



## **Digital Borrowing Box for 27 September, 2020**

### **Bible Stories:**

- Exodus 17:1-7
- Psalm 25:1-11
- Philippians 2:1-13
- Matthew 21:23-32

Hello!

We're back on for our next Sunday Club today! We're ever closer to launching a Sunday Club Zoom for younger children as well, which will run just before the Sunday morning Livestream. Keep an eye out here and during the intimations for more information!

For this week, our box includes:

- A Parent's Brief for you to see how Passover and Communion are connected.
- We have included a Word Search and Colouring Page (pg 4 and 5) this week, and
- A few Activity Ideas for the week, and Reflective Prayer from Spill the Beans

**Sunday Club** is on! It is a good chance all around to catch up, hear a short reflection from Steve based off of his weekly video, and play a game or two. If any of your P7-S2s want to hop on for a chance to socialise and play some lighthearted games from **1-2pm** on Sundays, we use Zoom (*Room Number: 403-383-3163*).

On the recommendation of our Safeguarders, we have put a weekly password on the Zoom Room, which you'll need in order to log your child into the call. Let Steve know if you need the code.

### **Before Livestream:**

Print off materials (pg 4 and 5), prepare markers and paper for drawing throughout the service.

### **During:**

Have markers and paper to hand for your children through the service.

### **After:**

Give some of our activities a try! We've divided them up into different categories to help you decide when to do them.

Steve Chaffee and the Young Church Team

## Parent's Brief: Exodus 17:1-7

*It is sometimes taught that 'Theologically speaking, Exodus precedes Genesis'. That is, that the theology of Exodus is older than Genesis--even while Genesis collects stories leading up to Exodus! In the coming months as we step into Exodus, these parent's briefs will be focusing on the fascinating ways we often read (and misread!) Exodus, which is a story of both political and spiritual liberation.*

Last week, we read, learned, and thought about the Manna from Heaven, and how God provided food for the Israelites while they wandered in the desert for forty years. While it concerned food (bread and meat), today's story is a matching couplet, about water. But we learn some extra details amidst the undergrowth too!



The Israelites are camped out, and there's no water to drink. So they quarrel with Moses. So much so that the place gets named 'Meribah', which means 'quarrel'! Again their nostalgia is on display, *'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' (17:3)*. Here, Moses strikes the rock with his staff and water flows from it, sufficient for the people of Israel. But the parallel account from Numbers 20 gives us more detail. Moses and Aaron are told by God to *address the rock* and it would give water. Yet, Moses instead rebukes the crowd and strikes the rock twice, with his staff. (In fact, the writers trace *this* event to being the reason why Moses and Aaron are kept from entering the Promised Land!)

Part of us, I think, kicks against God's pronouncement against Moses and Aaron. It seems unfair to them, who spend most of their lives following God and leading the Israelites--putting up with their fair share of grief! Their mark on Judaism is indelible--it's from this period that the 10 Commandments, the Tabernacle, and Levitical code emerges. Moses is regarded as the greatest prophet of the Hebrew Bible. Yet he is far from perfect. I often think on how Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy are stories about the reforming of both the nation Israel and the individual Moses.

It seems telling to me that Moses' first interaction with God in Exodus 14 is marked by Moses' attempts to manipulate God and resistance to his call...whereas by Deuteronomy 34 Moses has 'become obedient even to the point of death'.

However, it remains to be seen by this point in the Bible how well Israel has learned this lesson.

How do we bring this text into our kids' lives today?

- 1) In Numbers' telling of the same story, it notes at the start that Miriam has died too. Moses and Aaron both were likely grieving during the quarrel at the rock. **What times can you think of where you acted poorly because of something else that's set you off? How might you have acted differently?**
- 2) The story is about the Israelites finding unexpected refreshment in a desolate place. **What times can you think of where you got an unexpected helping hand? Or what time were you in the position to give someone an unexpected hand?**

# Moses, Israelites, and the Rock

R	R	A	R	R	R	R	I	M	A	A	H	Y	T
T	I	G	R	E	A	Q	S	F	E	G	I	R	R
A	B	R	B	B	R	S	G	L	A	R	E	A	O
E	M	U	E	A	E	Q	E	E	K	I	I	S	L
Y	K	R	A	A	O	U	M	R	C	E	U	E	U
E	A	S	W	R	E	A	R	H	O	F	I	T	R
F	T	G	I	O	A	R	M	E	R	Q	E	I	F
M	A	M	M	N	M	R	S	O	T	C	W	L	M
T	N	R	Y	I	U	E	Y	R	S	A	A	E	E
M	R	S	R	H	S	L	M	Y	E	E	W	A	R
I	Q	I	Y	T	S	R	I	H	T	R	S	R	I
E	A	O	L	I	I	N	I	A	M	A	R	S	B
M	M	H	U	F	F	A	T	S	T	I	E	I	A
E	O	R	B	L	R	I	R	H	Y	Y	E	S	H

WATER  
 AARON  
 MOSES  
 REBUKE  
 GRIEF  
 STAFF  
 ISRAELITES  
 MIRIAM  
 MERIBAH  
 QUARREL  
 THIRSTY  
 ROCK

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1474468/>

## Steve's Bonus Words:

Glare, Fit, Arm, Mars, Tan, Muss, Rare



## Activity Ideas:

### (Craft, Painting) Making

**Meribah:** Using some craft paint, an old sponge, and some scissors, you and your children can make your own rock of Meribah!

First use some scissors to cut up a sponge into an irregular, rock-like shape. Then using a grey paint separated into three containers to make it coloured like a rock. You can use white paint to lighten the grey and black to darken it.

When it has dried, you should have a 'rock' that can soak up water!

### (Game) Guess the Promise:

Ask your children to (silently!) think of a promise they'd like to keep this week, and then go around trying to guess what that promise will be. At the end, everyone can say their promise out loud, and you can help each other keep that promise through the week.

## Prayer of Dedication (Spill the Beans, #36)

Even our best intentions  
can be stumbling blocks.  
Yet you can redeem even  
our half-hearted attempts,  
our half-baked schemes,  
our well-meaning failures.

Take our flawed faith  
and our incomplete gifts  
and transform them for  
the sake of your complete love,  
your more-excellent path,  
your upside-down kingdom.

In your grace-filled name we  
pray. Amen.