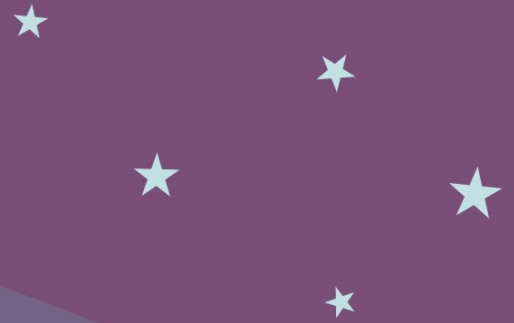




St Helen's  
Bishopsgate



Bible time booklet | 5-11's

# Exodus

Call on the Lord for salvation



St Helen's Children's Ministry



# Exodus

Who would you call in an emergency? The Israelites found themselves in an emergency. Far from the promised land, they were oppressed under the rule of Pharaoh, in a land of death. Who would come to their rescue?

Fortunately God had not abandoned them. He raised up Moses and sent mighty plagues on Egypt. Pharaoh could not stand and so let the LORD's people go. Though he later changes his mind the LORD destroys Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. The LORD is a mighty warrior. The LORD is a saviour. The LORD is a rescuer who has saved his people from Egypt.

In the wilderness the people grumble. At Mt Sinai the LORD enters into a special relationship with them; they will be his people if they obey. The LORD also says he'll go with them to the promised land. But instead of making a tabernacle the people make a golden calf. The relationship breaks down—it looks like they need a rescue from their sin. But Moses' intercedes and the LORD's forgives and so comes to live in the tabernacle amongst them.

The book of Exodus shows us that the LORD is the one who rescues and it points forward to a New Exodus, an Exodus from exile. Humanity is in exile, separated at the fall from God and the life he gives. Who will come to our aid?

Through the prophets, God promised that he himself would come and lead an Exodus out of exile. Then two thousand years ago the LORD God entered into this world as the person of Jesus. Jesus leads the New Exodus. The Exodus out of exile. We must call on him for salvation.

## Memory verse

This is the memory verse we'll be learning as we go through Exodus:

**'The LORD is my strength and my defence; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.'** Exodus 15:2

## Using the material – a guide for parents

We hope these studies will help you:

- To know what we've been teaching in Sunday school—so that you can talk to your child about it and pray for them as they hear from the book of Exodus about the LORD who rescues.
- To give you an opportunity to dig into the passage with your child and clarify, reinforce, or build their understanding.
- To give you an opportunity to help your child further think through how they are responding to what they are hearing in God's word.

We hope that this will enable us to better partner with you as you continue to bring up your children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Why not get into the habit of praying with your child, asking for God's help, before you start the study. Then cover as much of the study as you feel able to with the age and attention span of your child.

You could go through the study over a meal time or at bedtime. You could also do the study over a whole week, doing a question each day.

Here are some ideas:

- For smaller children, you might choose to read the story recap, think about the first 'look' question and then pray.
- Slightly older children might be able to look at one of the 'think' questions too, and the oldest may manage to cover all the questions.
- If you have older children, who want to go further than the study, you could read the rest of the passage and any other bits we miss out with them and perhaps think together what it adds to our understanding of the big idea.

# Abandoned?

Story 1: Exodus 1-2

## Know our God doesn't abandon his people.

Have you ever had that horrible feeling that you've been forgotten? Like when you're in the playground or the shops and suddenly you realise that you can't see your mum. Has she left without you? Have you been abandoned? You cry out "mum!" but there's no answer.

That's what it was like for God's people. God's people were in slavery under Pharaoh. Pharaoh treated God's people really badly. He made them work hard all day long. And when God's people multiplied, Pharaoh got angry. Pharaoh tried to kill all the Israelite baby boys. What was going on? Had he abandoned his people?

But then, we hear about Moses. You can read the story in Exodus 1-2. Through the story of Moses, God was getting us ready for what he was about to do for his people. Just like baby Moses was saved from being killed by evil Pharaoh, God was going to save his people from Pharaoh. Just like Moses struck down an Egyptian and saved an Israelite, God was going to strike down Egypt and save his people.

Our God doesn't abandon his people. Like when you think your mum might have left you behind. But then... you hear her voice! "I'm here!" she says. "I heard your cry. I would never abandon you!"

This is our God who we can cry out to. He always hears our cries. He always keeps his promises. He never abandons his people. We've seen today that our God doesn't abandon his people. This is our God who we can cry out to. He always hears our cries. He always keeps his promises. He never abandons his people.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 2:23-25



Look

**Look** at verse 23... What were the Israelites doing?

**Look closer...** at verses 24-25. Can you spot the three ways God responds to their cry?



Think

**Hm...** Why did it seem like God had abandoned his people?

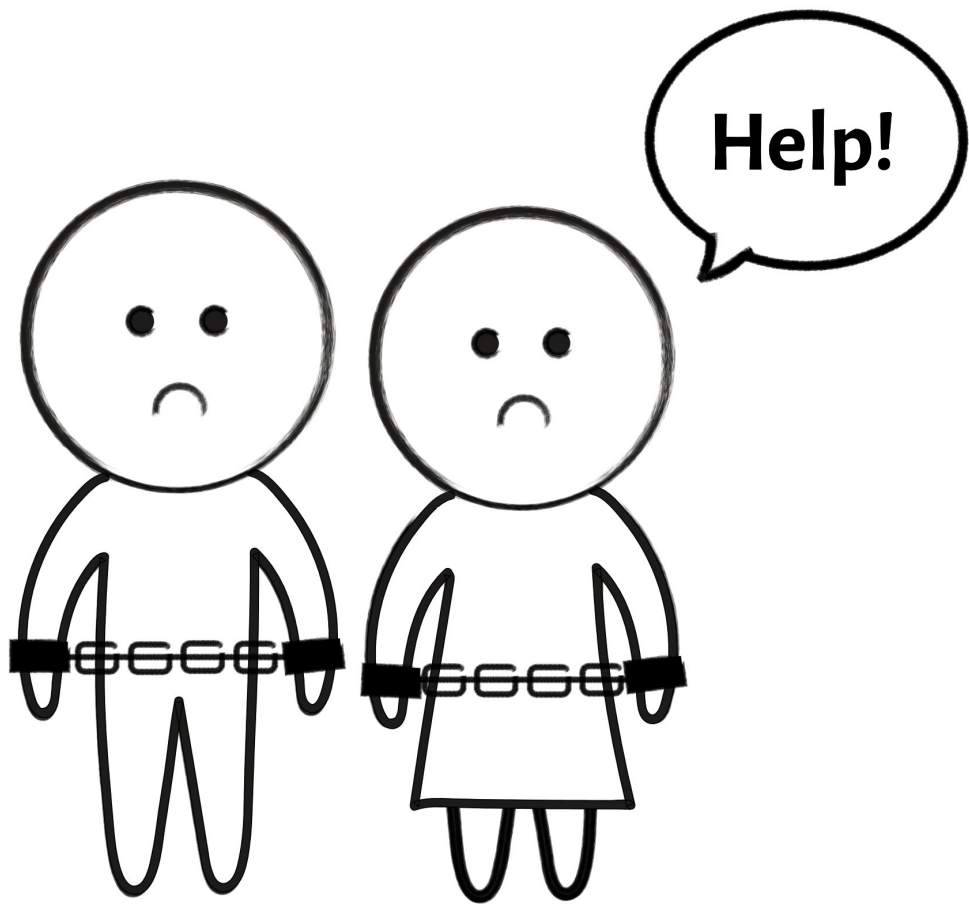
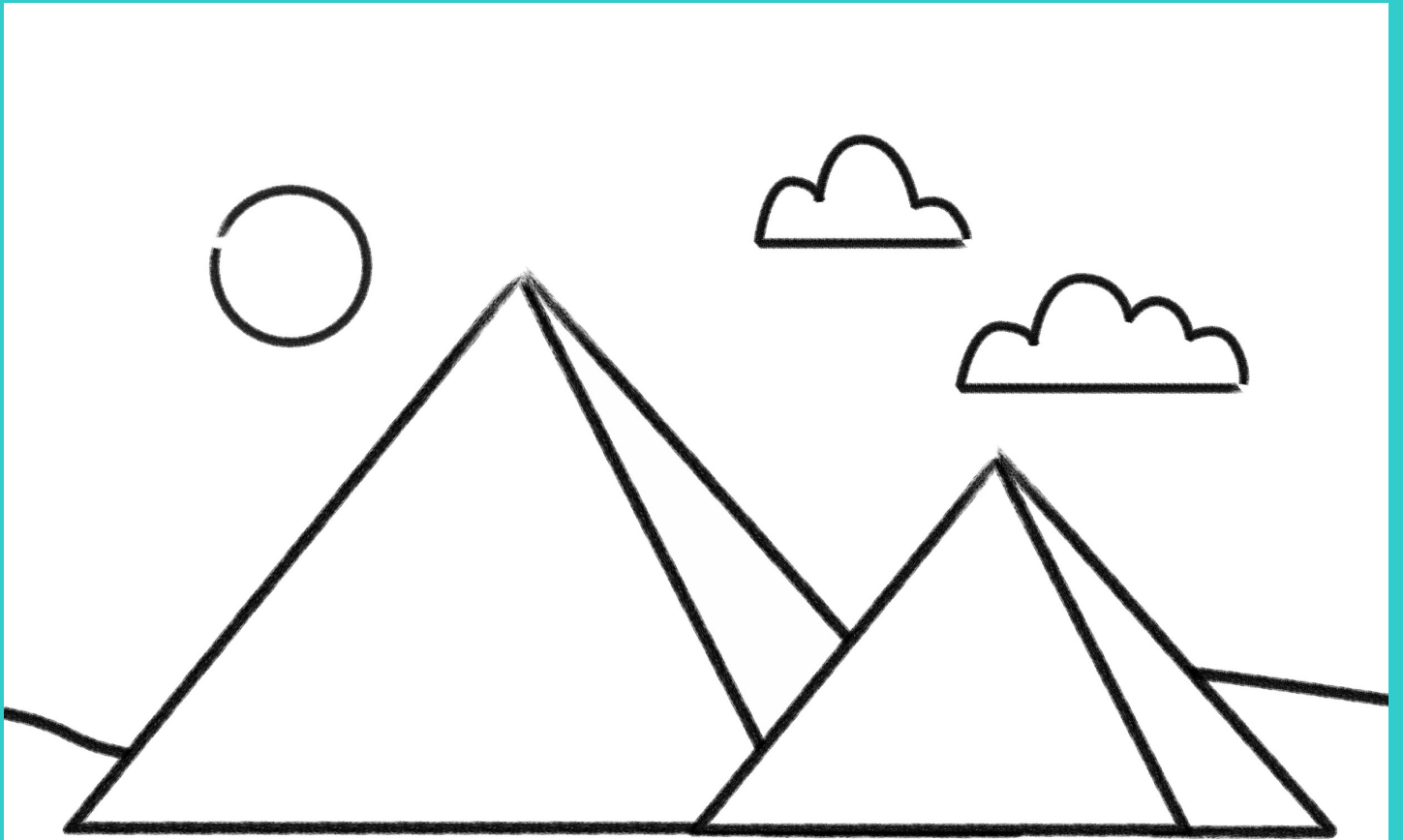
**Hmm...** When can it feel like God has forgotten his promises?

**Hmmm...** Why is it so good that we can trust our God not to abandon his people?



Pray

Let's **thank** God that he always hears our cry.



# “I am the Lord”

Story 2: Exodus 3

## God tells his people who he is.

Imagine if knowing God was like a game of ‘Guess Who?’. What if we could only guess what he was like? In our story today we see that God wants to be known! We’re going to hear God introduce himself.

One day, as Moses was out looking after his sheep, he saw a bush that was burning, but not burning up. When Moses went over to look, God called to him from the bush! God told Moses that he had heard his people’s cry for help and he had come to rescue them.

But Moses had a question; ‘what is your name?’ Moses was asking ‘who are you?’ And wonderfully, God told Moses his special name. God said ‘I am who I am’ or ‘I will be what I will be’. (The short way of saying this is ‘the LORD’.) The LORD is what he does. If the LORD played tennis, he would be a tennis player; but he’s not a tennis player. He tells us what he will do: ‘I have promised to rescue you.’ The LORD is saying he’s the God of rescue.

The Israelites will come to know he’s the god of rescue as they see him rescue them. As they see him squash Egypt, they will see he is powerful and that there is no one like him. As he brings them out to be his people, they will see how loving he is. As he rescues, they will get to know that he is the rescuer.

And guess what? We can know him too! We don’t have to guess what God might be like. Our God wants us to know him. As we hear about this rescue in the Exodus story we will see how powerful he is. We will see there is really no one like him. We will see how loving he is. We will see that he is the God of rescue. The God we can cry out to for help.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 3:13-17



Look

**Look** at verse 13... What does Moses ask God?

**Look closer...** at verses 14-15. Who does God say he is?



Think

**Hm...** God links his name to what he’s about to do. What does God say he will do?

**Hmm...** Why does God want his people to know him?

**Hmmm...** Why is it so good that we don’t have to guess what God is like?



Pray

Let’s **praise** God that he wants us to know him

I am the Lord, the  
one who will rescue  
as promised!



# The stakes are raised

Story 3: Exodus 5-6

## The LORD will show his people there is no one like him.

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh to tell him what the Lord had said – “let my people go!” But Pharaoh wouldn’t listen ‘The Lord?’ he said. ‘Never heard of him!’ Pharaoh didn’t know who God was! He didn’t know who he was disobeying. He had NO IDEA who he was messing with! Pharaoh was like a big bully in the playground taking on the new kid, not knowing he’s a black belt in karate. Pharaoh has no idea who he’s messing with! He Doesn’t know the LORD, and so didn’t let the LORDs people go. Pharaoh got even more mean. Now the Israelites had to work even harder. Life was much worse than before. “Why LORD?” asked Moses.

The LORD spoke to Moses and reassured him that he had remembered his promises. Of course he would rescue his people. But he wanted to show off how powerful he was—that he is a mighty rescuer, that there is none like him. If Pharaoh had let the people go just like that, the LORD wouldn’t have been able show off his power. So the LORD had allowed things to get worse. The LORD was saying, “Just you wait!”

As the LORD flattens Pharaoh and rescues his people, Pharaoh will be shown who he’s messing with. And the LORDs people will know that there’s no one like him. As we look at Exodus and see the LORD rescue his people, we will see his awesome power. We will see that he is a mighty warrior. We will get to know who the LORD is: he is the God of rescue. He is the one we can cry out to for help.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 6:6-8



Look

**Look** at verses 6-8... What does the LORD say he will do?

**Look closer...** at verse 7. What will the LORD’s rescue cause them to think?



Think

**Hm...** Why does the LORD allow things to get worse?

**Hmm...** What should we look out for as we read on in Exodus?

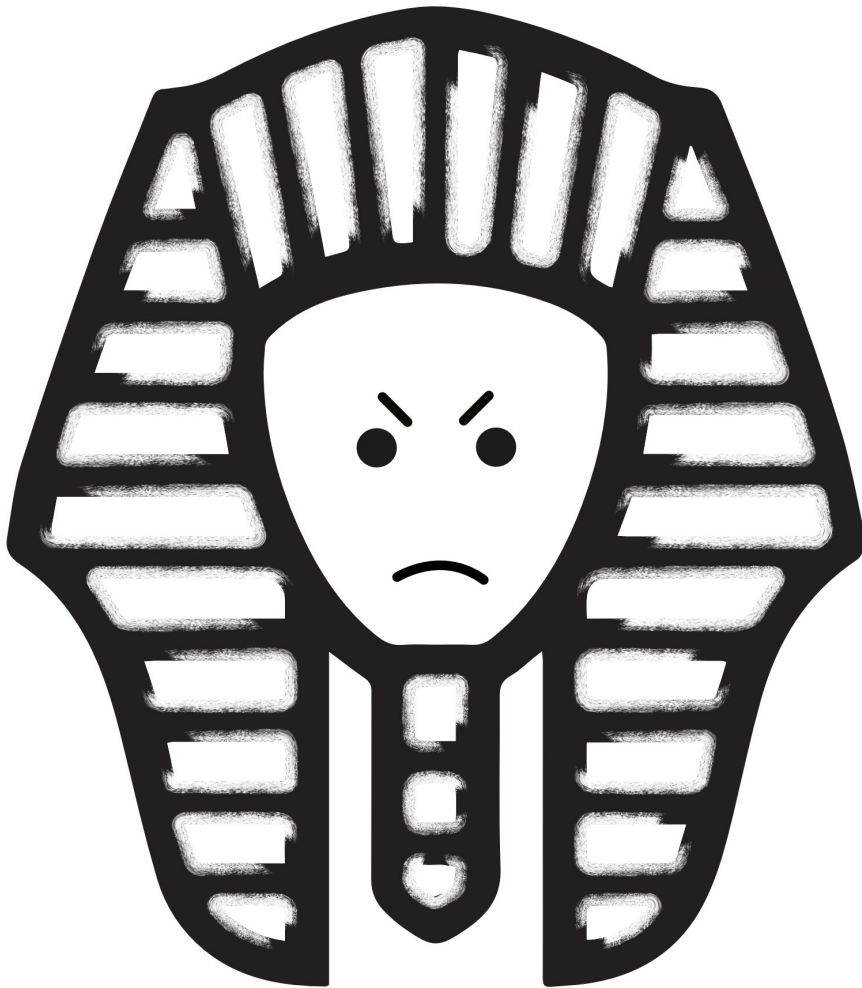
**Hmmm...** What can we expect will happen to our thinking?



Pray

Let’s **ask** God that we would get to know him better as we see him rescue his people.

The LORD?  
Never heard  
of him!



# Plagues 1-6

Story 4: Exodus 7:14-9:12

## See that there's no one like the LORD.

The Lord has promised to rescue his people but so far nothing has happened, until now. I wonder who your favourite superhero is? In our story today we see that the Lord is a real superhero who is far mightier than any of the fake superhero's we know. As he lays his hand on Egypt we'll see that there is none like him.

To show how mighty he is, the Lord sends great plagues on Egypt. First there's blood. All the water in Egypt turns to blood. Imagine drinking blood from your water bottle or having a blood bath. Then there were frogs. Frogs in the rivers and frogs in the streets, frogs in the kitchen and frogs in your sheets. Only the Lord sends and removes these plagues, there is no one like him. Then there were itchy gnats—the magicians knew only God could do such wonders. Then there were flies; buzzing here, and buzzing there, and buzzing everywhere. Then the Egyptian livestock die: horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep, goats. But none of the Israelite's livestock dies. Then came nasty boils on all the people and animals.

Only the Lord, the creator of heaven and earth could do all this. There is no one like him. He is smashing up Egypt with these mighty plagues. He's like a boxer hitting his opponent—thump, thump, thump. Pharaoh couldn't stop him. The magicians couldn't stand against him. Egypt is bruised and battered. But it's not over. There's more to come, next time.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 7:16-18



Look

**Look** at verses... 17 & 18. What will happen?

**Look closer...** at verse 17. Why does the LORD send this plague?



Think

**Hm...** Write down 3 superhero's. Are any of them mightier than the Lord?

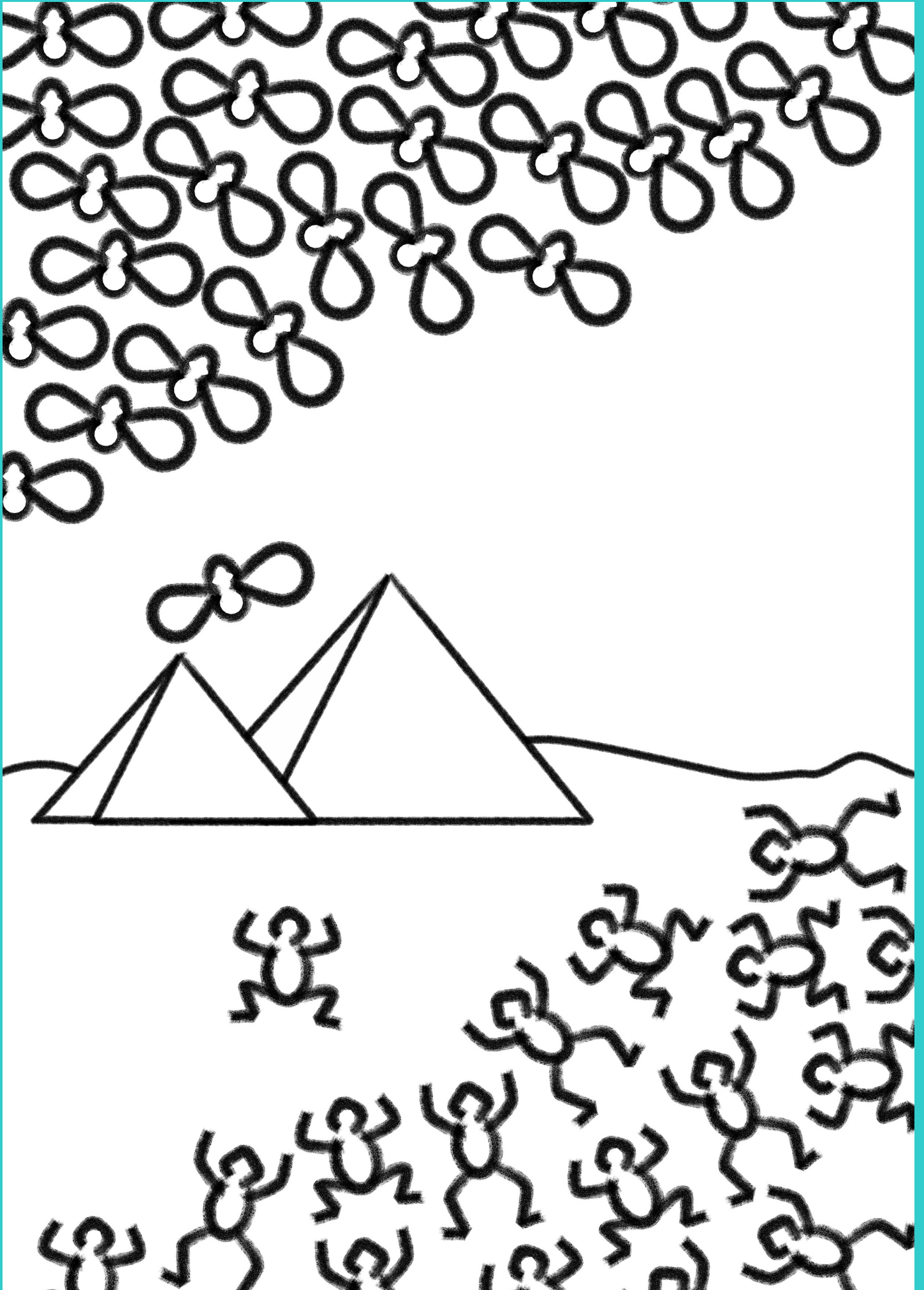
**Hmm...** Who's side would you want to be on, the LORD's or Pharaoh's?

**Hmmm...** Why is it worth knowing this is what our God is like?



Pray

Let's **praise** God for his great power.



# Plagues 7-9

Story 5: Exodus 9:13-10:29

## See that there's really no one like the LORD.

The LORD has been showing us who he is. In sending plagues on Egypt he's flexing his muscles as if to say 'look at me, look how powerful I am'. Last time he'd sent six plagues. But he's not stopped there.

Next, he sends a storm. A storm unlike anything ever seen in Egypt before or since. Hail fell and lightning flashed back and forth across the sky. The hail struck everything outside—both people and animals and the plants in the ground. This mighty storm showed that the earth is the LORD's. He is the creator. His creation is like play-dough in his hands. Then he sends locusts. They covered all the ground until it was black. They ate up all that was left after the hail. Nothing green remained in all the land of Egypt. The LORD is sending these plagues to be signs. To show his people how he deals with his enemies. To show his people that he is the powerful God of all creation. Then he turns off the sun. Total darkness covered the land of Egypt for three days. In the beginning he created light, here he takes it away. He is the powerful creator. His creation is like play-dough in his hands.

The LORD sent these plagues to show us who he is. He is the powerful creator—no one can do what he can do. He is the judge—for those who do not listen to him, like Pharaoh, he reverses what he has made and brings destruction. He is the saviour—he kept his people safe from many of these plagues.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 9:13-16



Look

**Look** at verse 13... What does the LORD want Pharaoh to do?

**Look closer...** at verse 14 & 16. Why does the LORD send these plagues?



Think

**Hm...** Think of the most powerful person you know, real or imaginary. How do they compare to the LORD?

**Hmm...** What would we miss seeing if the LORD hadn't sent any plagues?

**Hmmm...** How does it make you feel knowing that the LORD is your God? (E.g. amazed, confident, reassured, comforted)



Pray

Let's **praise** God that there is no one like him.



# Passover

Story 6: Exodus 11-12:31

## Remember how the LORD spared his people through a Passover substitute.

During a fight, the final punch is often the hardest. The LORD has so far sent nine mighty plagues on Egypt. Now he will send one more: the great finale, the knockout blow; then Pharaoh will let the LORD's people go.

Moses warns Pharaoh about this final plague. The LORD will go throughout the land of Egypt killing all the firstborn sons. If you were there would that have been you? But the firstborn sons on the Israelites would be kept safe. They would be kept safe because of a special sacrifice. The Israelites were to take a lamb, kill it, eat it, and put its blood on the frame of their front door. When the LORD comes to strike down the firstborn he will see the blood and pass over that house—the firstborn of that house would be spared.

Having done what they were told the Israelites went to bed. Then at midnight the LORD came to Egypt and struck down all the firstborn. The Egyptians woke up to find their firstborn sons dead. There was crying and wailing throughout the land. But in the Israelite houses there was no crying. The firstborn sons had been spared. A death had already taken place. When the LORD saw the blood of the lamb been painted on the frame of their doors he passed over. The LORD judged Egypt and spared the Israelites.

This last plague was the great finale, the knockout blow. Pharaoh now let the LORD's people go.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 12:21-23 & 28-31



Look

**Look** at verses 21-22... What are the Israelites instructed to do?

**Look closer...** at verse 23. Why did the LORD not strike down any firstborn Israelites?



Think

**Hm...** Imagine you were there. What would it have been like?

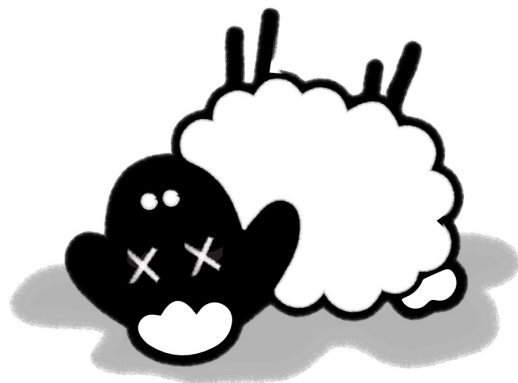
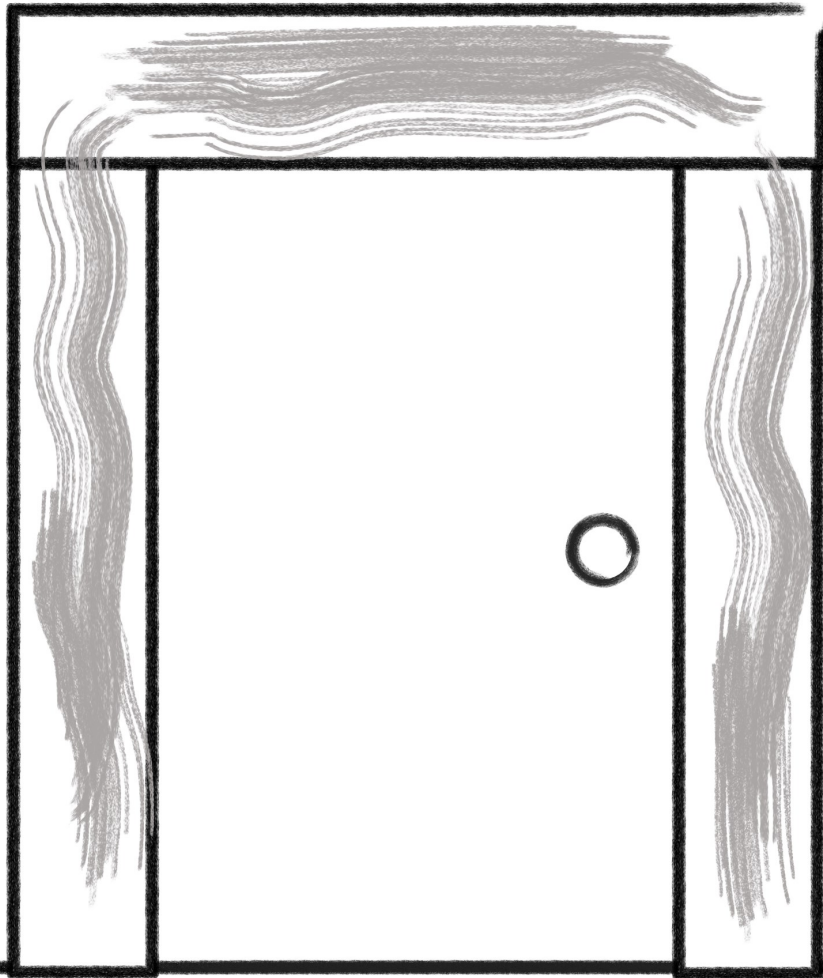
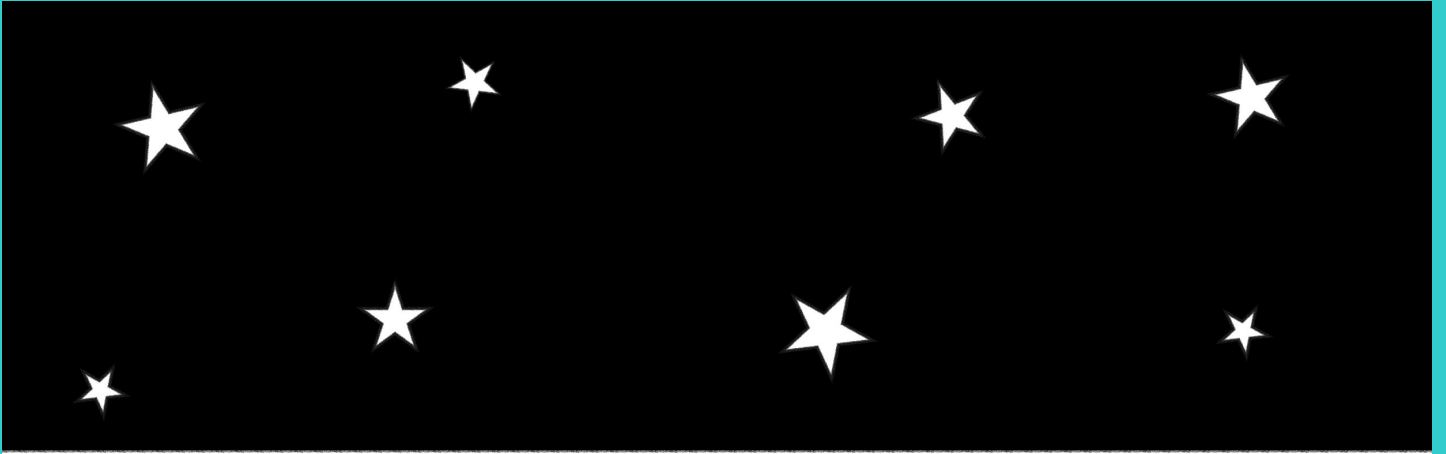
**Hmm...** How does Passover show us what the LORD is like?

**Hmmm...** Moses wants us to remember this Passover. Why might he want us to do that?



Pray

Let's **thank** God that he saves/spares his people.



# The Exodus

Story 7: Exodus 12:31-15:21

## Know that the LORD is a mighty saviour.

Pharaoh had finally let the LORD's people go. So the Israelites left Egypt. The LORD led them by the desert road to the Red Sea, and there they camped. Back in Egypt Pharaoh had changed his mind, 'what have we done?' So he gathered his chariots, his officers, and his army, and they marched after the Israelites. Seeing this the Israelites panicked. They were terrified and cried to the LORD. The LORD told Moses to raise his staff and stretch out his hand over the sea. Moses raised his staff, stretched out his hand, and the sea started to part. All that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and created a path of dry land through the middle. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

Pharaoh and his army went in after them. The LORD looked down and jammed the wheels of their chariots. 'Let's get away', the Egyptians said, 'the LORD is fighting for them against us.' The LORD told Moses to stretch out his hand again. As Moses did so the sea returned. It flowed back and covered the chariots, the officers, the entire army of Pharaoh. Not one of them survived.

That day the LORD saved the Israelites from the Egyptians. When they saw what had happened they feared the LORD, trusted him, and sung a song of praise to him. 'I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my defence; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. The LORD is a warrior; the LORD is his name.' The LORD has mightily rescued his people. This is our god.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 14:21-31



Look

**Look** at verses 29-30... What happened to the Israelites?

**Look closer...** at verses 23-28. How did the LORD fight for Israel?



Think

**Hm...** Is the LORD more powerful and strong than you thought?

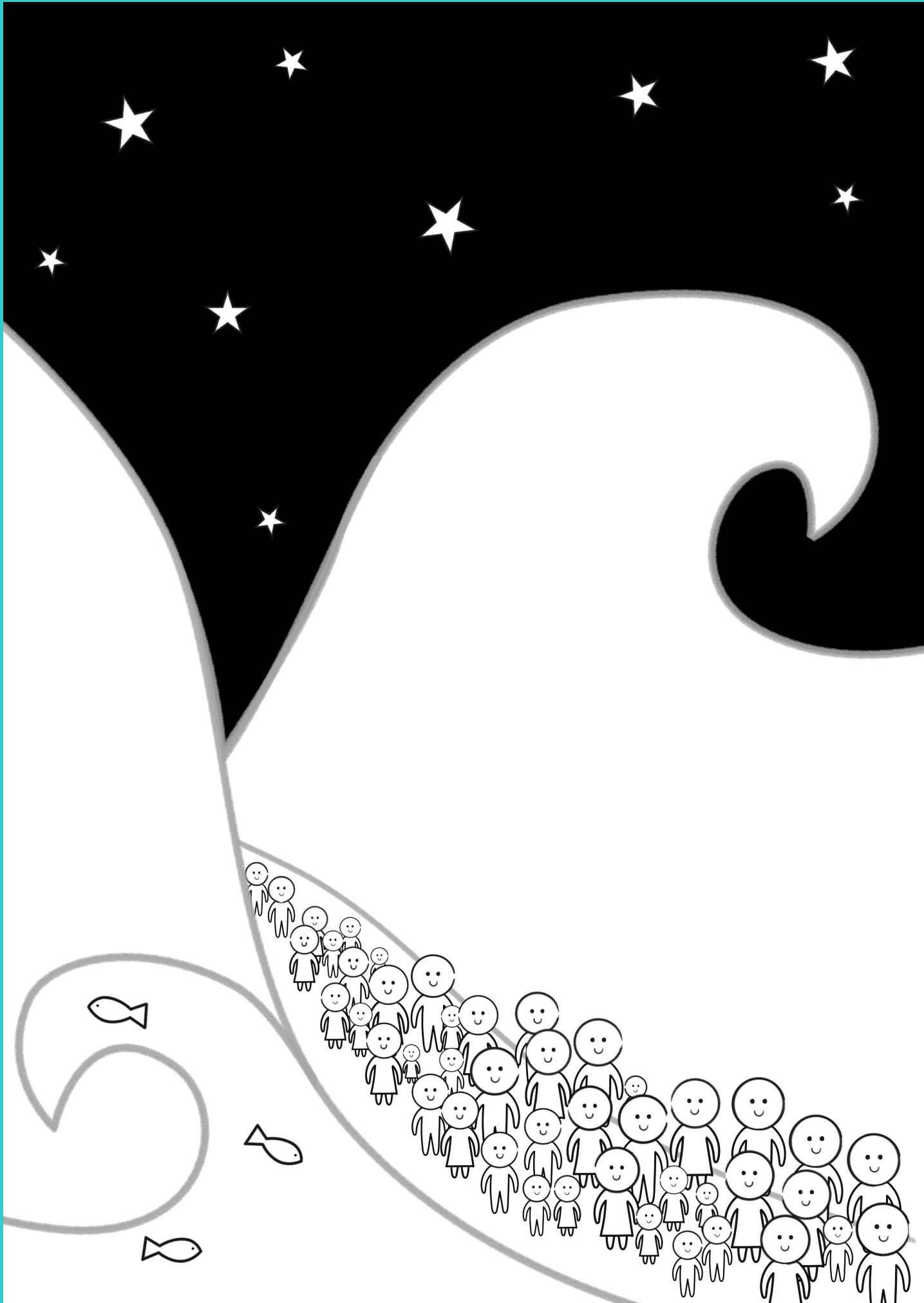
**Hmm...** Why can we trust the LORD to rescue?

**Hmmm...** What can we sing praises to the LORD for?



Pray

Let's **praise** God that he is a mighty rescuer.



# Desert grumblings

Story 8: Exodus 15:22-18:27

## See what the Israelites are like.

Have you ever seen someone react to something in totally the wrong way? Like unwrapping an avocado for Christmas and jumping for joy! Or being taken on your dream holiday and throwing a tantrum! Or like refusing to eat your mum's delicious food!

The Israelites reacted in a really weird way to what the LORD had done. Not very long after the LORD mightily rescued them from Egypt they grumbled. Grumble, grumble, grumble. Again, and again the people grumbled against the Lord!

They seemed to think the LORD is really unkind and mean. They seemed to think he rescued them just to kill them! They seemed to think they would have been better off staying stuck in slavery in Egypt. How crazy! How stupid! How rude! But each time, the LORD was kind to his grumbly hearted people. He miraculously gave them water and food in the desert. The Lord graciously looked after his people.

After all this grumbling, we meet one guy who gets this. Moses was visited by Jethro, his wife's dad. When Moses told Jethro all that the LORD had done for them, Jethro praised the LORD. Jethro, though not one of the LORD's people, came to understand how great the LORD was.

'Grumble, grumble, grumble', said the Israelites, 'Praise the LORD!' said Jethro. What different reactions! But Jethro had it right. There is no one like the LORD. He is the mighty rescuer and the kind provider. He should be praised, not grumbled at.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 16:2-7a and 18:9-11



Look

**Look** at 16 verse 3... Why were the Israelites grumbling?

**Look closer...** at 18 verses 10-11. What did Jethro come to know?



Think

**Hm...** Why is the Israelites' grumbling SO rude to the LORD?

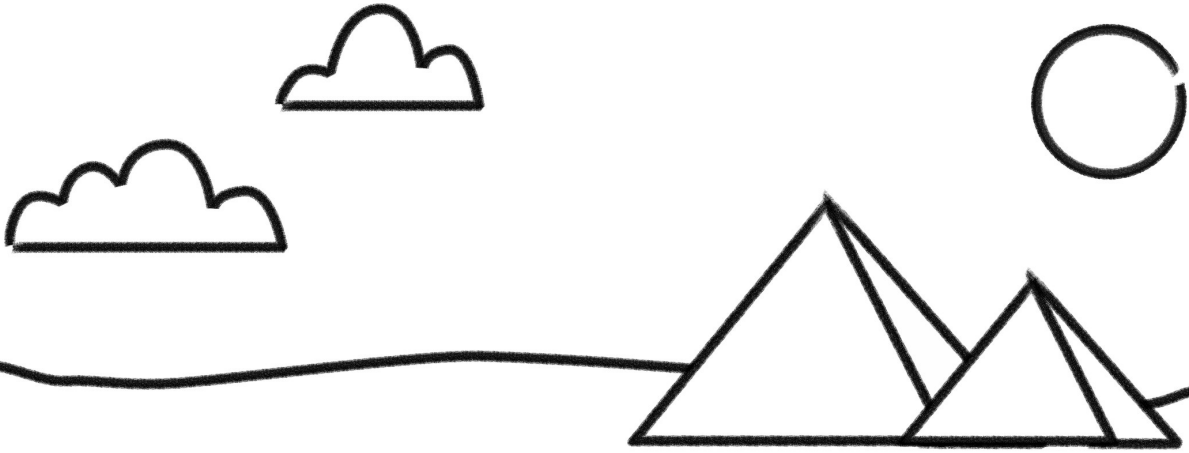
**Hmm...** Why was Jethro's reaction the right reaction?

**Hmmm...** How can this passage help us to trust the LORD instead of grumbling?

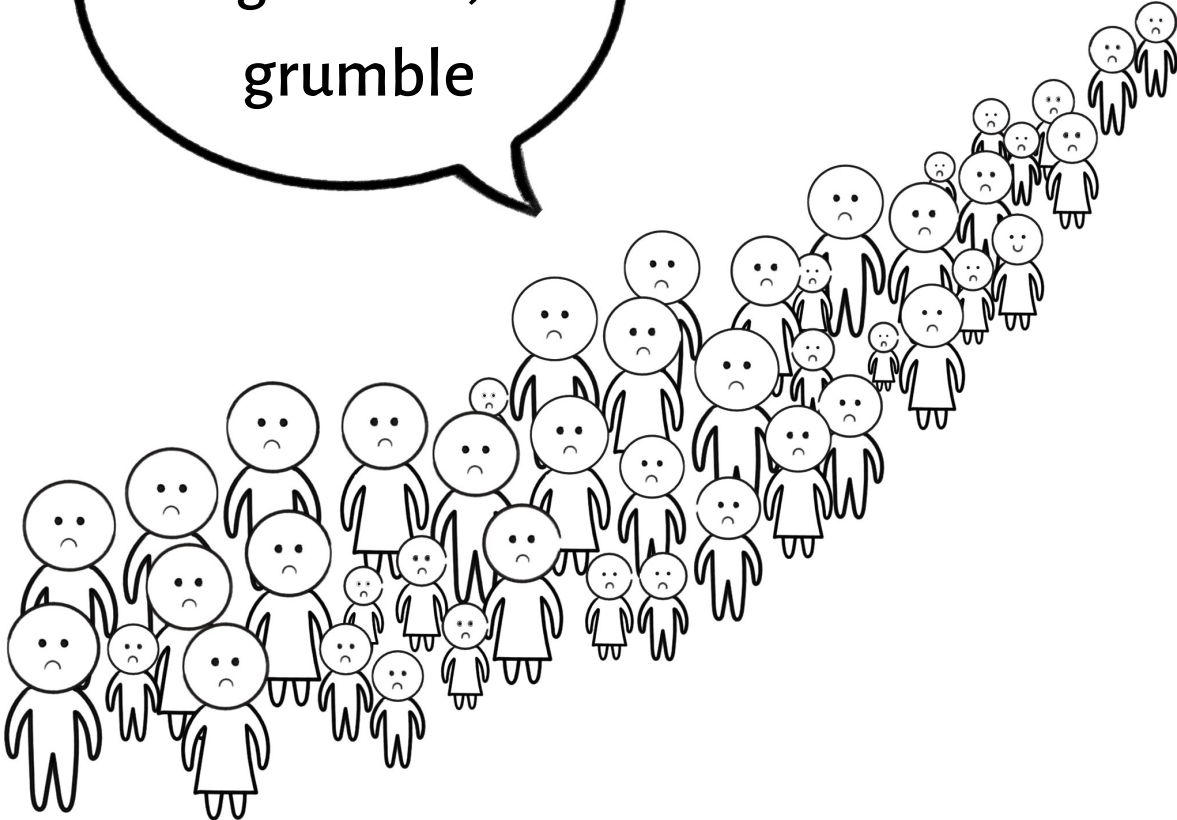


Pray

Let's **thank** God for how kind and loving he is.



Grumble,  
grumble,  
grumble



# The special relationship

Story 9: Exodus 19

## See the special relationship the LORD rescued the Israelites for.

Have you ever been to a wedding? Was it a big wedding or a small wedding? Was there crazy dancing or yummy cake or funny speeches? Weddings are very special occasions because at a wedding you celebrate the start of a special relationship.

Our story today, as Israel arrive at Mt Sinai, is a bit like a wedding. But this has got to be the scariest and most special wedding you've ever heard of. Scary and special because the groom is the LORD God himself. There was booming thunder, there was flashing lightning, there was blazing fire and thick smoke and an earthquake as the LORD came down. It wasn't safe to come near... and yet... that's what the LORD is doing. This holy, mighty god was coming near to have a special relationship with his people.

The LORD would make Israel a special bride. The LORD said Israel would be get to be his very own precious people, his personal treasure. He also said Israel would be a kingdom of priests. Israel used to have to serve Pharaoh, but now, they've been rescued to serve the LORD. They would live for him, showing the whole world how good it is to be his people. And Israel were to be a holy nation—because their God was holy, Israel were to be like him. They were to be set apart as his, living for him and serving him.

Then, like a bride and groom the LORD and his people made special promises to each other—this is called a covenant. The LORD promised he would bless Israel. Israel promised to obey him. At Mount Sinai, the LORD began a relationship with his people.

Amazingly the LORD wants to have a special relationship with you too. It'll look slightly different to the one he had with the Israelites—we don't have to obey—but it's equally as special.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 19:3-6



Look

**Look** at verses 5 and 6... What will the Israelites be?

**Look closer...** at verse 5. What must Israel do?



Think

**Hm...** Why was this relationship special?

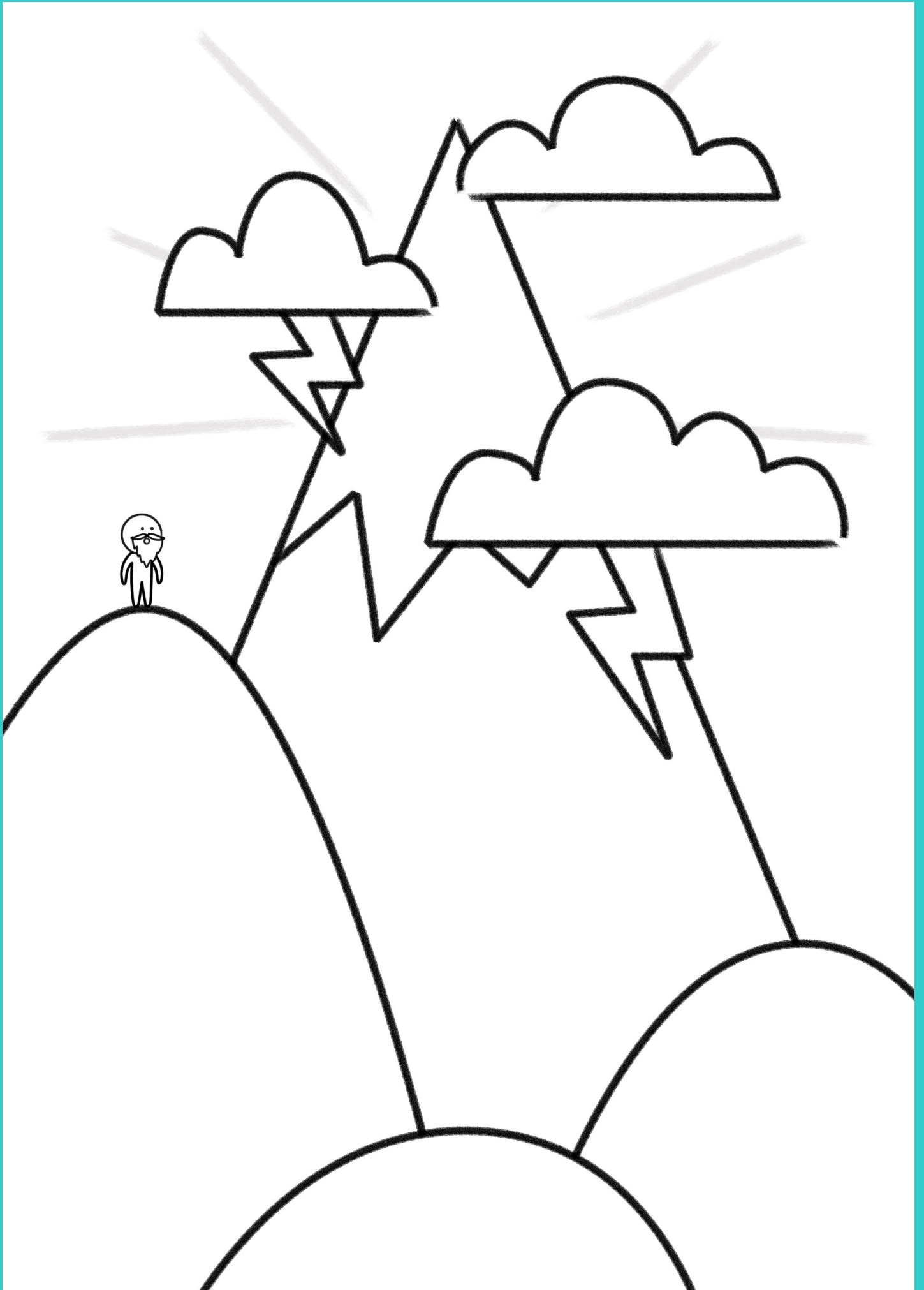
**Hmm...** Why is it so great to belong to the LORD?

**Hmmm...** Why is it important to see that our relationship with God is different to the Israelites?



Pray

Let's **thank** God that he rescues his people for a relationship.



# Obey!

Story 10: Exodus 20-24

See that the relationship between the LORD and Israel required their obedience.

Imagine if King Charles wanted to be your friend. You wouldn't be surprised if there were certain rules you had to keep and certain ways you'd need to behave. You'd probably have to bow every time you saw him and you'd need to call him 'Your majesty'. Today we're going to see how the Israelites had to behave now they were friends with God.

On Mt Sinai the LORD and his people had entered into a special relationship. Now they had to behave correctly to stay in this relationship. The Holy God needed his people to be a holy nation. The LORD gave them a whole bunch of rules to obey – they're sometimes called the law. Right at the heart of these rules, were the ten commandments. The first four were all about how Israel were to love the Lord their God. The next six were all about how to love each other as the LORD's special people. After these, he gave his people lots more rules. But he wasn't being strict or mean. These were good rules. And obeying these rules, like having no other gods, would ensure they stayed friends. Overall, the LORD told his people they would only be able to stay in this special relationship if they obeyed him.

When God had finished telling Israel all the rules, they said, 'We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey.' But would they be able to? Is this special relationship going end 'happily ever after', or in disaster?

We'll see that, of course, grumbly hearted Israel weren't very good at obeying the law. Neither were the LORD's people who came after them, and neither are we. (At the end of Exodus we'll think about how our relationship with God is different to the Israelites. We're going to see that because we also fail to obey, Jesus made a way.) But today we've seen that the Israelites need to obey the law to be friends with the LORD.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 24:3-7



Look

**Look** at verse 3... What did the LORD want them to do?

**Look closer...** at verse 7. What do the people say they'll do?



Think

**Hm...** Can you think of a rule you need to keep to stay in relationship with someone.

**Hmm...** Why did God need Israel to be a holy nation?

**Hmmm...** Should we obey the law to be friends with God?



Pray

Let's **praise** God for how holy he is.



# The tabernacle?

Story 11: Exodus 25-33:3

**The LORD wants to live with his people, but his people break the covenant.**

Up the mountain the LORD said to Moses that he wanted to come and live with his people. Imagine that, the God of the universe, the mighty warrior, coming and living with them. And he would then go with his people to the promised land.

So he tells Moses to make a special tent for him. This special tent is called a tabernacle. But the Israelites don't have a tabernacle, so they need to build one. The LORD gives Moses some instructions. First he was to collect offerings from the people. Offerings of gold and silver and cloth and animal skins and wood and precious stones. Then he told Moses the design of this special tent. (If you'd like to see what it would look like you could look up a picture of it.) Then he instructed Moses to make special garments for the priests. Finally he gave Moses the names of the skilled workers who would build the tabernacle. The LORD spoke all these things to Moses whilst he was up the mountain. But down in the valley something had gone horribly wrong.

The people had abandoned the LORD and Moses. Instead of offering their gold to build the tabernacle they had given it to Aaron who now built a golden calf—an idol! Instead of Aaron being a priest to the LORD he has become a priest to this idol. Instead of the people offering sacrifices to the LORD, they offered sacrifices to this idol. This is awful. The people have turned their backs on the LORD who rescued them and who wanted to live with them. They have broken his law. They have broken their covenant with him.

This made the LORD angry. He said he would no longer live with them. He would not go with them to the promised land.



**Read**

Pray and read Exodus 25:8-9



**Look**

**Look** at verse 8... What does the LORD want to do?

**Look closer...** at verse 9. What should the Israelites do?



**Think**

**Hm...** Why would you want to live with the LORD? (Think about what he is like.)

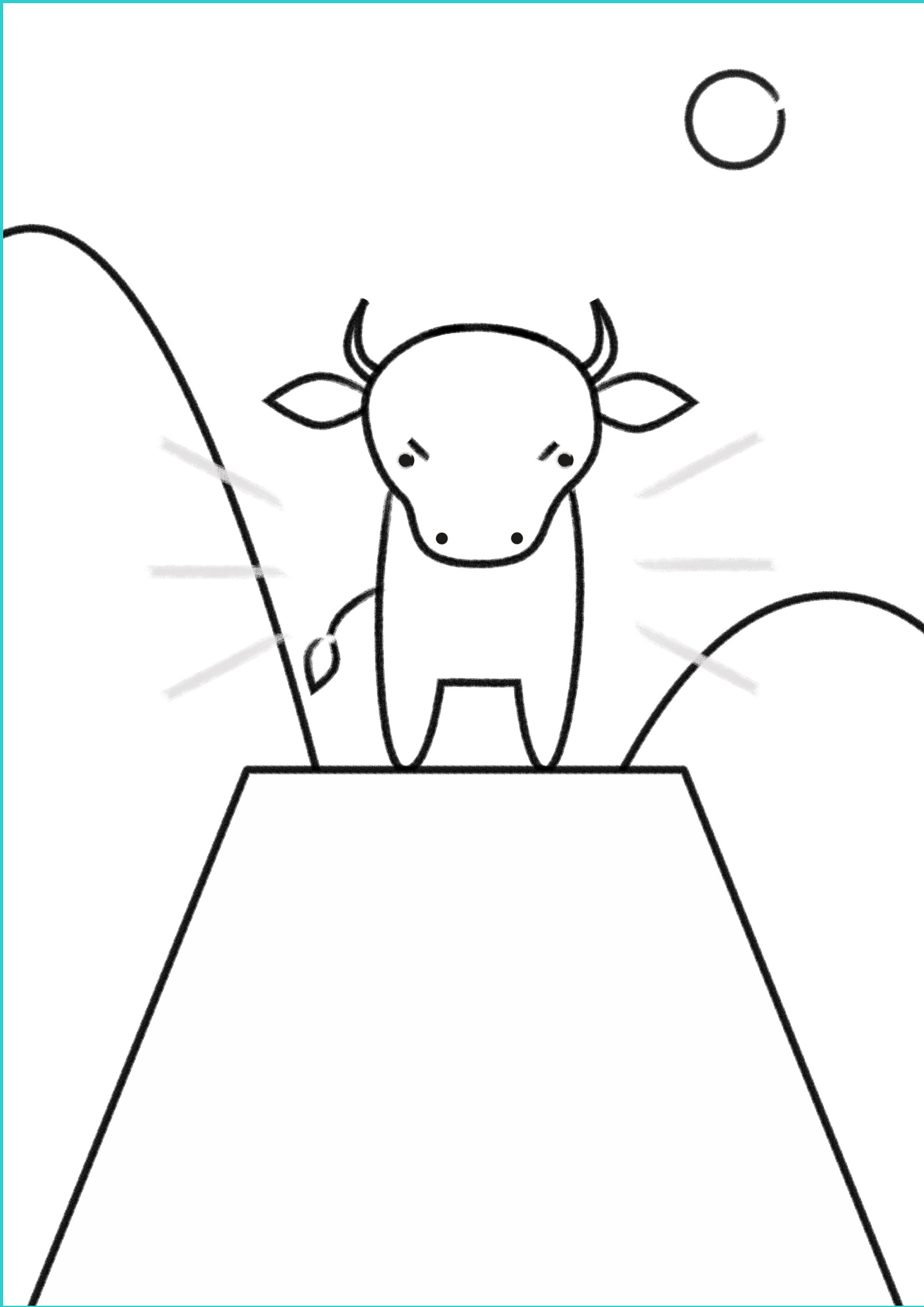
**Hmm...** Some people try to obey God's law to please him. How does our story show this isn't going to work?

**Hmmm...** Why is the worship of idols silly?



**Pray**

Let's **praise** God that he wants to live with his people.



# The tabernacle!

Story 12: Exodus 33:4-40

The LORD will live with his people because of his forgiving character and Moses' intercession.

Last time, the LORD and his people had fallen out with each other. Instead of building a tent for the LORD to live in, the Israelites had built a golden calf—an idol. They had broken the law, and the LORD was angry. He said he'd no longer go with them. What a shame. The people were devastated. But Moses thinks he can help. He asks the LORD, 'if you are pleased with me, go with us'. Though the LORD wasn't pleased with the people, he was pleased with Moses. So the LORD agreed—he would go with his people.

But Moses wanted to be sure. So he asked to see the LORD's glory. If the LORD shows himself to Moses, then Moses will know that the LORD will go with him and the people. The LORD tells Moses to come up the mountain. Up the mountain Moses had to hide in a crack in a rock. The LORD came down in a cloud. His glory passed by Moses. And as the LORD stood there with him he proclaimed his name: the LORD is compassionate and gracious, and forgives wickedness, rebellion, and sin. This is the proof Moses needed. Because he showed himself to Moses and because he forgives rebellion, the LORD will still go with his people.

The tabernacle is back on track. With changed hearts the people now bring offerings to the LORD. And the skilled workers get to work. They build the frames, sow the cloth, and cover the ornaments with gold. The tabernacle is finished. Then the cloud covered the tent, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. The LORD lives with his people.



Read

Pray and read Exodus 34:5-7



Look

**Look** at verse 5... What does the LORD do?

**Look closer...** at verses 6-7. Write a list of what the LORD is like.



Think

**Hm...** Why is it good that the LORD forgives?

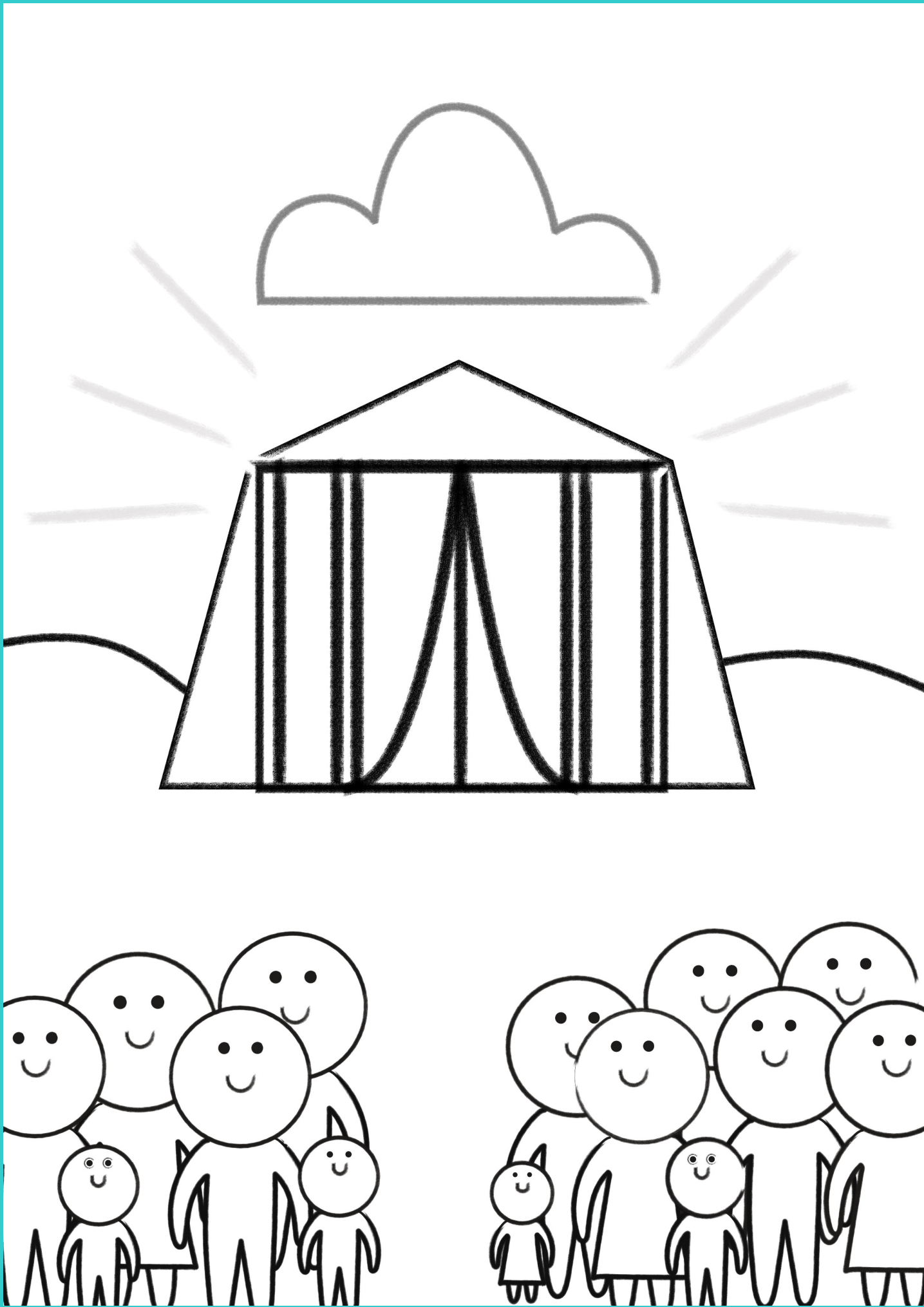
**Hmm...** How does this part of the Bible point to the bigger rescue we all need?

**Hmmm...** What would we miss if we didn't have Exodus chapter 43?



Pray

Let's **thank** God that he forgives sin.



# A new exodus

Story 13: Isaiah 40-66

## Know there'll be an Exodus from exile.

What's your biggest problem? Maybe you think it's when you fell over. Maybe you think it's the bully in the playground. Maybe you think it's an illness you have. Maybe you think it's death. The Bible tells us that our biggest problem is exile. Let me explain what exile is... It's a grown-up word which means to be away from God and the life he gives. Remember when God made the world. It was so good: fruit to eat, animals to pet, people to play with, and God himself would live with and love the people he had made. But you'll remember something terrible happened. The people God had made turned against him. God was angry. So God sent them into exile. He sent them away from himself and the good life he gives. Now there is pain, and un-kindness, and sickness, and death. This is exile. We all live in exile—it's our biggest problem. We need a way back. We need a rescue.

Hundreds of years after the Exodus out of Egypt, God spoke to many prophets. One of these prophets was a man called Isaiah. God reminded Isaiah how he rescued his people from Egypt through the Red Sea. And he promised him that he would do a new Exodus. It's like the Exodus out of Egypt, but it'll be an Exodus out of exile.

Isaiah tells us what this new Exodus will be like. The LORD himself will come to rescue his people. The LORD will sort out the problem of sin. The LORD will destroy death forever. The LORD will put his spirit inside his people. The LORD will create a whole new creation which will be good and full of happiness. The LORD will live there with his people. This new Exodus was promised by God. This Exodus out of exile is the rescue we need.



Read

Pray and read Isaiah 43:16-19



Look

**Look** at verses 16-17... What does this remind us of?

**Look closer...** at verses 19. What is the LORD doing?



Think

**Hm...** Why do we need another rescue?

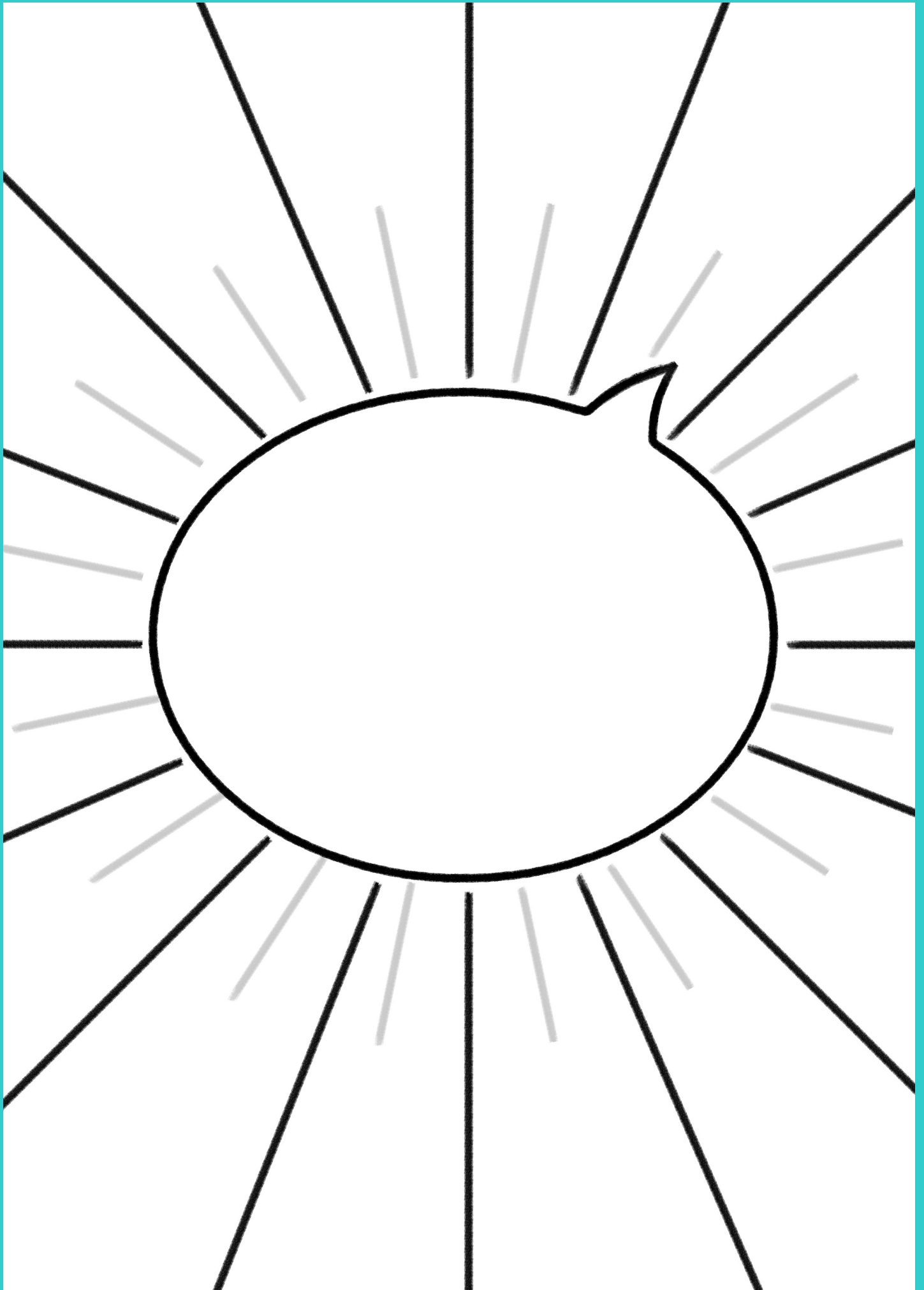
**Hmm...** Are you excited about this new Exodus? Why/why not?

**Hmmm...** Why was the book of Exodus written?



Pray

Let's **thank** God that he promised to rescue us from exile.



# The New Exodus fulfilled

Story 14: John 1

## Call on the LORD Jesus to lead you out of exile.

Who would you call in an emergency? If there was a fire, you would call the fire brigade. If you were stuck up a mountain you would call mountain rescue. If you felt really, really, poorly you would call a Doctor. Last time we heard that there was an emergency—we are in exile. God has sent humanity away from himself and the good life he gives. Now there is pain, suffering, hurt, loneliness, sin, and death. Who can we call on for help? Who will come to our rescue? We also heard last time that God promised a new Exodus, an Exodus out of exile. Let's see if he'll keep his promise.

Two thousand years ago a man named John wrote a book. It was a book about a man called Jesus. John said that Jesus was the LORD God. He said that Jesus could give life. He said that Jesus had come to tabernacle (live) with his people. He said that Jesus was the Passover lamb who took away sin. He said that Jesus would give people the Holy Spirit. He described how Jesus had performed amazing miracles, showing he could bring in the New Creation. John wants us to see that Jesus is the LORD, who is leading his people in the new Exodus out of exile.

Which means we now know who to call for help. We are in exile, away from God and the life he gives. This is a really, really, big emergency. But we now know who will rescue us. We can call on the Lord Jesus. He will hear our cry for help. He will sort out our sin. He will give us the Holy Spirit. He will rescue us from this broken world and from death. He will lead us into the New Creation, where we will live with God forever. Call on the Lord Jesus to lead you out of exile.



Read

Pray and read John 20:31



Look

**Look** at verse 31... Who is Jesus?

**Look closer...** at verse 31. What does calling on the name of Jesus do?



Think

**Hm...** What excites you about the new Exodus?

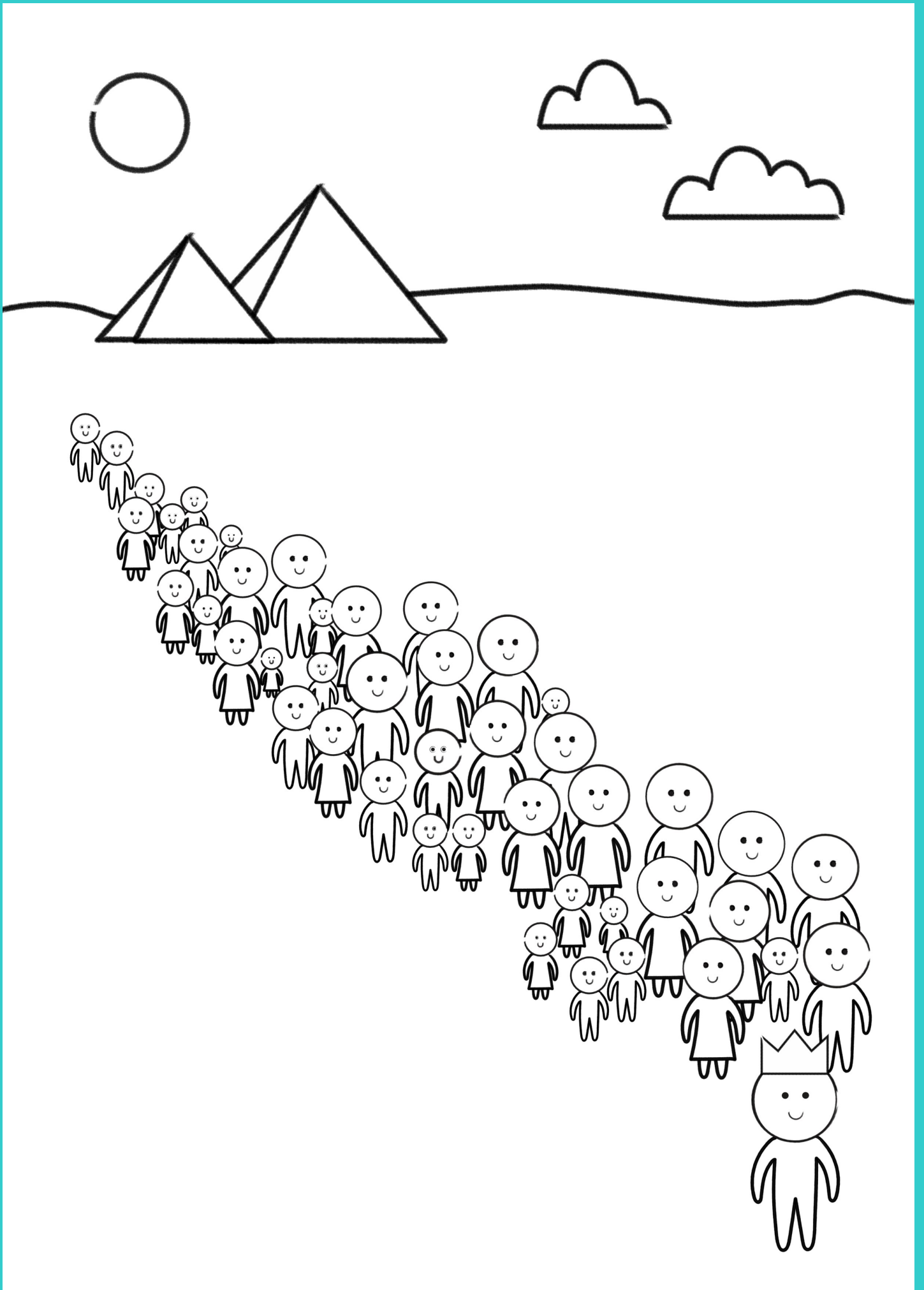
**Hmm...** Why is there no other name to call to for help?

**Hmmm...** Have you called to the Lord Jesus for help?



Pray

Let's **thank** the Lord Jesus for leading us out of exile.



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