

STORY

Israel Leaves Egypt - Exodus 13:17-15:2

TEACHER PRAYER

Heavenly Father, sometimes I get so busy trying to solve my own problems that I forget that you have already provided an answer for me. Help me to be quiet so that You can be God in my life. Especially help me to realize that in teaching these children, only the Holy Spirit can create and preserve their faith. With a humble spirit, I prepare to teach Jesus' little lambs. Amen.

VOCABULARY

Passover -Meal to remember how God delivered His people out of Egypt

OUTER AIM

God teaches his people that He will take care of them.

INNER AIM

Be still my soul and God will work in our lives.

BACKGROUND

The Passover became a memorial feast for all generations to remember what God had done for His people. The month of Abib or Nisan became the first month in the Jewish calendar. From this time forth, in remembrance of this day, the firstborn of all Israel would belong to the Lord. The first born son would have to be redeemed by a sacrifice. Compare the presentation of Jesus in the temple in Luke 2. This would be a sign that the "Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand." (Exodus 13:14-16) What takes place in today's lesson must be considered in view of God's great act of salvation delivering His people from Egypt. The power of God was mightily revealed that night in Egypt.

The Children of Israel were on their way to the Promised Land. The number of people including women and children numbered about two million. There were 600,000 footmen of military age (Exodus 12:37). They had been in Egypt 430 years from the time Jacob had come with seventy souls. They journeyed from Rameses (treasure cities) to Succoth (booths), and from there to Etham. Instead of going the shortest way to Palestine and encountering the Philistines, God led them southward into the wilderness.

The Lord revealed His presence with the pillar of cloud which led them by day and the pillar of fire which gave them light at night. Jehovah, the God of the covenant, was leading His people and protecting them (Exodus 13:21).

The turn to the south ensured that Pharaoh would make one last attempt to get the people back (Exodus 14:4). He would expect them to be entangled with the mountains on the west and south, the Red Sea on the east, and would pursue them to the north. Flight was impossible; defense seemed madness. The chariots of Egypt were the ultimate in warfare at that time. They could be equated with panzer divisions of Germany and the air power of the Gulf War.

The people reacted to this first test with unbelief. They complained that they were better off in Egypt (Exodus 14:12). Moses' answer was the answer of faith. "Be quiet and know that God will fight for you." (Cf. Psalm 46:10) The Lord first opened the Red Sea for His people and then caused confusion and panic among the Egyptians. Jehovah shook off the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. The Red Sea closed and destroyed once and for all the military might of Egypt. This event became for Old



Testament Israel a picture of God's saving power and salvation which found completeness in Jesus and the cross.

STUDENT PRAYER

Dear Jesus, there are many times that we become afraid of many things. Sometimes we do not know where to turn for help. Remind us that You saved the nation of Israel by leading them through the Red Sea. Remind us that You sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Help us be quiet, and know that You will take care of us. Amen.

PRESENTATION

Ask the children whether it is easier to believe and trust in God when things are going well or when there are problems. It is important to realize that people, because of their sinful nature, have a difficult time trusting God. Everything God has done for us seems to disappear in the face of some difficult time such as in sickness or death or the danger of a tornado.

Again it is very important to review and fit this story in with the previous chapters about the Passover. The teacher should tell the story, highlighting the contrast between the tremendous deliverance of God's people from Egypt and their fear when they encountered the first obstacle on the way to the Promised Land.

Use a map to trace Israel's journey from Egypt into the desert area. This map should be used for the next series of lessons. Stress that the Lord God wanted to protect the Children of Israel by not taking the short way and encountering the Philistines and their military might in southern Canaan. Stress also that this was the final act of Pharaoh's rebellion against God. His blind and stubborn unbelief finally led him and his nation to destruction.

The application of this lesson is that faith is trust, not in self, but in God. As God's people, we are to be quiet and remember that God will protect us. The continuing story of God's Old Testament people show how God acts on their behalf. So also with our salvation, we have to be quiet and not try to gain our salvation by our own works. We need to know that God will act on our behalf through Jesus Christ.

APPLICATIONS

Discuss faith as trust in God when trust doesn't make sense. Faith is not an intellectual, book-learning exercise. Faith is trusting that God is taking care of us in every situation. This trust in God begins with the knowledge and trust that God sent Jesus to die for our sins. Romans 8 reminds us that if God delivered up His own Son for us, He will with Jesus freely give us all these other things.

Find out when the following people of God were weak in faith: Peter, the disciples, the children of Israel. They all have one thing in common: a trust in self rather than dependence on the Lord. We also and our children have times when we are "weak" in faith. Like Peter walking on the water, we are all right as long as we keep our eyes on Jesus. Do not condemn the Children of Israel in such a way that children think that they would never be weak of faith.

Discuss situations in which children and adults are afraid. Don't dismiss any replies because they seem petty. Children have real fears.

Follow through with what it means in our lives to "be quiet" and to "know God will protect us." Instead of trying to do things for ourselves, we need to learn to trust God to take care of our problems. Illustrate this by telling how people, when they are troubled, tend to become nervous or worried and want to do something, anything. The child of God learns to quietly wait for God to solve his problems.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Psalms 46:10 - *Be still, and know that I am God.*

Middle any of the above and...

Psalms 46:10 - *Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!*

Romans 8:31 *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

Upper any of the above and...

Psalms 46:1-3 - *God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling.*

Romans 8:32 - *He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?*

HYMN CHOICES

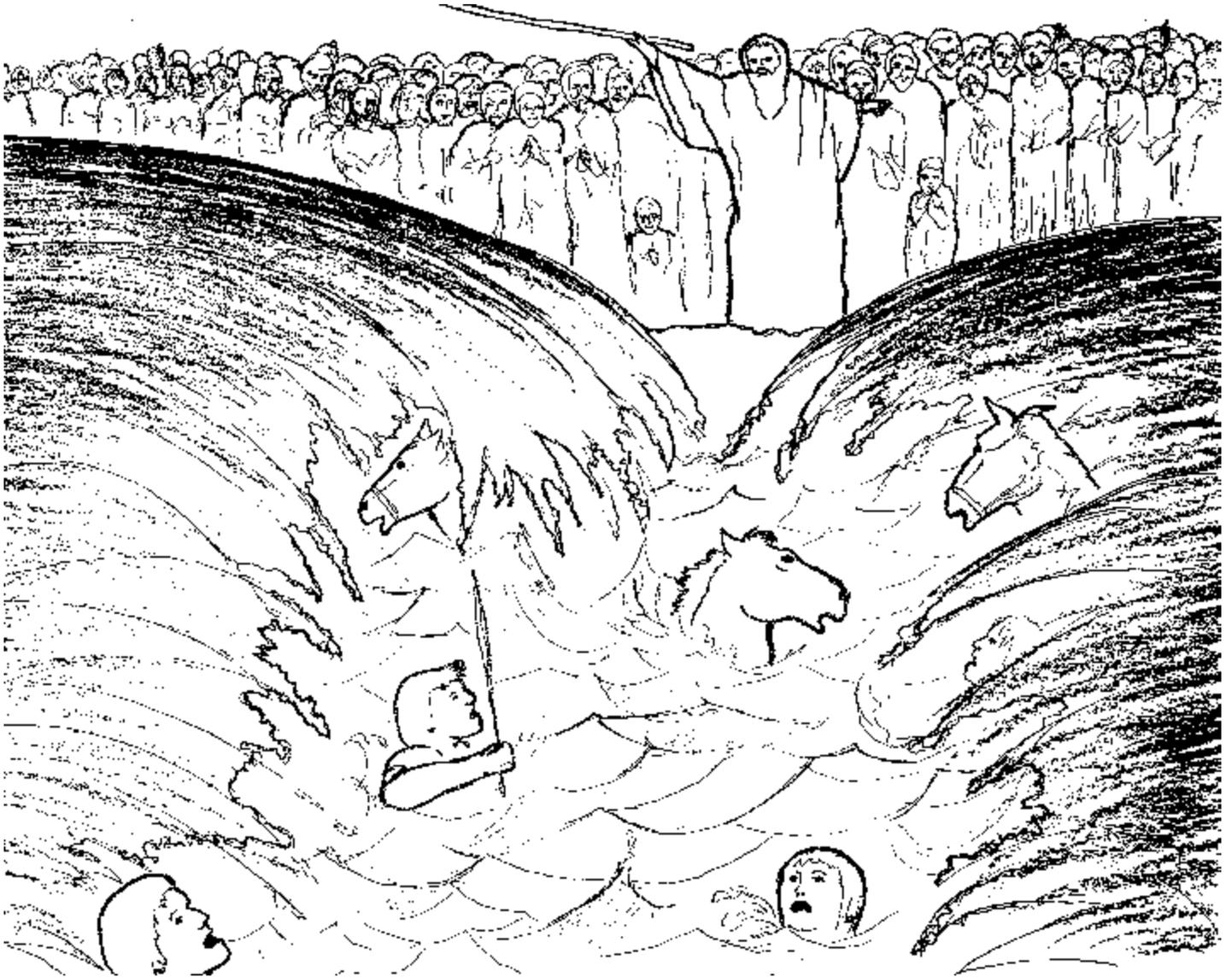
“Be Still My Soul” (TLH #651)

“I Am Trusting Thee Lord Jesus” (TLH #428)

“God Moves in a Mysterious Way” (TLH #514)

Israel Leaves Egypt

Exodus 13:17 - 15:2



The Story

Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh, king of Egypt, had let the people go, that God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea.

The LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: "Speak to the Children of Israel, you shall camp by the sea."

After the Children of Israel had left, the king said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" He took six hundred chariots and his men, chased Israel and caught up to them camping by the sea.

When the Children of Israel saw the Egyptian army they were very afraid, and cried out to the LORD and complained to Moses.

Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

The LORD said to Moses, "Tell the Children of Israel to go forward. Lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it.

And the Children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the middle of the sea."

The pillar of cloud went from in front of them and stood behind them. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the Egyptians, and it gave light by night to Israel, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to divide. So the Children of Israel went into the middle of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on both sides.

The Egyptians chased Israel into the middle of the sea. The LORD troubled the army of the Egyptians. He took off their chariot wheels, so that they couldn't drive them.

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians."

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh. Not so much as one of them remained.

So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians. The people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and

His servant Moses.

Then Moses and the Children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed

gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him."

God teaches the Children of Israel to trust Him to take care of them.

Activity One - Draw a picture of what you think the pillar of cloud and fire looked like.

PILLAR OF CLOUD (by day)

PILLAR OF FIRE (by night)



God will take care of us as we travel through life.

Activity Two - Fill in the correct letters then find the words in the WORD SEARCH.

chariots believed pillar covered rod
 army salvation Red Sea

1. The Children of Israel left Egypt and headed toward the wilderness of the R__d Se__.
2. The LORD went before Israel in a __illa__ of cloud and fire.
3. Pharaoh chased Israel with 600 cha__io__s.
4. Moses stretched out his ____o____ and the LORD caused the sea to part.
5. The Egyptian ar____y chased Israel into the sea.
6. The Red Sea returned and co__ere__ the Egyptian army.
7. Israel feared and b__li__v__d the LORD when they saw this great work.
8. Moses and the Children of Israel sang, "The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my ____al__atio__."

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

Passages

Psalms 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

Hymn - Worship Supplement 200 #784 v.1

Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;
Direct, protect and feed me from day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, and lead the way.

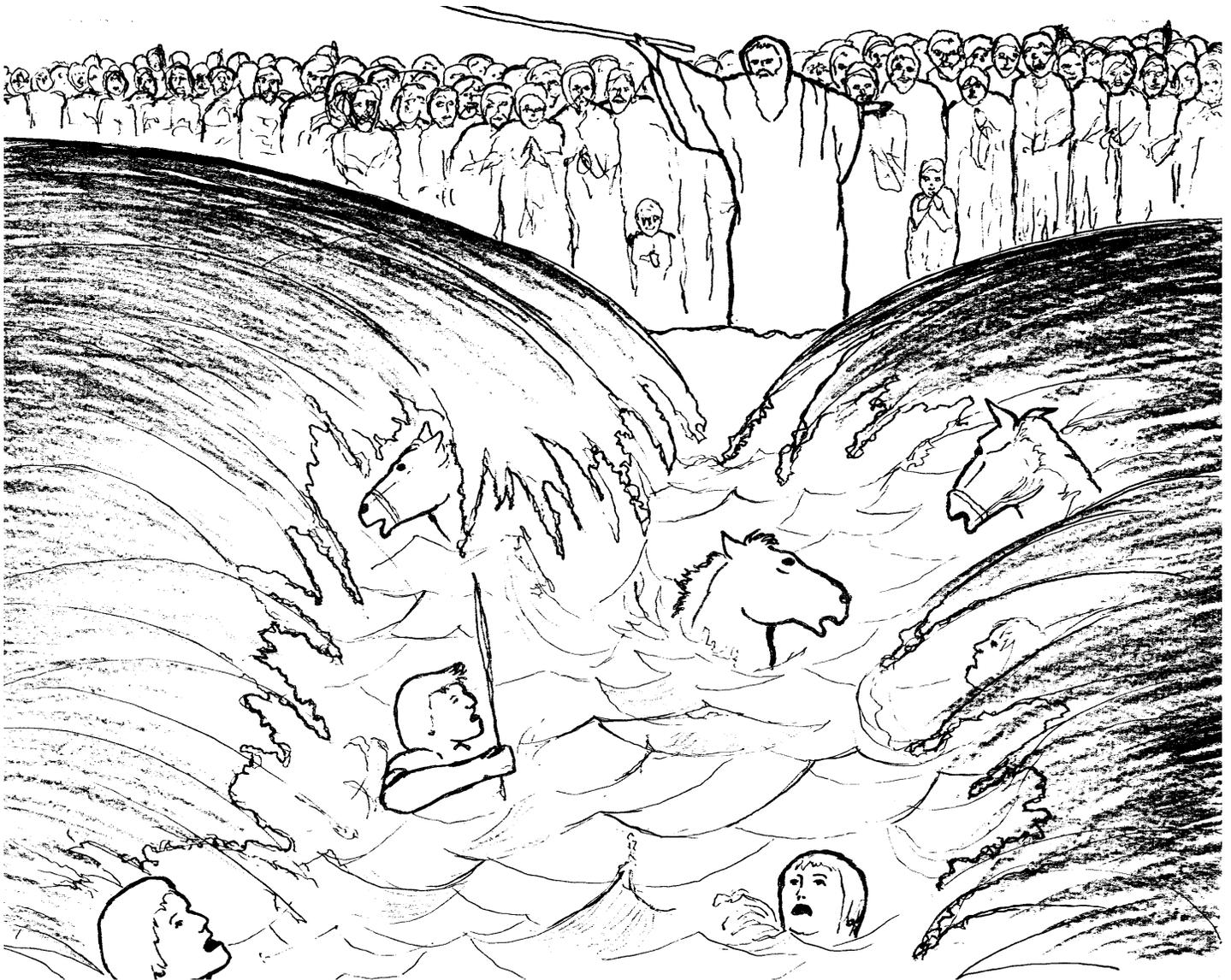
Prayer

Dear Jesus,

There are many times that we become afraid of many things. Sometimes we do not know where to turn for help. Remind us that You saved the nation of Israel by leading them through the Red Sea. Remind us that You sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Amen.

Israel Leaves Egypt

Exodus 13:17 - 15:2



The Story

Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. The children of Israel went up in orderly

ranks out of the land of Egypt.

The LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day



and night.

Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: "Speak to the children of Israel, you shall camp by the sea. Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD."

Now it was told to Pharaoh that the people had fled, and his heart and the hearts of his servants were turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" So Pharaoh made ready his chariot and took his people with him. Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them. The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel. So the Egyptians pursued them, and caught up to them camping by the sea.

When the children of Israel saw the Egyptians they were very afraid, and cried out to the LORD and complained to Moses saying, "Have you taken us away from Egypt to die in the wilderness? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you

shall see again no more forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

The LORD said to Moses, "Tell the children of Israel to go forward. Lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea."

The pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the Egyptians, and it gave light by night to Israel, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

The Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea. The LORD troubled the army of the Egyptians. He took off their chariot wheels, so that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen."

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh. Not so much as one of them remained.

So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD,

and believed the LORD and His servant Moses.

Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; my father's God, and I will exalt Him."

God teaches the Children of Israel to trust Him to take care of them.

Activity One - Draw a picture of what you think the pillar of cloud and fire looked like.

PILLAR OF CLOUD (by day)

PILLAR OF FIRE (by night)

Activity Two - Fill in the correct answer then find the word in the WORD SEARCH.

chariots	believed	pillar	covered	rod
army	salvation	Red Sea		

1. The Children of Israel left Egypt and headed toward the wilderness of the _____.
2. The LORD went before Israel in a _____ of cloud and fire.
3. Pharaoh pursued Israel with 600 _____.
4. Moses stretched out his _____ and the LORD caused the sea to part.
5. The Egyptian _____ pursued Israel into the sea.
6. The Red Sea returned and _____ the Egyptian army.
7. Israel feared and _____ the LORD when they saw this great work.
8. Moses the Children of Israel sang, "The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my _____."

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

God will take care of us as we travel through life.

Passages

Psalms 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Romans 8:31b - If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:32 - He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Hymn - *Worship Supplement 200 #784 1, 2*

Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;
Direct, protect and feed me from day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, and lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;
For You, the Rock of Ages, are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, in peace I go.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

There are many times that we become afraid of many things. Sometimes we do not know where to turn for help. Remind us that You saved the nation of Israel by leading them through the Red Sea. Remind us that You sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Amen.

Israel Leaves Egypt

Exodus 13:17 - 15:2

Would you want to have an enemy army following you?
Would you remember to trust God to protect you?
In today's lesson the Children of Israel will be followed by the army of the Egyptians. We will find out how the Children of Israel needed reminding to trust God for help.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, As we study today's lesson, help us learn to trust in You and to grow in knowledge and understanding, with the help of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Israel Leaves Egypt

Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, "Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt." {18} So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.

{19} And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had placed the children of Israel under solemn oath, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here with you."

{20} So they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness. {21} And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. {22} He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: {2} "Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal Zephon; you shall camp before it by the sea. {3} "For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.' {4} "Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD." And they did so.

{5} Now it was told the king of Egypt that the people had fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" {6} So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him. {7} Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them. {8} And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of



Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness. {9} So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.

{10} And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. {11} Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? {12} "Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians?' For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

{13} And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. {14} "The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

{15} And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. {16} "But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. {17} "And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. {18} "Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

{19} And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of

cloud went from before them and stood behind them. {20} So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

{21} Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. {22} So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

{23} And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. {24} Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians. {25} And He took off their chariot wheels, so that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

{26} Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen." {27} And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. {28} Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.

{29} But the children of Israel had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea,

and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. {30} So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. {31} Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and His servant Moses.

Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! {2} The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him.

What the Story Tells Us - Fill in the blanks and then find the words in the WORD SEARCH.

chariots believed pillar Red Sea covered salvation rod army

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. The Children of Israel left Egypt and headed toward the wilderness of the _____. | R B E L I E V E D |
| 2. The LORD went before Israel in a _____ of cloud and fire. | E W P O C W U A K |
| 3. Pharaoh pursued Israel with 600 _____. | D Q I B H Z X C J |
| 4. Moses stretched out his _____ and the LORD caused the sea to part. | S A L V A T I O N |
| 5. The Egyptian _____ pursued Israel into the sea. | E K L G R O D V F |
| 6. The Red Sea returned and _____ the Egyptian army. | A J A H I E L E J |
| 7. Israel feared and _____ the LORD when they saw this great work. | X T R P O F M R K |
| 8. Moses and the Children of Israel sang, "The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my _____." | A R M Y T B S E L |
| | U I L T S N D D O |

Outer Aim

God teaches the Children of Israel to trust Him to take care of them.

What God Tells Us - Discuss the following questions.

1. Of what are you afraid? List as many fears as you can.
2. When we are afraid or doubt, what have we forgotten?
3. Read and discuss Psalm 46:1-3. Underline or highlight the first sentence and memorize it as a prayer. *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling."*

Passages - Discuss the following passages and how they apply to the lesson.

Psalms 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Romans 8:32 - He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

Your Turn - Draw a picture of what you think the pillar of cloud and fire looked like.

PILLAR OF CLOUD (by day)

PILLAR OF FIRE (by night)

Inner Aim - God will take care of us as we travel through life.

Hymn - Worship Supplement 2000 #784

Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;
Direct, protect and feed me from day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, and lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;
For You, the Rock of Ages, are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, in peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen and night has come,
I know that You will strengthen my steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So take my hand and lead me unto the end.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

There are many times that we become afraid of many things. Sometimes we do not know where to turn for help. Remind us that You saved the nation of Israel by leading them through the Red Sea. Remind us that You sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Help us be quiet, and allow You to take care of us. Amen.

Israel Leaves Egypt

Exodus 13:17 - 15:2

Would you want to have an enemy army following you?
Would you remember to trust God to protect you?
In today's lesson the Children of Israel will be followed by the army of the Egyptians.
We will find out how the Children of Israel needed reminding to trust God for help.



Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Please help us to learn the lesson in today's story to trust in You. Help us to study Your Word and grow in knowledge and understanding with the help of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Israel Leaves Egypt

Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, "Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt." {18} So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.

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Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: {2} "Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal Zephon; you shall camp before it by the sea. {3} "For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.' {4} "Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD." And they did so.

{5} Now it was told the king of Egypt



that the people had fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" {6} So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him. {7} Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them. {8} And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness. {9} So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.

{10} And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. {11} Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? {12} "Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians?' For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

{13} And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. {14} "The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

{15} And the LORD said to Moses,

"Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. {16} "But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. {17} "And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. {18} "Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

{19} And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them. {20} So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

{21} Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. {22} So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

{23} And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. {24} Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians. {25} And He took off their chariot wheels, so

that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

{26} Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen." {27} And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. {28} Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained. {29} But the children of Israel

had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. {30} So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. {31} Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and His servant Moses. {1} Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! {2} The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him.

What the Story Tells Us - Fill in the letter of the correct answer. (See next page.)

1. ____ The Children of Israel left Egypt and headed toward The ____.
2. ____ They took the bones of ____ along.
3. ____ The LORD went before Israel in a ____.
4. ____ Pharaoh pursued Israel with 600 ____.
5. ____ Moses stretched out his ____ and the LORD caused the sea to part.
6. ____ The Egyptian chariots lost their ____ while pursuing Israel in the sea.
7. ____ The Red Sea returned and ____ the Egyptian army.
8. ____ Israel feared and ____ the LORD when they saw this great work.
9. ____ Moses the Israel sang, "The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my ____."

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| A. chariots | B. Red Sea |
| C. believed | D. covered |
| E. Joseph | F. salvation |
| G. pillar of cloud and fire | H. rod |

Outer Aim

God teaches the Children of Israel to trust Him to take care of them.

What God Tells Us - Discuss the following questions.

1. Of what are you afraid? List as many as you can.

2. When we are afraid or doubt, what have we forgotten.

3. Read and discuss Psalm 46:1-3 underline or highlight the first sentence and memorize it as a prayer. *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling."*

Your Turn - Draw a picture of what you think the pillar of cloud and fire looked like.

PILLAR OF CLOUD (by day)

PILLAR OF FIRE (by night)



Inner Aim - God will take care of us as we travel through life.

Passages - Discuss the following passages and how they apply to the lesson.

Psalms 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:32 - He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Hymn - Worship Supplement 2000 #784

Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;
Direct, protect and feed me from day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, and lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;
For You, the Rock of Ages, are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, in peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen and night has come,
I know that You will strengthen my steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So take my hand and lead me unto the end.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

There are many times that we become afraid of many things. Sometimes we do not know where to turn for help. Remind us that You saved the nation of Israel by leading them through the Red Sea. Remind us that You sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Help us be quiet, and allow You to take care of us. Amen.