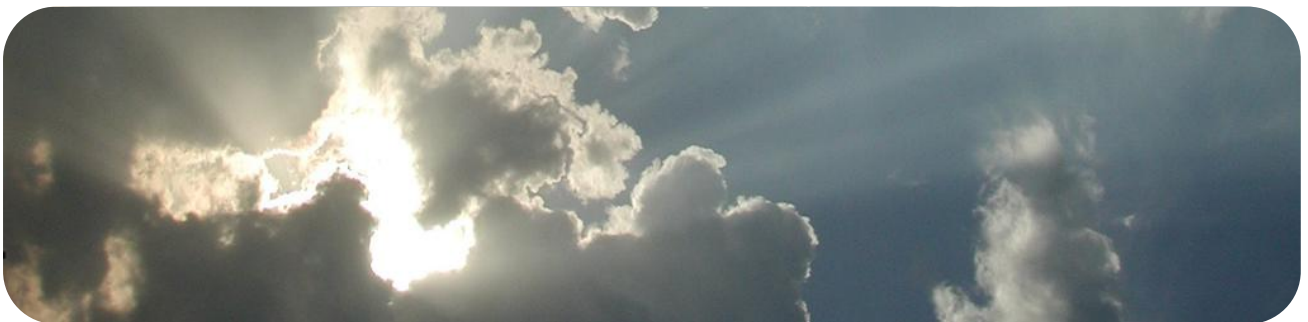


Joshua and Caleb tried to tell the people the truth, and explain how God could do anything, that there was nothing too hard for Him, that He would work it out, and they'd all enjoy living there. They knew that with faith in their all-powerful God He would make it all right and a good place for them to live. The people however gave place to fear and worry and despair. They chose to listen to the negative words, rather than the positive, so no one wanted to go and enter the new land. It was a sad day.

What a pity to not feel that God would complete His plan, finish what He had begun, and come through with His promises. It was a shame they felt that God wasn't able to make all things work out well. They didn't believe that He was strong enough and capable of doing whatever needed to be done to help them. And so began the next long and tiresome part of the journey.

Since they didn't have the confidence in God to go ahead into the new land and take on the challenges it presented to them, they had to go back into the wilderness, live there, and travel around for the next 40 years.

Do you think when their next chance to enter the promised land came after all those years, that they were finally ready to give God a chance? You bet! Those who had been children at the time were now adults, and were eager and full of faith that God would help them.



Let's Talk About It

*Where have you lived? Tell a story of a trip you've taken, or places you've lived in. Where did you most enjoy visiting or living? Why did you need to move or visit other places? Do you think it's nicer to stay in the same place, or to live in several different places during your life?

*If you could be the first one to discover something, or to explore some part of the world, or find something hidden somewhere no one in the modern days has known about, what kind of thing or place would you like to find or discover?

Activity

*Play a "cloud tag" game. Take a white sheet or blanket or a pillow and give it to the "it" person. When that person (the cloud) moves and runs, everyone needs to follow and try to catch them. However, if they stop, everyone must suddenly stop and stay still where they are. As soon as "the cloud" starts to run again, everyone else should run and try to catch them. Whoever catches the cloud "it" person can be the next "it".

The Cloud of the Lord



Connect and Communicate

*Someone says out loud the name of a country, and then everyone takes turns praying short prayers for various aspects of that country: That the people come to know the Lord, for leaders to be Godly and to make wise decisions, for the protection of the believers and missionaries there, and so forth.

Study Fun

Highlight: The examples of people having faith and obedience to the Lord.

Copy: Words from this text, one or two words for each letter of the alphabet. Write a-z down one side of a piece of paper or on the board, leaving room for words to be written beside each letter. As you read and come across an interesting word, beginning with a letter of the alphabet that has not yet been filled in, write it until all or nearly all are filled. (If you like, for X you can put Exodus, and Z can be the tribe of Zebulon.)

Count: How many times, and in how many ways vocabulary is used to mean speaking. (For example: command, murmur, slander, called.) Words are important. They can change the course of things!

Numbers

9:15 And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle, namely, the tent of the testimony: and at even there was upon the tabernacle as it were the appearance of fire, until the morning.

9:16 So it was alway: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night.

9:17 And when the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, then after that the children of Israel journeyed: and in the place where the cloud abode, there the children of Israel pitched their tents.

9:18 At the commandment of the Lord the children of Israel journeyed, and at the commandment of the Lord they pitched: as long as the cloud abode upon the tabernacle they rested in their tents.

9:22 Or whether it were two days, or a month, or a year, that the cloud tarried upon the tabernacle, remaining thereon, the children of Israel abode in their tents, and journeyed not: but when it was taken up, they journeyed.

13:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,

13:2 Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them.

13:6 Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh.

13:8 Of the tribe of Ephraim, Oshea the son of Nun.

13:16b And Moses called Oshea the son of Nun Jehoshua.

13:17 And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain:

13:18 And see the land, what it is, and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many;

13:19 And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds;

13:20 And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the first ripe grapes.

13:23 And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.

13:25 And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.

13:26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land.

13:27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

13:28 Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great.

13:30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

13:31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.

13:32 And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it ... all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

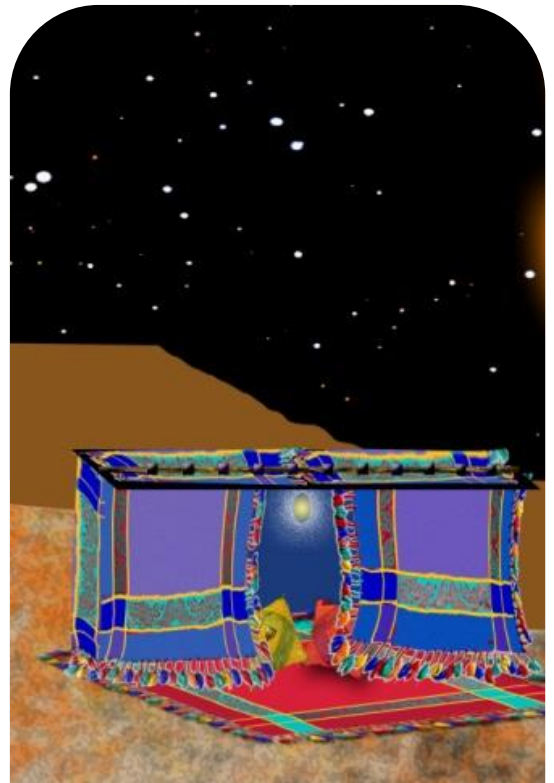
14:1 And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.

14:2 And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron.

14:4 And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

14:5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

14:10 And the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.



14:20 And the Lord said,

14:22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;

14:23 Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

14:24 But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

14:25 Tomorrow turn you, and get you into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

14:36 And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land,

14:37 Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the Lord.

14:38 But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.



Joshua

1:10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

1:11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the Lord your God giveth you to possess it.

1:16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.

1:17 According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the Lord thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses.

Activity

*Look up information and pictures on some pioneers and explorers—of countries, or the first people to do things like climb Mt. Everest, or land on the moon, or to reach the South Pole, or the first missionaries to explore and reach a certain place, etc.

Fountain of Faith

Psalms 147:3

He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.



Clothing

Praise

Psalms 5:11 But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

*Stand in a circle facing each other. Go around the circle taking turns being the "leader" while playing a type of "follow the leader". The leader does an action repeatedly with some part of their body, and others copy it, while the leader thanks the Lord out loud for something they are glad they can do with it.

(For example, someone might jog in place and say, "Thank You Jesus for our knees, so we can run!" Then the next person beside him would have a turn, perhaps leading everyone in clapping, thanking the Lord for something to do with hands, and so forth.)

The First Clothes:

Genesis 3:7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Genesis 3:21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

Some Names of Clothes Mentioned in the Bible:

Genesis 28:20 And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on...of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

Deuteronomy 8:4 Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.

Proverbs 6:27 Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

Genesis 41:42 And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck;

Revelation 19:16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Matthew 21:8 And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way.

Some Materials Used for Making Clothing:

Ezekiel 34:3 Ye clothe you with the wool.

Proverbs 31:22 She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple.

Leviticus 6:10 And the priest shall put on his linen garment, and his linen breeches shall he put upon his flesh.

Esther 8:15 And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.



Matthew 3:4 And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

Jonah 3:5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

Colours of Clothing Mentioned:

Ecclesiastes 9:8 Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment.

Ezekiel 23:6 Which were clothed with blue, captains and rulers, all of them desirable young men, horsemen riding upon horses.

Luke 16:19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day.

2 Samuel 1:24b Who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel.

Daniel 5:7 The king cried aloud ...Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and *have* a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.

Genesis 37:3 He made him a coat of many colours.



Styles:

Deuteronomy 22:12 Thou shalt make thee fringes upon the four quarters of thy vesture, wherewith thou coverest thyself.

Matthew 23:5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments.

Luke 20:46 Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts.

Revelation 1:13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

Pieces of Clothing:

Luke 6:29b Him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also.

2 Timothy 4:13 The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee.

John 21:7 Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.

1 Samuel 18:4 And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments.

Leviticus 8:13 And Moses brought Aaron's sons, and put coats upon them, and girded them with girdles, and put bonnets upon them; as the Lord commanded Moses.

Exodus 3:5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

Genesis 24:65 For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself.

Mark 6:9 But be shod with sandals; and not put on two coats.

2 Kings 1: 7-8 And he said unto them, What manner of man was he which came up to meet you, and told you these words? And they answered him, He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite.

Activity

*Have some skill learning time! Do you know how to sew on a button? Or how to mend a hole in a sock? Have you tried to stitch some cloth together to make a simple bag or pillowcase for a doll? Do you know how to add elastic through a hem? Or how to do cross-stitching? Have fun trying your hand at sewing while these verses are read.



Topic Treasures —Promises for Pioneers

Study Fun

Highlight: The verse you like the most and want to often remember!

Copy: A phrase or sentence from one of these verses on to a piece of card or paper, and make it into a bookmark. Save it and give it to a friend on their birthday. Each new year is filled with new things to learn and pioneer!

Count: How many specific new things you can remember trying, doing, experiencing or learning in the past week.

Genesis 13:17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

Exodus 23:20 Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

Deuteronomy 11:24 Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours.

Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

Isaiah 48:17 Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

John 13:20 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

1 Corinthians 16:9 For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.

Judges 1:24-25 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Daniel 11:32 The people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.



Daily Diary

*Have you ever invented anything, or thought up a new way to do something? Is there something in your home that could be made easier if it was done

differently? There are dozens of ways you can pioneer something new without even leaving your property!
Take mealttime for example. Is it working well, or is it not as relaxing as you'd like it to be?

Try something new. Set the table differently, put on relaxing music, change the lighting for the evening meal, have a "one person talks at a time" rule, while the others take turns asking interesting questions and getting to know one another!

Maybe something else in your house or home needs help and a solution. Pray and get an idea, and maybe others will be willing to pioneer it with you!

Think for a minute and write down things you think could use some new pioneer ideas to make it better, or jot down some idea of inventions that you'd like to build one day!