

PARENTS INFORMATION

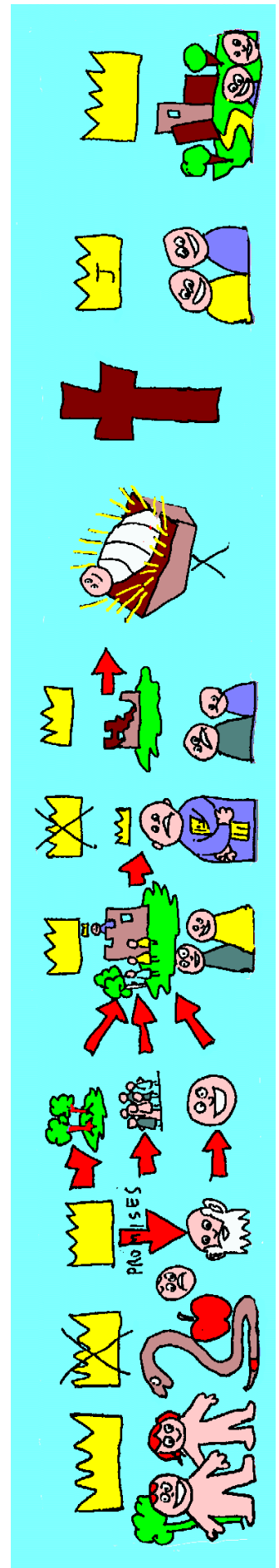
Welcome to The King, The Snake and The Promise – working through key Bible stories in 10 easy sessions

For most of us, the fact that the Bible has a storyline that spans from Genesis to Revelation wasn't something we picked up in Sunday School! In fact, the average Christian will be hard pressed to remember if Abraham comes before David, or Noah and his famous Ark came before or after Samson and Solomon. The bits and pieces of bible stories are all there - but how do they fit together? This is what our sessions aim to cover!

Each session has a passage of the Bible you can read together with your child and then some ideas of activities and thoughts you can chat about.

The banner which goes alongside this set of teaching is KEY as it enables the children to tell the story pictorially and gives them a reminder of the previous stories. You can either do this on material (and cut the pieces out of felt) or you could print the pictures and cut them out and stick them onto a long piece of wallpaper, or in a book, or get your child to draw them – it's up to you!

Original material produced by Phil and Louise Campbell including the banner pictures. Adaptations have been made to make it age specific. Additional activities have been provided by SundaySchoolResources.co.uk All permissions have been sought and granted.



LESSON 10

God's People in God's Place Again

Aim

To show that the story of the Bible comes to a fitting conclusion with the perfection of Eden restored in heaven for those who follow King Jesus.

Bible Focus

Revelation 22:1-6 is our Bible focus today. As you read it keep in mind that the pictures Revelation deals in are “symbols” - in this case, symbols of the final restoration of a perfect relationship with God.

Resources

- Party food
- Fruit and leaves to decorate tables

Activity

Today's activity will be a surprise party after the session

Revision

Work all the way through the banner, especially focusing on the early sections - the garden, sin, and God's punishment. Make sure the theme of God's BLESSING to Abraham is recalled, and seen as the solution to God's punishment. Clarify the fact that the followers of Jesus are part of God's kingdom. Take all the time you need to revise the banner - this is the last lesson, and will be your last chance to consolidate the Bible overview.

Story Time

Sometimes, sad things happen. Things that make us cry. People do things that hurt us. Sometimes we get sick. Or people we love get sick. And there are wars, where people get injured and killed. We live in a world that's full of sad things. That's the way the world is,

because right back at the start Adam and Eve decided they could run the world better without God. People decide the same thing these days. And they don't do a very good job.

If you look at our banner, that's what the Bible is all about. It's about people like Adam and Eve and King Solomon who keep wanting to do things their way instead of God's way. And it's about God's big promises to put things right.

ASK "Can you remember the three big promises to Abraham?". (God's special people were going to be in God's special place, and God was going to bless them).

Today we're going right to the end of the story. And it's right at the end of the Bible. It's a picture that God has given us about the way things are going to be when we get to heaven, the special place he has got ready for his people.

At the start of the Bible, Adam and Eve lived in God's special garden, and they were happy, and close to God. At the end of the Bible, God tells us there's going to be a CITY - not just a garden, 'cause there are going to be so many people there. They're all the people from all over the world who follow Jesus and have made him their King.

In the garden there was a beautiful river that watered all the plants and kept them alive. In the City at the end of the Bible, there's a river too - the river of the Water of Life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God to the throne of Jesus.

In the garden there was a tree called the Tree of Life. And if you ate its fruit you could live for ever. In the beautiful city there are trees like that all up and down the sides of the streets, and they're full of fruit.

But best of all, GOD is in the city. And Jesus is there too. And they'll rule over their people for ever and ever, and there won't be any more sin or sadness or pain or crying. It's going to be a wonderful place.

The most important question is, how do we get there? It's the sort of place God has been talking about all the way through the bible - a place where he can rule over his people and they can be blessed and happy. (Just like in the promise pictures near the start of the banner.) It's going to be like David's kingdom, only much, much better. So it's an important question, isn't it? How do we get there?

And the answer is, it's EASY! Jesus has already died for our sins, so when you turn to God and say SORRY, and you make Jesus your KING, that's all you have to do! You've booked a place in God's Kingdom in Heaven. And when you die, you'll go to meet him, and we'll all be there in the City of God's Kingdom, smiling and laughing and having a great party. And that's what the Bible's all about!

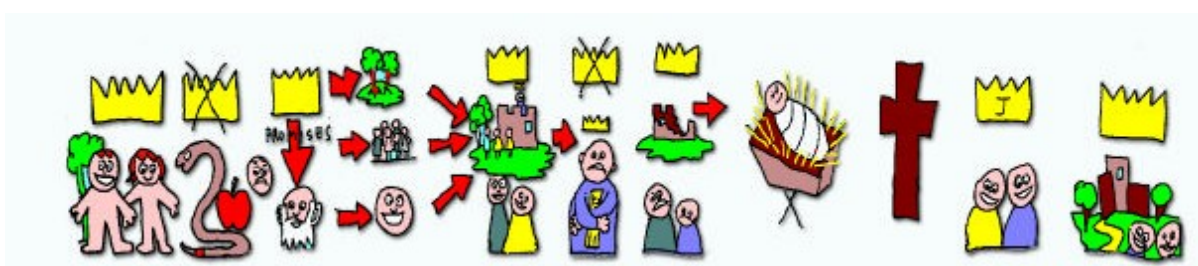
BANNER

As you add the finishing touches to your banner, point out the similarities between the first lesson, the promises to Abraham, and this final section. Here at last are God's people, happy in God's special place. This is what the Bible has been looking forward to all along.

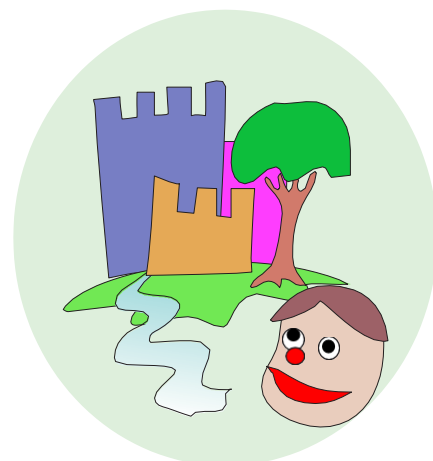
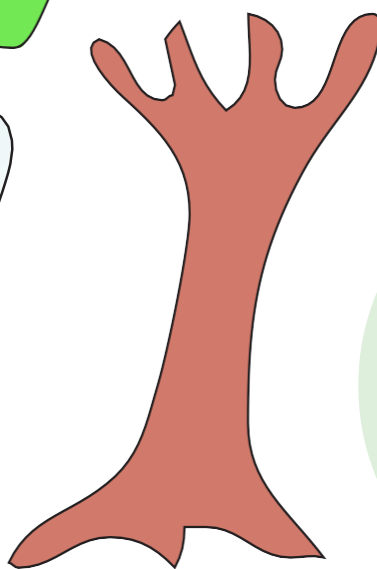
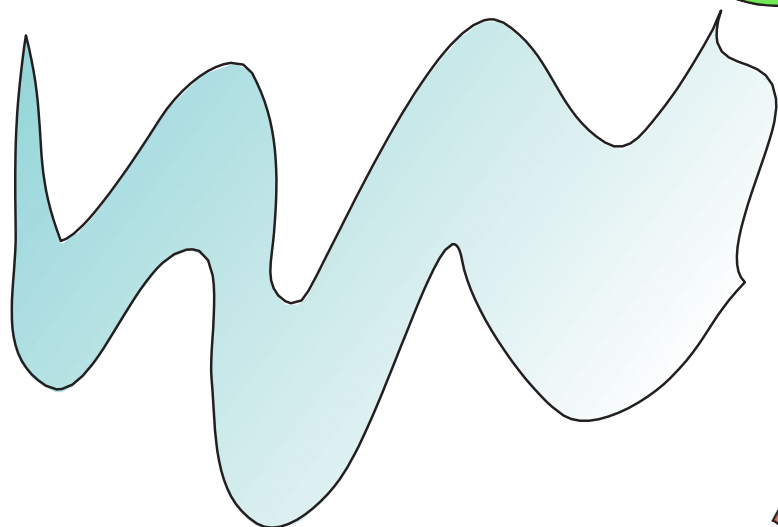
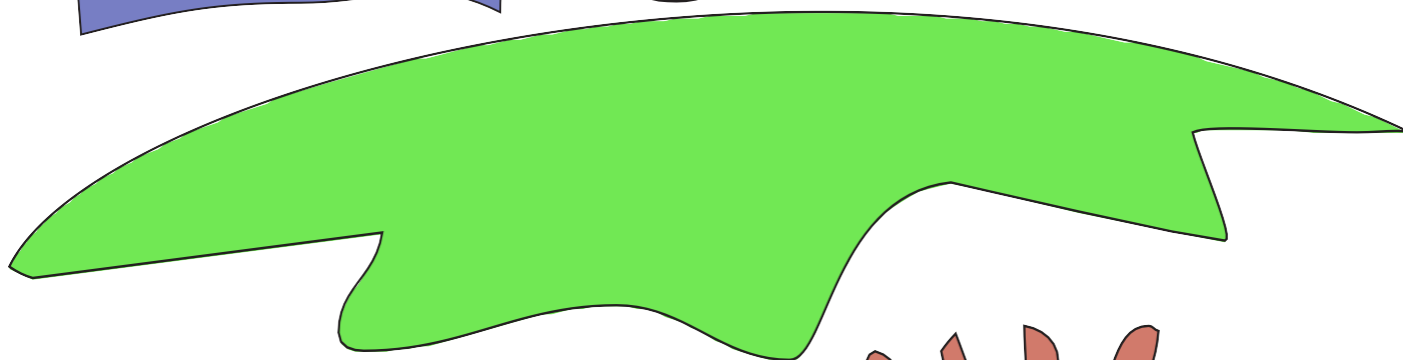
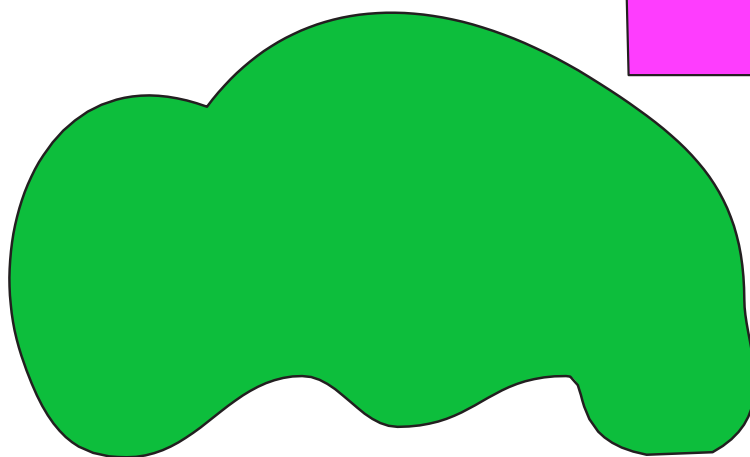
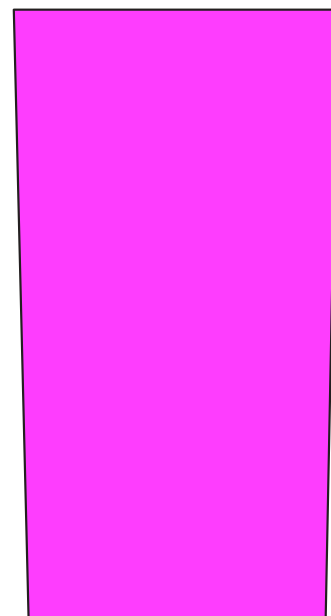
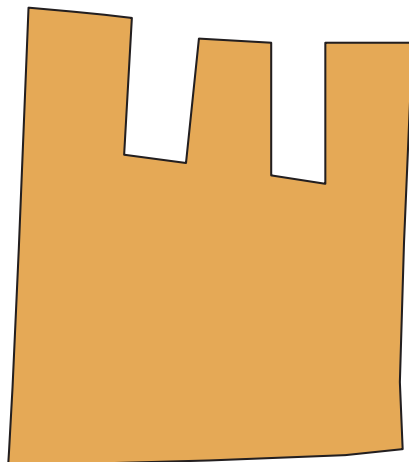
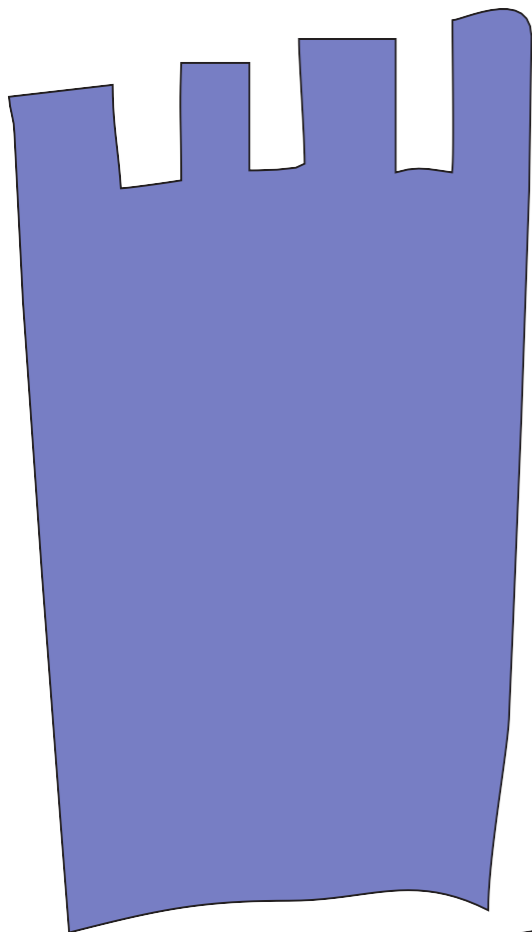


Party Time

The end of unit party is designed to be a reminder of the celebrations in heaven! Decorate the table with leaves and fruit (Revelation 22v2) to remind your child of the fruit from the tree of life. Display the banner prominently.



Lesson 10 - Heaven - the promised land that lasts!



THE END

You made it!

**IF YOU MADE IT THIS FAR THEN
IT'D BE GREAT TO SEE YOUR
COMPLETED BANNER. PLEASE
EMAIL IT TO: cfcw@eatonsocon.org**

FRUIT BREAD RECIPE

We talked a lot today about the new Eden and having a celebration so fruit bread is perfect to represent this

YOU WILL NEED:

500g strong white bread flour
1 tsp mixed spice
7g easy action yeast
2 scant teaspoons fine salt
40g cranberries
40g currants
40g dried blueberries
30g sultanas
1 egg
125 ml warm water
125ml warm milk (I tend to use just boiled water on top of the cold milk and that gets the temperature about right, you want it hand hot)
2 tbsp marmalade

For the glaze:

1 tbsp granulated sugar
2 tbsp water
(Or you could glaze with a couple of tablespoons of warmed honey)

TO DO:

If you have a freestanding mixer then all you do is put all of the ingredients into the bowl and using the dough hook mix on speed 2 for two minutes. Turn it out of the bowl and manhandle into a ball. Place back in the bowl and cover with a large plastic bag for 1 hour to 1 ½ hours until it has doubled in size.

If you are mixing by hand, then put the flour, yeast, dried fruit, mixed spice and salt into a bowl. Measure the milk and water in a jug and beat in the egg. Add the liquid and the marmalade to the flour and using a flat knife such as a palette knife, begin to mix together. When it is all combined, tip it out onto a lightly floured worktop and begin to knead. To do this you hold half the dough down with one fist and stretch the other half away from you with the heel of your other hand. Fold the dough back onto itself, turn and repeat the process for about ten minutes or until your arms fall off, whichever is the soonest. Make it into a ball shape and place into a bowl and cover with a large plastic bag until doubled in size.

Grease a loaf tin with butter. Take off the plastic bag and gently press the air out of the dough using your fingertips. Lift the dough out of the bowl and shape into a log shape by stretching and folding. Be gentle though. Place the dough into the loaf tin and cover again for 20-30 minutes until it has risen by about half its size again.

Place in preheated oven at 220°C, gas mark 7 or the Roasting Oven of the Aga for about twenty – thirty minutes until golden and sounds hollow when turned out and tapped on its base. Take the loaf out of its tin and place on a wire rack.

Just before the end of the cooking time, put the sugar and water for the glaze in a small pan over a gentle heat until the sugar dissolves. Bring to the boil and then remove from the heat. Brush the glaze over the loaf as soon as it comes out of the oven and is sitting on the wire rack.

"Fear not; I am the first and the last, and the living one."



Mandy Grace '17