

Materials I Need:

Memory Verse:

Remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them. Numbers 15:39

Attribute of God emphasized in this lesson: God is faithful to lead His people.

Aim Questions for 2's & 3's:

1. **In the Bible book of Numbers, did God tell Moses to count the Israelites?** (Yes. Moses "numbered" the Israelites.)
2. **Did God lead the Israelites in a cloud that covered the tabernacle?** (Yes. God was faithful to stay with His people.)
3. **Did the Israelites camp around the tabernacle as God said to do?** (Yes. The Israelites obeyed God.)
4. **When the cloud lifted, did the Israelites follow, and when the cloud stopped, did the Israelites stop and set up camp?** (Yes. The Israelites followed God's cloud.)
5. **Is God faithful to lead His people?** (Yes)

Aim Questions for 4's, 5's & K:

1. **What is the name of the Bible book we learned from today?** (Numbers. Name the first four books of the Bible. Repeat throughout the class time.)
2. **Did Moses obey God and count the Israelites?** (Yes. Say the memory verse.)
3. **How did faithful God lead His people in the desert?** (God led His people in the cloud. When the cloud lifted, the Israelites followed. When the cloud stopped, the Israelites stopped and set up camp.)
4. **Where was the tabernacle situated when the Israelites set up camp, and who took care of the tabernacle?** (The Levites were in charge of the tabernacle, which was located in the center of camp.)
5. **What was the signal for leaving camp or coming to the tabernacle?** (The trumpet blast signaled when to come to the tabernacle or leave camp.)
6. **Is God faithful to His people?** (God is always faithful.)

Key for symbols:

- This box symbol represents ideas that can be used for two-year-olds through kindergarten. Please remember to slow down the pace for two-year-olds and keep the pace moving for five-year-olds.
- ② This symbol represents ideas that are best used for two- and three-year-olds.
- ④ This symbol represents ideas that are best used for four-year-olds through kindergarten.

Hook:

- Camping in the Desert:** Set up five tables around the room. Place one table in the center of the room and place a box, called the ark, covered with a gold-colored lid, on it. Around the center table, set up four other tables, one to the north, one to the south, one to the east, and one to the west.

Divide the class into five groups, each group with a banner or flag designating that group. The five groups are called: (1) "Levites," who will gather under and around the center table, (2) "Judah," who will gather under the table to the east of the Levites, (3) "Reuben," who will gather under the table to the south of the Levites, (4) "Ephraim," who will gather to the west of the Levites, and (5) "Dan," who will gather to the north of the Levites. After Moses had the Israelites counted, he arranged them in order for camping. Each time the Israelites camped, they set up their camp in the above formation.

- Building an Ark:** Using a medium-sized box, place two broom sticks or other poles across the top. Fold down the two top flaps over the poles and tape the seams, keeping the poles toward the outside edges. The box can now be carried by the two poles without anyone needing to touch the "ark." Under close supervision, have the children practice picking up the "ark" by the poles and walking it to a new area of the classroom. In today's Bible Adventure, the children will learn that the Levites took special care of the ark. They carried it very carefully on poles and never, never touched it.
- ② **Israelite Camp Center:** Provide a large number of blocks for the children. Encourage them to "set up camp" by having a central pile of blocks represent the tabernacle and encircle that with the families of Levi. On the four sides of the center pile, set up blocks to represent the tents of the tribes camped around the tabernacle (refer to GF1). Count as many of the blocks as interest allows. In the Bible, in the book of Numbers, God told Moses how the Israelites' camp was to look and Moses obeyed God.
- ② **Camping Center:** Use the two-man pup tent from last week and/or bring other pieces of camping gear and set up a camp site. Lay out blankets and/or sleeping bags, pillows, toy dishes, canteens, backpacks, binoculars, camping stools, etc. In today's Bible Adventure, the children will learn that the Israelites were campers and had to be able to pack everything up and move quickly when the Lord moved the cloud from over the tabernacle. Talk about what it is like to camp and how much work is involved in packing the equipment around.
- ② **Horn Blowing:** Bring several toy horns to class. Have the children take turns blowing on the horns. Encourage different ways of blowing and using their fingers if there are air holes. Wash the mouthpiece in between each blower. Today's Bible Adventure will tell how the Israelites would hear a certain kind of blast of the trumpet (horn) and they would know it was time to pack up and move their camp.
- ② **People Counting Center:** Have as many toy dolls and animals available as possible. Encourage the children to separate the people from the animals and then count how many people they have. The animals could be counted, also. In the book of Numbers in the Bible, God spoke to Moses and told him to count the Israelites to see how many people there were.
- ④ **Count the Israelites:** In a large jar, place as many Fisher Price people as you can. Ask the children to guess how many there are in the jar. As you take them out, count them together. Fill the jar again and dump them out and count as you fill up the jar again. Large whole walnuts could be used but be sure to draw a happy face on each! Let children take turns taking them out and counting. In today's lesson, the children will learn that God wanted Moses to count all the Israelites.
- ④ **Counting Objects:** Provide pennies, macaroni, toothpicks, straws, rocks, etc., to be counted and separated into groups of ten. In today's lesson, the children will learn that God wanted Moses to count all the Israelites.
- ④ **Bean Bag Toss:** Ask the children to stand in two lines facing each other. One bean bag is tossed from side to side with the child who catches it telling the number of people in his family. If this is too difficult, just ask the children to call out any number. When they tire of that, ask them to tell the name of someone in their family, share something they would pack to take on a trip, or what they would put in a box if their family was moving. The Israelites were moving their families from place to place in the desert.
- ④ **Follow the Tent Path:** Tape a path of papers on the floor including several papers with a picture of a tent on them. Ask the children to walk (hop, skip, walk backwards, etc.) on the path, only touching the tent papers. They will hear about the Israelites who had to travel and take their tents with them wherever they went.
- ④ **Map Travel:** Provide old maps or a copy of a map of the desert area where the Israelites were traveling. Instruct the children to color a travel route and glue a cotton ball at each place they stayed

overnight. When the Israelites traveled they didn't have a map but they had God guiding them with a cloud.

- ④ **Head and Shoulders:** Say the following as you go through the motions together.
God guided the Israelites--head, shoulders, knees and toes, ankles, legs, neck and nose.
God was faithful to the Israelites--head, shoulders, knees and toes, ankles, legs, neck and nose.
God is faithful to me--head, shoulders, knees and toes, ankles, legs, neck and nose.
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- ④ **Visiting Trumpet Player:** Ask a trumpet player to come and show the children the instrument and how to use it. Let them listen to the blasts! "God is going to guide His people with a trumpet blast. Find out in the Bible Adventure today."
- ④ **Clouds on a Straw: (1NUM01ECGF3)** Give each child a white sheet of construction paper, two drinking straws, and several cotton balls. Ask them to tear or cut out the shape of a large cloud. Tape one drinking straw towards the top of the cloud and one near the bottom. See diagram 2 on the GF3 page. Stretch out the cotton balls and glue them to the cloud. Use these to play "Follow the Cloud Activity" in the Look section.
- ④ **Trumpet Blast Exchange:** Give pairs of children an identifying mark, like a yellow, red, blue, etc., arm band (piece of fabric tied around their arm) or a sticker on the top of their hand. When you call out a color or sticker, the two children with that item raise their hands. When you blast the trumpet, they exchange places as fast as they can. Let all the children have several turns exchanging places. This is good to get the "wiggles" out before the Bible Adventure.



Book:

Presentation Ideas -

- Color and mount the **1NUM01ECGF1** and **1 NUM01ECGF2** pictures on construction paper. Show them as you tell the Bible Adventure. Save your Numbers pictures to use during the book of Deuteronomy.
- Bring a trumpet or horn and blow it as you talk about chapter ten of Numbers.
- Place the ark box with the gold-colored lid on poles (dowels or broom sticks) to show how the Levites carried it without touching it.

Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's-

(*Show the GF1 picture.*) In the Bible book of Exodus, Leviticus, and now in Numbers, the Lord God stayed in the cloud that covered the tabernacle tent. At night, the cloud looked like fire so that everyone could see that God was with them.

God spoke to Moses and said, "Count the Israelites to see how many people there are." (*Count to ten.*) There were too many people for Moses to count, so he got men to help him.

(*Show the tabernacle in the center of the GF1 picture.*) The Lord said to Moses, "Put the tabernacle and ark in the center of the camp with the Levites surrounding it. (*Show the ark box carried on poles.*) The Levites must take special care of the ark. They must carry it very carefully on poles and never, never touch it. It is My holy ark."

(*Blow a trumpet or horn once.*) God said to Moses, "Make two trumpets from silver and use them to let the Israelites know when it is time to leave camp.

(*Show the GF2 picture.*) "When the cloud lifts above the tabernacle, everyone is to pack up his belongings and get ready to follow the cloud. After the cloud lifts, the trumpet will blow, and the first group of families should start following the cloud. When the trumpet blows again, the second group of families should get in line and follow the cloud. When the trumpet blows a third time, the Levites will follow, carrying the ark on poles. When the trumpet blows the fourth time, the fourth group of families will get in line behind the Levites. The last group of families will follow when the trumpet blows the fifth time.

"Keep following the cloud until it stops. I will be the One to decide when to stop and when to go."

Moses obeyed the Lord. The cloud lifted and all the Israelites knew that it was time to pack up their tents and food. When the trumpet sounded, the groups of families got in line, and walked and walked. They stopped for lunch, and at night they stopped to sleep. In the morning, if the cloud lifted up, the people packed up, the trumpet blew, and the people followed the cloud.

The people were happy to be going to the land of Canaan. God was faithful to lead them every day.

Prayer: Dear God, You led the Israelites from Your cloud. You were faithful to Your Israelite people. You are faithful to Your people today, too. Thank You, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Bible Adventure for 4's, 5's & K-

(Show the GF1 picture.) In the Bible books of Exodus, Leviticus, and now in Numbers, the Lord God was in the cloud that covered the tabernacle tent. At night, the cloud looked like fire so that everyone could see that God was with them.

God spoke to Moses in the tabernacle tent and said, "Count the Israelites to see how many people there are. *(Count to ten.)* There are too many to count by yourself. Choose one man from each tribe to help you count the families in his own tribe." Moses obeyed God and called the twelve men from the twelve tribes to count each man who was twenty years old or older. *(Sing the first verse of "Song of the Israelites" in the Song section.)*

(Point to the GF1 picture.) After the counting had been done, the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "This is the way I want the people to set up camp. Put the tabernacle in the center of the camp with the Levite people surrounding it. *(You might want to put an "L" for "Levite" on some of the Levite tents.)* The Levites will keep the ark safe from enemies. *(Sing the second verse of "Song of the Israelites.")*

"To the east of the tabernacle, the people of Judah will set up their tents. *(Show the tents to the east of the tabernacle.)* To the south of the tabernacle, the people of Reuben will set up their tents. *(Show the tents to the south of the tabernacle.)* To the west of the tabernacle, the people of Ephraim will set up their tents. *(Show the tents to the west of the tabernacle.)* To the north of the tabernacle, the people of Dan will set up their tents." *(Show the tents to the north of the tabernacle.)*

God said to Moses, "Make two trumpets from silver and use the trumpets to call the Israelites together. If you blow the trumpet once, it means that only the leaders of each group are supposed to come to the tabernacle tent to meet with you. If you blow the trumpet twice, it means that every Israelite is supposed to come to you at the tabernacle." The trumpet blower would have to make a very loud noise for everyone to hear, wouldn't he?

(Show the GF2 picture.) God said, "There will be a different blast of the trumpet when it is time to leave camp. When the cloud lifts above the tabernacle, everyone is to pack up his belongings and get ready to follow the cloud until it stops. After the cloud lifts, the trumpet will blast one specific kind of blast, and the people of Judah on the east side of the tabernacle should start following the cloud. When the trumpet blows another blast, the people of Reuben on the south side of the tabernacle should get in line behind Judah. When the trumpet blows a third blast, the Levites will follow, carrying the tabernacle on poles. When the trumpet blows the fourth blast, the people of Ephraim on the west side will get in line behind the Levites. Last in line will be the people of Dan who will follow from their north side camping place when the fifth trumpet blasts. *(Sing the third verse of "Song of the Israelites.")*

"Keep following the cloud until it stops. Sometimes it will only stop for one night and sometimes it will stay in one place for more days and nights. I will be the One to decide when to stop and when to go."

Moses obeyed the Lord. He told the people what God wanted them to do. The Israelites were eager to go to the land God had promised them. They were ready to go to Canaan.

(Sing the fourth verse of "Song of the Israelites.") The cloud lifted and all the Israelites knew that it was time to pack up their tents and food. When the trumpet sounded, the people got in line and walked for three days.

When the cloud stopped, the people set up camp, just as God said to do. The Levites always set up their tents around the tabernacle. The other groups of people set up their tents surrounding the Levites, in the order God had said.


When the ark was carried with poles by the Levites, Moses said, "Rise up, oh Lord! May Your enemies run away from You." When the cloud stopped and the ark rested, Moses said, "Return, oh Lord, to Your Israelite people." There were many days of walking and camping, walking and camping, as the Israelites moved toward the land of Canaan.

(Sing the last verses, or at least the sixth verse, of "Song of the Israelites.")

Prayer: Dear God, You led the Israelites from Your cloud. You were faithful to Your Israelite people. You are faithful to Your people today, too. Thank You, in Jesus' name, Amen.



Look:

 **Camping in God's Order Activity Page: (1NUM01ECGF1 and 1NUM01ECGF5)** Give each child their own GF1 page and let them add more tents by sticking on GF5 stickers. The GF5 page is formatted to be copied onto 1" x 2 5/8" Avery labels. The older children can write an "L" on each Levite tent surrounding the tabernacle. Some may even enjoy writing a "J" on the tents to the east of the tabernacle, an "R" on the tents to the south, an "E" on the tents to the west, and a "D" on the tents to the north. Talk about which groups got in line first when the trumpet sounded.

② **Toilet Tube Trumpet: (1NUM01ECGF3)** Give each child a paper tube to decorate. They could cover with foil or decorate with stamps and markers. Tape the GF3 memory verse to their tube trumpets. Talk about how trumpets were used in the Bible Adventure. So that the children won't lose their trumpets, punch a hole near the top of each and string a piece of yarn through the hole. The children can wear their trumpets around their necks, keeping them handy in case the cloud lifts and the trumpet needs to sound.

② **Marching:** Materials needed: A construction paper shaped cloud taped to a pole or yard stick, and marching music using loud horns. When the music starts, have a leader march holding the cloud high while the children follow it around the room. When the music stops, the cloud settles to the floor and everyone squats down and waits for the music to start again. The Israelites learned that at the blast of the trumpet, they were to get ready to leave camp. The cloud would lift from the tabernacle and the Israelites were to keep following it until it stopped.

② **Aim Questions:** The Aim Questions could be numbered and rolled up in a sleeping bag or bed roll and placed in the center of the story area. Choose a child to unroll the bed slowly until the first question appears. He takes it and gives it to the teacher who reads it for him to answer and if he needs help, the others in the class may answer. Repeat for all the questions.

② **Snacks:** Set up the five tables to represent the Israelite families' camps. Have the snack served under the five tables. Serve the numbered cookies found in the large jar of alphabet cookies from Costco, because we're learning from the book of "Numbers." Talk about the Levites under (or around) the center table and about their special job of keeping the ark safe from enemies. The outside families were to help, too.

② **The Levites Guard the Tabernacle:** Place a pile of blocks in the center of a large play area to represent the tabernacle. Choose a "Levite" (leader) to be blindfolded and to guard the tabernacle. The children stand outside the open space (behind a rope on the ground or a line of chairs) and when they are chosen by a teaching leader, they quietly tiptoe to the tabernacle and steal a block. If the "Levite" touches them before they get back behind the safety line, they must put their block back at the tabernacle and return to the group. Two players could be sent out at the same time and after a time, allow the "Levite" to see how well he guarded the tabernacle.

④ **Follow the Cloud:** Ask a child to be leader and when he holds up his cloud, the children pretend to be getting dressed, packing up their tents, and traveling in the desert. When the cloud comes down, they freeze where they are and begin unpacking. Let children take turns giving instructions and raising and lowering the cloud. Wasn't God good to give the Israelites a cloud to guide their travel in the desert?

④ **Following the Cloud Activity:** Divide the class into five groups and give each group the name of the family group used in Numbers chapter two (Levi, Judah, Reuben, Ephraim, and Dan in verses 9, 16, 17, 24, and 31). Select a leader from each group. Probably, the leaders' names given in Numbers 2:3, 10, 18, and 25 are too difficult for the children to pronounce, but you could give them nicknames. The Levite leader can be Aaron or any of his sons (3:17). The activity can be as simple as putting the children under their designated tables. When you blow a horn or whistle once, the leader of each group comes to you at the Levite table. When you blow the horn twice, everyone comes to you at the tabernacle table. Older children can then learn how to form a line in order by tribes. The groups follow the cloud, which can be drawn on butcher paper and then taped to a long dowel or broom stick. The children follow the cloud, singing "Faithful Is Our God" or any other appropriate song. When the cloud stops, each group sets up camp at its designated table. Repeat the activity with different leaders.

④ **Snack:** Let children scoop up their own trail mix in a lunch size paper bag. Travel to a corner of the foyer or outside, (weather permitting) and sit on a blanket. Talk about God's faithfulness to His

people. Sit around a pretend campfire made from cellophane loosely wrapped around the end of a flashlight with a rubber band and leaned up against some blocks to represent a fire.

- ④ **God Is Faithful Activity:** Pack your pretend travel bag. Roll up your sleeping bag and tent. Carry them over your shoulder and sing this song while marching in place. Pretend to be the Israelites following the cloud. Stop and share how God was so faithful to you. This activity could be preceded with the song, "Faithful Is Our God." (See Song section.)
- ④ **Stitch a Tent: (1NUM01ECGF3)** Talk about God's faithfulness to the Israelites during their travels while stitching on the following tent. (See Diagram 1 on the GF3 page.) Fold an 8 1/2" x 11" piece of poster board into three equal sections as if folding a letter. Color it and punch holes along both 8 1/2 inch sides. Sew these edges together with a shoelace or a piece of yarn with masking tape on the end. Draw a face on two of each child's fingers. These could be the Israelites packing up their tents to move and following the cloud.

Songs:

Memory Verse Song (tune: "Ring Around the Rosie")
Remember the comma-ands
Of the-e Lo-ord.
Numbers 15:39

Numbers 15:39, Memory Verse Song (tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It")
Remember the commands of the Lord. (Shout, "And obey!")
Remember the commands of the Lord. ("And obey!")
Remember the commands, remember the commands,
Remember the commands of the Lord. ("And obey!")

Song of the Israelites: (tune: "Farmer in the Dell")
Oh, count the Israelites. Oh, count the Israelites. (Count fingers.)
Hi ho, away we go, oh, count the Israelites.

The Levites guard the ark. The Levites guard the ark. (Strong man arm)
Hi ho, away we go, the Levites guard the ark.

The trumpet makes the sound. The trumpet makes the sound.
Hi ho, away we go, the trumpet makes the sound. (Fist at mouth with thumb extended)

The cloud lifts from the tent. The cloud lifts from the tent. (Raise hands with palms up)
Hi ho, away we go, the cloud lifts from the tent.

We'll follow the cloud. We'll follow the cloud. (March in place)
Hi ho, away we go, we'll follow the cloud.

On to Canaan land, on to Canaan land. (Shade eyes with hand)
Hi ho, away we go, on to Canaan land.

Moses obeyed the Lord. Moses obeyed the Lord. (Point up)
Hi ho, away we go, Moses obeyed the Lord.

God is faithful to us. God is faithful to us. (Nod head, "yes")
Hi, ho away we go, God is faithful to us.

Faithful Is Our God (tune: "Row, Row Your Boat")
Pack, pack, pack your tent
Watching for the cloud.
Merrily, merrily, merrily
We will follow God.

Faithful is our God.

We will follow Him.
Merrily, merrily, merrily
Faithful is our God.

Step By Step (tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle")

Step by step, I'll follow God
Hour by hour, obey His Word.
Day by day, I'm in His care.
Through the years, I know He's there.
God is faithful in all ways.
Watches o'er us every day.

Super Kids (tune: "This Old Man")

Super kids, every one
Filled with power from God's Word.
So praise the Lord and love Him every day.
We're His kids, hip, hip, hooray!

We Worship God (tune: "God Is So Good")

We worship God, we worship God,
We worship God, God is Ho-o-ly.

We worship God, we worship God,
We worship God, God is fai-aithful.

Leviticus and Numbers (tune: "Waltzing Matilda")

Leviticus and Numbers, Leviticus and Numbers,
Leviticus and Numbers, and Deuteronomy.
The-e Israelite people learned to worship holy God.
Worship the holy God of Israel.



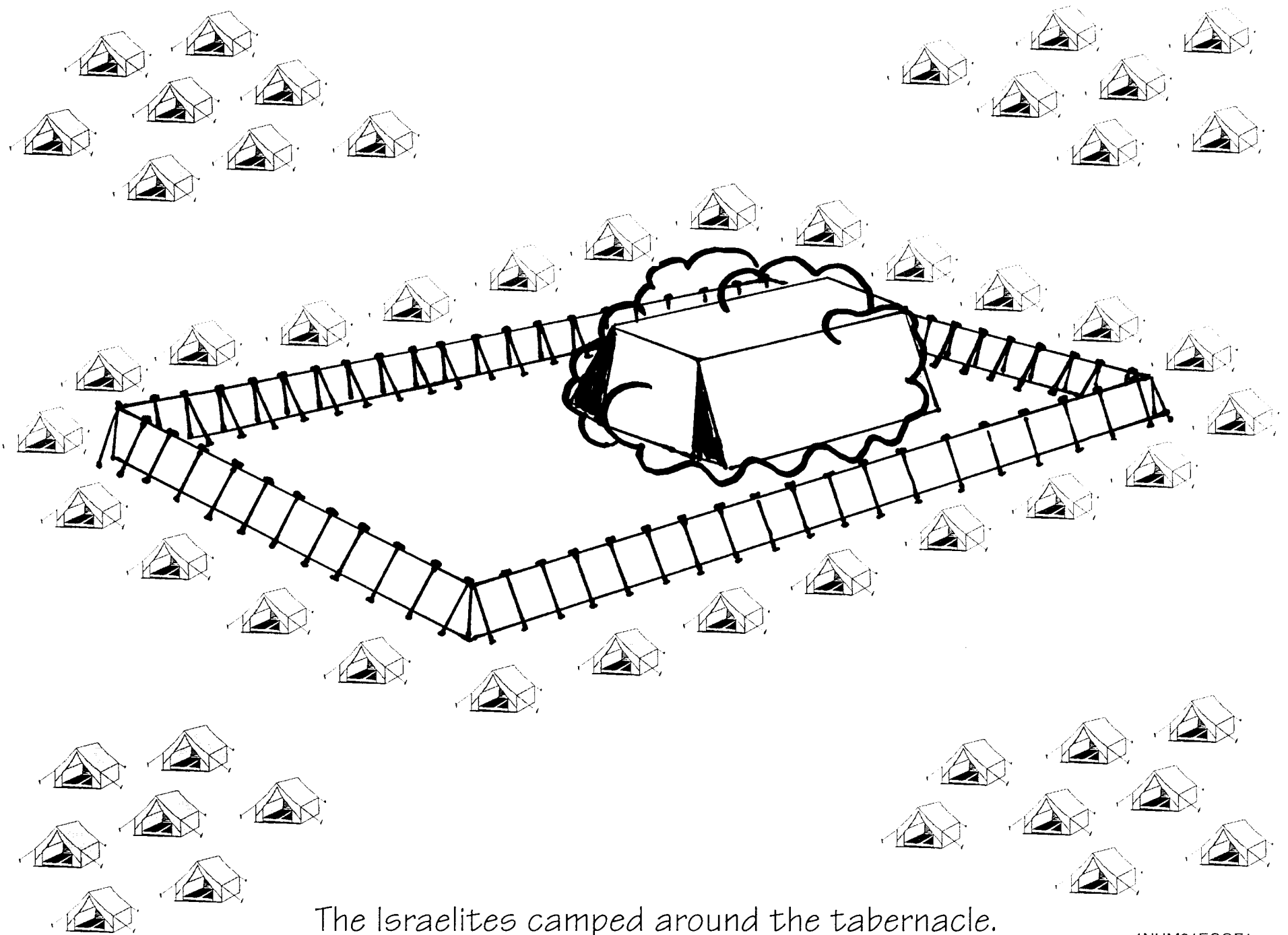
Took:

God Is Faithful Activity Page: (1NUM01ECGF4) Have the children color the GF4 picture of the Israelites and the child. Have each child color her own picture to resemble herself. Talk about how God was faithful to the Israelites and God is faithful to us. Older children could cut this picture into a puzzle and decorate an envelope to carry it in.

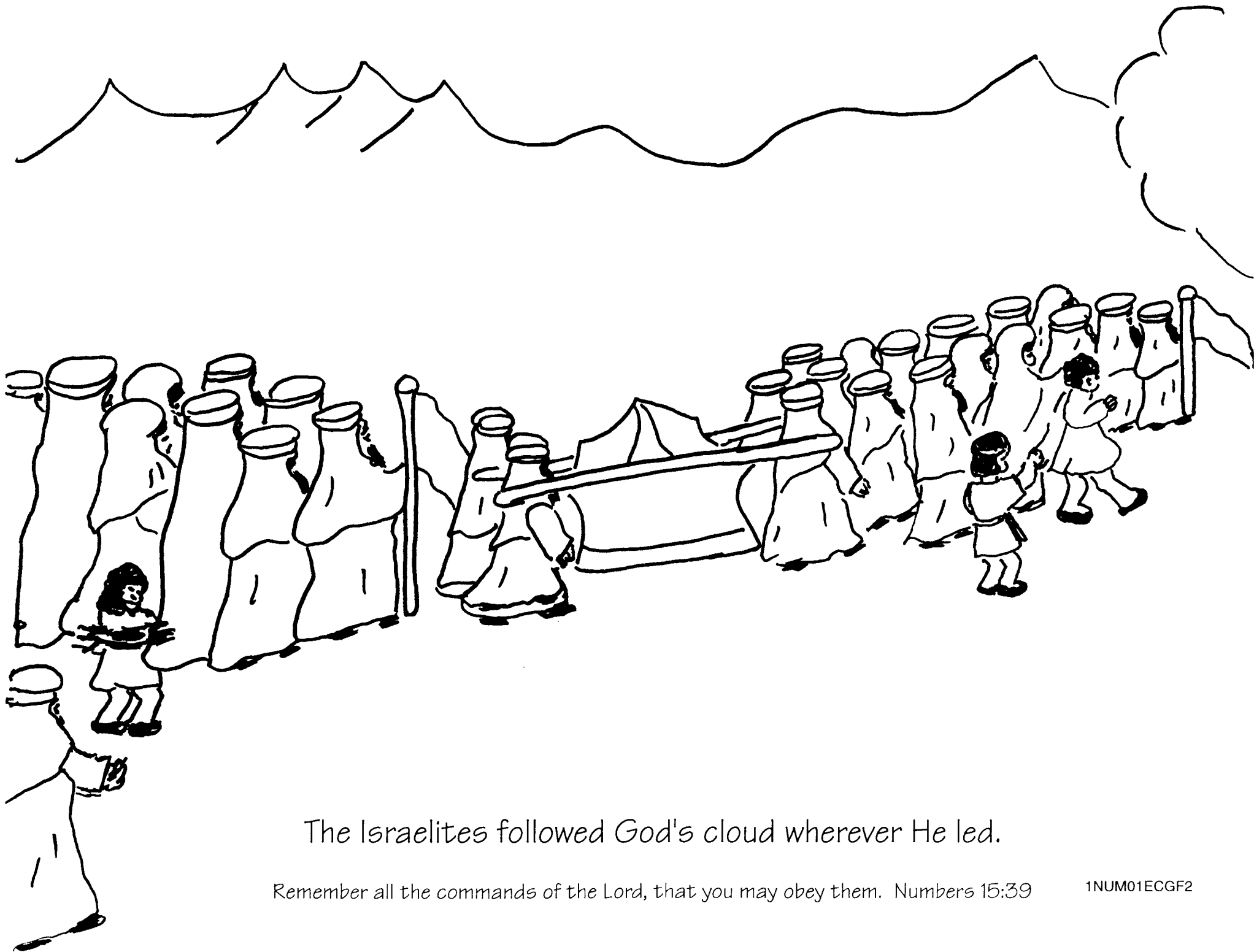
② **God Is Faithful Clouds:** Materials needed: White construction paper, liquid glue, cotton swabs, polyester stuffing. Roll a stiff 8 1/2" X 11" piece of paper into a cone shape and tape it closed. Have the children cover the cone with glue by dipping a swab into the liquid glue and smearing it onto the cone. Tearing off small amounts of polyester stuffing, apply it to the cone until the top part is covered. The bottom of the cone can stay uncovered to serve as a handhold and on which to put the child's name. Talk about the cloud that guided the Israelites' travels.

④ **Picture Sticks Puzzles: (1NUM01ECGF3)** Give each child six tongue depressors or craft sticks. Lay them on the table next to each other and tape them together by placing a piece of tape down the side of each end of the sticks (See Diagram 3). Give each child a marker to draw a picture on the sticks. Suggest making a cloud, tent, people, trumpet, sunshine, or stars. Take the tape off and the children have their own puzzles! Make sure there is a part of the picture on every stick. Give each child an envelope or plastic sandwich bag in which to take his puzzle home.

④ **Marble in a Paint Box Activity:** Place a sheet of white paper in a flat box about the same size as the paper. Drop some different colored drops of tempera paint on the paper. Place a marble in the box. Let a child tip the box back and forth as the marble makes a random design on the paper. Talk about the Israelites traveling across the desert. They didn't know where they were going but they were thankful that God was faithful to guide them with the cloud each day.



The Israelites camped around the tabernacle.
Remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them. Numbers 15:39



The Israelites followed God's cloud wherever He led.

Remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them. Numbers 15:39

1NUM01ECGF2

**Stitch-a-Tent
Diagram 1**

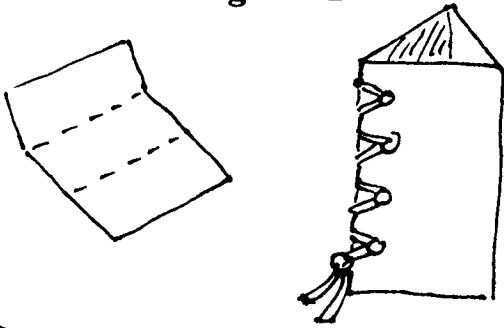
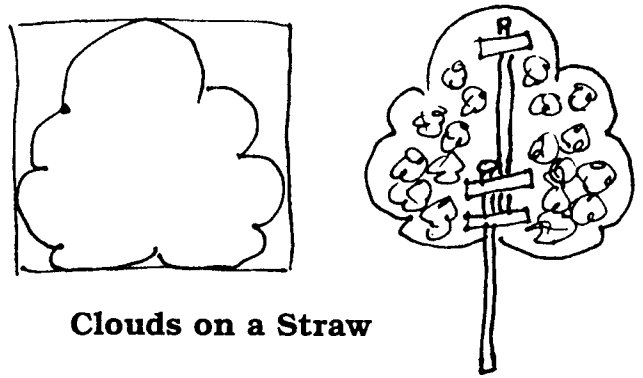
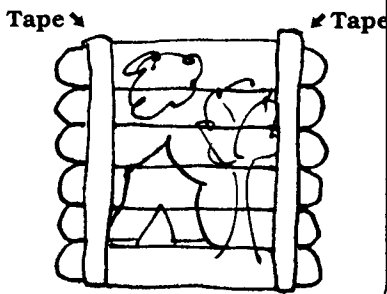


Diagram 2



Clouds on a Straw

**Diagram 3
Picture Stick Puzzle**



**Remember all the commands of the Lord,
that you may obey them. Numbers 15:39**

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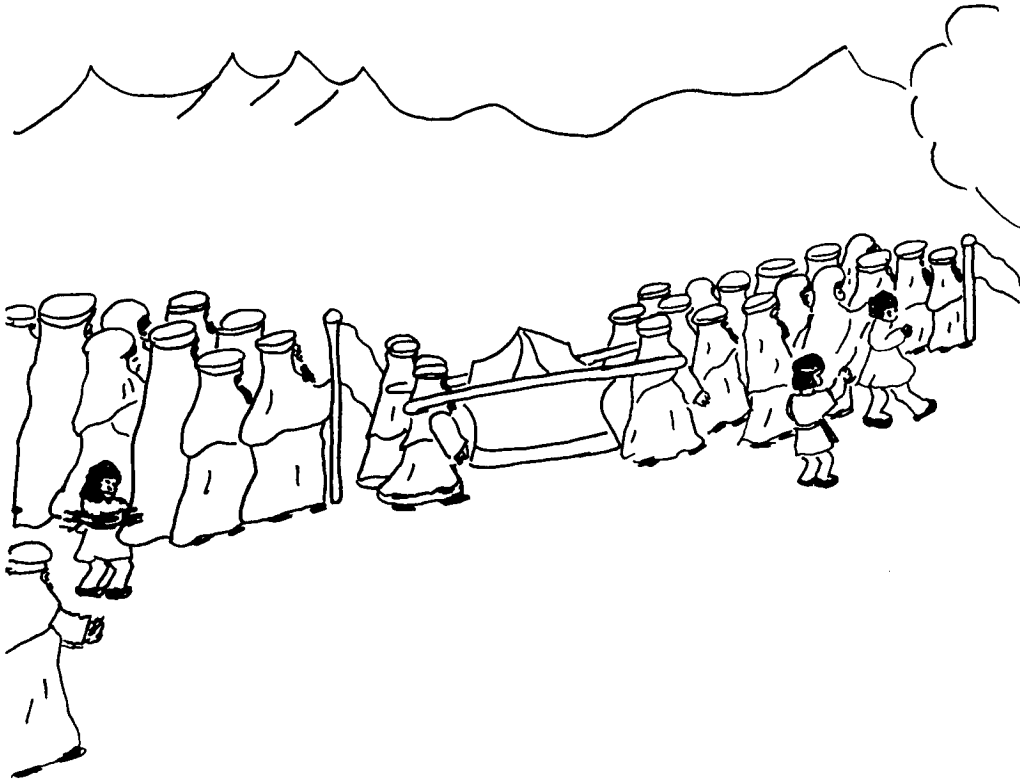
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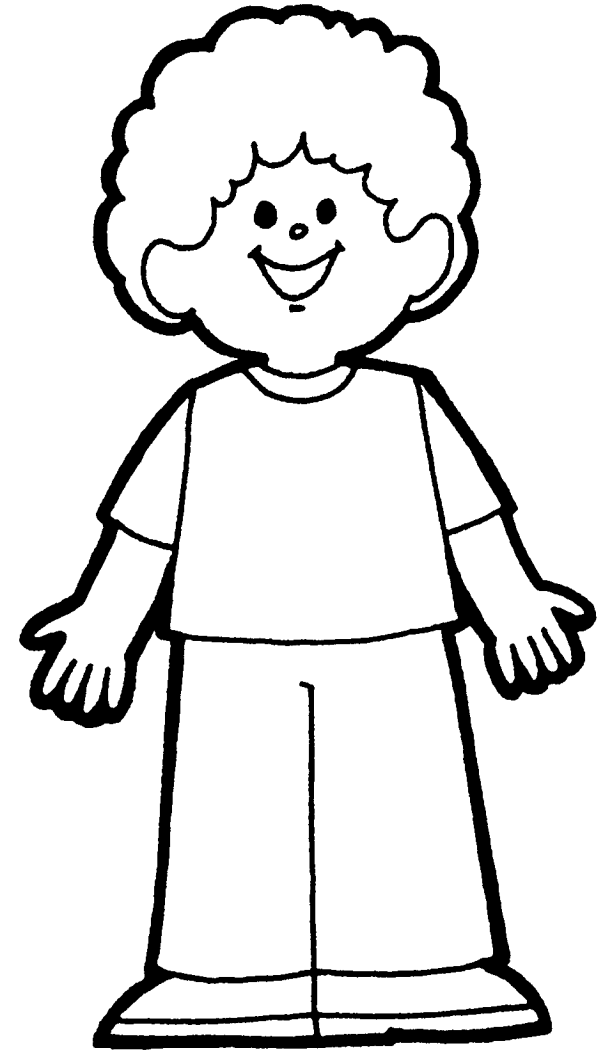
**Remember all the commands of the Lord,
that you may obey them. Numbers 15:39**

**Remember all the commands of the Lord,
that you may obey them. Numbers 15:39**

God was faithful to the Israelites.



God is faithful to me!



**Remember all the commands of the Lord,
that you may obey them. Numbers 15:39**

