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Great Ways to Use These Pages:

Storytelling Tool: Photocopy the Bible story coloring page to use as a visual aid during storytelling time. As you tell the story, color in parts of the picture to keep children's interest and to help them focus on the part of the story you are telling. For larger groups, make



transparencies and color them on an overhead projector as you tell the story.

Felt Board Figures: Glue a colored Bible story coloring page to poster board. Cut out the main characters and then glue strips of felt to the backs of the charac-

ters. Use them with a felt board to give visual impact to your Bible storytelling.



Story Review: Photocopy a coloring page for each student. After telling the story, ask questions to review the story as children color.

Review for Early Arrivals and Transition Times: Photocopy coloring pages of Bible stories you have recently talked about. Early arrivals can

have a choice of pictures to color, giving you opportunities to ask questions and talk with children about those stories. Also have copies available for children who finish an activity ahead of others and for other transition times.

Coloring Game: After you've told the Bible story, place a variety of colored markers on the table. Distribute copies of the Bible story coloring page. Volunteers tell one part of the Bible story. Then each child chooses a marker and uses it to color one part of his or her page. When they're finished,

children put markers down and volunteers tell another part of the story. Children then choose another marker and color another part of the page. Repeat the process until the pages (and story!) are completed.



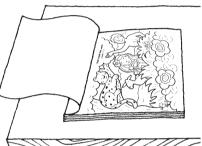
Concentration Game: Photocopy a set of two pictures of each story you have talked about recently. Invite volunteers to color each set alike. Then place the pictures facedown on the floor. Children take turns turning over two pictures at a time, trying to find two matching pictures. Play continues until all picture sets have been paired.

Buessing Game: Color (or invite volunteers to color) five or more coloring pages



of Bible stories you have talked about. Display completed pictures. Give three clues for a story. Children try to guess which story you are describing. For example, for "Jesus is born" you could say, "I'm thinking of a happy night. I'm thinking of some good news that some people heard. I'm thinking of a very special baby."

Individual Coloring Books: Photocopy several Bible story coloring pages for each child in your class. Fold 11x17-inch (28x43-cm) construction paper in half, insert pages and staple to make individual coloring books.





Bible Story Puzzle: Color and then

paste a completed Bible story coloring page onto poster board. Cover with clear adhesive paper and cut into puzzle pieces. Place puzzle pieces in a resealable sandwich bag and label. Make several puzzles and offer them during transition times or to early arrivals.

Puppets: Color (or invite children to color) the main characters on the Bible story coloring page. Glue the colored page to poster board. Cut around the figures and glue the characters to craft sticks. Give to children to use as stick puppets.

Parent Involvement: Send home with children two copies of a Bible story coloring page with the story photocopied on the back. Include a note to encourage parents to read the Bible story and color the pages with their children.

Special Gift: Give this book to your children as a great substitute for secular coloring books.



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God made the world.

Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning, long, long ago, God made our world. He made daytime and nighttime. He made the blue sky and the white clouds. He made the oceans and rivers and streams. He made mountains and hills. Then He covered them with trees and grass and flowers. God made the bright warm sun to shine so that plants could grow. God made the moon and the twinkling stars to light the nighttime sky.

God's world was good. But God's world was very quiet. So God made more! He made all kinds of fish to swim in the water. God made birds to fly through the sky. God made all the animals rabbits to run in the grass and monkeys to climb the trees. God made worms to tunnel in the dirt and lizards to crawl on the rocks.

> God looked at all the fish, birds and other animals He had made. He said, "It is good." It was good because God made it all.

Then God made a man. He named the man Adam. God loved Adam and gave him the job of naming all the animals. And God made a woman named Eve. Adam and Eve took care of all the plants and animals in the beautiful garden. God loved them very much. And Adam and Eve loved God.

After God made everything in the world, He rested! God looked at everything He had made. It was very good!



Adam and Eve disobey God.

Genesis 3:1-23

Adam and Eve were happy. They were living in the beautiful garden God made. The trees grew good fruit, so Adam and Eve had plenty to eat.

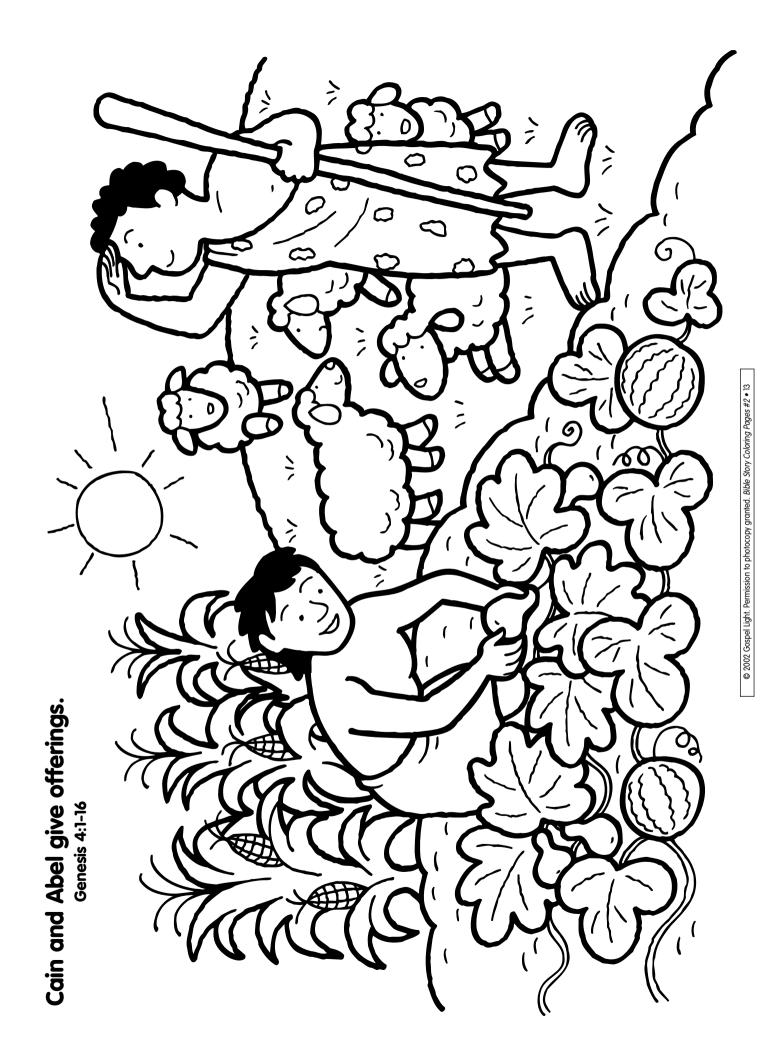
God gave Adam and Eve only one rule to obey. God said they could eat the fruit from any tree in the garden, except the fruit from one special tree. God's one rule seemed easy to obey. But one day Eve heard a snake speaking to her. He told her nothing bad would happen if she ate from the special tree. (But the snake was really Satan, God's enemy.)

Eve listened to the snake. She picked some fruit and ate it. And then she gave some of the fruit to

> Adam. He ate the fruit, too. When Adam and Eve did what God had said not to do, they felt afraid. They KNEW they had disobeyed God.

When God came to visit them that day, Adam and Eve were frightened! They hid in the garden. But God knew where they were. God asked them why they were afraid. Adam answered, "Eve and I ate from the special tree."

Adam and Eve had disobeyed God! God told Adam and Eve they must leave the beautiful garden. But God never stopped loving Adam and Eve, even when they had done wrong.



Cain and Abel give offerings.

Genesis 4:1-16

Adam and Eve had two sons. Their names were Cain and Abel. The boys learned how to do different kinds of jobs to help their family. Cain, the older brother, was a farmer. Abel, the younger brother, grew up to be a shepherd.

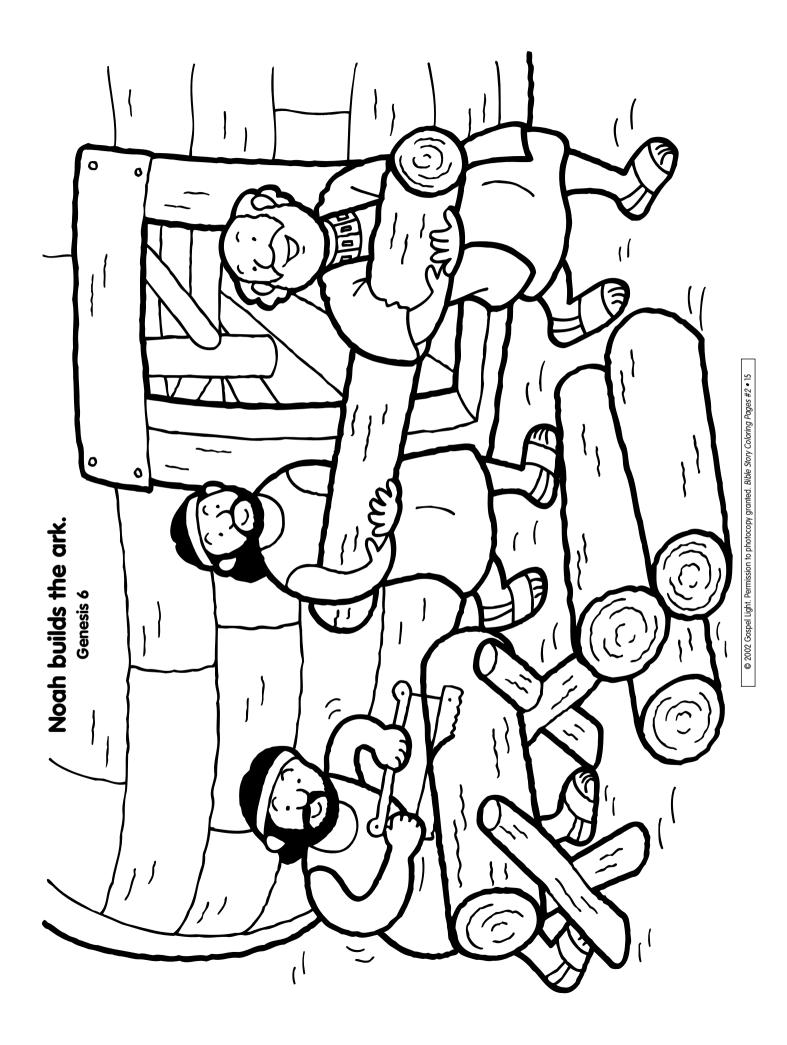
Soon it was time to thank God for everything He had given to Adam and Eve's family. Cain brought an offering of some vegetables he had grown. Abel brought some of his sheep.

Abel had given thanks to God by giving Him the best gift he could. God was happy with the offering Abel brought. But God was not pleased with Cain's offering. This made Cain angry. God told Cain to do what was right. Then his offering would

> please God. God said that if Cain didn't do what was right, more trouble would come. Cain didn't listen to God's warning and more trouble came. One day, when Cain and Abel were out in a field, Cain killed Abel.

God called to Cain, "Where is your brother, Abel?" Cain was angry and said to God, "I don't know where he is. Do I have to take care of my brother all the time?"

God knew Cain had killed Abel. God told Cain he would have to leave his home and stop being a farmer. Cain's trouble came because he did not love and obey God.



Noah builds the ark.

Genesis 6

After God made the world, more and more people were born. But as the years went by, people forgot about God. They said things that were not true. They took things that did not belong to them. They did things to hurt each other. They didn't obey God.

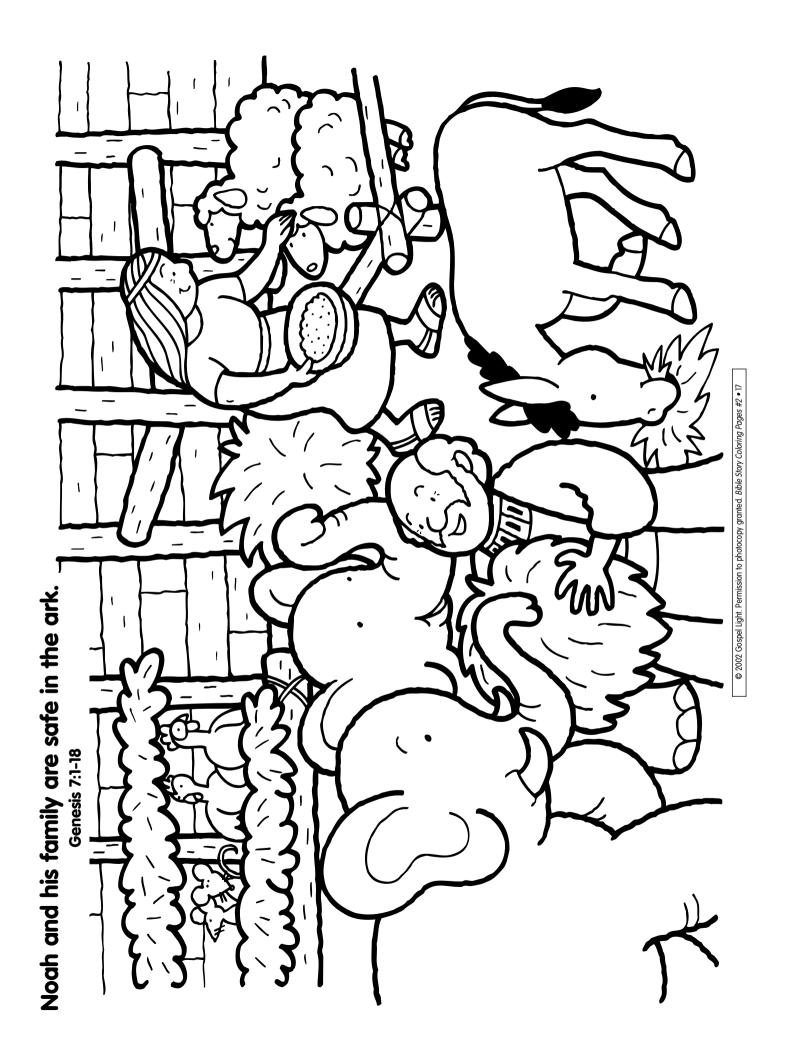
But there was a man named Noah. Noah loved God. He did what was right. One day God said, "Noah, I am going to stop all the terrible things that people keep doing. I want you to build a big wooden boat." This big boat was called an ark.

God told Noah that He was going to send a lot of rain. The rain would make a big flood. The whole earth would be covered with water! But Noah and his family would be safe inside the big boat.

> God told him how tall and how long to make the boat. God told Noah what kind of wood to use. God even told Noah where to put the window and the door!

Noah and his family obeyed God. They started building the big boat. Noah and his three sons cut down trees. They sawed the wood into boards. They hammered the boards together. Noah and his family worked hard to make the boat just the way God had said.

Finally the boat was finished! Noah and his family were ready for the flood of water. They were glad God told them to build the big boat. They knew God was taking care of them.



Noah and his family are safe in the ark. Genesis 7:1-18

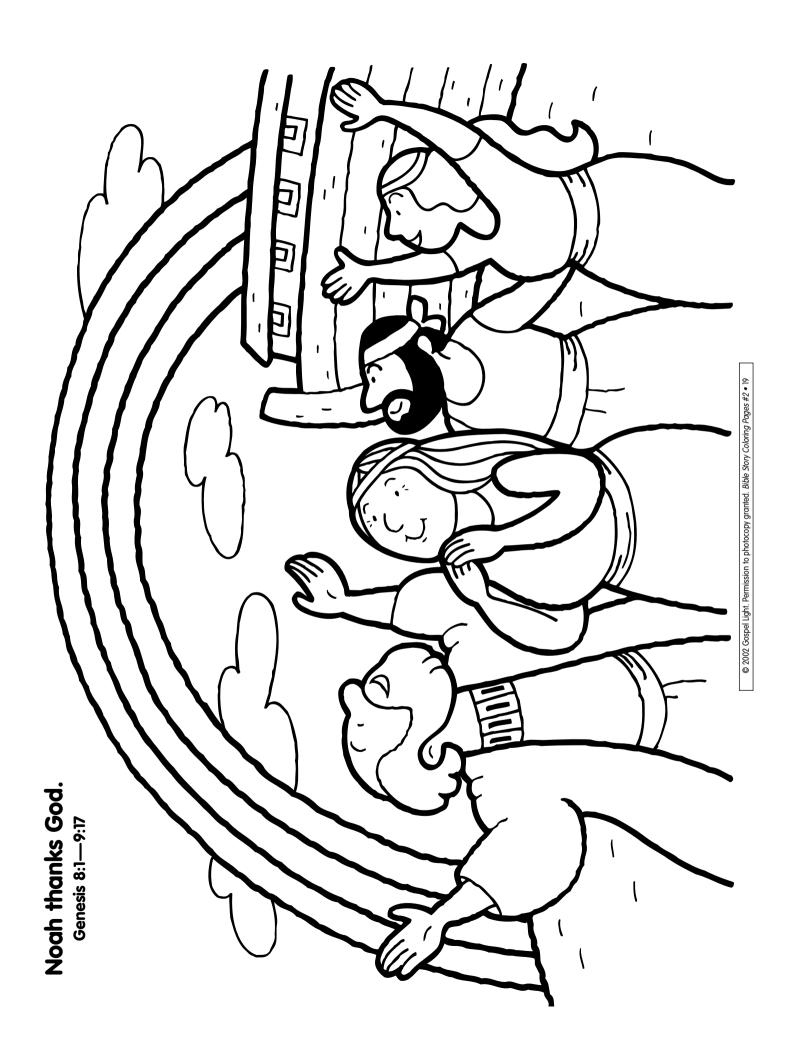
One day the big boat, the ark, was finished. God said, "Noah, take your family into the ark. And take a pair of every kind of animal and bird into the ark with you."

So Noah did what God told him to do. He loaded food for his family and for all the animals into the big boat. Then God sent the animals to Noah. Elephants, mice, lizards—animals of every kind and size came to Noah! Noah loaded them all on board. Rabbits and hippos, sparrows and turtles all found places in the boat.

Finally Noah, his family and the many birds and other animals were in the big boat. God shut the

door tightly. Noah and his family stood in the boat looking around at their new home. Then the rain started falling. At first the rain made little puddles on the ground. After a while the puddles got larger. It kept on raining, harder and harder! Finally, the ground around the boat was covered with water.

Then the boat began to float on the water! The rain kept falling! One day, even the tallest mountain was covered with water. It rained for 40 days and 40 nights. But inside the big boat, the people and the animals were safe and dry.



Noah thanks God.

Genesis 8:1—9:17

It had rained for 40 days and 40 nights. There was water everywhere! But finally, it stopped raining. God made a wind blow over the earth to dry up the water from the flood. It took days and days and weeks and weeks for the water to dry up. Noah and his family were shut up inside the big boat for a long time!

But one day God said, "Noah, come out of the ark now. Bring your family with you. And bring all those birds and other animals that have been living in the ark with you, too."

What an exciting day that must have been! Noah and his family and all the animals paraded out of

the big boat. When Noah got outside, the first thing he and his family did was to thank God for keeping him and his family safe during the flood.

God made a special promise to Noah. God promised, "I will NEVER again cover the whole earth with a flood." To remind everyone of His promise, God put a beautiful rainbow in the sky. Of course, Noah and his family remembered God's promise every time they saw a rainbow! And even now, whenever we see a rainbow, we can remember that God always keeps His promises. We can remember that God loves us and will always take care of us.



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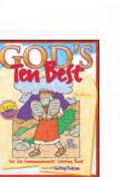
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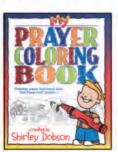
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