

Sunday School Home Activities - Week of October 24, 2021



Weekly home activities, great for the whole family, are designed to guide children from Nursery thru 5th grade and their families in Bible stories, engaging experiences, spiritual practices, and opportunities for reflection. Pick one to two activities to do with your family each week.

Contact Kathy Schmucker, Spiritual Formation Director, for more information. kschmucker@faithumchurch.org

Welcome to Wonder

Wonder Table - *Prepare Ahead: As a family, create a Wonder Table. Find a small table or area in your home. On the table place a candle, a plant or flower, and any other special items you want to include. Use this space while gathering as a family to engage in the lesson or online worship together.*

Wonder Box - *The Wonder Box is a special place to hold a special item that connects to the Faith Word and to the Bible story. Place items or symbols related to each week's Bible story in the Wonder Box. You may want to keep your Wonder Box on your family's Wonder Table. You can make your own Wonder Box to be any shape or size, but it's best if it has a lid. Include your whole family in the creation process.*

Wonder with Me - READ the Bible Story - Read the Bible story, Exodus 13:17 – 14:31.

- Read from the Bible or the Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook or attached handout. The story is also in the Fall Family Worship Kits.

WATCH the Bible Story and Sing with the Celebrate Wonder Music Videos

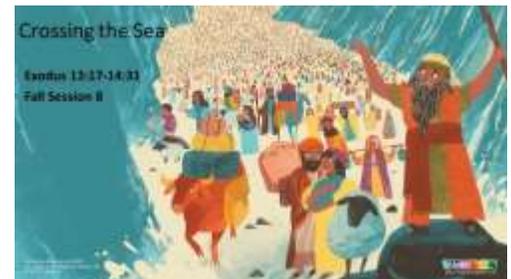
Watch this week's Celebrate Wonder Video on Amplify Media:

Amplify Media is a new resource for our congregation! This will make it easy for you and your families to access 100's of videos for adults, youth and children. To receive the log in info and our congregation's access code, email kschmucker@faithumchurch.org or text Kathy at 330-224-6138. Once you have logged into Amplify Media search Celebrate Wonder to watch this week's Celebrate Wonder Video and view the Celebrate Wonder Music Videos! Amplify Media has also recently added a section called, Cokesbury Kids, to make it easier for you to find all the great resources available for children! **This week's video is Celebrate Wonder Fall 2021 Session 8 Crossing the Sea.**

SAY: This month we are hearing stories about a man named Moses. Our story today tells us what happened when the Hebrews left Egypt. In today's Bible story, God made the waters of the Reed Sea part. A wind came and kept the waters parted. Then the Hebrew people walked across on dry land!

WONDER: I wonder how God made the Red Sea part? What do you think?

PRAY: Dear God, thank you for caring for people who are in danger. Thank you that when we are afraid, we can ask you for help. Amen.



Let My People Go – All Ages

Supplies: white card stock, paper plate, blue marker, large craft stick, duct tape (white, if available), masking tape
Prepare Ahead: Make a Stop/Go sign using the paper plate. On one side of the paper plate, use a blue marker to make a lot of blue wavy lines. Then flip the plate over. On the other side, attach half of the craft stick to the paper plate using duct tape. White duct tape is even better, if available.

- Mark a start line at one end of your room using masking tape. At the other end of the room, mark a finish line.
- To play the game, invite everyone to line up behind the start line. There are no teams; every player is on their own.
- Stand halfway between the start and finish line holding the Stop/Go sign you made.

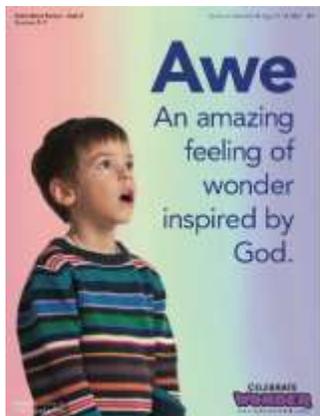
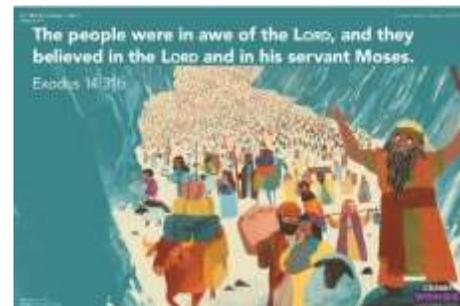
SAY: In today's Bible story, the Hebrew people are going to leave Egypt. They will have to cross the Reed Sea. To do that, God will make a path straight through the sea. When I hold my sign with the blue waves showing, that means "Don't go." The sea is still an obstacle for you. But when I flip the sign around (*demonstrate*), you may walk to other side of the room. If the sign flips back to waves, you must stop!

- Play the game, flipping the sign back and forth. Emphasize that everyone should walk, not run.
- Play multiple times as there is interest.

Examine the Bible Verse

SAY: Our Unit 2 Bible verse is Exodus 14:31b. Find it in your Bibles.

ASK: Is the Book of Exodus in the Old or New Testament? (*Old*) Where is Exodus located in the Old Testament? (*second book*) What is the chapter number? (*14*) What is the verse number? (*31b*) What is the reference for our verse? (*Exodus 14:31b*). Read the Bible verse together.



SHARE the Faith Word: AWE

SAY: The definition of *awe* is an amazing feeling of wonder inspired by God.

SAY: The story of Moses is a long one and takes Moses to many places on an awe-inspiring journey.

WONDER together:

- What do you think the Israelites felt going through the Reed Sea?
- Where do you see God in this Bible story?
- How did the Israelites feel when they made it safely through the sea?

Additional Activities Attached for this Week:

- Crossing the Sea Create a Comic Strip and Coloring Page

- Amazing and Heart Changing Drawing Activities

Spiritual Practice—Exploring Awe Through Gratitude

- Gather together. Light a candle if you'd like. *Supplies: index cards, crayons or markers*

SAY: Spiritual practice is something we do to help us connect to God. It doesn't have to be the same spiritual practice all the time, but it can be. There is no right or wrong way to do spiritual practice. Connecting to God is the most important reason to do a spiritual practice. The last few weeks, we have heard stories of Moses and the many awesome acts God performed to save the Israelites.

- Guide everyone through this spiritual practice.

ASK: When do you feel thankful to God?

SAY: Draw a picture of something you are thankful for on an index card.

PRAY: Repeat after me: "God, help me always be thankful for you. Amen."

- Bless everyone. Touch each person as you say this blessing: "May you always be filled with awe and gratitude for God's wonderful world."

FAMILY SPIRITUAL PRACTICE - BIBLE PASSAGE: Exodus 13-14

Wonder: After reading the Bible story from the Bible or from the *Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook*, wonder together.

Ask: Why did God choose Moses?

Do: Take a nature walk. If possible, find a stream that can be crossed either by jumping across or by walking across a bridge.

Pray: Dear God, thank you for being on the side of people who are hurt and left out. Amen.

Celebration Chart: Place the chart on your refrigerator, kitchen table, or in an easy-to-access place. Throughout the week, have your child mark a space each time he or she completes an item on the chart. When a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together! *A Celebration Chart for Fall is included in the 9/5 & 9/12 Sunday School Home Activities and in the Fall Family Worship Kits.*

Adapted from Celebrate Wonder Fall 2021 Session 6 © 2021 Cokesbury



Our mONEY Story Family Activities:

Week 3: Reimagine

Main Message: God imagines a world where everyone has enough and so can I.

Songs to Sing: "Love, Love" and "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

- **Read Together: LEVITICUS 19 : 9-10; 25 : 8-12**

Activity: Engage in imaginative play using dolls, stuffed animals, building blocks, sand, art supplies, play dough—any materials you have will do! Ask children to imagine a world where

everybody has enough.

You might prompt creativity by posing problems for children to solve, such as: “Oh no! There aren’t enough bricks to complete this house. Where will my family live?” “Oh no, there aren’t enough beds in the dollhouse for all our dolls. What should we do?” “My garden is growing a lot of vegetables—more than I can eat! But Grandad doesn’t have enough food in his fridge. Can you draw the next part of the story?” etc.

For a more structured activity, you might explore the practice of gleaning. Scatter many of the same small items (such as Easter eggs, crayons, Lego bricks, etc.) around the room or playground. Divide children into two groups: the farmers and the gleaners. The farmers own the land, but the gleaners only get what’s left over. Tell the farmers that when you say “go,” for them to collect as many of the items as they can find in one minute. (You may wish to bring out the Easter baskets for this!) When the minute is up, tell the gleaners to go find as many items as they can that were left over. Compare how many items the groups collected. Ask the children, “Was this fair? If not, why do you think that? If these items were food, would the gleaners have enough to eat? What would make things more fair? How could everyone have enough?” Tell the children that the Israelites had a law that tried to make it so that everybody had enough. Scatter the items again, but this time tell the farmers that they’re not allowed to go back into the corners, only the middle of the room or playground. Repeat the activity as before, and compare. Ask the children, “Does this feel more fair? Why do you think that? Can you imagine another way that everyone could have enough to eat?”

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for the gift of imagination. Help me to imagine a world where everybody has enough. Amen.

- **Read Together: MARK 12:38-44**

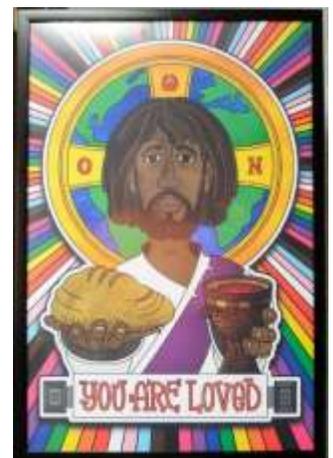
Activity: Hand out Lego bricks (or another building material) to children unevenly. Give some children just a few, some children a large pile, etc. Keep two for yourself. Say, “Today I thought we would build a town. You each have some Lego bricks to build your own house, but we also want to make sure we have a church and maybe a hospital, maybe a school. So how about everyone put a few bricks into the middle and we’ll build our community buildings using that . . . Uh oh. I only have two bricks. What should I do? How will I build a house with just two bricks? . . . If I give any to the common pot to help build the church and the hospital and the school, I won’t have any left to build a house to live in. What do you think should happen?” Children might suggest sharing theirs, or splitting evenly, or inviting you to live in their house. Thank them for anything they offer, and work together to imagine a different way of building the town so that everyone has a home and the town has some community buildings. Once you imagine a new way, build your town and homes together.

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for taking care of me. Help me to imagine a world where everyone is taken care of and no one has to give their last penny. Amen.

Adapted from SANCTIFIED ART OUR MONEY STORY LESSONS FOR CHILDREN

Additional Family Activities:

- **Jubilee Community Art Project** in the Gathering Area on Sunday Mornings at 9:45. Stewardship, like creativity, art, and exploring scripture, is a spiritual practice. Stop by the Gathering Area and participate in each week’s Sunday School activities and be part of creating a Faith United community art mandala reflective of the scriptures in our four-weeks-long stewardship series, “Our mONEy Story.” All ages are welcome to participate in each week’s activity to help be part of this spiritually engaging art experience.
- **Images of Jesus Art Gallery** – Visit in person at the church or online at <https://www.myfaithunited.org/images-of-jesus/>
- **Resources for Talking about Race and Racism with Children:** Visit our website at <https://www.myfaithunited.org/anti-racism/>
- **Look for God Sightings**, looking for our good God in the world! Share the God Sightings you find with us. We will share them during our Wednesday Night Live worship.
- Use individually, or as a family, the worship and devotional resources connected with Sunday’s Worship and Sunday School. Share with others! Visit our website for updated resources: <https://www.myfaithunited.org/worship-online/>



8F

Crossing the Sea – Exodus 13:17–14:31

The Israelites were happy. They were free. The Israelites had lived in Egypt for many years.

While they were in Egypt, they had to work very hard. They were treated very badly. But God rescued them.

Now the Israelites packed up their belongings and left the land of Egypt.



But then Pharaoh had second thoughts. Why should he just let the Israelites go like that? Pharaoh sent his army to follow the Israelites.

Quickly, they hurried across. While they walked across the dry land, God kept the waters from filling back into the sea.

The Israelites got to the Reed Sea. How could they cross the sea? There was no bridge or boat.

When the Israelites were across, God let the waters fill back into the sea.

What were they to do? Moses said, "God will help us." God sent a wind across the sea. The waters parted! The Israelites saw dry land in front of them!

Pharaoh's army could not chase them anymore! The Israelites were safe.

FAMILY SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

BIBLE PASSAGE: Exodus 13–14

Wonder: After reading the Bible story from the Bible or from the *Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook*, wonder together. **Ask:** Why did God choose Moses?

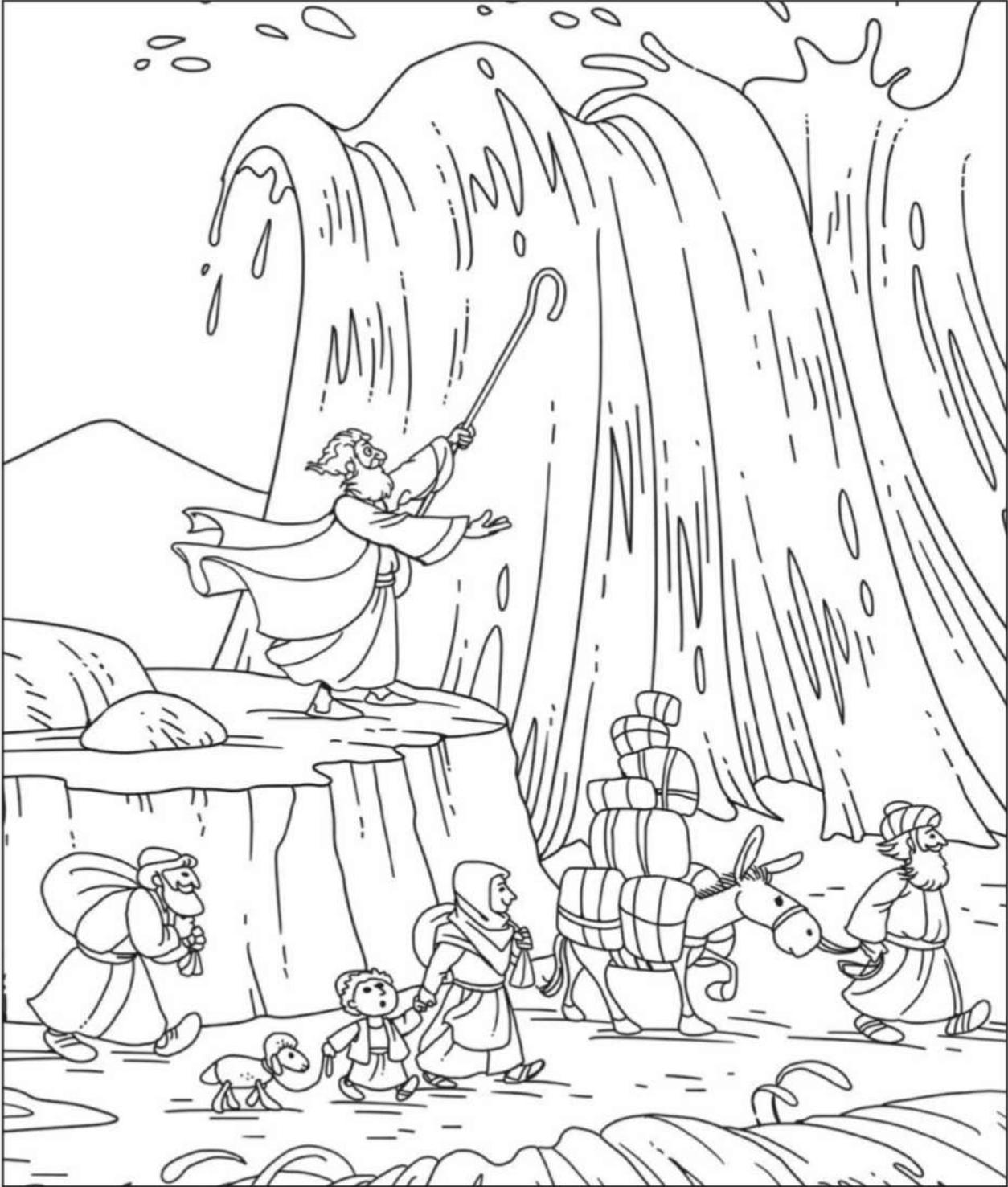
Do: Take a nature walk. If possible, find a stream that can be crossed either by jumping across or by walking across a bridge.

Pray: Dear God, thank you for being on the side of people who are hurt and left out. Amen.

8A

Crossing the Sea – Coloring Page

In today's Bible story, God parted the sea. The Israelites crossed on dry land. Color the picture.



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8D

Crossing the Sea – Make a Comic

Read the paraphrase of today's Bible story and create illustrations for each panel.

It was time for the Israelites to leave Egypt.

The people came to the sea. How were they supposed to cross it?

Moses said, "Do not be afraid!"

Moses raised his staff in the air.

The sea parted!

The Israelites walked across on dry land.

8E

Amazing

What God did for the Israelites is amazing! Draw or write about something amazing that has happened in your life.



8G

Crossing the Sea – Weekly Take-Home

Can you think of stories in the Bible where someone's heart was changed? Have you experienced your heart changing? What happened? How did it make you feel? Write or draw your thoughts inside the heart.



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