

Continuing the Journey

Exodus 23:20-24:18

When we last studied about the Israelites, they were at Mt. Sinai receiving instructions from God. God gave them the "Law of Moses", which many call the 10 Commandment Law. The Law of Moses was made up of not only the Ten Commandments, but many other laws from the Lord. God chose to only write 10 of the commandments on the tablets of stone, which He gave to Moses.

God had promised the Israelites a land flowing with milk and honey the land of Canaan. The land of Canaan already had many other people living there. These people were wicked and they worshipped idols. They did not respect God or follow His laws.

To guard them on their way to the land of Canaan, God told Moses He would send an angel to help them. They were to obey this angel because he was sent by God. If they obeyed him, he would protect them and help them win the battles they would have to fight. He would completely destroy all of their enemies.

God told the Israelites that they were not to worship any of the idols in the land of Canaan, but they were to completely overthrow and destroy them. They were also told not to make any covenants with the people of the land of Canaan. As long as the Israelites obeyed God, He would bless them and their land. God told Moses many other laws He wanted the Israelites to obey and Moses wrote these laws in a book.

Moses got up early the next morning and offered sacrifices to God. He then gathered all of the people together and read to them from the book of the covenant. They all said together, *"All the words which the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient."*

The Lord then called Moses to come to Him again on the mountain. There He would give the stone tablets with the 10 Commandments to Moses. Moses went up to the mountain and a cloud covered it. For six days the mountain was covered by this cloud. On the seventh day God called to Moses from the cloud. To the Israelites, who were at the bottom of the mountain, the mountain top looked like it was covered with a consuming fire. Moses stayed on the mountain with God for forty days and forty nights. Moses continued to listen to all of God's Words.

Notes for Parents:

- God does not want His children to be involved with the world to the point where it causes us to lose our soul. There is a great deal of pressure and lure from the sin in the world.
- God promised to make their lives very good if they would obey Him. He promised them protection, good health, long lives, and no sickness.
- The people proclaimed that they would do all God asked. Later it is apparent that they did not understand the degree of obedience God was asking them to give. Their attitude started out good.
- It is not covered above, but 24:9-12 shows an instance where God appeared to man in a form where He could be looked upon.

Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line to the correct answer.

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. The Israelites were camped at | land of Canaan |
| 2. God gave them ____ commandments. | idols |
| 3. God was going to give them the | Mt. Sinai |
| 4. God was concerned about the | obey God |
| 5. God wanted them to destroy the | forty |
| 6. The people were willing to | ten |
| 7. Moses was on Mt. Sinai for ____ days. | people of Canaan |

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 24 verses 9-14 and answer the following questions.

1. Who all went up with Moses?
2. What didn't God do to the Nobles as they watched Him?
3. What did Moses tell the elders to do?
4. If there was a legal matter, what were they to do?

Memory Work:

Exodus 25:40

"See that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain."

Tabernacle: Materials and Craftsmen

Exodus 25:1-9; (Exodus 31:1-11; 35:4-36:7; 38:21-31)

When God tells His people to do something, He gives them a pattern to follow. He does this so everyone will know what to do, how to do it, and when to do it. This pattern will also allow everyone to do it the same way. God does not want to cause confusion among His people.

Have you ever seen anyone use a pattern before? One place that a pattern is used is by someone making a shirt or a skirt or a dress. Let's assume someone wants to make a shirt. Once the person knows what kind of shirt they want to make, they find a pattern. If the instructions from this pattern are followed, the person will be able to make the shirt. The instructions will tell them what and how many materials to buy. The pattern will also tell the person how to cut out each of the pieces. The pieces will then be sewn together according to the instructions. The finished product will be a great looking shirt.

In the days of Moses, God's people were making a long journey (trip) from Egypt to Canaan. God knew that they would be traveling for a long time, so He wanted them to have a place of worship that they could carry with them and set up at different places along the way. God called Moses up to Mount Sinai and gave him the Ten Commandments and other instructions to follow, including the pattern for a very special tent of worship which was called the Tabernacle.

The tabernacle was to be made of curtains of embroidered fabric and animal skins over a framework of acacia wood overlaid with gold. There were to be two rooms, the holy place and the most holy place, with a veil separating them. Around the tent was to be a courtyard fenced with curtains of fine linen and a gate of blue, purple, and scarlet material.

God gave all the instructions the people would need to make this tent. He said the people were to bring the materials needed: gold; silver; bronze; material of blue, purple and scarlet; fine white linen; goat hair; rams' skins dyed red; porpoise skins; acacia wood; oil; spices; and beautiful gemstones. God gave special skill to certain craftspeople so that they could make the wonderful tent and all the beautiful furnishings for it.

When the craftspeople began working, they found that the people gave more than enough materials and were still bringing more! Moses had to stop the people from giving. We should be willing to give like this too. As the craftspeople worked, they followed God's instructions exactly. Again and again, God had told Moses that the pattern must be followed. When the work was completed, the Scripture says, "*and Moses examined all the work and behold, they had done it; just as the Lord had commanded, this they had done. So Moses blessed them.*"

God has given us a pattern to follow today. This pattern is given to us in the New Testament Law. God expects us to follow this pattern. We must do exactly what it says no more, no less, and certainly nothing else!

Getting the Main Points:

1. God told Moses it was very important to
 - a. follow God's pattern in building the tabernacle.
 - b. build the tabernacle however he chose.
 - c. let the people decide how to build the tabernacle.
2. The Israelites were traveling from
 - a. Canaan to Egypt
 - b. Egypt to Jerusalem
 - c. Egypt to Canaan
2. Where did the materials to build the tabernacle come from?
 - a. the people
 - b. the store
 - c. neither
3. When the people brought the materials, Moses had to
 - a. beg for more
 - b. tell them to bring better materials
 - c. tell them to stop bringing so much
4. Where is our pattern from God found today?
 - a. in the clothing we wear
 - b. in the New Testament
 - c. in the Old Testament

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 35 verses 21-29 and answer the following questions.

1. In verse 21, who brought the things for the Lord's contribution?
2. What did the skilled women do for the work?
3. Who brought the stones for the breastpiece and the ephod?
4. What kind of offering was brought to the Lord? (Hint: v29)

Memory Work:

Exodus 25:40

"See that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain."

Tabernacle: Courtyard Construction, Tabernacle, Altar of Burnt Offering, and Laver **Exodus 26; 27:1-19; (Exodus 30:18-21; 38:1-20)**

As we studied in our last lesson, God wanted the tabernacle built in a certain way. He gave them the instructions, or pattern, to follow. Today we will look at the courtyard surrounding the tabernacle and the altar and laver that were placed in this courtyard area.

The courtyard was built out of cloth that was hung from pillars using silver hooks. The courtyard area was to be 100 cubits long (150 feet) by 50 cubits wide (75 feet) and was screened with linen curtains that were 5 cubits high (7.5 feet). As you walk around to the east side of the courtyard, you see the gate. It is made of the same fine linen, but it has the beautiful colors of blue, purple, and scarlet (red) woven in. The gate was so brightly colored to show that something special was inside — the place where God would be worshipped.

When God's people entered the gate, they first saw a big bronze altar. This was where they brought their animal sacrifices for the priests to burn as an offering to God. They would also see the laver, which was where the priests would wash the hands. Behind these two items would be the tabernacle itself. We will study about the tabernacle later.

The altar of burnt offerings was used to offer animal sacrifices. The altar was built of acacia wood with horns overlaid with bronze on each of the top corners. They were also to build several tools to use with the altar. They built pails for removing the ashes, shovels, basins, forks, and firepans. All of these were made of bronze. The altar was to be carried with poles made of wood.

The laver was a big bowl made of bronze on a stand with another bowl under it. The laver held water for the priests to wash their hands and feet before going into the tabernacle or offering a fire sacrifice. Women had given their mirrors of bronze to make this special place of washing. If the priests did not wash before doing God's work, they would be killed by God. The laver was important to the priests.

In the New Testament, which is the law that we live by today, God does not want His people to offer animal sacrifices. When God sent His Son to earth, Jesus lived a perfect life and He did not sin. When He died on the cross for us, His sacrifice was so much better than offering animals that no more sacrifices were needed. John called Jesus *"the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*

Just because Jesus made this wonderful sacrifice for us does not mean that we automatically are saved and go to heaven. God expects us to obey Him. People who are old enough to understand must hear His word, believe it, repent of their sins, confess that Jesus is God's son, be baptized, and keep living by His word.

Notes for Parents:

- The tabernacle is a shadow of the church - the more perfect tabernacle. Everything now is better than the Old Law.

Getting the Main Points:

Place the objects in order by numbering them 1-4 as you would see them from outside of the courtyard. Then draw a line from the name to the item shown in the picture.

___ Altar of burnt offering

___ Tabernacle

___ Gate

___ Laver



For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 30 verses 17-21 and answer the following questions.

1. Who gave these instructions?
2. Where was the laver to be placed?
3. When were the priests to wash in the laver?
4. What would happen to the priests if they did not wash?

Memory Work:

Exodus 25:40

"See that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain."

Tabernacle: Table, Lampstand, Altar of Incense, and Incense

Exodus 25:23-40; (Exodus 27:20-21; 30:1-10; 30:34-38; 37:10-29)

If you lived in the days of Moses, think how you would feel to stand in the courtyard and look at the tabernacle but not be able to go inside. (Only the priests could enter.) You would see that the door to the tabernacle was made of the same beautiful colors of blue, purple, and scarlet on pure white that made up the gate of the courtyard. You would know from the pattern that God gave Moses, that there were two rooms inside. The first room inside the door was the Holy Place and the next room was the Most Holy Place. We will look at the Most Holy Place in our next lesson.

If you could walk inside the Holy Place, a lampstand would be on your left as you entered. It was a beautiful stand of pure gold with a main stem and six branches. At the top of each one was a lamp where the priests burned olive oil.

To your right you would see the Table of Showbread. This was made of acacia wood and covered in gold. Sitting on it were twelve cakes of bread, in two stacks of six, with frankincense on top of each. The cakes were replaced every Sabbath (Saturday), and the priests ate the ones from the week before.

Just in front of the veil which separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place you would see the Altar of Incense. It was made of acacia wood and covered in gold like the table. Here the priests offered incense every morning and evening.

All of these things were made according to the pattern given by God. Each of them had a special purpose in the worship of God. Everything that God tells us to do is useful to help us in serving Him more perfectly.

Today we do not have a tabernacle like the one we are studying about. The more perfect tabernacle is with us today and we call it the church. God gave us a pattern for the church today - not how to build it, but how it should be run. All Christians are allowed to go into the church and offer their worship to God. We are all priests of God.

The table of shewbread reminds us of the Lord's Supper which reminds Christians that Christ died and rose again. The bread reminds us of Jesus' body on the cross, and the grape juice reminds us of the blood that came from His wounds. Jesus called Himself the bread of life. People need physical bread (food) to stay alive. Christians need the spiritual bread (Jesus) to live forever in heaven.

Members of the church also know that they can say prayers that go up to God and please Him like the smell of incense burning went up to God and pleased Him. Having God to praise, confess our sins to, thank for blessings, and ask help from is one of the greatest joys of being a Christian.

The lampstand reminds us of the words of Jesus who said, "*I am the light of the world.*" Jesus' word shows us the way to eternal life.

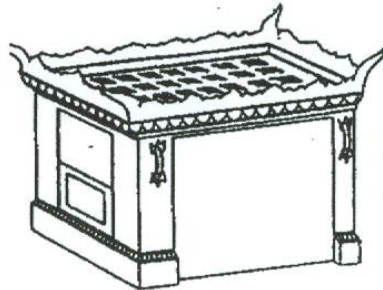
Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line to the correct answer.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. As you enter the Holy Place, what you would see on the left | table of showbread |
| 2. What was on the right side | the church |
| 3. Number of cakes of bread on the table of showbread | offer incense |
| 4. What was in front of the veil | bread |
| 5. What the priests would do every morning and evening | lampstand |
| 6. The more perfect tabernacle is | altar of Incense |
| 7. Jesus is the _____ of life. | twelve (12) |

For the More Advanced:

Label each of the items below:



Memory Work:

Exodus 25:40

"See that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain."

Tabernacle: Ark of the Covenant and Veil Construction

Exodus 25:10-22; (Exodus 26:31-33; 36:35-36; 37:1-9)

We have been studying about the building of the tabernacle, a place of worship for the Israelites. We have seen the courtyard, altar of burnt offerings, laver, table of showbread, lampstand, altar of incense, and the tabernacle with the Holy Place. Today we will look at the Most Holy Place.

Picture a beautiful veil of blue, purple, and scarlet woven into fine white linen with cherubim embroidered on it. This veil had to be lifted up when the High Priest went into the Most Holy Place. Behind the veil was the magnificent Ark of the Covenant, made out of acacia wood and covered with gold. On the ark were rings with poles that went through them. These poles were for carrying the ark, because no one was to touch it. On top of the ark was a mercy seat of pure gold with two gold cherubim facing each other, their wings spread to cover the mercy seat. Here God appeared in a cloud to meet with the High Priest once a year on the Day of Atonement.

What an experience for the high priest as he burned incense and sprinkled blood on the mercy seat in the Most Holy Place, feeling the presence of God with him! God had him to do this to show that he and the people knew they were sinners and wanted to show they were sorry, to atone for their sins.

The awesome ceremony and the other things they did on the Day of Atonement did not forgive the people of their sins. That was not done until Jesus died on the cross. By that time the tabernacle had been replaced by the temple. It, too, had a veil which was torn when Jesus was crucified. The way was opened into the Most Holy Place. People who followed God's pattern before and after Jesus' sacrifice could go to heaven and be with God. Their sins would not keep them away from Him because there can be complete forgiveness.

God placed some special things in the Ark of the Covenant to remind them of important events. These are the three things that were to be inside:

1. The tablets of stone with the Ten Commandments.
2. Aaron's rod that God had made buds appear on to show that the family of Levi was God's choice as priests.
3. The pot of manna, the food God gave his people during their long journey in the wilderness.

In Jesus we can see all the things that were in the ark. He fulfilled the old law written on the tables of stone. He died and rose again just as the buds appeared on Aaron's rod (which had been a dead branch) showing He was God's choice. Finally, Jesus gave us the spiritual food that lets us live forever.

Notes for Parents:

- The entrance into the Most Holy Place has been paid for. We can go into heaven itself and live throughout eternity.

Getting the Main Points:

Color the face yellow for "Yes" and black for "No"

1. 😊 The High Priest could enter the Most Holy Place anytime.
2. 😊 The veil was blue, purple, and scarlet woven into white linen with cherubim embroidered on it.
3. 😊 Behind the veil was the Ark of the Covenant.
4. 😊 There was nothing on top of the ark.
5. 😊 The Ark of the Covenant was empty inside.
6. 😊 Aaron's rod that budded was in the Ark.

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 25 verses 19-22 and answer the following questions.

1. What would be at each end of the Ark of the Covenant?
2. What would be on top of the Ark of the Covenant?
3. What would happen above the mercy seat?
4. What kinds of things would God talk to the Israelites about?

Memory Work:

Exodus 25:40

"See that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain."

Priests: Garments and Consecration

Exodus 28-29; 30:22-33; 39

Now that the tabernacle was being built, God gave instructions about those who would do the work inside the tabernacle. These special men were called priests. The most important priest was the High Priest. The first High Priest was Aaron, the brother of Moses.

The priests were men from the family of Levi whose special work was spiritual. Priests offered sacrifices and went into the holy place of the tabernacle with oil for the lampstand, bread for the table, and incense for the altar. Only the High Priest went into the Most Holy Place on one day during the year, the Day of Atonement.

God had the skilled craftspeople make special clothes for all the priests, but for the high priest they were even more special. Aaron and his sons, the priests, had the same white tunic and breeches (pants) with a sash of blue, purple, and scarlet woven into fine white linen. Over the white tunic, though, the high priest wore a blue robe that had gold bells and pomegranates of the blue, purple, and scarlet material. Over that he wore an ephod with those same three colors plus real gold. The craftspeople hammered out gold sheets and cut them into threads to be woven into this special piece of clothing. On the shoulders of the ephod were two onyx stones engraved (written) with the names of the twelve sons of Jacob. Attached to the front of the ephod was a breastpiece with twelve precious stones engraved again with the names of the twelve sons of Jacob. Aaron's sons wore caps, but the high priest had a special turban. A plate of pure gold was fastened to the front. Engraved on it were the words, "Holy to the Lord."

There was a special ceremony where the priests and the High Priest were consecrated (set apart to serve God). God gave many, many other rules for the priests to follow in their service to Him.

Under the New Testament, there are no priests who offer sacrifices for us, and there is no High Priest to enter a special room yearly to atone for our sins. We do not need them because our better High Priest, Jesus, offered the perfect sacrifice for us.

Jesus is a High Priest chosen by God instead of being from the family of Levi. He lived his whole life on earth without sin, which no other High Priest did. Jesus is our Priest and King who lives in heaven now. He is still doing a lot for us as our High Priest. Every prayer that we make to God goes through Jesus.

As the tabernacle was completed and the sacrifices were made for the priests, Moses examined all of the work. He saw that the people had built the tabernacle just as God had commanded. Moses was so pleased with the work that he blessed the Israelites. God and Jesus will be just as pleased with us today if we follow His word just as He had given it to us. We will be richly blessed with heaven if we will be faithful to His word.

Getting the Main Points:

On the front of the ephod was a breastpiece with twelve stones engraved with the names of the twelve sons of Jacob. Cross out the names that are not names of the twelve sons of Jacob.

Reuben Israel Levi Lot Issachar Job

Esau Noah Bilhah Dan Gideon Milhah

Simon Lazarus Simeon Isaac Zebulun Abraham

Peter Benjamin Keturah Balek Samuel Judah

Joseph Ezekiel Gabriel Gad Bartimaeus Jeremiah

Nathaniel Goliath Frank Bob Asher Napthali

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 39 verses 32, 43, and 43 and answer these questions.

1. How much of the work was completed?
2. How much of the work did they do according to what God commanded?
3. How much of the work did Moses examine?
4. Because they had been so faithful, what did Moses do for them?

Memory Work:

Exodus 33:14

"And He said, 'My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.'"

The Golden Calf

Exodus 31:18-32:35

Moses was on top of Mt. Sinai talking with God. As many days went by, the people became restless. They said to Aaron, *"Come, make us a god who will go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."*

Aaron said, *"Tear off the gold rings which are in your ears and bring them to me."* So the people tore off their gold rings and brought them to Aaron. He took them, melted them down, and shaped the gold into the form of a calf. The people then worshipped this calf, just like the Egyptians had worshipped their idols. They had a feast the next day and continued their sinful practice. (Can you think of two of the Ten Commandments the people broke when they made this calf and worshipped it?)

The Lord told Moses to go down from the mountain at once because of what the people were doing. They were even saying, *"This is your god (the calf), O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."* This made God angry and He told Moses He was going to destroy them. Moses loved the Israelites so much, he asked God not to destroy them. So the Lord changed His mind and did not destroy the Israelites.

Moses went down from the mountain with the two tablets of stone in his hand. When he came near the camp and saw the calf and how the people were acting, he became very angry. He threw the tablets from his hands and they broke into pieces at the foot of the mountain. Moses then took the calf, burned it with fire, made powder out of it, and scattered it over the water. He then made the Israelites drink it! How soon the Israelites had forgotten their promise to obey God!

Moses was angry with Aaron because he did not keep the people in control. Aaron was supposed to make sure the people did not sin, but he actually helped them sin. Moses was angry and called together the people and told them to dedicate themselves to God. Moses then went up on the mountain to try to get God to forgive the people for this sinful thing that they had done.

Moses told God that if He was going to blot out the Israelites, Moses wanted his name blotted out of the sacred book. God told Moses that only those who had sinned would be blotted out of the book. God told Moses to go ahead and lead the people to the promised land, but there would be a time when these people would have to pay for the sin they had committed.

We too will have to pay for what we have done while on this earth. We need to have the forgiveness offered by Jesus Christ so our names will be found in the sacred book of God. Those with their names in this book will be allowed to enter heaven.

Notes for Parents:

- God wanted to kill these people, but Moses interceded. Jesus intercedes on our behalf before God to ensure our salvation.

Getting the Main Points:

Circle the two commandments the Israelites broke when they made and worshipped the calf (Exodus 20).

You shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourselves idols.

You shall not take the Lord's in vain.

Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.

Honor your father and mother.

You shall not steal.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not murder.

You shall not bear false witness.

You shall not covet.

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 32 verses 26-29 and answer the following questions.

1. Who did Moses call to come to him?
2. Who came to Moses when he called?
3. What did Moses tell these men to do to his brother, friend, and neighbor?
4. Why did Moses say he did this to brothers, friends, and neighbors?

Memory Work:

Exodus 33:14

"And He said, 'My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.'"

The Cleft of the Rock

Exodus 33

After Moses destroyed the golden calf, the Lord told him to take the Israelites and leave for the land of Canaan which He had promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their descendants. God said He would send an angel before them to drive out all the people living in Canaan.

When the Israelites would pray to God, they would go to a tent called "the tent of meeting." This tent was set up a good distance from where the Israelites were camped. Each time Moses went out to the tent, all the people would stand at the front door of their own tents and watch Moses until he entered. When Moses went in, a pillar of cloud would come down and stand at the entrance of the tent. The Lord would then speak to Moses. When the people saw the pillar of cloud, they would worship God at their own tents.

As God continued talking to Moses, He told him something that made the people very sad. God said He would not travel with them because they had turned away from Him and worshipped an idol. God was very unhappy with them and would have destroyed them if Moses had not pleaded with Him. The Israelites took all their jewelry off, as God had told them to, and Moses then pleaded with God once again.

Moses again asked God to please go with them on their journey. Moses wanted God to give the Israelites another chance. Moses said that the people of the world would not know that the Israelites were God's people unless He was with them. God loved Moses and finally agreed to give Moses and the people another chance.

Moses then asked God to show His glory to Moses. God told Moses He would show him all His goodness, but he could not see His face and live. The Lord told Moses to stand on a rock, and He would pass by Moses. To protect Moses from death, God put Moses in the cleft (hole) of the rock and He covered him with His hand until He had passed by. Then God took His hand away and Moses saw God's back.

What an experience for Moses! God told Moses He would be with them as they journeyed toward Canaan. God is with each one of us today as we journey towards heaven. One day when we reach heaven, we will get to see all of the glory of God as we see Him face to face. Our blessing will be even better.

Notes for Parents:

- Moses continued to intercede between the Israelites and God. God was very upset with these people, but Moses was able to calm God and cause Him to reunite with the people. This job is currently being performed by Jesus. He continually intercedes for us before God to ensure our salvation. God gets just as upset today about sin as He did in the days of Moses. God does not tolerate sin!

Getting the Main Points:

1. Why was God so unhappy with the Israelites?
 - a. They did not keep their promise to obey Him.
 - b. They worshipped the golden calf.
 - c. Both a and b above
2. What was God going to do?
 - a. Not be with them on their way to Canaan.
 - b. Destroy them
 - c. Both a and b above
3. Who pleaded with God so He would travel with them?
 - a. Aaron
 - b. Moses
 - c. People
4. What came down over the tent when Moses went in to talk with God?
 - a. Pillar of cloud
 - b. Rain
 - c. Pillar of fire
5. How did God protect Moses when He showed him His glory?
 - a. Hid him in the cleft of the rock
 - b. Put His hand over Moses
 - c. Both a and b above

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 33 verses 12-14 and answer the following questions.

1. What had God told Moses to do?
2. Did Moses know who God was going to send with them?
3. What did Moses want to know about God?
4. What else did Moses want God to "consider"?

Memory Work:

Exodus 33:14

"And He said, 'My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.'"

Tablets Replaced

Exodus 34

The Lord told Moses to cut out two more stone tablets just like the first ones upon which the Ten Commandments were written. (Do you remember what happened to the first tablets?) Moses was to be ready by morning and go up to Mt. Sinai to meet with God. God told him no one was to come up with him, or even be on the mountain.

So Moses cut out two stone tablets like the other ones and went up to Mt. Sinai. The Lord came down in a cloud and spoke to Moses. Moses bowed down to the ground and worshipped Him. Moses asked God to forgive the Israelites for their sin and let them be His special people once again.

God then renewed His covenant with Moses. He told Moses He would perform miracles that had never happened before so the people would see the working of the Lord. He gave Moses specific laws for all of the Israelites to obey. One of those laws was that they were not to make any covenants with the people of Canaan. They were to go in and tear down their idols. God warned the Israelites not to marry any of the people of the land of Canaan. This was because they worshipped idols and could cause them to turn away from the One True God. God also reminded them to keep their Feasts (Unleavened Bread, Ingathering, and Passover). He did not want them to forget how He had brought them out of Egypt.

Moses spent 40 days and nights on Mt. Sinai with the Lord and wrote down the words He had spoken. Once again, God took the two tablets of stone and wrote the Ten Commandments with His finger. When Moses came down from the mountain, his face shined brightly. The people were afraid to come near him. Moses would put a veil over his face when he spoke to the people and he would take the veil off when he talked with God.

God has always wanted His people to be different. He wants us to be careful how we deal with the world since we too can be led away from the One True God. We must follow the covenant God has established with us in the New Testament.

Notes for Parents:

- God calls us out of the world. We are to be transformed and be different. We cannot allow the world to draw us away from God.
- God has written the covenant with us on our hearts, not on tablets of stone. Our hearts must be soft enough to show that we are His people.
- There might be some confusion about who actually wrote the second set of Ten Commandments on the stone tablets. It seems that Exodus 34:27 refers to what God had spoken in verses 10-26. Refer to Exodus 34:1 and Deuteronomy 10:1-5 to see that God seems to be the One doing the actual writing both times.

Getting the Main Points:

Finish the commandment. (Refer to Exodus 20)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. You shall have no other _____ before Me. | idols |
| 2. You shall not make any _____. | steal |
| 3. You shall not take the name of the Lord in _____. | witness |
| 4. Remember the _____ Day, to keep it holy. | covet |
| 5. Honor your _____ and your mother. | gods |
| 6. You shall not _____. | Sabbath |
| 7. You shall not commit _____. | vain |
| 8. You shall not _____. | father |
| 9. You shall not bear false _____. | adultery |
| 10. You shall not _____. | murder |

For the More Advanced:

Read verses 5-8 and answer the following questions.

1. As the Lord spoke to Moses, how did He descend?
2. Write down the things God calls Himself in verse 6.
3. God is so good, but will He leave the guilty unpunished?
4. What did Moses make haste to do as he talked to God?

Memory Work:

Exodus 33:14

"And He said, 'My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.'"

Tabernacle Erected and Filled With the Glory of God

Exodus 40; Numbers 9:15-23

The Lord spoke to Moses and told him to set up the tabernacle. About two years of work had gone into making the tabernacle. The workers were careful to make it according to the pattern given by God. Moses did exactly what God had commanded him and placed everything in the tabernacle according to God's command.

- The Ark of the Covenant and Mercy Seat
- The Veil
- The Altar of Incense
- The Lampstand
- The Table of Showbread
- The Laver
- The Bronze Altar or Altar of Burnt Offering

Moses placed the tablets of stone inside the ark of covenant; put the 12 cakes of bread on the table of showbread; lighted the lampstand; burned incense on the altar of incense; offered sacrifices on the altar of burnt offering; and washed his hands and feet in the laver, along with Aaron and his sons.

God had chosen Aaron to be the high priest. Aaron's sons were to be the priests. Once the tabernacle was set up, Moses was to anoint Aaron and his sons with oil. As part of the ceremony, they were to put on the beautiful priestly robes. God wanted the people to see He had chosen these men to do His work in the court and in the tabernacle.

After the tabernacle was set up, a cloud covered it by day and a pillar of fire by night. The tabernacle was filled with the glory of the Lord. When the cloud lifted, the Israelites would pack everything and continue their journey towards Canaan. When the cloud came down over the tabernacle again, they would stop and camp. This was God's way of guiding them on their journey. No matter how long or how short a period of time the cloud stayed on the tabernacle, the people remained in that place until the cloud lifted.

God provided leadership for the people of Israel. He knew when it was best for them to go and when it was best for them to stay. Because the people were obedient to God, they were protected by Him and took advantage of His great wisdom. When we trust and obey today, God provides us the protection and wisdom to live great lives too. We are even more blessed than the Israelites because everything about the Church is better than the things given to Moses.

Notes for Parents:

- The pattern was followed in the building of the tabernacle and God was pleased. He took care of them and guided them. If we build the church in the way God wants it built (remember the church is the people and not the building), we too will be guided by God and protected.
- The priests were sanctified to do the work of God through the oil. We are priests of God today and we are sanctified through the blood of Jesus Christ to do God's work. Everything we have is better!

Getting the Main Points:

Beginning with the first thing you would see as you entered the courtyard, number the items below in the order they would appear.

- ___ Laver
- ___ Ark of the Covenant
- ___ Altar of Burnt Offering or Bronze Altar
- ___ Lampstand
- ___ Altar of Incense
- ___ Table of Showbread
- ___ Veil

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 40 verses 12-16 and answer the following questions.

1. What was done to Aaron and his sons at the doorway of the tent?
2. What did they use to do the cleansing?
3. What was Aaron to wear and what were his sons to wear?
4. How long would this priesthood last?

Memory Work:**Exodus 33:14**

"And He said, 'My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.'"

Sacrifices and the Priests

Leviticus 1-7

God appointed Aaron to be the High Priest and his sons to serve as priests. There were many laws concerning sacrifices and how they were to be offered. There were different sacrifices for different reasons. Some of the names of these offerings or sacrifices were: Burnt offerings, grain offerings, peace offerings, sin offerings, and guilt offerings.

God was very specific in His laws about these sacrifices and the priests' duties and responsibilities to the people. The priests were now to offer the sacrifices for the peoples' sins, instead of every person doing it on their own. As you can see, God gave Aaron and his sons a very important job.

Whenever any animal was to be sacrificed, it was to be a perfect animal one with no defect, or anything wrong with it. The priests would then follow God's laws and sacrifice the animal. When we study about animal sacrifices under the Old Law, we think about Jesus and His sacrifice for us for our sins. Jesus was indeed perfect He was the perfect sacrifice that could cleanse us of our sins. Jesus is also our High Priest today and He offered the sacrifice, the sacrifice of Himself, for our sins.

Under the Old Law, before any priest could offer sacrifices for the peoples' sins, they first had to offer for themselves to be forgiven of their sins. Jesus had no sin so He did not have to offer a sacrifice for sins for Himself. He was the only perfect person that ever lived.

Jesus died on the cross for you and me, and He wants us to live for Him. By accepting His sacrifice on the cross, and being obedient to His word, you and I can live with Him forever in heaven. When we give our lives to Jesus, we also sacrifice our will for His will. This our reasonable service to our God who sacrificed His Son for us.

Notes for Parents:

- The sacrifices had to be perfect. God has always demanded that we give Him our best. He did no less in giving us His best, Jesus - His only Son. We should be willing to give God first place in our lives and give Him the best we have to offer.
- Our sacrifices today are not of animals, but of time, talents, abilities, opportunities, money, and other things that are important in doing the work of God. The most important thing we can give to God is ourselves. If we do that, it will be easy to do everything else.
- Jesus is the High Priest and therefore takes care of the job of dealing with God. We as priests are to deal with God through our High Priest, who pleads our case before God.
- Remember that the system we live under today is better than the Law of Moses. We are blessed to live now since we have Jesus.

Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line from the blanks to the correct answer.

perfect	no	Jesus Christ	Aaron	sins	sacrifices
---------	----	--------------	-------	------	------------

1. God appointed _____ and his sons to be High Priest and priests.
2. The five _____ included burnt offerings, grain offerings, peace offerings, sin offerings, and guilt offerings.
3. Priests offered sacrifices for the peoples' _____.
4. Any animal to be sacrificed was to be _____.
5. Our High Priest today is _____.
6. Jesus had _____ sin.

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 6 verses 1-7 and answer the following questions.

1. What are the three sins listed in verse 2?
2. It is a sin if you find something and then do what about it?
3. What shall a person do if they commit one of these sins (v. 4)?
4. A person should repay in full and then add how much more?

Memory Work:

Exodus 33:14

"And He said, 'My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.'"

Nadab and Abihu

Leviticus 10

As we learned in our last lesson, God had very specific rules (laws) to follow when the priests offered sacrifices. He expected the priests to obey all of those rules.

Two of Aaron's sons were named Nadab and Abihu. As they began their duties as priests one day, they started to offer a sacrifice to God. They did not follow God's command in everything as God had commanded. The Bible says they "offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them!" We are not told exactly what they did that was wrong, however, we are told it was not according to God's commands.

Because of their disobedience, fire came down upon them from the Lord (probably from the cloud which was over the tabernacle) and they died. This was a severe warning to the priests telling them that those who serve Him must completely obey His laws. God wanted all of the people to honor and respect Him.

We do not need priests today to offer sacrifices for our sins. Our High Priest, Jesus Christ, already made that sacrifice one time for all people. In the Bible Jesus calls Christians "priests" today. It is not the same kind of priest as under the Old Law. We offer our sacrifices by offering our lives up to God by living right and obeying His Word. We no longer offer animal sacrifices for our sins. Jesus Christ was our "Perfect Lamb" that was sacrificed on the cross.

God expects the same obedience today to His law as He did those many years ago under the Old Law. If we do everything according to God's word, He will allow us to die spiritually, just as He killed Nadab and Abihu for their disobedience. Let's do everything the way God has told us and be obedient children who honor and respect Him!

Notes for Parents:

- Aaron and his other two sons were not allowed to mourn for Nadab and Abihu. This is probably because it may seem that they are upset with God for killing them, even though they sinned. Another reason may be that they were expected to continue doing the very important work of the priesthood and they could not be distracted by something like this. Our minds must be very clear at all times so we can worship God acceptably. In this section they are also told not to drink wine or strong drink for the same reasons.
- Strange fire is not described, but we can be sure it was something that was not authorized by God. God is very serious about doing everything according to the pattern given! God will not tolerate disobedience.
- As priests today, we are continually before God offering sacrifices. This means that as Christians, we must always be on guard lest we offer "strange fire" to our God. We cannot ever be off guard!

Getting the Main Points:

Circle T for True or F for False.

- T F 1. God allowed priests to offer sacrifices anyway they wished.
- T F 2. Nadab and Abihu were Aaron's brothers.
- T F 3. As priests, Nadab and Abihu followed all of God's commands.
- T F 4. We still need priests to offer sacrifices for our sins.
- T F 5. We can worship God anyway we wish.
- T F 6. God would never punish us for not worshipping correctly.
- T F 7. God expects everyone to honor and respect Him.

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 10 verses 3-6 and answer the following questions.

1. How did God expect to be treated?
2. What did Moses tell Aaron's cousins (Mishael & Elzaphan) to do?
3. Were Nadab and Abihu burned up completely?
4. What were Eleazar and Ithamar told not to do?

Memory Work:**Exodus 33:14**

"And He said, 'My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.'"

Clean and Unclean Animals

Leviticus 11; 22:17-33

As we have already learned, there are many differences between the Old Law given to the Israelites and the New Law given to you and I today. One difference is God's law on what the Israelites could and could not eat. Under the New Law, Christ did not give any command about what we can or cannot eat. That was not the case for the Israelites as we will see.

God told Moses and Aaron to teach the people about clean and unclean animals. Only "clean" animals could be eaten. "Unclean" animals could never be eaten. God told them which animals were clean and unclean. He divided the animals into groups of beasts, fish, birds, insects, and "swarming" or creeping things. He even told the people what they should do if they touched a dead animal.

Even though Christ has not given us commands about what we can or cannot eat today, He has told us what our attitude should be about food and all the other blessings He has given us. I Thessalonians 5:18 tells us, "In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

We need to be thankful for all the food we have to eat. We are blessed with an abundance of food, which people in other nations do not have. Ephesians 5:20 tells us, *"always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God ..."* James 1:17 tells us that *"every good thing ... is from above, coming down from the Father."* Food is definitely a "good thing." Let's always tell God "thank you" not only for our food, but for all the many other blessings we enjoy.

Notes for Parents:

- The laws of clean and unclean animals demonstrates God's care over the Israelites. In those days, medicines and disease were not well understood. If a major disease were to sweep through the nation of Israel, it could wipe out the entire nation. God protected them by only allowing them to eat things that were "safe" in terms of carrying diseases. Today we are more knowledgeable and can handle these things.
- These laws also demonstrate the difference between a system of physical laws and a system of spiritual laws. We are not so concerned about what goes in to the mouth as we are about what comes out of our mouth. We should be pure in heart and praise God with our mouth and bless our brethren.
- God blesses us even more today by providing an abundant life. We have so much more than we need and God continues to give us more.

Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line to match to the correct answer.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. God told them they could eat | God |
| 2. God told them not to eat | dead animals |
| 3. Can we eat unclean animals today | Yes |
| 4. They had laws about touching | clean animals |
| 5. All of our blessings come from | No |
| 6. We are to be | unclean animals |
| 7. Are God's laws too hard to follow? | thankful to God |

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 11 verses 44-47 and answer the following questions.

1. God wants us to be _____.
2. Why does God expect us to be Holy?
3. Why did God bring the Israelites up out of Egypt?
4. What was God trying to make a distinction between?

Memory Work:

Leviticus 26:12

"I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

The Day of Atonement

Leviticus 16

The word "atone" means to "bring back together, to reconcile, to be in agreement." When man sins he separates himself from God. From the beginning of time, God prepared a way, so man and God could be brought back together after being separated by sin. As we know, that plan was for Jesus to come to earth and die on the cross so we could have the forgiveness of our sins. Hebrews 9:22 tells us that without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Before Christ came to earth, the High Priest was responsible for "atoning" for the sins of Israel on a special day each year. On that day, he not only offered sacrifices for the sins of the people, but he also offered sacrifices for his own sins. The Day of Atonement was a special day because it was only on this day, once a year that the High Priest could enter into the Most Holy Place. Aaron, as High Priest, was to bring a bull as a sin offering for himself and his family, and two goats as a sin offering for the people. He would then sprinkle the blood of the bull and one of the goats on the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat. Blood would also be sprinkled on the horns of the altar of burnt offering to cleanse it. The holy place, the tent of meeting (tabernacle) and the altar were all cleansed on this special day.

Aaron then laid both his hands on the head of the second goat, which was alive, and confessed Israel's sins before God. He then sent this goat into the wilderness, never to return again. This goat was called the "scapegoat." When the goat ran into the wilderness, God said the goat was carrying the sins of Israel away.

On this special Day of Atonement, Aaron would put on special High Priest's clothes to wear during the ceremony. He would wash himself before offering the sacrifices, and then when everything was completed, he changed back to his regular priestly clothes and washed himself again. God wanted the people to know that they must be cleansed if they wanted to approach Him.

When Jesus died on the cross, He carried our sins away. Jesus is our "scapegoat" today. He is the more perfect sacrifice too. Read Hebrews 9:11-14 to see how much greater Christ's blood was than the blood of the bulls and goats.

Notes for Parents:

- God will only allow clean people to approach Him. We cannot be spotted with sin, God has no part in sin.
- The High Priest had to offer sacrifices for his sins. Jesus never had to do that. Our High Priest is so much better than Aaron.
- Just as the goat ran away with the sins of the Israelites, Jesus took our sins and carried them far away. The blood of bulls and goats produced a remembrance each year of sins, the blood of Jesus allows our sins to be forgotten.

Getting the Main Points:

Write a "+" for True or a "-" for False

- ___ 1. Aaron could enter the Most Holy Place only twice a year.
- ___ 2. The Day of Atonement was a special day.
- ___ 3. When Aaron entered the Most Holy Place, he sat on the Mercy Seat.
- ___ 4. To "atone" means to bring back together.
- ___ 5. Jesus atoned for our sins when He died on the cross.
- ___ 6. The scapegoat ran back into the camp.
- ___ 7. The High Priest had to offer sacrifices for his sins too.

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 16 verses 21-26 and answer the following questions.

- 1. What would Aaron confess over the head of the live goat?
- 2. What would the goat bear on itself?
- 3. Where would the goat take their iniquities (sins)?
- 4. Who would wash after the goat was released? (Hint: 2 people)

Memory Work:

Leviticus 26:12

"I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

Special Days and Years

Leviticus 23; 25

The Lord gave the Israelites many special days and feasts to remember. In His law, God told them exactly when and how these feasts were to be celebrated. Listed below are some of these special days and years listed in Leviticus 23 and 25.

Sabbath Day	Peace Offering
Passover	Day of Atonement
Feast of Unleavened Bread	Feast of Booths
Wave Offering	Sabbatical Year
Jubilee	

In God's new law, He did not command us to continue to observe these feasts. Several of the above feasts were to help the Israelites remember how God had safely delivered them from being slaves in Egypt and took them through the wilderness to Canaan. Other feasts and special years were to show that they were God's possession and His creation. Still others were to cleanse the sins of the people.

There is one very important feast God does command us to observe today. We call it the Lord's Supper. Just like God told the Israelites exactly when and how to keep their feasts, He tells us when and how to observe the Lord's Supper. Let's look at the New Testament to see what God says about this feast.

- Acts 20:7: We are to partake of the Lord's Supper every first day of the week.
- Matthew 26:26-28: The bread represents Christ's body as He hung on the cross. The fruit of the vine (grape juice) represents Christ's blood that was shed on the cross.
- 1 Corinthians 11:24-29: We are to remember Christ's sacrifice during the Lord's Supper. We are to partake in a worthy manner.

God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for you and me, so we could be forgiven of our sins. Just like God did not want the Israelites to forget what He had done for them, He does not want you and I to forget what He has done for us.

Notes for Parents:

- Even though most of our young children do not actually partake of the Lord's Supper, they can think about Christ's sacrifice and the blessings He has given us. For those who can read, listed below are some appropriate Scriptures that can be read during the Lord's Supper: Matthew 26:33-66; Luke 23:33-56; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29.
- The year of Jubilee (every 50 years) was a time when all of the land and slaves reverted back to the original owners. God did not want the people to sell themselves out of the land He had given them. God used these things to keep the Israelites pure to their tribes and lands.

Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line from the blank to the correct answer.

Lord's Supper	how	body	first	Egypt	when	blood	week
------------------	-----	------	-------	-------	------	-------	------

1. Some of the Jewish feasts were to help the Israelites remember how God had delivered them from _____.
2. God told them exactly _____ and _____ they were to keep the feasts.
3. God commands us to observe what feast today? _____
4. We partake of the Lord's Supper on the _____ day of the _____.
5. The bread represents Christ's _____; the cup represents His _____.

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 25 verses 3-7 and answer the following questions.

1. How many years would they be allowed to sow their fields?
2. What would the land get every seventh year?
3. Would they go out and reap anyway on the seventh year?
4. Would they have enough food to eat during this seventh year?

Memory Work:

Leviticus 26:12

"I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

Blessings of Obedience / Penalties of Disobedience

Leviticus 26

From the very beginning of time, God has given man laws to obey. Even in the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve had law. God told them not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. As long as they obeyed God's law, they were blessed and were allowed to live in that perfect garden. But do you remember what happened when they disobeyed God's law and ate from that tree? God was unhappy with them, and they were punished for their sin. They even had to leave the garden, and could never return to it again.

God has always wanted man to obey His laws. Even to this day, God wants you and I to obey Him. God tells the Israelites of the many blessings that He will give them if they will obey Him. He also tells them of all the disasters and trouble that will happen if they will not obey Him. God wanted to be their God and He wanted them to be His children, but He would not overlook their sins and disobedience. Being special to God is dependent on what we do, not on what God does.

Some of the blessings of obedience that were promised to the Israelites were: rain for the land, plenty of food, peace in the land, winning battles against enemies, and God would be with them. Some of the punishments for disobedience were: sickness, crops would not grow, enemies would win battles, no rain, not enough food, and God would not be with them. But God also told them if they turned back to Him and confessed their sins, He would bless them again and be with them. He promised never to forget His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

As we said earlier, God wants us to obey Him today also. When we obey Him, He will give us the best life that can be lived on this earth. He also promises us the greatest blessing of all, heaven itself. Just as He told the Israelites that He would punish them if they would not obey Him, so will He do today to those who will not obey Him.

God wants everyone to obey Him so everyone can be in heaven with Him someday. God is always willing to forgive us when we do things that are wrong, if we will repent and obey Him again. Obeying God's laws has many blessings. True happiness and peace come from following God's word. God made us and He knows what will be the best for us. Remember, God's way is always the best way!

Notes for Parents:

- We seem to act like God's promise to take care of His people only applied to the Israelites. He promises us the abundant life today to those who follow Him. God gives many good things to all man, but He also blesses His children with many additional blessings.
- God will oppose those who do not obey Him. He is not passive in this, He actually works towards their demise. Here He promised to have the enemies attack them and take them into captivity. He will not allow the sinful to win the battle. God will be the victor!
- God promised to remember the covenant and would be there if they turned from their evil ways. God wants all men to repent and obey.

Getting the Main Points:

Color the face yellow for "Yes" and black for "No"

1. 😊 God did not give Adam and Eve a law to obey.
2. 😊 Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and were punished.
3. 😊 God said He would bless the Israelites if they were obedient.
4. 😊 God doesn't care if you obey Him or not today.
5. 😊 The greatest blessing of obedience is heaven.
6. 😊 The life of a Christian is full of blessings.
7. 😊 God doesn't want everyone to go to heaven.

For the More Advanced:

Read verses 13-20 and answer the following questions.

1. Why did God break the bars of their yoke in Egypt?
2. What did God promise to appoint if they did not obey Him?
3. If they still didn't obey, how many more times would He punish them?
4. What would happen to their crops if they continued to disobey?

Memory Work:

Leviticus 26:12

"I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

Numbering of Israel

Numbers 1-4

The Lord told Moses to take a census of all male Israelites that were 20 years old and older. A census is a numbering or counting of people. Each of the 12 tribes was numbered separately. When the census was over they would know how many men there were to fight in any battles that might occur.

The only tribe not included in this census was the tribe of Levi. The men from this tribe were to take care of the duties of the priests and especially they were to take care of the tabernacle. When it came time to pack up the tabernacle and journey on, or time to set it up again, the Levites would be the ones to do that job. They were not warriors who were to fight in the battles. After the census was done, there was a total number of 603,550 men 20 years of age and older.

The Lord also told Moses where He wanted each of the tribes to camp when they stopped each time. Certain tribes were to camp on certain sides of the camp, all around the tabernacle:

- East side: Judah, Issachar, Zebulun
- South side: Reuben, Simeon, Gad
- West side: Ephraim, Manasseh, Benjamin
- North side: Dan, Asher, Naphtali

God told Moses and Aaron to take a census of the tribe of Levi. This would tell them how many men were available to conduct the work of the tabernacle. There were 8,580 Levites from three different groups who were counted. These three groups of men were assigned to carry certain parts of the tabernacle and its furnishings when they were moving from place to place. This was an important work for God since He wanted the tabernacle to be handled very carefully.

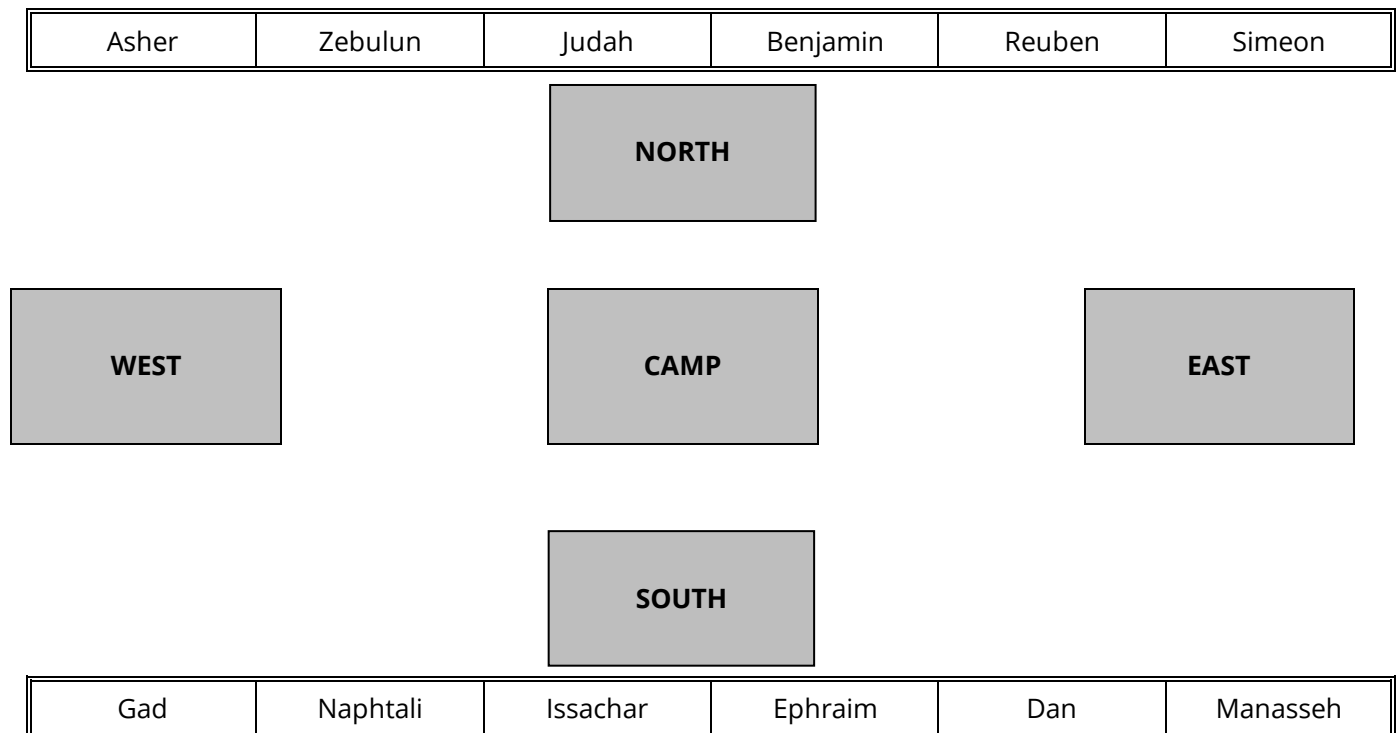
God told Moses and the Israelites exactly what they needed to do to obey Him and worship Him. God tells us how to do the same today through His Word, the Bible. As we have studied, we no longer worship in a tabernacle, and follow the Old Law. God tells us how to properly worship Him in the church today. The New Law is our guide today.

Notes for Parents:

- God wanted the people to be numbered. In an earlier lesson we saw how God said that they would chase 100 men with 5 and chase 10,000 men with 100 men and their enemies would fall before them. God did not need to know how many men there were, but He did need them to know how many men there were. God would prove to them over and over that He was with them.
- God organized the group in a way that placed the tabernacle in the center of the camp. This would show the importance of the tabernacle, plus it would allow them to protect the tabernacle. The tabernacle was centrally located so all people had access to it.
- The tabernacle was only to be moved by certain people of the Levites.
- God traded the Levites for the first born in this section. Remember that after they left Egypt, God declared all first born were His.

Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line from the name of the tribe to the place where they camped.



For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 3 verses 41-47 and answer the following questions.

1. What was God going to take instead of the First Born?
2. How many first born males were there?
3. How many Levites were there (v. 39)?
4. What did God tell them to give for the other 273?

Memory Work:

Leviticus 26:12

"I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

Murmuring / Judgment Against Miriam

Numbers 11-12

Now that the law had been delivered, the tabernacle was completed, and the priesthood was established, it was time to begin their journey to the Promised Land. No sooner had they started on their journey to Canaan, they began to complain about things. When the Lord heard their complaining, He was angry. He sent fire around the outskirts of their camp and burned up some of the camp. The people cried out to Moses. Moses prayed to the Lord, and the fire died out.

Earlier when the Israelites had left Egypt, some non-Israelite people who had also been slaves there, escaped with them. As they traveled through the wilderness, these people became greedy, along with some of the Israelites, and began complaining that they had no meat to eat (remember, God was feeding them with manna) They remembered all the good food they had to eat while in Egypt.

When Moses heard all of their grumbling he became very discouraged. He felt like God had given him too big of a job to do in leading the Israelites and in keeping them faithful. He was so discouraged, he just wanted to die. But the Lord told Moses to gather 70 men from the Elders of Israel and bring them with him to the tent of meeting. As they all gathered there, the Lord came down in a cloud and put His Holy Spirit upon the 70 elders. They were then able to help Moses in his job of keeping the Israelites faithful.

Moses asked God where He would be able to get enough meat to feed all of the people (probably around 2 million). God asked Moses, "Is the Lord's power limited?" God then sent so many quail for the people to eat that they eventually got sick of them. He also sent a plague against those who were greedy and complaining so that many people died.

The complaining did not stop there, however. Moses' brother and sister, Aaron and Miriam, decided they didn't like it that God only spoke to Moses. They became jealous and spoke out against Moses. God's anger burned against them. He came down in another cloud, and called Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to come to the tent of meeting. He asked Aaron and Miriam why they were not afraid to speak against Moses. After all, Moses was God's most faithful servant. When the cloud left, Miriam was as white as snow with leprosy.

Moses cried out to the Lord and asked Him to heal her. God said He would, but only after she spent 7 days outside the camp. After the 7 days, the Lord healed her and they all continued on their journey.

Notes for Parents:

- God does not like complaining because it shows a lack of appreciation for what He does for us. It also stops the fruitful work of the Lord. We must find ways to be good workers instead of complain about what we can't (or don't want to) do.
- God did not like Aaron and Miriam to speak against Moses. God does not want us to speak against our leaders. This too shows the same lack of faith discussed above.

Getting the Main Points:

Matching - Draw a line to the correct answer.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. What they did during the journey | No meat to eat |
| 2. God's reaction to the complaining | complained |
| 3. One of the complaints of the people | Aaron and Miriam |
| 4. How many men helped Moses | Fire around the camp |
| 5. Who became jealous of Moses | Don't be a complainer! |
| 6. What happened to Miriam | 70 |
| 7. Lesson for us today | She became white with leprosy |

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 11 verses 18-20 and answer the following questions.

1. What caused God to decide to give them meat to eat?
2. How long was God going to feed them meat?
3. Why did God say they would eat until it comes out of their nostrils?
4. Were the people happy that they were now free from Egypt?

Memory Work:

Leviticus 26:12

"I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

Spies Sent to the Promised Land

Numbers 13-14

When the Israelites came to the wilderness of Paran, they were very close to the Promised Land. The Lord told Moses to send 12 men (one from each tribe) into the land of Canaan to spy out the land. Moses chose 12 men (one from each of the tribes) and told them to go into the land and see what it was like. Moses wanted to know whether the people were strong or weak, few or many; if the land was good or bad; how they lived, and to bring back some fruit from the land.

For 40 days the spies went through the Promised Land. They saw strong cities and small towns. The land was very fertile (a land "flowing with milk and honey"). The spies brought back a cluster of grapes which they carried on a pole between two men to show the people the fruit of the land. The spies then gave a report to Moses, Aaron and the people. Ten of them said, "*The land certainly does flow with milk and honey, but the people who live there are strong and their cities are strong.*" The people began to get upset, but one of the 12 spies named Caleb quieted the people and said, "*Let us go at once and take the land, for we shall surely overcome it.*" The other 10 spies did not agree and they said, "*The people are too strong for us. They are so big they make us look like grasshoppers.*"

The people were so disappointed that they cried all night. Once again they began complaining against Moses and Aaron. They said it would be better to return to Egypt! They even planned to choose a leader to take them back to Egypt. Moses and Aaron were so sad. But Joshua and Caleb, the two faithful spies who trusted in God, told the people the land was very good and if they would only trust in the Lord, He would be with them and help them conquer the land. But the people's faith was too weak. They wanted to stone Joshua and Caleb!

Then the glory of the Lord came down upon the tabernacle. The Lord asked Moses how long would the people not believe in Him? How long would it be before they had faith in Him? After everything He had done to bring them out of Egypt, through the Red Sea, fed them, and protected them, it was hard to understand why their faith was so weak. The Lord wanted to destroy them, but once again, Moses prayed for the people. He told the Lord, "If our people die here in the wilderness, the Egyptians will say you were not able to take the Israelites to Canaan." Moses prayed that God would forgive them and for Moses' sake, God did. But He said that the Israelites 20 years old and older would never live in Canaan. Their punishment was to wander in the wilderness for 40 years until they all died. Then God would allow their children, Joshua, and Caleb to enter Canaan and receive His promises.

When Moses told these words to the people they were very sad. However, they got up early the next morning and made a plan to go fight the men of Canaan. Moses warned them not to go because the Lord was not with them. They would not win the battle. But they didn't listen and went anyway. They were struck down and beaten by the Canaanites.

Notes for Parents:

- Follow God when there is time. When it's too late, it's too late.

Getting the Main Points:

Matching - draw a line to the correct answer.

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. The number of spies that went out | they lost |
| 2. The number of spies that had bad reports | became angry |
| 3. The number of spies that had good reports | 12 |
| 4. What the people did at the reports | 20 and older |
| 5. What God did because of their actions | 2 |
| 6. What ages would die in the wilderness | 10 |
| 7. What happened when they fought | Cried |

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 14 verses 35-39 and answer the following questions.

1. What word did God use to describe the congregation?
2. What was going to happen to those who gathered against God?
3. What happened to the 10 spies who gave the very bad report?
4. Who remained alive of the 12 spies?

Memory Work:

Numbers 23:12

"He replied, 'Must I not be careful to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?'"

Unintentional Sin / Rebellion

Numbers 15-16

There was a Levite named Korah, and two men from the tribe of Reuben named Dathan and Abiram. One day they gathered 250 leaders of the congregation together and went to Moses and Aaron saying, "The whole congregation of Israel is holy and the Lord is with them. Why do you make yourselves leaders of the congregation of Israel?" When Moses heard this, he fell on his face. He had not tried to be great, but he knew God had chosen him to be the leader. He knew that God had chosen Aaron to be the high priest. These men were not speaking against Moses and Aaron, but against God.

Moses told Korah, "*Tomorrow the Lord will show you whom He has chosen and who is holy. Bring censers with fire and incense before the Lord.*" Then Moses added, "Listen, you sons of Levi! Isn't it enough that God chose you to care for his tabernacle and to minister to the congregation? He has let you be near to Him; do you want to be priests too? Why are you gathered against the Lord?"

Then Moses sent for Dathan and Abiram, but they would not come. They said, "*It isn't enough that you brought us out in this wilderness to die, but now you want to boss us around.*" Moses was angry. He prayed about it to the Lord, and then reminded Korah to bring their censers before the Lord the next day. The next day Korah and his company came to the door of the tabernacle. The people saw the glory of the Lord. The Lord told Moses and Aaron to get away from the congregation so He could destroy them all! But Moses prayed that God would not destroy the whole congregation for the sin of one man. The Lord told Moses and the people to get away from Korah, Dathan and Abiram and their tents.

Moses said, "*By this you shall know that the Lord has sent me to do all these deeds; if the Lord causes the ground to open and swallow them alive you will know God has chosen me for this work.*" When Moses finished these words, the earth opened up and swallowed Korah, Dathan and Abiram along with their tents, their goods, and their families. The 250 men who followed Korah, Dathan and Abiram were killed by fire. The Lord then told Moses to have the 250 brass censers flattened to cover the altar. When the people saw the brass covering on the altar they would remember that only Aaron and his children were chosen to offer incense to the Lord.

Notes for Parents:

- God will not tolerate rebellions by His people. He was willing to kill them all because of their actions towards Moses and Aaron. Only because of the actions of Moses were the people spared.
- The people did not learn their lesson because the next day after this event, they blamed Moses and Aaron for the death of these people. God was so angry that He started a plague in the camp. Aaron quickly offered incense for their forgiveness, but 14,700 people were killed before the incense was offered. God means business!

Getting the Main Points:

Multiple choice - Circle the correct answer.

1. Korah, Dathan and Abiram were from the tribes of _____.
a. Levi b. Reuben c. both
2. These men spoke against _____.
a. God b. Moses and Aaron c. both
3. Moses was chosen by _____ to be the leader of the Israelites.
a. himself b. God c. Aaron
4. What happened to those who rebelled against God?
a. The ground opened up and swallowed Korah, Dathan and Abiram.
b. Fire killed the 250 men who followed these three men.
c. both a and b
5. Is it a good idea to try to change God's plans on anything?
a. Yes b. No c. It doesn't matter

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 16 verses 41-49 and answer the following questions.

1. Why did they grumble against Moses and Aaron after Korah's death?
2. Why did the Lord tell Moses and Aaron to "get away?"
3. What did Aaron do to try to save the people?
4. How many people died before Aaron could offer the incense?

Memory Work:

Numbers 23:12

"He replied, 'Must I not be careful to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?'"

Aaron's Rod Budded / Priest's Portion

Numbers 17-19

After God caused the earth to open up and swallow Korah, Dathan and Abiram, the people still grumbled and complained to Moses and Aaron about who God had chosen for the priesthood. The Lord told Moses to get a rod for each of the twelve tribes of Israel and write the name of the leader of the tribe on each rod. On the rod for the tribe of Levi, Aaron's name was to be written. Then all the rods were to be placed in the tabernacle.

God said the rod of the man He chose to be priest would sprout or blossom. The Lord thought this would prove to the people who He had chosen for the special work of priest, and they would stop complaining to Moses and Aaron. It would also be less frightening to the people than when Korah and the others died.

Moses did exactly as God commanded. He gathered the 12 rods and placed them in the tabernacle. The next day Moses went into the tabernacle and saw that the rod of Aaron had sprouted with buds and blossoms and it bore ripe almonds. He brought out all the rods for the people to see.

The Lord then told Moses to put Aaron's rod back in the tabernacle so the people would always remember who God had chosen to be priests. (Do you remember the exact location Aaron's rod ended up?)

God then went on to describe the offerings and what would be given to the priests so they could live. They would be given certain portions of the sacrifice offerings so they would be able to eat. God did not want them to work other jobs, such as farming, to make a living because He wanted them to focus completely on serving Him in the tabernacle.

Notes for Parents:

- God decided to use another method to tell the people who He had chosen to be priests. He wanted them to understand and accept His choice so they could worship Him acceptably.
- God gave instructions on how the priests would make their living. They would not get an inheritance of land so they would not be able to plant or reap. They would rely on the offerings to get their food. God will take care of us today since we are priests too. He wants us to be preoccupied with serving Him, not on making a living. If we will focus on doing His will, He will take care of everything else.
- Later in this lesson, God gives instructions on touching a dead body and how it made a person unclean. He also gives them instruction on how to be cleansed after touching a dead body.

Getting the Main Points:

Cross out the statements that are false.

1. The people decided to stop complaining.
2. God told Moses to put 12 rods into the tabernacle.
3. When the rods were pulled out, Aaron's rod grew peanuts.
4. God wanted the people to know that Moses was the High Priest.
5. Aaron's rod was placed in a special place in the tabernacle.
6. God provided land so the priests could grow crops.
7. The priests ate from certain sacrifices that God gave them.

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 19 verses 11-13 and answer the following questions.

1. How long would a person be unclean if they touched a corpse?
2. On which days would a person purify himself from the uncleanness?
3. What would happen if they didn't wash on these days?
4. What does a person defile if they are not purified?

Memory Work:**Numbers 23:12**

"He replied, 'Must I not be careful to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?'"

Water From Rock / Aaron and Miriam Die

Numbers 20

The children of Israel wandered through the wilderness of Zin and made camp at Kadesh. Here, Miriam, the sister of Moses and Aaron, died and was buried. There was no water at this time in Kadesh, and the people began to complain again to Moses and Aaron. They said what they had said before, "*Why did you bring us out in the wilderness to die? Why did you take us out of Egypt and bring us to this terrible place? Nothing will grow here, and there is no water to drink.*"

As always, Moses and Aaron went to the tabernacle and to the Lord. The Lord told Moses to take Aaron and the rod and have all the people gather around the rock. Then speak to the rock and water would flow out. There would be enough water for all the people and their animals.

Moses and Aaron gathered all the people and stood before the rock. Then, instead of speaking to the rock as God had commanded, Moses spoke harshly to the people and said, "*Listen now, you rebels, shall we bring forth water for you out of this rock?*" Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod. Water poured forth from the rock, but God was not pleased with Moses and Aaron.

The Lord told Moses and Aaron they would not be allowed to lead the people into Canaan because they had disobeyed Him. Moses and Aaron did not give God the honor and glory to God. By striking the rock, the power seemed to come from within themselves, not God. They made it seem like they had performed this miracle without the help of God.

Moses and Aaron were godly men and probably felt very sad over their disobedience. The time came for Aaron to die. The Lord told Moses to take Aaron and his son, Eleazar up to Mount Hor. There Aaron would give Eleazar his priestly clothes since he would be the next High Priest. Aaron then died, and all the house of Israel wept for Aaron for 30 days.

Notes for Parents:

- Moses had endured a lot in dealing with the Israelites. Usually he was the one interceding between God and the people. In this lesson, Moses seems to have lost his patience and becomes the one to condemn the people. God expected Moses to honor and respect Him, but Moses did not show respect in his disobedience. Moses lost a great promise, but would continue on as the leader.
- Moses lost both his sister and his brother in a very short time.
- We see the changing of the High Priesthood and a changing of the overall leadership coming about.
- In this lesson, the Edomites will not allow the Israelites to pass through their lands. They met the Israelites with a show of force.

Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line from the blank to the correct answer.

Aaron	speak	complain	Miriam	Canaan	struck	water
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1. _____ died while Israel was camped at Kadesh.
2. There was no _____ to drink, so the people began to _____.
3. God told Moses to _____ to the rock and there would be water.
4. Moses _____ the rock instead.
5. God did not allow Moses and Aaron to lead the people into _____.
6. _____ died and the people mourned over him for 30 days.

For the More Advanced:

Read verses 17-21 and answer the following questions.

1. The Israelites promised Edom they would stay on what highway?
2. What did the Edomites threaten Israel with?
3. Were the Israelites willing to pay for everything they used?
4. How did Edom come out against Israel?

Memory Work:

Numbers 23:12

"He replied, 'Must I not be careful to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?'"

The Brazen Serpent

Numbers 21

Israel ran into some problems as they journeyed through the wilderness. Some of the kings of other lands would not let them pass through their land, so they had to go around certain areas. One of the Canaanite kings fought against Israel, and took some of them captive. Israel promised God that if He would deliver the Canaanites into their hands, they would completely destroy them and their cities. The Lord heard their voice and delivered the Canaanites into their hands. God also delivered other nations into their hands as they tried to stop them from going across the lands. The Israelites usually tried to be nice and ask to pass through, but those who came out against them in battle were defeated with the help of God.

As they journeyed along, the Israelites became impatient and began speaking against God and Moses again. The Lord sent fiery serpents among the people and they bit the people so that many people of Israel died. The people knew they had sinned and came to Moses asking him to pray to the Lord for their forgiveness, and to remove the snakes from them.

The Lord told Moses to make a fiery serpent and put it on a pole, and it would come about that everyone who was bitten, when he looked at it, would live. Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole, just as the Lord had said. Whenever anyone was bitten, if they looked at the serpent on the pole, they lived.

Today, when people who are living in sin look to Jesus, they will live spiritually. Jesus hung on a cross and said all those who would look to Him and obey Him would be saved. Let's always keep our eyes on Jesus and obey His Word. We too will be able to live — especially eternally in heaven with God and Jesus.

Notes for Parents:

- As the people begin to see God working through the victories in battle, they gain more courage to fight against other enemies. Success breeds success. We will do more when we see how well we do with a little. God will help us all the way.
- God continues to battle with the lack of faith in the Israelites. They complain about everything. Moses continues to intercede. The bronze serpent helps save many of them. This is just like Jesus today, only He intercedes for us and saves us. He is more powerful than Moses or the bronze serpent. Jesus is the complete solution to our troubles.

Getting the Main Points:

Circle the correct answer.

1. The people were _____ to let the Israelites cross their land.
a. happy b. unwilling c. helpful
2. The Israelites promised God they would _____ the Canaanites.
a. help b. capture c. destroy
3. The battles were _____ by the Israelites and God.
a. won b. lost c. forfeited
4. The people complained so God sent _____.
a. water b. Moses c. fiery serpents
5. If the people would look to the _____ they would live.
a. east b. bronze serpent c. sky
6. If we will look to _____ we will live.
a. Jesus b. money c. our parents

For the More Advanced:

Read verses 32-35 and answer the following questions.

1. How did Moses find out about Jazer?
2. What did the Israelites do to the Amorites?
3. What did the Lord tell Moses about Og, the king of Bashan?
4. What did they do to king Og and the nation of Bashan?

Memory Work:

Numbers 23:12

"He replied, 'Must I not be careful to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?'"

Balaam and Balak

Numbers 22-24

The Israelites pitched their tents in the plains of Moab near the Jordan River. When Balak, the king of Moab, heard they were there he was afraid. He knew Israel's army was bigger than his, and he had heard of how they had won their battles over other lands.

King Balak sent for a prophet named Balaam. He had heard that whomever Balaam blessed was indeed blessed, and whomever he cursed was truly cursed. He wanted Balaam to come and curse the Israelites.

As king Balak's messengers came to Balaam with the king's request, Balaam told them to spend the night there and he would give them his answer as soon as the Lord told him what to do. In the meantime God came to Balaam and asked who these men were. Balaam told God who they were and what they wanted him to do. God told Balaam not to go with them. Balaam could not curse the Israelites because God had already blessed them. So the messengers returned to king Balak with Balaam's answer.

King Balak really wanted Balaam to curse the Israelites so he sent his messengers back, offering great honor and gifts to Balaam. Balaam again asked the Lord what to do. This time God told Balaam "if the men come to call you, get up and go with them, but be sure to only speak the words I give you." In the morning Balaam did not wait for the men to call him. He just got up, saddled his donkey and went with them to see king Balak.

God was angry because Balaam went. He sent an angel with a sword to stand in Balaam's way. As Balaam was riding his donkey, the donkey saw the angel and turned off the road and went into a field. Balaam hit the donkey to turn her back into the way. As they went on their way the donkey saw the angel again standing in a narrow path. When she saw the angel she pressed herself against the wall. Balaam's foot was pressed against the wall, so he hit her again.

When the donkey saw the angel for the third time, she lay down. Balaam was angry and hit her again with his stick. The Lord opened the donkey's mouth and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" Balaam said, "If I had a sword, I would kill you." Balaam was so angry he didn't even think it was strange for him and his donkey to be talking to each other!

The angel told Balaam the donkey had saved his life because if she had not stopped, the angel would have killed him. Then Balaam knew he had sinned. Balaam offered to return home, but the angel told him to go to Moab, but only speak the words of the Lord.

Balak continued trying to get Balaam to curse the Israelites, but Balaam would not do it. Each time he would go to God and God would pronounce a blessing on Israel. This mad Balak very angry. Finally Balak gave up and he allowed Balaam to return home, and Balak also went his way.

Getting the Main Points:

Write a "T" for True or an "F" for False.

1. ____ Balaam was king of Moab.
2. ____ Balak wanted Balaam to curse the Israelites.
3. ____ Balaam's donkey saved him by turning away from the angel three times.
4. ____ Balaam just imagined he talked to his donkey.
5. ____ Balak convinced Balaam to curse the Israelites.
6. ____ Balak became angry because Balaam actually blessed them.
7. ____ Balak killed Balaam because he would not help him.

For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 24 verses 10-13 and answer the following questions.

1. How did Balak feel about what Balaam had done?
2. What did Balak say God held Balaam back from?
3. What price did Balaam say was not enough to disobey God?
4. Finish this quote: "What the Lord speaks ..."

Memory Work:

Numbers 23:12

"He replied, 'Must I not be careful to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?'"