

STOWMARKET BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY BIBLE CLUB

17 MAY 2020

Hello and welcome to this week's Sunday Bible Club story. It's Jackie writing this week.

I hope that you've had a good week. We are all missing you on a Sunday afternoon and praying that you and your family will be kept well and safe.

*With love from everyone at Sunday Bible
Club*

This week we are starting a new series of Bible Stories, going back to the time of Moses in the Old Testament.

It can be found in the Bible in Exodus chapter 19 and chapter 20 verses 18-20, which says:

¹ On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt - on that very day - they came to the Desert of Sinai. ² After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

³ Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, 'This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ⁴ "You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.'

⁷ So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak. ⁸ The people all responded together, 'We will do everything the LORD has said.' So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD.

⁹ The LORD said to Moses, 'I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, so that the people will hear me speaking with you and will always put their

trust in you.' Then Moses told the LORD what the people had said.

¹⁰ And the LORD said to Moses, 'Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow. Make them wash their clothes ¹¹ and be ready by the third day, because on that day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. ¹² Put limits for the people around the mountain and tell them, "Be careful that you do not approach the mountain or touch the foot of it. Whoever touches the mountain is to be put to death. ¹³ They are to be stoned or shot with arrows; not a hand is to be laid on them. No person or animal shall be permitted to live." Only when the ram's horn sounds a long blast may they approach the mountain.'

¹⁴ After Moses had gone down the mountain to the people, he consecrated them, and they washed their clothes. ¹⁵ Then he said to the people, 'Prepare yourselves for the third day. Abstain from sexual relations.'

¹⁶ On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled. ¹⁷ Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ Mount Sinai

was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, and the whole mountain trembled violently. ¹⁹ As the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him.

²⁰ The LORD descended to the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses went up ²¹ and the LORD said to him, 'Go down and warn the people so they do not force their way through to see the LORD and many of them perish. ²² Even the priests, who approach the LORD, must consecrate themselves, or the LORD will break out against them.'

²³ Moses said to the LORD, 'The people cannot come up Mount Sinai, because you yourself warned us, "Put limits around the mountain and set it apart as holy."'

²⁴ The LORD replied, 'Go down and bring Aaron up with you. But the priests and the people must not force their way through to come up to the LORD, or he will break out against them.'

²⁵ So Moses went down to the people and told them.

¹⁸ When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance ¹⁹ and said to Moses, 'Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not let God speak to us or we will die.'

²⁰ Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.'

²¹ The people remained at a distance, while Moses approached the thick darkness where God was.

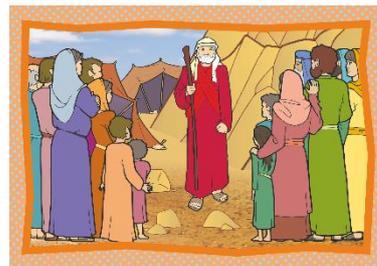
Have you ever been given a construction kit or game / toy that you need putting together before you can use it? It can be tricky can't it? Did you need help in sorting it out?

I've found that the best kind of help is to follow the makers instructions.

Do you remember that God sent Moses to lead the Israelites (God's people) out of slavery in Egypt?

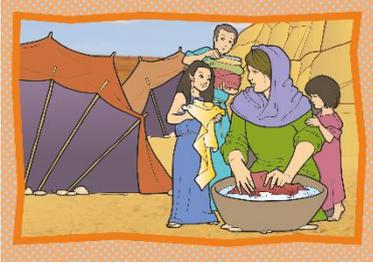
God parted the sea and led the people through on dry ground. He sent manna for them to eat in the desert and gave them water out of the rock. God helped his people win the battle when the Amalekites came to fight them.

The people had been travelling through the desert for 3 months, following the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night. Now they had arrived at Sinai and they camped at the bottom of the mountain. This is the place where God first spoke to Moses at the Burning Bush. Remember God promised Moses that he would bring his people safely out of Egypt. Now we can see that God has kept his promise!



God always keeps his promises. Everything he says is true. *"The voice of the Lord is powerful". Psalm 29 verse 4.*

While the Israelites were camping at the bottom of the mountain, God had a message for his special people, it was his instructions.

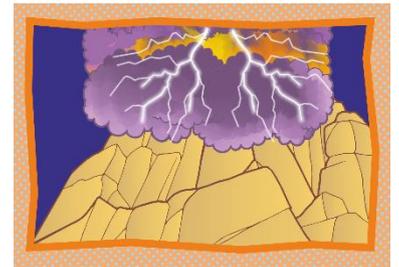


But first, the people had to get ready for their special visitor. They had to wash their clothes and put a boundary / fence around the mountain because on the 3rd day, God was going to say something very important.

Because God is very special, powerful and holy (perfect), only Moses was allowed to go up the mountain to meet him. But the people were to listen very carefully to the instructions that God gave, so they would know the right and best way to live, and become very special and precious to God.

The people promised that they would listen and do everything God said.

So, the people washed their clothes and made themselves ready for this important event, remembering to stay at the bottom of the mountain. On the morning of the 3rd day there was mighty thunder and lightning flashed, and a thick black cloud came over the mountain. There was a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled. The mountain was covered with smoke because the Lord had arrived. They felt the mountain shake as they stood around and the trumpet sound got louder and LOUDER!



The people knew that because God was so special, holy and powerful, they had to stay at the bottom of the mountain. Moses was allowed to go up into the thick darkness. God was going to give Moses his instructions and then Moses would teach the people.

The voice of the Lord is powerful. He always tells the truth and knows what is best for us.

God is still the same today. God never changes. He is still holy, special and powerful. He is still very loving and wants only the best for us. His words teach us now we can live to please him.

If you want to please God, you need to know and trust in Jesus.

Over the next 10 weeks we will be learning about the 10 instructions / commandments that God gave Moses while he was up the mountain.

Can you remember any of them?

I hope that you will be able to come and look each week and learn them all!

Thank you, Lord, that we can know God by believing and trusting Jesus. Help us to follow his instructions. Amen