BIG IDEA: God leads me.

Week 4

The Red Sea



This lesson is based on Exodus 14 and 15. and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 281-290.



Moses marched out of Egypt with a big smile. ***March, march, march.*** God had set all His people free! They didn't have to stay in Egypt with the mean king anymore. The people marched behind Moses. ***March, march, march.*** There were more people than you could count! Mooing cows and noisy sheep *(moo, baa)* walked with them. God went with them too! He led them by a cloud in the day that gave them shade from the hot sun. At night the cloud turned into fire that kept them warm. This was God's way of saying, "Follow Me! I will look after you" *(cuddle your child)*.

March, march, march **went the people** *(march with fingers on the page)***. They marched until they came to the Red Sea. It was big! It was wide! They couldn't swim through it. They couldn't jump over it. And they had no boats. Behind them they could see a cloud of dust in the distance. Oh, no! Pharaoh was coming to take them back to Egypt! The people were afraid. They forgot about God's cloud. They forgot God was leading them.**

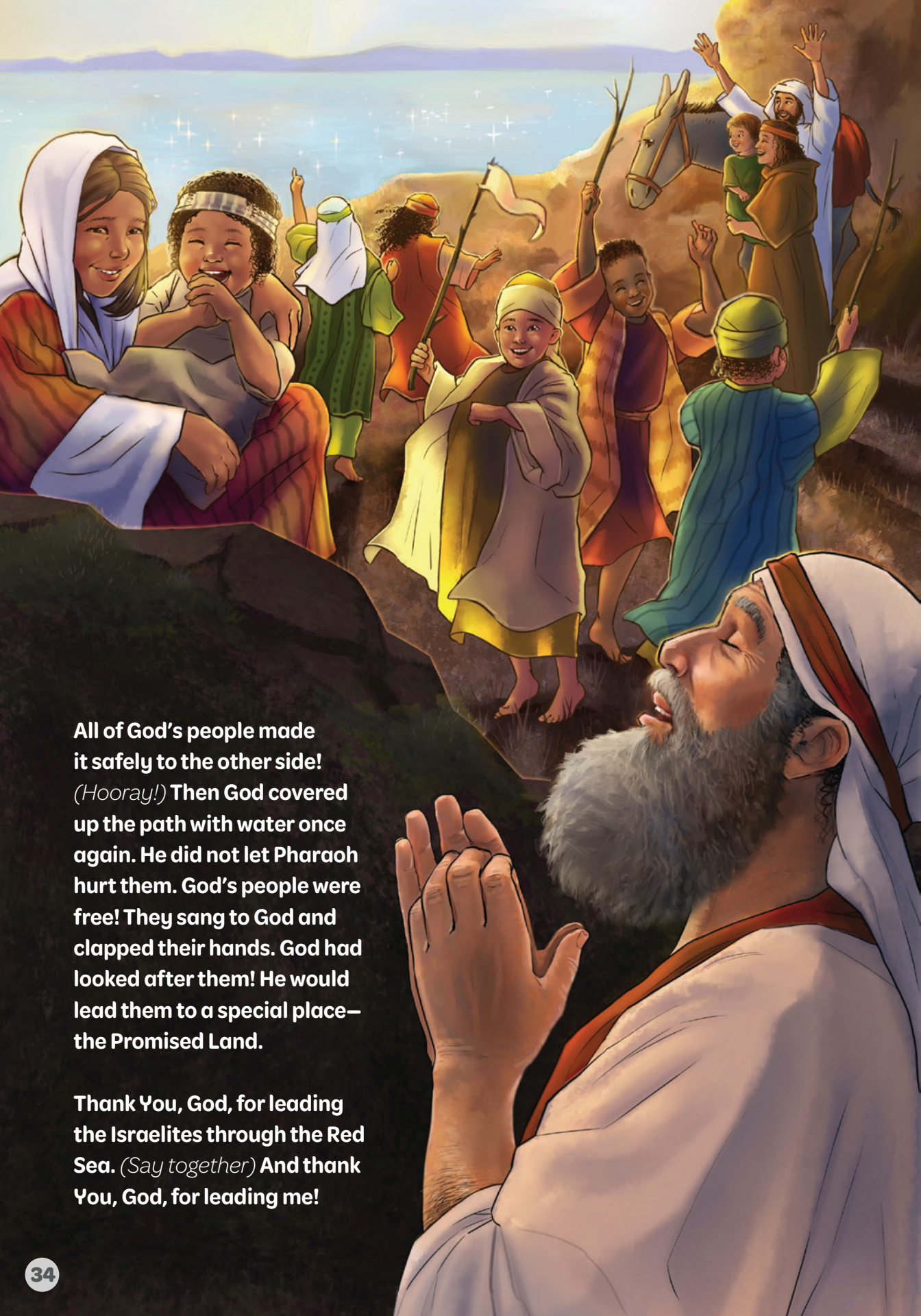




But Moses stayed calm. He trusted in God. He said, "Don't be afraid! Stand still and see the Lord save you today" (Exodus 14:13, ICB). **God told Moses to raise his walking stick over the water** *(hold your arm up in the air)*. **Then something happened. God sent a great wind to blow** *(whoosh, whoosh)*. **It piled up water on one side and then the other. God opened up a path in the middle of the sea!**

God's people looked at each other with big eyes and open mouths! *(Can you make a surprised face?)* **God was so good! All the people marched through the sea on dry ground. *March, march, march.* Little children sat on their daddy's shoulders and pointed at the walls of water—maybe they'd see a fish! Mommies held their babies close. Aunties, uncles, grandmas, and grandpas all walked quickly to the other side. The cows and sheep followed behind.**





All of God's people made it safely to the other side! *(Hooray!)* **Then God covered up the path with water once again. He did not let Pharaoh hurt them. God's people were free! They sang to God and clapped their hands. God had looked after them! He would lead them to a special place—the Promised Land.**

Thank You, God, for leading the Israelites through the Red Sea. *(Say together)* **And thank You, God, for leading me!**

play throughout the day

Create

Make an ocean together by setting blue jelly (gelatin) in the fridge. Use a spoon to create a path for the Israelites. Find or make little people to walk through the sea. Add plastic animals if you have them. If you don't have blue jelly, you could use sand or dirt.

Learn

Find an ocean book at home, borrow one, or look for a video online. Cuddle up with your child to look at the pictures. Talk about some of the fish and sea creatures that the Israelites may have seen as they walked through the Red Sea.

Explore

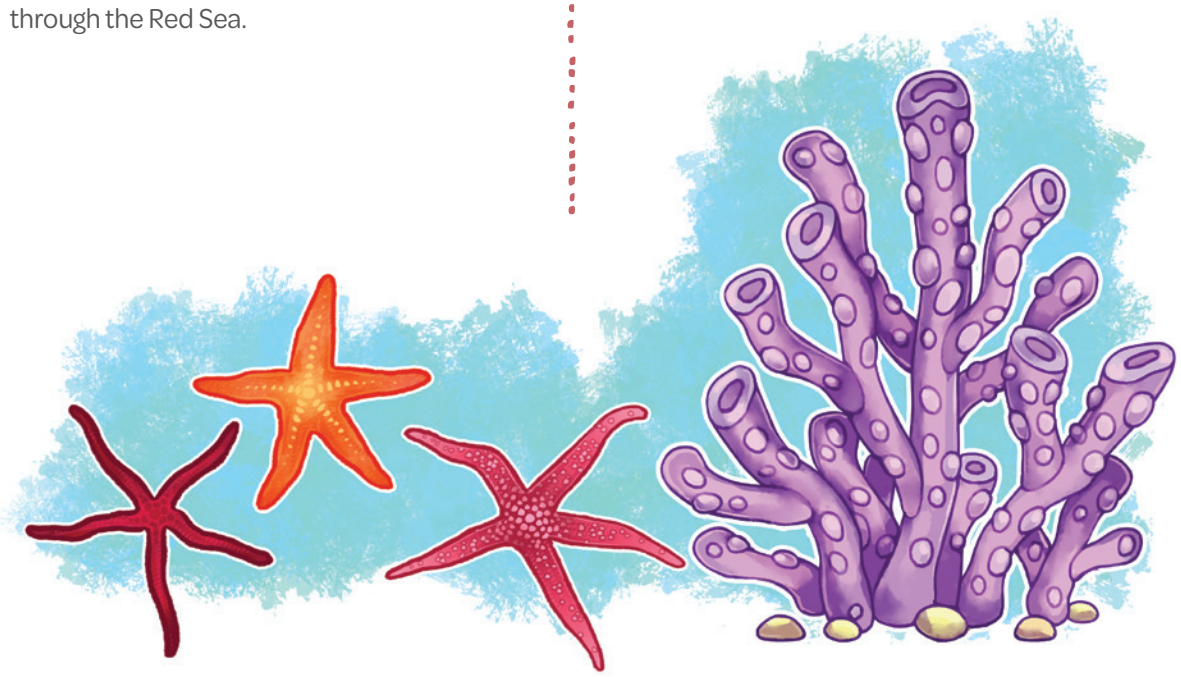
Find a body of water that's nearby—a creek, lake, swimming pool, or tub filled with water. If practical, let your child put their toes in to feel the water. Share how the water would have split in two and imagine what it would have been like to walk through the water on dry land.

Connect

Play follow the leader around your home. Take turns being the leader. Talk about how the Israelites followed their Leader (God) in the desert by following God's cloud in the daytime and God's fire at night.

Prayer

Thank God for leading the Israelites through the Red Sea. Talk about some of the ways God can lead us today. Ask Him to lead you in whatever you do that day.



Extension weekly memory verse: "You shall walk after the Lord your God" (Deuteronomy 13:4).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

The Red Sea spread out in front of them as a great, impassable obstacle. Behind them, in a cloud of dust, came the known and dreaded army of Pharaoh. There they stood, 1 million scared people, facing two impossibilities: two potential disasters.

They had just seen God show His might and power in Egypt. He had delivered them from death, slavery, and pain. Now they faced their first hurdle as a free nation. How did they respond? They panicked. They whined to Moses. And Moses replied:

"Do not be afraid. Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. . . . The Lord will fight for you and you shall hold your peace" (Exodus 14:13, 14).

Impress these words from God on your heart, and think of them throughout your day and week ahead. Problems, both big and small, will come at you—sometimes in front and sometimes behind. The way forward may seem impossible. But not with God! Trust Him to lead you forward.

"The great lesson here taught is for all time. Often the Christian life is beset by dangers, and duty seems hard to perform. The imagination pictures impending ruin before and bondage or death behind. Yet the voice of God speaks clearly, 'Go forward.' . . . Unbelief whispers, 'Let us wait till the obstructions are removed, and we can see our way clearly;' but faith courageously urges an advance, hoping all things, believing all things" (Ellen. G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 290).