

GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM
Primary Lessons: Phase 3 – Lesson 15
Pillar of Fire and Cloud; Crossing the Red Sea; Manna (Exodus 13, 14, 16)

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. Just as the children of Israel were enslaved in Egypt, so are we slaves to things of this world and need "Moses," who represents remains from the stories of the Word, to free us from bondage.
- B. This turning from self to the Lord is a necessary step to regeneration but must be followed by immediate action and steady progress in a new way of life, guided by the Word, or "Moses". This is the Israelites' journey from Egypt to the land of Canaan.
- C. The Red Sea is an initial temptation on our journey and can be overcome if we trust and obey the Lord.
- D. The pillar of fire and cloud is the Word in its letter with the Lord Himself within it. This leads us in our spiritual days (states of confidence and trust) and our spiritual nights (states of doubt and discouragement).
- E. All of us need manna and quail daily; that is, we need to gather wisdom and strength from the Word by reading and praying daily so that we can handle each day's problems and temptations.
- F. Basic correspondences:
 - 1. Fire = Truth as it is in the Lord, coming from the Divine Love
 - 2. Cloud = The letter of the Word
 - 3. The Red Sea = An accumulation of falsity from evil; or hell
 - 4. Quails = natural satisfaction from "being good"
 - 5. Manna = spiritual good; genuine happiness in being good

II. Story Circle

- A. Introduction
 - 1. Do you remember what the name of the book of the Word is that we have been studying? (Exodus) "Exodus" means "going out," and in the book of Exodus, the children of Israel go out of Egypt.
 - 2. Last time we learned about ten terrible things that happened to Pharaoh and all the Egyptians, and about a special feast, too. Can you tell me what these were called? (Plagues; Passover)

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3. Why was the feast called the Passover? (The angel of death who came to smite the Egyptians' firstborn passed over the houses of the Israelites that had blood from the lamb on the doorposts and lintel.) The Israelites were commanded to hold this feast every year to remind them that the Lord had delivered them from slavery in Egypt.
4. Who led the Israelites out of Egypt? (Moses [and Aaron])
5. Today we're going to find out what happened right after they had left Egypt.

B. Tell/Read the Story

1. Exodus 13:18, 21-22; 14:5-9, 13-14, 19-28, 31; 16:1-5, 13-15, 19-21, 35

C. Ideas to Discuss

1. When the Israelites were leaving Egypt, Pharaoh changed his mind and went after them. Where did he catch up with them? (At the Red Sea)
2. How did the Lord keep them safe from the Egyptians through the night? (Pillar of cloud and fire made it dark for Egyptians and light for Israelites)
3. Then what did the Lord tell Moses to do? (Stretch out his hand over the sea)
4. What happened? (Strong east wind blew the sea dry for them to cross. It was like a wall on each side of them.)
5. What happened to the Egyptians when they tried to follow? (At the Lord's command, Moses stretched out his hand again, and the waters rushed back and covered them, and they perished.)
6. How did the Lord satisfy the Israelites' hunger for meat? (He sent quails.)
7. What did He give them for bread? (Manna) How often did they find the manna? (Daily)
8. How much was each person supposed to gather? (Enough for that day and twice as much on the sixth day)
9. What happened when they tried to keep the manna overnight? (It bred worms and stank.)

D. Further Ideas

1. If we trust in the Lord and obey His commandments, His power will always protect us just as the Israelites were protected.
2. The Israelites gathered manna daily. We also need to gather daily food for our souls. This means to read a little from the Word each day, think about the Lord, and pray for His help in any problems we might face that day. This is what we mean when we say, "Give us this day our dally bread."

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III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "Crossing the Red Sea," LORI'S SONGS I, Side 1, second song

B. Activities

1. Near the end of Story Circle time, when discussing manna, pass out homemade "manna" wafers for the children to eat.

Recipe for Manna

3 eggs
1 c. flour
½ tsp. coriander powder
1 c. honey
1/8 tsp. salt
½ tsp. vanilla

Preheat oven to 350°. (Grind coriander seeds to powder if they come whole.) Beat eggs and honey; add vanilla. Sift together flour, salt, and coriander powder. Mix all together. Spread thinly on cookie pan. Bake 10-15 minutes. Cut into squares.

C. Project: Acting Out Story of Red Sea Crossing (teacher as narrator)

1. Minimum: 5 students
2. Materials for props: (all optional)
 - a. Very large white paper, about 2' X 5' (or tape 2 smaller sheets together)
 - b. Crayons
 - c. 2 large pieces blue fabric for waters of Red Sea, about 4' X 5' (blankets will do)
 - d. Beads or scepter for Pharaoh
 - e. Staff for Moses
3. Preparation: Mark the text in your Word, or copy out the story so you can read it smoothly. Text: Exodus 13:18, 21-22; 14:5-9, 13-14, 19-28, and 31.
4. Guiding the Students
 - a. Designate students to play the different roles: Pillar of Fire/Cloud, Moses, Pharaoh, Red Sea waters (2 students), Israelites (optional— any number), Egyptians (optional— any number)
 - b. If props are to be used, ask 3 students to draw the following:
 - a large pyramid, to represent Egypt
 - a large pillar of fire
 - a large pillar of cloud (black crayon on white paper)

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- Glue pillars of fire and cloud back to back.
- c. While the picture-props are being made, teacher can talk to the other students about their roles. How could you make the blue fabric come alive like rushing waters? How would Pharaoh act? How would Moses act?
- d. Designate places in the room to be Egypt (put picture of pyramid there), camping places for Israelites and Egyptians (beside Red Sea), and the Red Sea.
- e. Get everyone situated in proper places and read the text, stopping often to suggest gestures and possible dramatizations, unless the students are doing well on their own.
- f. Do the play again without stopping.
- g. This can be done for parents as they arrive to pick up children, or it can be replayed a number of times with the students playing different roles each time.

IV. Teaching Aids

- A. Map to show the route from Egypt to the Holy Land via the Red Sea. (See Sower Notes, Volume I, p. 234.)
- B. Picture of pillar of cloud/fire, or crossing of Red Sea, or collecting manna– to color after the play, or to take home to color.

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's Bible Study Notes, Vol. 2, "Crossing the Red Sea," pp. 62-76 and "Quails and Manna," pp. 94-109.
- B. Sower Notes, Vol. I, "Crossing the Red Sea," pp. 234-241 and "Quails and Manna," pp. 241-249.

Narration for Play on Crossing the Red Sea

Exodus 13:18, 21-22

So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.

And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

Exodus 14:5-9, 13-14, 19-28, 31

Now it was told the king of Egypt that the people had fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?"

So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him.

Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them.

And the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh the king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness.

So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.

And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

"The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them.

So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.

So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the Lord looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians.

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And He took off their chariot wheels, so that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen."

And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.

Thus Israel saw the great work that the Lord had done in Egypt; so the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and His servant Moses.