

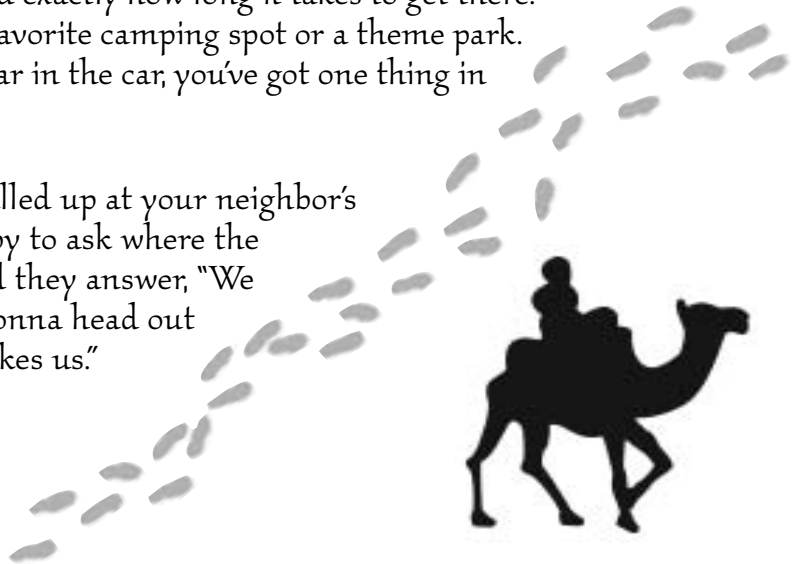


ABRAHAM DESTINATION UNKNOWN

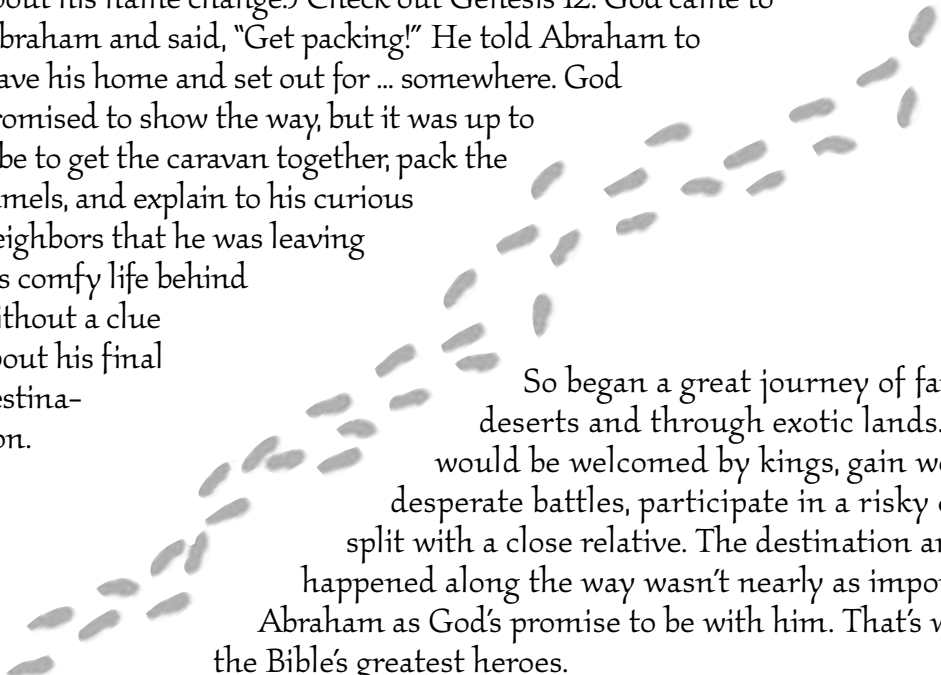


When your family sets out on a road trip, you usually know exactly where you're going. If it's some place familiar, like Grandma's house, you know all the best roadside stops and exactly how long it takes to get there. Maybe you're off to your favorite camping spot or a theme park. When you get all your gear in the car, you've got one thing in mind: getting there!

Suppose a moving van pulled up at your neighbor's house one day. You drop by to ask where the neighbors are moving and they answer, "We have no clue. We're just gonna head out and see where the road takes us."

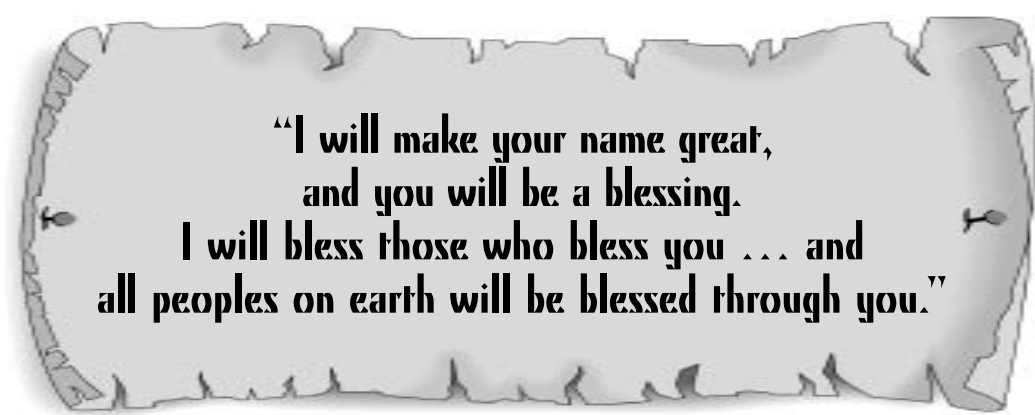


Guess what. That's exactly what Abraham did. (We'll talk later about his name change.) Check out Genesis 12. God came to Abraham and said, "Get packing!" He told Abraham to leave his home and set out for ... somewhere. God promised to show the way, but it was up to Abe to get the caravan together, pack the camels, and explain to his curious neighbors that he was leaving his comfy life behind without a clue about his final destination.



So began a great journey of faith across deserts and through exotic lands. Abraham would be welcomed by kings, gain wealth, fight desperate battles, participate in a risky charade, and split with a close relative. The destination and even what happened along the way wasn't nearly as important to Abraham as God's promise to be with him. That's why he's one of the Bible's greatest heroes.

The Bible tells us that when we show the kind of trust Abraham did, we become sons and daughters of Abraham through faith. So let's hit the road with Abe and Sarah, taking this promise from Genesis 12:2-3 with us.



**"I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you ... and
all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."**

That's quite a passport! Why not make it your own? Travel in faith, and ask God to bless others through you.

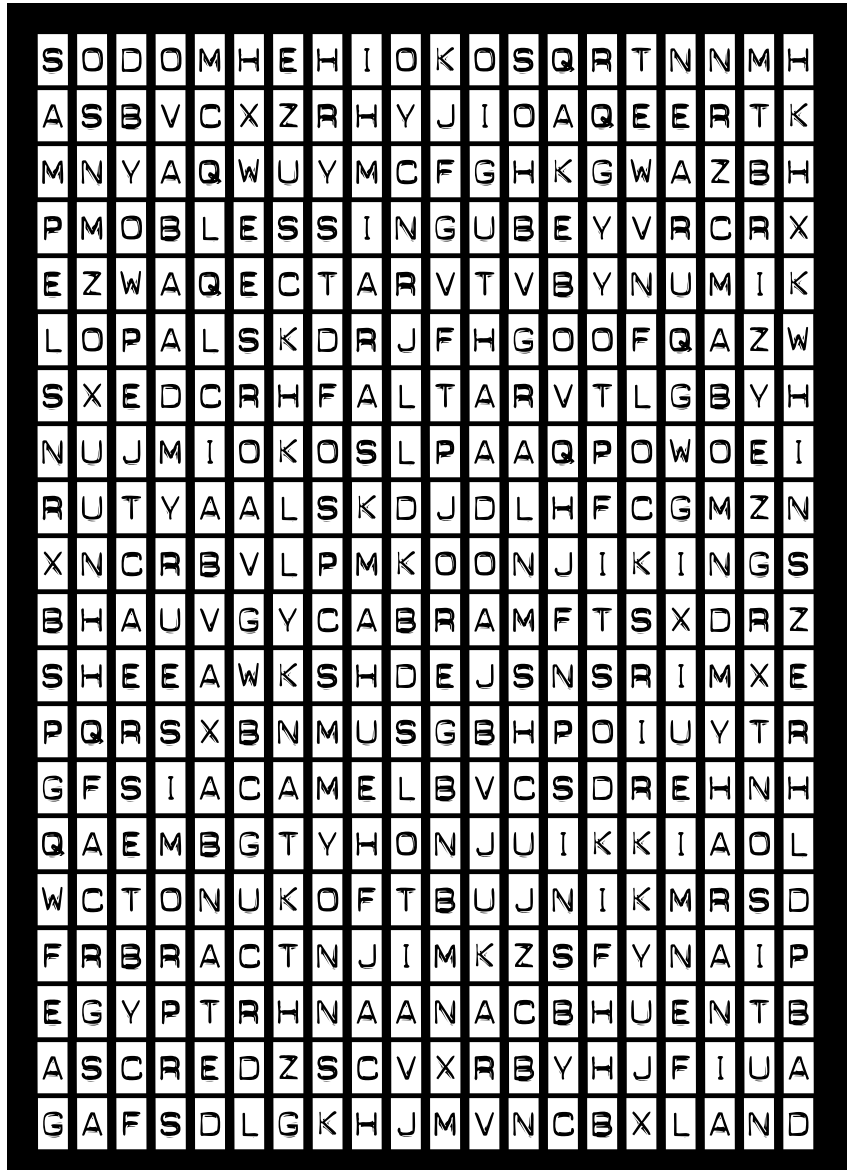
Abraham's Journey

Following God's guidance, Abraham visited and lived in places all over the Middle East. He met famous people and had all kinds of adventures. Find the words from Abraham's story in Genesis 12-15 hidden in the puzzle below. The words may run forward or backward and horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.



Word List

blessing
 Abram
 Sarai
 Lot
 Haran
 Canaan
 Egypt
 pharaoh
 camel
 Negev
 flocks
 herds
 Sodom
 altar
 promise
 Lord
 kings
 land



You'll find the answers on p. 70.

Too Many to Count

Even though Abraham didn't have children yet, God told him that he would eventually have a family so big that no one could count it. It took a while, but God gave Abraham a son named Isaac. Through Isaac, Abraham's family grew and grew. How long do you think it took before the number was uncountable? No one can say for sure, but this math puzzler will show you how fast descendants can multiply.

Then the Lord brought Abram outside beneath the night sky and told him, "Look up into the heavens and count the stars if you can. Your descendants will be like that—too many to count!"
Genesis 15:5 (NLT)

If a man named John has two children by the time he is twenty-five years old, and each of them has two children by age twenty-five, and each of those children has two children by age twenty-five, and so on, how long will it take for John's family to grow to one million descendants?



hint:

Complete this table to figure out how many generations it will take, then multiply that number by twenty-five to get the number of years.

Generation	Number of descendants in this generation	Total number of people in the family
0 John	0	1
1 John's kids	2	3
2 John's grandkids	4	7
3 John's great-grandkids	8	15

You'll find the answer on p. 70.



Egyptian Mind Bender



When they arrived in Egypt, perhaps Abraham put four of his servants, whom we'll call

Shua, Beruch, Gad, and Hosea,

in charge of his four different types of livestock:



cattle, sheep, camels,
and goats.



Using the clues below, see if you can figure out which servant cared for which kind of animal.

1. Hosea was responsible for shearing his animals' wool.
2. Gad was glad that he didn't have to care for the camels, because he didn't like the way they spit.
3. Shua's favorite part of his job was caring for the calves when they were born.
4. Beruch got spit on by one of the animals in his care.



Big Hint:

Use the grid below to keep track of what you know.

For example, from fact #1, you can figure out that Hosea kept the sheep. So put a "yes" in the "sheep" box under Hosea's name. Then put "no" in the sheep box under everyone else's name, since only one person kept sheep.

Also, put "no" in every other animal's space under Hosea's name, since you know he cared for only one type of animal.

Keep filling in boxes like this until you bend your brain cells around the whole solution.



	Shua	Beruch	Gad	Hosea
cattle				
sheep				
camel				
goats				



You'll find the answers on p. 70.



YOUR ROYAL WHO-NESS?



Amraphel of Shinar

Examples: ram, arm, lap, shine

Arioch of Ellasar

Kedorlaomer of Elam

Tidal of Goiim

Bera of Sodom

Birsha of Gomorrah

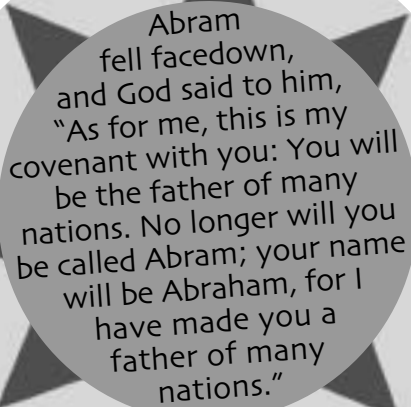
Shinab of Admah

Shemeber of Zeboiim

One of the adventures on Abraham's road trip was a battle that involved nine kings. And those kings had really weird names. See how many words you can make from the letters in each of their names.

Mix it up! Make this puzzle a contest. Challenge a friend or family member to see who can come up with the most words from each king's name and city.

SWITCHEROOS



Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations."

During their road trip, our travelers were called Abram and Sarai. But life-changing events called for new names, and God had just the right names in mind. Check out these name switcheroos from Genesis 17: 3-5, 15-16.

Abe and Sarah aren't the only Bible people who got new names. After each clue, fill in each name changer's old and new names.

1. This traveler got knocked over by a bright light on the road to Damascus. (Acts 9:1-9; 13:9)

Old name: _____

New name: _____

2. Pharaoh invaded from Egypt. He made this guy king of Judah and gave him a new name. (2 Kings 23:34)

Old name: _____

New name: _____

3. This man wrestled with God beside a stream. (Genesis 32:22-28)


Old name: _____

New name: _____

4. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, switched kings in Judah and gave this king a new name. (2 Kings 24:15-17)

Old name: _____

New name: _____



"As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

5. This disciple said he believed Jesus was the Son of God. (Matthew 16:15-19)

Old name: _____

New name: _____

6. This person gets a new name in heaven. SURPRISE! (Revelation 2:17)

Old name: _____

New name: _____

You'll find the answers on p. 70.

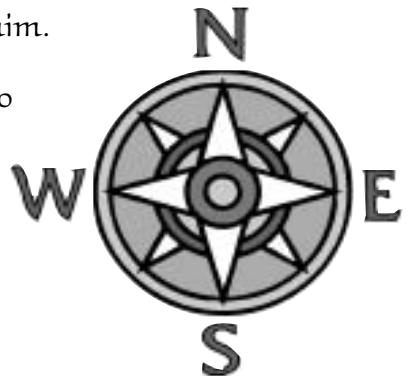
NORTH AND SOUTH

The Lord said to Abram ... "Lift up your eyes from where you are and look north and south, east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you."

Genesis 13:14-17

Walk with Abraham through the land God promised him.

Wherever the directions say to walk, use your pencil to draw a line. When you are done, you will see how one of Abraham's descendants showed his love for the world.

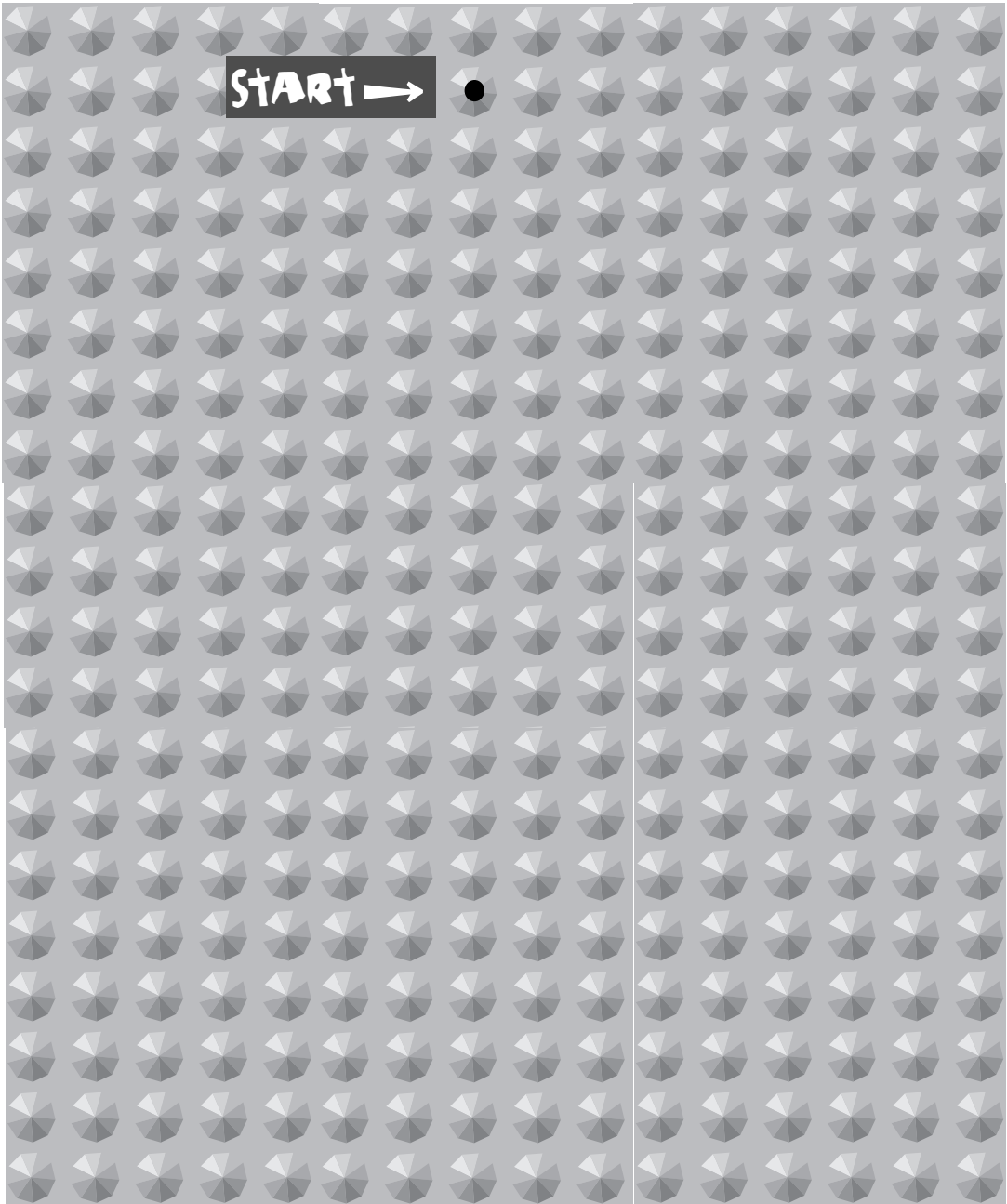


DIRECTIONS

1. Walk 2 spaces to the east.
2. Walk 4 spaces to the south.
3. Walk 5 spaces to the east.
4. Walk 2 spaces to the south.
5. Walk 5 spaces to the west.
6. Walk 11 spaces to the south.
7. Walk 2 spaces to the west.
8. Walk 11 spaces to the north.
9. Walk 5 spaces to the west.
10. Walk 2 spaces to the north.
11. Walk 5 spaces to the east.
12. Walk 4 spaces to the north.

You'll find the solution on p. 71.

EAST AND WEST





THE EXODUS

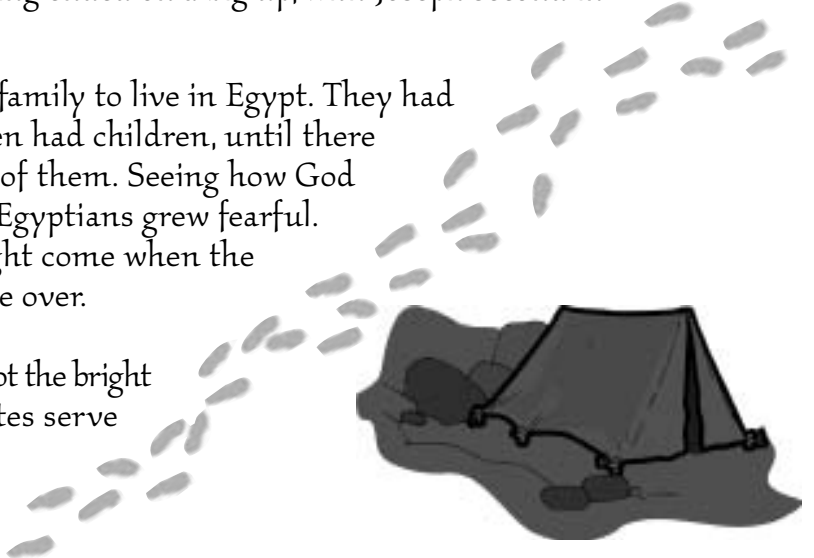
ROAD TRIP THROUGH THE DESERT



It all started with Joseph. When his brothers sold him to be a slave in Egypt, they didn't know they were starting something big. Joseph had his ups and downs, but God saw to it that everything ended on a big up, with Joseph second in command of all Egypt.

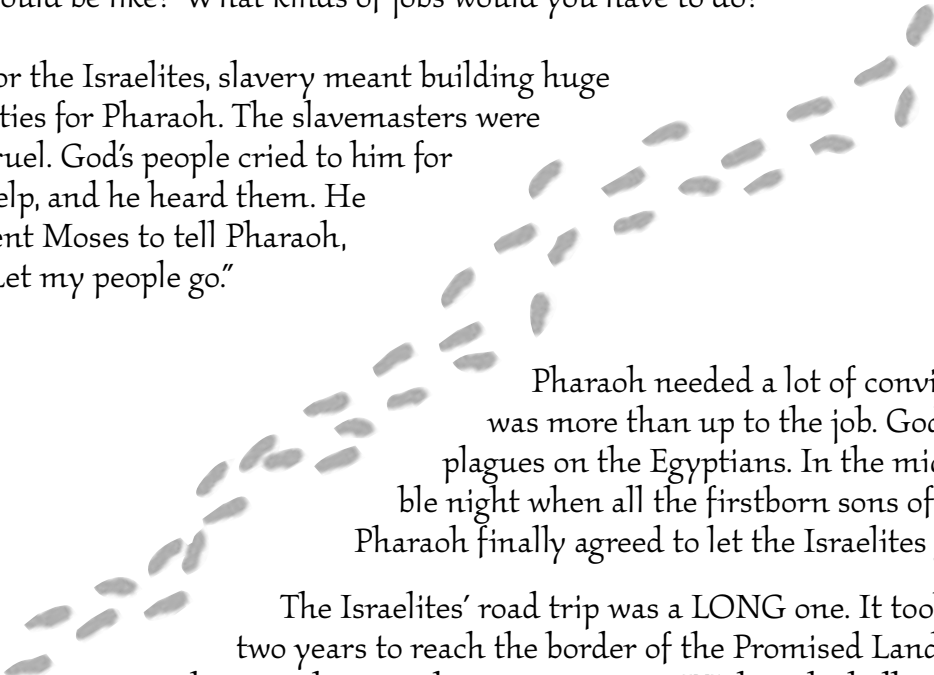
Joseph brought his whole family to live in Egypt. They had children, and their children had children, until there were more than a million of them. Seeing how God blessed the Israelites, the Egyptians grew fearful. They thought the day might come when the Israelites would try to take over.

That's when the Egyptians got the bright idea of making the Israelites serve them as slaves.



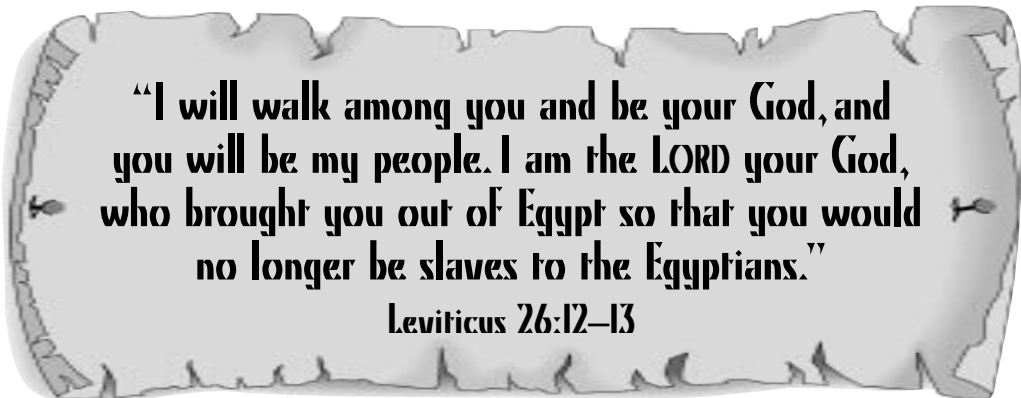
Suppose someone made you a slave. What do you think life would be like? What kinds of jobs would you have to do?

For the Israelites, slavery meant building huge cities for Pharaoh. The slavemasters were cruel. God's people cried to him for help, and he heard them. He sent Moses to tell Pharaoh, "Let my people go."



Pharaoh needed a lot of convincing, but God was more than up to the job. God sent ten plagues on the Egyptians. In the middle of a terrible night when all the firstborn sons of Egypt died, Pharaoh finally agreed to let the Israelites go.

The Israelites' road trip was a LONG one. It took more than two years to reach the border of the Promised Land. They faced hunger, thirst, and vicious enemies. With each challenge they learned to trust in God to take care of their needs and protect them. When they reached the Promised Land, the Israelites sent spies to scope it out. Ten of the twelve spies reported that the people who lived there were too powerful to be defeated. The Israelites freaked out and refused to move ahead. Oops!



"I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt so that you would no longer be slaves to the Egyptians."

Leviticus 26:12–13

So, the long road trip turned into an even longer one. The consequence for disobeying God was wandering in the desert for forty years—until all the grown-ups had died. Only then could the Israelites go home to the land God had promised Abraham so long ago.