

Wycliffe Associates

Bible Translation Reviewers' Guide

Old Testament Survey

Genesis - Deuteronomy

Instructions for the Review Leader	3
Genesis 1:1-2:3..... God creates everything.....	4
Genesis 2:4-25..... The man and woman in Eden	6
Genesis 3:1-24..... The man and woman sin	8
Genesis 12:1-8..... God calls Abram	10
Genesis 17:1-8..... The covenant of circumcision with Abraham.....	11
Genesis 22:1-18	13
Genesis 50:15-26	16
Exodus 1:1-2:10..... The birth of Moses	18
Exodus 3:1-22..... The burning bush.....	20
Exodus 12:1-42..... The first Passover.....	23
Exodus 14:1-31	27
Exodus 20:1-26	29
Exodus 32:1-35..... The golden calf.....	31
Leviticus 1:1-17	34
Leviticus 8:1-17	36
Leviticus 10:1-7	38
Leviticus 16:1-34	40
Leviticus 25:1-7	43
Numbers 1:1-4	44
Numbers 6:22-27	45
Numbers 13:17-33..... The spies bring back a bad report.....	46
Numbers 20:1-13	49

Numbers 21:4-9	The bronze serpent.....	51
Numbers 24:1-9	Balaam's third oracle	53
Deuteronomy 3:1-11	The Israelites defeat King Og	55
Deuteronomy 3:23-29	God does not let Moses enter the promised land.....	57
Deuteronomy 6:4-9	You shall love Yahweh your God.....	59
Deuteronomy 8:11-20	Warnings about forgetting Yahweh.....	61
Deuteronomy 12:29-13:5 ...	Warning against idolatry.....	63
Deuteronomy 31:1-8	Joshua becomes Israel's leader	65
Deuteronomy 34:1-12	The death of Moses	67

Instructions for the Review Leader

Prepare

- Find 2–4 believers to review your translated passages, and plan where to meet.
- Gather pens and paper, a printed copy of the Reviewers' Guide (RG), one copy of the source text, and printed copies of the translation.
- Read through the parts of the RG and translation that you will ask the believers to review.

Start Review Session

- Bring everything you prepared.
- Welcome reviewers. Pray together.
- Tell reviewers the following:
 - “The questions in this review are not meant to test your Bible knowledge. Instead, they are meant to test how clear the translation is. When I ask questions, please answer from what you find in the text we just read.”
 - “You will not be asked or expected to suggest changes or edits for any issues that are found.”
 - “I will tell you the verse reference for each question. If needed, you can refer to that verse while answering the question.”
- Give reviewers copies of the translated passages.

Conduct Review for Each Passage

- Read (aloud) any **Background** for the passage.
- Read (aloud) the passage in the translation. Reviewers should follow along while you read.
- Ask reviewers to retell the passage, using their own words. They may look at the passage as they retell it.
 - As you listen, mark the box by each **Part 1** item if it is understandable from the way reviewers retell the passage.
 - Write notes on the RG about what they understand and do not understand.
- Ask reviewers the **Part 2** questions. Tell reviewers the verse that each question is about so that they can look at the right verses as they answer.
 - As you listen, mark by each **Part 2** item if it is understandable from how reviewers answer the question. Reviewers do not need to quote directly.
 - As needed, ask additional questions to clarify. (For example, ask reviewers to show or tell which words in the verses led to their answer.)
 - You may also look at your source text to confirm answers.

You may use the **Comment Section** to take any other notes about what they say.

- Some questions in **Part 2** include the phrase “do you think.” These questions are designed to test if implied information can be understood. Any answer that fits with the text is OK. Participants may also answer these questions based on knowledge of other Biblical passages and based on how they react to this passage.

Finish Review Session

- Pray together.
- Thank reviewers.
- As needed, talk about when to meet to review more passages.

After the Review

- Arrange a time to meet with the translation team.
- At that time, bring all the notes from your Review Session(s) to the translation team.
- Show them what was found by reviewers. The team should decide what to change and how to do that.

Genesis 1:1-2:3 God creates everything

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. [1:1]
- ☐ The earth was formless and empty, and the Spirit moved over the waters. [1:2]
- ☐ In six days, God created everything, including humans. [1:3-26]
- ☐ God created humans in his image, male and female. He told them to fill and rule over the earth. He gave them plants and fruit as food. [1:26-31]
- ☐ God rested on the seventh day. [2:1-3]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [1:1] What did God do in the beginning?
In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
2. [1:2] Describe the earth when God began his work of creation.
It was formless and covered in darkness, and the Spirit of God was moving above the waters.
3. [1:3-2:3] Describe what God did on each of the seven days.
 - Day 1. God created light, day and night. [1:3-5]
 - Day 2. God created the sky. [1:6-8]
 - Day 3. God created dry land and all plant life. [1:9-13]
 - Day 4. God created the sun, moon, and stars. [1:14-19]
 - Day 5. God created sea animals and flying creatures. [1:20-23]
 - Day 6. God created land animals and human beings. [1:24-31]
 - Day 7. God rested. [2:1-3]
4. [1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31] What was repeated at the end of each day of creation?
At the end of each day of creation, the passage says there was evening and morning for that day.
5. [1:26] Why did God create humans?
God created humans to be in his image and likeness and to rule over all of the creatures of the earth.
6. [1:28] What did God say after he created humans?
He blessed them and told them to fill the earth with more people. He told them to rule over all other creatures.

Genesis 1:1-2:3 continued

7. [1:29-30] What did God give for food to humans and animals in this passage?
To humans, he gave seed-bearing plants and trees that produced fruit with seed. To the animals, he gave every green plant.
8. [1:31] What does the passage say about God at the end of the sixth day?
God saw all that he created, and it was very good.
9. [1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31] Why do you think God's creation was called very good in this part of the passage, instead of good as earlier in the passage?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps God's creation was called very good in this part of the passage because it was finally complete. Perhaps it was called very good because in this last part of the passage, God had created humans in his own image.
10. [2:1-2] What did God do on the seventh day, after his work was completed?
God rested.
11. [2:3] How did God treat the seventh day differently from the other days of creation?
God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because he rested from his creation work on that day.

Comment Section:

Genesis 2:4-25 The man and woman in Eden

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh God formed man from dirt and breathed life into him. He put man in the garden of Eden. [2:4-8]
- ☐ In the garden, Yahweh God made all kinds of trees grow, including the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. [2:9]
- ☐ A river watered the garden. The river flowed from Eden in 4 directions. [2:10-14]
- ☐ Yahweh God put the man in the garden to work. [2:15]
- ☐ Yahweh God commanded the man not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If the man did eat from it, he would die. [2:16-17]
- ☐ Yahweh God brought all the animals and birds to the man, and the man gave names to them. [2:18-20]
- ☐ Yahweh God created a woman to be a helper to the man. [2:18-25]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [2:5-6] Describe what the earth was like when Yahweh God formed humans.
There were no bushes or plants of the field, because God had not caused it to rain, and no one had worked the ground to cause anything to grow. But a mist from the earth watered the ground.
2. [2:7] How did Yahweh God form man?
Yahweh God formed the man out of the dust of the earth and breathed life into his nostrils.
3. [2:8-9] What did Yahweh God plant in Eden?
Yahweh God planted a garden in Eden. Every kind of tree that was good for food and pleasant to see was planted in the garden.
4. [2:9] What were the two trees the writer of Genesis identified in the garden?
The tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil grew in the garden.
5. [2:10-14] Why do you think that the rivers that flowed out of Eden are described?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps these were famous rivers. Perhaps this helps show in which part of the world this happened.
6. [2:15] What did Yahweh God want the man to do in the garden?
Yahweh God wanted the man to work the garden and take care of it.

Genesis 2:4-25 continued

7. [2:17] What did Yahweh God command the man not to do?
He commanded the man not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
8. [2:17] What would happen to the man if he ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?
The man would die.
9. [2:19-20] How did the animals get named?
Yahweh God brought the animals and birds to the man, and the man named each living creature.
10. [2:18-25] What did Yahweh God do because he did not want the man to be alone?
Yahweh God decided to make a helper for the man, so he created a woman from the man.
11. [2:25] After Yahweh God created the woman, why do you think the Bible mentioned that the man and woman were naked and felt no shame?
This passage indicates that they were pure and without sin at this time, so they had no reason to be ashamed in front of each other or before Yahweh God.

Comment Section:

Genesis 3:1-24 The man and woman sin

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ The serpent asked the woman if God had told them they couldn't eat from any of the trees. [3:1]
- ☐ The woman said that only the fruit of the tree in the center of the garden was forbidden. [3:2-3]
- ☐ The serpent told her that she would not die if she ate from it. The serpent said that instead she would be like God and know good and evil. [3:4-5]
- ☐ The woman ate the fruit from the tree. She also gave it to the man, and he ate it. [3:6]
- ☐ The man and woman realized they were naked, so they hid from God. [3:7-11]
- ☐ Because they ate the fruit, God punished the serpent, the woman, and the man. [3:9-19]
- ☐ God sent Adam and Eve out of the garden of Eden. He placed cherubim at the entrance so they could not enter and eat from the tree of life. [3:20-24]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [3:1] How did the author describe the serpent?
The serpent was more clever than any other animal God had made.
2. [3:1] What did the serpent ask the woman?
The serpent asked if God really said not to eat from any tree in the garden.
3. [3:2-3] How did the woman respond?
She said they could eat from any tree in the garden except the one in the middle. She said that if they ate from it or touched it, they would die.
4. [3:4-5] Then what did the serpent say?
The serpent told the woman they would not die. The serpent said that if they ate it, they would be like God, knowing good and evil.
5. [3:6] What did the woman observe about the tree?
She saw that the tree was good for food, that it was a delight to the eyes, and that it was desirable to make one wise.
6. [3:6] What did the woman do?
The woman ate the fruit of the tree and gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it as well.

Genesis 3:1-24 continued

7. [3:7-9] What happened to the man and woman after they ate the fruit?
Their eyes were opened, and they realized that they were naked. They covered themselves and hid from God when they heard him coming.
8. [3:9-13] What did the man and woman say after Yahweh God asked them if they had eaten from the tree?
The man said that the woman had given him the fruit, and he ate it. The woman said that the serpent deceived her, and she ate it.
9. [3:12-13] When Yahweh God asked the man and woman if they had eaten from the tree, why do you think the man mentioned the woman and the woman mentioned the serpent?
(Answer may vary.) This seems to indicate that the man blamed the woman and that the woman blamed the serpent. Perhaps they were trying to explain what they had done. Perhaps they were trying to avoid responsibility for what they had done. Perhaps they did not want to admit that they had chosen to do what was wrong.
10. [3:14-15] How did God curse the serpent?
God said that because it had done this, the serpent was the most cursed of all animals of the field. It would crawl on its stomach, and it would have hostility with the woman and her child. The child would bruise its head, and the serpent would bruise his heel.
11. [3:16] How did God curse the woman?
God increased the woman's pain during childbirth. Also, her husband would rule over her.
12. [3:17-19] How did God curse the man?
God cursed the ground so that the man would have to work hard for his food until the day he died.
13. [3:20] What did Adam do after Yahweh God announced the curses?
Adam named his wife Eve.
14. [3:21-24] What did Yahweh God do after he announced the curses?
God made clothes for Adam and Eve, then he sent them out of the garden of Eden. God placed cherubim and a flaming sword at the east of the garden to prevent Adam and Eve from eating from the tree of life.

Comment Section:

Genesis 12:1-8 God calls Abram

Background: The event in this passage happened many years after Adam and Eve lived. Abram was their descendant. Abram lived in a land called Haran when Yahweh first spoke with him.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh told Abram to leave his home, country, and family and to go to a land that Yahweh would show him. [12:1]
- ☐ Yahweh said he would make a great nation through Abram, he would make Abram's name great, and he would bless the whole world through Abram. [12:2-3]
- ☐ Abram obeyed Yahweh. He took his family and went to the land of Canaan. [12:4-7]
- ☐ Abram built an altar to Yahweh and called on Yahweh's name. [12:8]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [12:1] What did Yahweh tell Abram to do?
Yahweh told Abram to leave his home and go to a place that God would show him.
2. [12:2-3] What did Yahweh say to Abram?
Yahweh said that
 - he would make Abram's descendants into a great nation,
 - he would bless Abram,
 - he would make Abram's name great,
 - he would bless those who blessed Abram,
 - he would curse those who cursed Abram, and
 - he would bless all families of the earth through Abram.
3. [12:4-6] What did Abram do next?
Abram did what Yahweh told him to do. He took his family and went to the land of Canaan.
4. [12:7] When Yahweh appeared to Abram, what did he say?
He said that he would give the land to Abram's descendants.
5. [12:7-8] What did Abram do after Yahweh appeared to him?
Abram built an altar to Yahweh. Then he moved to a new place. There, he built an altar and called on Yahweh's name.

Comment Section:

Genesis 17:1-8 The covenant of circumcision with Abraham

Background: This passage uses the word covenant, which means a very important promise made between two people or two groups. Earlier, God had made a covenant with Abram and promised that Abram would have many descendants. In this passage, God tells him more about what he promises in his covenant. The name Abraham in this passage means the father of many nations.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh appeared to Abram and confirmed his covenant with him. [17:1-2]
- ☐ God changed Abram's name to Abraham, meaning "father of many nations." [17:3-5]
- ☐ Yahweh promised that he would establish a covenant with Abraham and his descendants that would last forever. [17:6-7]
- ☐ Yahweh promised to give the whole land of Canaan to Abraham and his descendants forever. [17:8]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [17:1] How old was Abram when the Lord appeared to him?
He was 99 years old.
2. [17:1-2] What did Yahweh first say to Abram?
Yahweh said, "I am God Almighty." He told Abram to walk before him and to be blameless. Then Yahweh said he would confirm his covenant with Abram, and he would cause Abram to have many descendants.
3. [17:3] What did Abram do when Yahweh said this to him?
Abram bowed low with his face to the ground.
4. [17:3] Why do you think Abram bowed down low when Yahweh spoke to him?
(Answer may vary.) Abram probably bowed down in front of Yahweh to show his (Abram's) submission and to give honor to Yahweh.
5. [17:4-5] What did God do in verse 5, because Abram would be the father of many nations?
God changed Abram's name to Abraham.

Genesis 17:1-8 continued

6. [17:6-8] What did God promise in his covenant to do for Abraham and his descendants?
- God promised to make Abraham exceedingly fruitful.
 - God promised that nations and kings would descend from Abraham.
 - God promised to establish his covenant with Abraham and his descendants forever.
 - God promised to give all the land of Canaan to Abraham's descendants forever.
 - God promised that he would be their God.

Comment Section:

Genesis 22:1-18 The sacrifice of Isaac

Background: When Abraham was 100 years old, he had a son with his wife, Sarah. The son's name was Isaac.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ God told Abraham to offer his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice. [22:1-2]
- ☐ Abraham traveled to the place where God said he should sacrifice Isaac. [22:3-5]
- ☐ Abraham prepared the altar, and he was about to kill Isaac. [22:6-10]
- ☐ But the angel of Yahweh told Abraham not to harm his son, because now he knew that Abraham truly feared God. [22:11-12]
- ☐ Abraham offered a ram as a sacrifice instead. [22:13]
- ☐ Abraham named the place "Yahweh will provide." [22:14]
- ☐ Yahweh said that because Abraham was willing to offer his son, he would bless him, give him many descendants, and bless all the nations because of Abraham. [22:15-18]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [22:1-2] What did God tell Abraham to do?
He told Abraham to sacrifice his only son.
2. [22:1-2] Why did God tell Abraham to sacrifice Isaac?
God did it to test Abraham.
3. [22:3] How did Abraham respond?
The next morning, Abraham went to do what God commanded.
4. [22:4] When did he see the place where God told him to go?
He saw it on the third day.
5. [22:5] What did he say to the servants?
He told the servants to stay there. He told them that he and his son were going somewhere else. He said they would worship and come back.

Genesis 22:1-18 continued

6. [22:5] Why do you think Abraham told the servants that he and Isaac would return?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps Abraham knew in some way that Isaac would not die and would return with him. Perhaps Abraham believed that God could make Isaac live again, even if he died. Or perhaps Abraham said that he would return so that the servants and Isaac would not worry about what was going to happen.
7. [22:6] What did Abraham do next?
He took the wood for the sacrifice and put it on his son Isaac. He took the fire and the knife. Then Abraham and Isaac walked on together.
8. [22:7] What did Isaac ask Abraham?
He asked Abraham where the lamb was for the sacrifice.
9. [22:8] How did Abraham answer Isaac?
He said that God would provide the lamb for the sacrifice.
10. [22:9-10] What did Abraham do when they arrived at the place where God had told him to go?
Abraham built an altar and placed wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the wood. Then he picked up the knife to kill his son.
11. [22:11-12] What happened when Abraham was about to kill his son?
The angel of Yahweh told him not to harm Isaac. The angel said that he knew now that Abraham feared God, because Abraham did not withhold his only son from him.
12. [22:13] What did Abraham see when he looked up?
He saw a ram caught by its horns in the bushes.
13. [22:13-14] What did Abraham do then?
He sacrificed the ram instead of his son. Then Abraham named the mountain "Yahweh will provide."
14. [22:15] What did the angel of Yahweh do next?
He called to Abraham a second time from heaven.

Genesis 22:1-18 continued

15. [22:16-18] What did Yahweh swear by himself and promise to Abraham?

He promised that, because Abraham obeyed Yahweh and was willing to sacrifice his only son:

- Yahweh would bless Abraham and greatly increase the number of his descendants.
- Abraham's descendants would have victory over their enemies.
- Yahweh would bless the people of all nations through Abraham's descendants.

Comment Section:

Genesis 50:15-26

Joseph reassures his brothers

Background: Isaac's son Jacob was named "Israel" by God. His older sons sold their brother Joseph into slavery. Later Joseph became a ruler in Egypt. When there was a famine, Joseph's family moved to Egypt, and Joseph helped them. Joseph also had two sons named Ephraim and Manasseh.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ After their father died, Joseph's brothers were afraid that Joseph might take revenge on them for what they had done to him. [50:15-18]
- ☐ Joseph told them not to be afraid. [50:19]
- ☐ Joseph said that what his brothers meant as evil, God meant as good. [50:20-21]
- ☐ Before Joseph died, he told his family that God would take their family and return them to the land that God had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. [50:22-24]
- ☐ Joseph made his family promise that when they left Egypt, they would take his bones with them. [50:25-26]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [50:15] Why were Joseph's brothers afraid after their father died?
Joseph's brothers thought that Joseph might want to punish them for the evil things they had done to him.
2. [50:16-17] What did the brothers do?
Joseph's brothers sent a message to Joseph. The message said that their father had instructed Joseph to forgive his brothers.
3. [50:17] Why do you think Joseph wept when he received his brothers' message?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps Joseph was sad that his brothers still did not understand that he had forgiven them already. Or perhaps he was sad to be reminded about the death of his father in this way.
4. [50:18-21] What did Joseph say to his brothers when they offered themselves as his servants?
He told them not to be afraid. He said that his brothers meant harm against him, but God intended it for good and to save the lives of many people. Joseph promised to provide for his brothers and their families. He spoke kindly to them.
5. [50:22, 26] How old was Joseph when he died?
He was 110 years old.

Genesis 50:15-26 continued

6. [50:24] What did Joseph say to his brothers before he died?
Joseph said that God surely would lead their family back to the land that was promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
7. [50:25] What did Joseph tell his brothers to promise to him?
He told them to promise that they would carry his bones from that place.
8. [50:25] Why do you think he asked his brothers to promise this?
(*Answer may vary.*) Probably this meant that Joseph wanted his body to be buried in the land that God had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He did not seem to want to be buried in Egypt.

Comment Section:

Exodus 1:1-2:10 The birth of Moses

Background: At the end of Genesis, Israel and his family moved to Egypt to escape the famine in the land. Exodus tells the story of what happened to Israel's descendants nearly 400 years later. They grew to be a very large group of people. The king of Egypt was afraid that they would become very powerful, so he made them slaves and oppressed them. In this passage, Israel is also called Jacob. The people of Israel are also called Hebrews. The king of Egypt is also called Pharaoh.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read.

- ☐ When Israel and his sons went to Egypt, there were 70 members of his family. [1:1-5]
- ☐ Israel's family multiplied and grew strong, so that the land was filled with them. [1:6-7]
- ☐ A new king of Egypt feared that the many people of Israel might join Egypt's enemies. [1:8-10]
- ☐ The Egyptians made the people of Israel work very hard for them and oppressed them, but the number of them still increased. [1:11-14]
- ☐ Pharaoh commanded that all male babies must be killed when they were born, but the midwives did not obey Pharaoh. [1:15-22]
- ☐ A woman from the tribe of Levi had a male baby, and she put him in a basket and set him in the river. [2:1-4]
- ☐ Pharaoh's daughter found the baby, and he became her son. She named him Moses. [2:5-10]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [1:1-5] How many members of Jacob's family entered Egypt?
Seventy Israelites went to Egypt. Joseph was already there.
2. [1:6-7] What happened after Joseph and all his generation died?
The Israelites multiplied and grew strong, so that the land was filled with them.
3. [1:8-10] Why did the new king over Egypt fear the people of Israel?
He thought there were too many people of Israel and that they were too mighty. He feared that they might join the enemies of the Egyptians if there was a war.
4. [1:11-14] What did the new king and the Egyptians do to the people of Israel?
The king put taskmasters over them. All the Egyptians were very cruel to the people of Israel and oppressed them. The Egyptians forced them to do very hard work.
5. [1:15-16] When the king saw that the Israelites were still growing in number, what did he command?
He commanded the Hebrew midwives to kill newborn male babies.

Exodus 1:1-2:10 continued

6. [1:17-19] What did the midwives do?
They disobeyed the king. They told the king that they were unable to kill the babies because the Hebrew women were strong and would give birth before the midwives could come to them.
7. [1:20-21] What did God do for the midwives who disobeyed the king?
He blessed them and gave them families.
8. [1:22] What did Pharaoh then command?
He commanded the people to throw male babies in the river.
9. [2:1-4] What did the woman from the tribe of Levi do when she had a male child?
She hid him for 3 months. When she could no longer hide him, she put him in a basket and placed him in the reeds in the water on the side of the river. The baby's sister watched him from a distance.
10. [2:5-6] Who found the baby?
The daughter of Pharaoh found him.
11. [2:7-8] What did the sister of the baby do?
She asked the Pharaoh's daughter if she should go get a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby. Pharaoh's daughter said she should go. So the baby's sister went and got the baby's own mother to come and nurse the baby for Pharaoh's daughter.
12. [2:10] What happened when the baby grew older?
He became the son of Pharaoh's daughter.
13. [2:10] Why did Pharaoh's daughter say that she named the baby Moses?
She said that she named him Moses because she took him out of the water.
14. [2:10] What do you think it meant that she named him Moses for this reason?
(Answer may vary.) Probably the name Moses sounds like the phrase for "taken out" or "taken out of the water" in the original Egyptian language that Pharaoh's daughter was speaking.

Comment Section:

Exodus 3:1-22 The burning bush

Background: Years after Pharaoh's daughter adopted Moses, Moses killed an Egyptian for beating a Hebrew. Pharaoh heard about this and tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled and went to live in the land of Midian. Moses lived in Midian for a long time. During that time, the Israelites cried out to Yahweh because the Egyptians were treating them so badly.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read.

- ☐ The angel of Yahweh appeared to Moses in a burning bush. [3:1-3]
- ☐ Yahweh said he was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He said that he knew that his people suffered. [3:4-7]
- ☐ Yahweh told Moses that he would rescue his people from Egypt and take them to the land that he promised to their ancestors. [3:8-9]
- ☐ God told Moses to bring his people out of Egypt. God said that he would be with Moses. [3:10-12]
- ☐ God told his name to Moses: I AM THAT I AM. He said Moses should tell the people that I AM sent him. [3:13-15]
- ☐ God commanded Moses to tell Pharaoh to let the people go to sacrifice to Yahweh their God for 3 days. [3:16-18]
- ☐ God told Moses that Pharaoh would not do this, so God would strike Egypt with miracles. Then Pharaoh would let them go. [3:19-20]
- ☐ God said that the Egyptians would give them valuable things when they left. [3:19-22]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [3:1] What kind of work was Moses doing at the beginning of this passage?
He was shepherding the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro.
2. [3:1] What was Horeb also called?
It was called the mountain of God.
3. [3:2] What happened when Moses arrived at Horeb?
The angel of Yahweh appeared to him in a burning bush.
4. [3:3] When Moses saw the fire, what did he notice about the bush?
He noticed that the bush was burning, but it was not burned up.
5. [3:4-5] What did Yahweh say to Moses, after Moses turned aside to look at the burning bush?
Yahweh called to Moses and told him to not come any closer. He instructed Moses to remove his sandals, because he was standing on ground that was set apart for Yahweh.

Exodus 3:1-22 continued

6. [3:6] What did Yahweh call himself in verse 6?
Yahweh called himself the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
7. [3:6] What do you think it meant when Yahweh called himself the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob?
This indicates that Yahweh called himself the God of Moses's ancestors, the God of the nation of Israel.
8. [3:6] What did Moses do after Yahweh said this?
Moses covered his face, because he was afraid to look at God.
9. [3:7-10] What did Yahweh say to Moses next?
Yahweh said that he knew about his people's suffering in Egypt, because he had seen it and heard their cry. He told Moses that he would free them and bring them to a large land flowing with milk and honey. Yahweh said that he would send Moses to Pharaoh to free the people of Israel.
10. [3:11] How did Moses respond to God?
Moses asked why he should be the one to go to Pharaoh.
11. [3:11] Why do you think Moses questioned God?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps Moses thought that he was no one special to do such an important job. Perhaps he did not feel able to convince Pharaoh to release the people. Perhaps he was afraid of what Pharaoh would do to him.
12. [3:12] How did God reply to Moses?
God said that he would be with Moses. He said there would be a sign to Moses to show that God had sent him. This sign would be that they would worship God on this mountain after Moses brought the people out of Egypt.
13. [3:13-15] What name for God did he tell Moses to give to the Israelites?
I AM THAT I AM was the name that God gave for himself. God told Moses to say to the people of Israel that I AM had sent him. God also told Moses to say to them that Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, sent him.
14. [3:14-15] What do you think that the name I AM THAT I AM tells people about the Israelites' God Yahweh?
This name, which God said is his name forever, shows that Yahweh God is absolute. The name indicates that he has no beginning or end, and that no one created him. It indicates that God is eternal and does not change.
15. [3:16-17] What else did Yahweh say that Moses should tell to the elders of Israel?
He said to tell them that Yahweh their God saw what had happened to them in Egypt, and that he would bring them out of there. He would bring them to the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. He would bring them to a land flowing with milk and honey.

Exodus 3:1-22 continued

16. [3:18] What did God say that Moses and the elders of Israel should tell the king of Egypt?
He said that they should tell the king that Yahweh their God had met with them. They should tell the king to let them go on a journey to the wilderness for 3 days to sacrifice to Yahweh.
17. [3:20] What did God say that he would do, because he knew that the king of Egypt would not let the Israelites go?
God said that he would attack the Egyptians with miracles, and then the king would let them go.
18. [3:21-22] What would the Israelites take with them when they left Egypt?
They would take silver, gold, and clothing that the Egyptians would give to them. This would be their way of plundering the Egyptians.

Comment Section:

Exodus 12:1-20 The first Passover, part 1

Background: Moses and Aaron traveled to Egypt to confront Pharaoh. They told Pharaoh to let their people leave Egypt, but he refused. As a result, Yahweh sent nine plagues against the Egyptians. This passage begins when Yahweh was about to send the tenth and final plague. The people of Israel are also called Israelites in this and later passages.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read.

- ☐ Yahweh explained to Moses and Aaron that each household of Israel must kill a lamb at twilight. [12:1-6]
- ☐ Each household must put blood from the lamb on the sides and top of the doorframe of their house. [12:7]
- ☐ Yahweh told them how the lamb should be cooked and eaten for the Passover. [12:8-11]
- ☐ Yahweh said that he would kill all the firstborn males in Egypt on that night, but he would pass over his people's houses if the blood of the lamb was on them. [12:7, 12-13]
- ☐ Yahweh commanded people to celebrate this day as the Festival of Unleavened Bread every year, forever. He said that they must eat bread without yeast for the seven days of this festival. [12:15-20]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [12:1] To what people was Yahweh speaking in this passage?
Yahweh was speaking to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt.
2. [12:2] What did Yahweh tell them about that month?
He told them that it would become the first month of the year for them.
3. [12:3-5] What kind of animal did Yahweh say that each household must select on the tenth of the month?
Each household must select a lamb or a goat. The animal must be one year old, male, and without blemish.
4. [12:6] What must they do to the sheep or goat on the fourteenth of the month?
They must kill it at twilight.
5. [12:7] What must the people do with the blood of the animal?
The people must take the blood and put it on the two sides and the top of their doorframes, on the house where they would eat the meat.
6. [12:8-9] How must they cook and eat the animal?
They must roast the animal over a fire with its head, legs, and inner parts. Then they must eat it that night, along with bread without yeast and with bitter herbs.

Exodus 12:1-20 continued

7. [12:11] In what way must they eat the food?
They must eat the food quickly, with their belts fastened, shoes on their feet, and a staff in their hand.
8. [12:12] What did Yahweh say he would do to the Egyptians?
Yahweh said that he would kill every firstborn male of man and animal in Egypt.
9. [12:13] What did Yahweh say that he would do to the people of Israel?
Yahweh said that he would see the blood on their houses, and he would pass over them, so that the plague would not harm them.
10. [12:14-20] What did Yahweh say that they must do in later generations because of this day?
Yahweh said that they must celebrate this day in later generations by eating bread without yeast for seven days during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. There would be a holy assembly on the first and seventh days of the festival, and no one should work on those days.

Comment Section:

Exodus 12:21-42

The first Passover, part 2

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read.

- ☐ Moses told the elders of Israel that each family must kill a lamb for Passover and put blood on the doorframe of their house. They must stay inside during the night, while the destroyer was smiting the Egyptians. [12:21-23]
- ☐ Moses said that the people of Israel must teach their descendants why they did this. [12:24-27]
- ☐ The people worshiped and obeyed. [12:27-28]
- ☐ At midnight, Yahweh killed the firstborn males in Egypt, and there were loud cries because of the deaths. [12:29-30]
- ☐ Pharaoh told Moses to take the people of Israel and leave Egypt. [12:29-33]
- ☐ The Israelites obeyed Moses and received valuable items from the Egyptians. [12:34-36]
- ☐ Many people and animals left quickly that night. Their bread was made without yeast because they could not delay to prepare their food. [12:37-39]
- ☐ They had been in Egypt for 430 years. This night would be celebrated in later generations. [12:40-42]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

11. [12:21-27] What did Moses tell the elders of Israel in verses 21 to 27?
He told them to do what Yahweh had instructed: to kill the lambs, to put the blood on their doors, and to stay inside their houses. He told them that they must teach their descendants about this night in later times.
12. [12:27-28] How did the people respond after Moses gave them Yahweh's instructions?
They worshiped and obeyed.
13. [12:31-32] What did Pharaoh do after Yahweh killed the firstborn men and animals among the Egyptians?
Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron and told them to take their people and flocks, to leave Egypt, and to go worship Yahweh.
14. [12:35-36] What did the Egyptians give to the Israelites as they were leaving?
They gave them silver, gold, clothing, and anything else the Israelites asked for.
15. [12:37] How many Israelites were there when they left Egypt?
There were 600,000 men plus women and children.
16. [12:40] How long did the Israelites live in Egypt before Yahweh rescued them?
They lived in Egypt 430 years.

Exodus 12:21-42 continued

17. [12:1-42] How was the word Passover used in this passage?

Passover was the name of the feast celebrated because God passed over the houses of the people who had put blood on their doors. The lamb that was slain for the Passover was called the Passover lamb.

18. [12: 22-23] What do you think was the meaning of the blood on the door?

(Answer may vary.) The blood probably represented the sacrifice the people made to Yahweh. It probably also showed they were obeying Yahweh and putting their trust in what he had told them to do. Putting the blood on the door covered everyone inside the house with the benefit of the sacrifice, because Yahweh would pass over that house and not harm anyone inside.

Comment Section:

Exodus 14:1-31 The Israelites cross the Red Sea

Background: Pharaoh let the Israelites leave Egypt. As they traveled, Yahweh guided them with a pillar of cloud in the day and a pillar of fire at night. This passage is about what happened to the Israelites soon after leaving Egypt.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read.

- ☐ Yahweh told Moses that Pharaoh would pursue the Israelites. But Yahweh would be honored, [14:1-4]
- ☐ Pharaoh and his armies pursued the Israelites. [14:4-10]
- ☐ The Israelites were afraid and blamed Moses. [14:10-12]
- ☐ Moses told them not to be afraid. He said that Yahweh would fight for them and save them. [14:13-14]
- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to reach out his hand over the sea and divide it so that the people could go through it on dry ground. [14:15-16]
- ☐ He told Moses that the Egyptians would know he was Yahweh when he gained glory through them. [14:17-18]
- ☐ The angel of God and the pillar of cloud went behind them and stayed between them and the Egyptians. [14:19-20]
- ☐ Moses reached out his hand over the sea, and Yahweh caused the water to divide so the Israelites could walk across. [14:21-22]
- ☐ The Egyptians tried to chase them, but the waters fell on them, and they died. [14:23-30]
- ☐ The people trusted Yahweh and Moses when they saw Yahweh's power against the Egyptians. [14:31]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [14:1-3] What did Yahweh tell Moses that Pharaoh would say about the people of Israel when they camped near the sea?
Pharaoh would say that the people of Israel were confused and lost in the wilderness.
2. [14:4] What did Yahweh say that he would do to Pharaoh?
Yahweh said he would harden Pharaoh's heart so that Pharaoh would make his army chase after the people of Israel. Yahweh would bring honor to himself through Pharaoh and the army's actions.
3. [14:4] Why do you think Yahweh would harden Pharaoh's heart so that he rebelled against Yahweh?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps this was because Pharaoh already acted wickedly toward Yahweh's people by enslaving them, and because Pharaoh had tried to reduce how many Israelites there were by killing their babies. Pharaoh also had refused to let them go until after Yahweh severely punished him and the other Egyptians, so perhaps this was punishment for that, too.
4. [14:5-9] Who chased after the people of Israel?
Pharaoh and more than 600 chariots, his horses, and his army chased after the people of Israel.

Exodus 14:1-31 continued

5. [14:10-12] How did the Israelites react when they saw the Egyptians coming?
They were very afraid. They cried out to Yahweh. They accused Moses of taking them to the wilderness to die. They told Moses it would have been better for them to stay and work in Egypt, rather than to die in the wilderness.
6. [14:13-14] What did Moses say to the people?
Moses told them not to be afraid. He said that they would see Yahweh's salvation. He said they would never see the Egyptians after that day. He told them that Yahweh would fight for them, and they only needed to be silent.
7. [14:15-18] What did Yahweh tell Moses would happen?
Yahweh told Moses to lift up his staff and stretch out his hand over the sea. He said the people of Israel would go through the sea on dry land. He said that the Egyptians would go after them. But Yahweh said that he would be honored through Egypt's army, chariots, and horsemen.
8. [14:19-20] What kept the Egyptians away from the Israelites?
The Egyptians were kept away by the angel of God and the pillar of cloud, which were between the Egyptians and the Israelites.
9. [14:21-22] How did the Israelites get across the sea?
Just as Yahweh had told him to do, Moses lifted his hand over the sea. Yahweh used a wind to split the sea. Then the Israelites crossed through the middle of the sea on dry ground. The water formed walls on each side of them.
10. [14:23-28] What happened when the Egyptians pursued the Israelites across the sea?
Yahweh caused confusion in the Egyptians, and he made it difficult for them to drive their chariots. Then Yahweh told Moses to stretch his hand over the sea again. The sea that had been divided came together again, and the sea water killed all the Egyptians. The people of Israel saw the dead Egyptians by the side of the sea.
11. [14:31] What did the Israelites do after this happened?
They feared Yahweh. They also trusted Yahweh and his servant Moses.

Comment Section:

Exodus 20:1-26 God gives the ten commandments

Background: In the third month after they left Egypt, the Israelites came to the wilderness in Sinai and camped in front of the mountain. God spoke to them from the mountain.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read.

- ☐ God reminded the Israelites that he was Yahweh God who brought them out of Egypt. [20:1-2]
- ☐ God commanded the Israelites not to worship other gods or to make idols. [20:3-6]
- ☐ Yahweh God commanded them to honor his name, the Sabbath, and their parents. [20:7-12]
- ☐ He told them not to murder, not to commit adultery, and not to steal. [20:13-15]
- ☐ He told them not to give false testimony or to covet what belonged to others. [20:16-17]
- ☐ The Israelites were terrified and asked Moses to speak to them, rather than God speaking to them, because they feared they might die. [20:18-19]
- ☐ Moses told them not to be afraid. He approached God. [20:18-21]
- ☐ Yahweh told the people again not to make idols. [20:22-23]
- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to make an altar for sacrifices. [20:24-26]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [20:1-2] What did God say about himself to the Israelites?
God said that he was Yahweh their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt and out of slavery.
2. [20:3-17] What were the Ten Commandments that Yahweh gave the Israelites?
 - You must have no other gods before Yahweh.
 - You must not make idols.
 - You must not take the name of Yahweh in vain.
 - You must keep the Sabbath holy and not work on that day.
 - You must honor your father and mother.
 - You must not murder.
 - You must not commit adultery.
 - You must not steal.
 - You must not give false testimony.
 - You must not covet.
3. [20:1-17] Why do you think Yahweh told the Israelites who he was and what he had done before he gave the Ten Commandments?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps he was reminding them about who he was so that the people would know why they should obey his commandments. Perhaps he was reminding them that he had rescued them so that they would be thankful, or so that they would know he would protect them when they obeyed.

Exodus 20:1-26 continued

4. [20:5] What reason did Yahweh give for why the Israelites should not worship idols?
Yahweh said that he is a jealous God, and that he punishes wicked people and their descendants. But he shows love to thousands of those who obey him.
5. [20:5] Why do you think Yahweh is a jealous God?
Yahweh has shown in this and other passages that he is the one and only God. Scripture indicates that Yahweh does not want his people worshiping other gods because Yahweh is the only one who deserves worship.
6. [20:11] Why must the Israelites honor the Sabbath?
Yahweh created all things in six days and rested on the seventh day. Israelites should rest on the seventh day of the week because Yahweh blessed that day and set it apart.
7. [20:12] What did Yahweh promise to those who honored their mother and father?
Yahweh promised that they would live a long time in the land that he would give them.
8. [20:18-19] What did the Israelites say when they saw the thunder and lightning and heard the loud voice?
The Israelites asked Moses to speak to them for God. They did not want God to speak to them directly. They were afraid they might die.
9. [20:20] What reason did Moses give for why God had come to the people?
God had come to test them so that they would honor God, and so that they would not sin. Moses told them not to be afraid.
10. [20:22] What did Yahweh say that the people had seen for themselves?
They had seen that Yahweh talked to them from heaven.
11. [20:23] What did Yahweh tell them not to make?
He told them not to make gods out of silver or gold.
12. [20:24] What did Yahweh ask Moses to build?
Yahweh asked Moses to build an altar.
13. [20:24-26] What commands did Yahweh give to Moses about the altar?
The altar should be made out of earth. If the altar was made of stone, the stones should not be cut. There must not be steps leading up to the altar.

Comment Section:

Exodus 32:1-35 The golden calf

Background: Yahweh gave the Israelites many more commands. The Israelites agreed to do everything that Yahweh commanded. Moses sprinkled blood on the people to confirm the covenant between Yahweh and Israel. Then Moses, along with his assistant, Joshua, went back up Mount Sinai. Moses entered Yahweh's cloud, which covered the mountain, and Yahweh commanded Moses about how the tabernacle and everything associated with it should be made. This passage took place after Moses had been on the mountain for a long time.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read.

- ☐ The Israelites saw that it was taking Moses a long time to come back down from the mountain, so they told Aaron to make an idol for them. [32:1]
- ☐ Aaron took some gold and made an idol in the shape of a calf. [32:2-5]
- ☐ The people said that these were the gods who brought them out of Egypt, and they made sacrifices to the idol and celebrated. [32:6]
- ☐ Yahweh saw what they did. [32:7-8]
- ☐ Yahweh told Moses that he would destroy the Israelites and make a nation through Moses. [32:9-10]
- ☐ Moses asked Yahweh not to destroy the people. Yahweh did what Moses asked. [32:11-14]
- ☐ Moses went down the mountain with the two tablets on which God had written the Ten Commandments. [32:15-18]
- ☐ Moses saw the people worshipping the idol. He was very angry with the people, so he broke the two stone tablets. Then he destroyed the idol. He ground the idol up and made the people drink water mixed with its powder. [32:19-20]
- ☐ Aaron said to Moses that the people told him to make a god for them. Aaron said that he threw gold into the fire and the calf came out of it. [32:21-24]
- ☐ Moses told the Levites to go through the camp and kill some of the Israelites. The Levites killed about 3,000 of them. [32:25-29]
- ☐ Yahweh said that he would continue to lead the Israelites, but he punished them by causing a plague. [32:30-35]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [32:1] What did the Israelites do when they saw that Moses was taking a long time to come back down the mountain?
They told Aaron to make an idol for them.
2. [32:2-3] What did Aaron do?
Aaron melted gold jewelry that he took from the people. He made a golden idol in the shape of a calf.
3. [32:5-6] What did the Israelites do on the day after Aaron made the idol?
They held a festival to honor Yahweh, but they offered their sacrifices to the idol.

Exodus 32:1-35 continued

4. [32:7-8] What did Yahweh tell Moses about the people?
He told Moses that the people had corrupted themselves. He said that the people had made an idol, worshipped it, and sacrificed to it. The people had said that the golden calf idol was the god who brought them out of Egypt.
5. [32:9-10] What did Yahweh intend to do to the people who made and worshipped the idol?
Yahweh intended to destroy the people and start a nation through Moses.
6. [32:11-14] What did Moses say to Yahweh so that he would not destroy the people?
Moses asked why Yahweh's anger burned against them. Moses asked Yahweh if the Egyptians would think that he rescued the Israelites just to kill them in the mountains. He asked Yahweh not to destroy the people. Then Moses reminded Yahweh of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel to whom he promised to give many descendants, and to give them the land that he had promised forever.
7. [32:14] How did Yahweh respond?
Yahweh did not destroy the people.
8. [32:19-20] What did Moses do when he went down the mountain?
He saw the golden calf and the people dancing, and he was very angry. He threw and broke the stone tablets on which God had written the Ten Commandments. Then he burned the idol, ground it to powder, put the powder in water, and made the people drink it.
9. [32:20] Why do you think Moses made the people drink the water with the powder from the idol?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps Moses was showing the people how terribly they had sinned by making them drink it. Perhaps he hoped to punish them with a bitter taste and with stomach pain from drinking the powder of the idol.
10. [32:22-24] How did Aaron respond when Moses asked him how this situation happened?
 - Aaron asked Moses not to be angry because he knew these people were wicked.
 - Aaron explained that the people wanted an idol when Moses had not returned for a long time.
 - Aaron said that he threw the gold into a fire and the golden calf came out.
11. [32:24] Why do you think Aaron claimed that he just threw gold in a fire and a calf came out?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps Aaron was trying to avoid the responsibility for what he did when he asked for the people's gold and worked to fashion it into an idol. It seems like Aaron spoke about the golden calf as if it was only the people's fault, not his fault, and as if it happened by accident.
12. [32:26] Who came to Moses when he asked for those who still supported Yahweh to join him?
The Levites came to Moses.
13. [32:27-29] What did the Levites do at Moses' command?
They killed 3,000 Israelites.

Exodus 32:1-35 continued

14. [32:31-32] When Moses went back up the mountain, what did he ask Yahweh?
Moses asked for Yahweh to either forgive the Israelites or to take him out of the book that Yahweh had written.
15. [32:32] What do you think it meant to be removed from the book that Yahweh had written?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps the book referred to a record of all the people who belonged to Yahweh. Perhaps to be removed from it meant that a person no longer belonged to Yahweh, or that the person was no longer a part of Yahweh's people.
16. [32:33-35] How did Yahweh respond?
He told Moses that he would punish those who had sinned, so he sent a plague on the people.

Comment Section:

Leviticus 1:1-17 Instructions for burnt offerings

Background: In the book of Exodus, Yahweh God told Moses to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt to the land that Yahweh had promised them. While the people of Israel were wandering in the wilderness, Yahweh gave them instructions for how to build a tent where they would worship him. The book of Leviticus is a manual for how Israel could live in the presence of the Holy God.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to tell the people how to bring offerings to Yahweh. [1:1-2]
- ☐ Yahweh gave instructions for offering cattle. [1:3-9]
- ☐ Yahweh gave instructions for offering sheep and goats. [1:10-13]
- ☐ Yahweh gave instructions for offering birds. [1:14-17]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [1:1-3] What kind of animal should the people of Israel bring as an offering to Yahweh?
The animal must be a male without blemish.
2. [1:3] Where did the person have to bring the animal that he wanted to offer?
He had to bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting.
3. [1:4] What must the person do to make the animal sacrifice accepted on his behalf?
He must lay his hand on the head of the animal that he was offering.
4. [1:5-6] What must the person who brought a bull from his herd do with it?
He must kill it, remove its skin, and cut it up in pieces.
5. [1:5, 8] What did the priests have to do with the bull's blood and cut-up body?
They had to sprinkle its blood on the altar and then place the pieces of its body on the burning wood that was on the altar.
6. [1:9] When do you think the person who brought the bull had to wash its inner parts and legs?
Probably he had to wash them before the priests put them on the altar.

Leviticus 1:1-17 continued

7. [1:9] What did Yahweh say about the burnt offering?
Yahweh said it would produce a sweet aroma for him.
8. [1:10] If the burnt offering was from the flock, what kind of animal must it be?
The animal must be a male sheep without any blemish or a male goat without any blemish.
9. [1:11] Where did the person who brought the sheep or goat have to kill it?
He had to kill it on the north side of the altar.
10. [1:14] What kinds of birds could a person offer for a burnt offering?
The person could offer either a dove or a young pigeon.
11. [1:15] What did the priest have to do with the bird's head?
He had to twist the head off and burn it on the altar.
12. [1:15, 16] What parts of the bird were not burned on top of the altar?
The blood and the crop with its contents were not burned on the altar.
13. [1:17] What did the priest have to do before burning the bird on the altar?
He had to tear it open by its wings without dividing it into two parts.

Comment Section:

Leviticus 8:1-17 Moses consecrates the priests

Background: This passage refers to certain kinds of clothing for the priests. These are first mentioned in the Bible in Exodus 25 and 28. This passage mentions a tunic. Some Bible translations call this a coat.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to bring Aaron and his sons, the garments, the anointing oil, and the offerings to the tent of meeting, where the people must assemble. Moses did what Yahweh commanded. [8:1-5]
- ☐ Moses washed Aaron and his sons. [8:6]
- ☐ Moses put the garments on Aaron. [8:7-9]
- ☐ Moses anointed the tabernacle and everything in it. [8:10-11]
- ☐ Moses anointed Aaron. [8:12]
- ☐ Moses put garments on Aaron's sons. [8:13]
- ☐ Aaron and his sons put their hands on the head of a bull that was a sin offering. [8:14]
- ☐ Moses offered the bull for the sin offering. [8:15-17]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [8:1-3] What instructions did Yahweh give to Moses?
Yahweh instructed Moses to take Aaron, Aaron's sons, the garments, the anointing oil, a bull, two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread to the entrance of the tent of meeting. He told Moses to gather all the people at the entrance to the tent of meeting.
2. [8:4-5] What did Moses do?
He did what Yahweh commanded, and the people were gathered. Moses told the people that this was what Yahweh had commanded to be done.
3. [8:6] What did Moses do first to Aaron and his sons?
He brought them forward and washed them with water.
4. [8:7-9] What did Moses put on Aaron?
Moses put the tunic, the sash, the robe, the ephod, the breastpiece, and the turban on Aaron.

Leviticus 8:1-17 continued

5. [8:10-11] What objects did Moses anoint with the anointing oil?
Moses anointed the tabernacle and everything in it. He sprinkled the altar 7 times and anointed it and all its utensils, and the washbasin and its base. He poured oil on Aaron's head and anointed him.
6. [8:10-12] Why did Moses anoint those objects and Aaron?
He anointed them to set them apart for Yahweh.
7. [8:13] What did Moses put on Aaron's sons?
Moses put tunics and sashes on them, and he wrapped a cloth on their heads.
8. [8:14] What did Aaron and his sons do to the bull for the sin offering?
They laid their hands on its head.
9. [8:15-17] What did Moses do with the bull for the sin offering?
 - Moses killed the bull.
 - He took some of the blood and put it on the horns of the altar, and he poured the rest out at the base of the altar.
 - Moses took the fat from the bull's inner parts, the two kidneys, and the liver, and he burnt it all on the altar.
 - Moses burned the remaining parts of the bull, including its hide and meat, outside the camp.

Comment Section:

Leviticus 10:1-7 The sin and death of Nadab and Abihu

Background: In chapter 8, Moses presented the offerings Yahweh required in order to set apart Aaron and his sons as priests. Then Aaron and his sons stayed at the tent of meeting for seven days as God had commanded. In chapter 9 Moses told Aaron and his sons to present certain offerings, and they did.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Two sons of Aaron offered unapproved fire before Yahweh. [10:1]
- ☐ Fire came from Yahweh and killed them. [10:1-2]
- ☐ Moses reminded Aaron that Yahweh said that he would be glorified among those that come near him. Aaron kept silent. [10:3]
- ☐ Moses gave instructions to have the two dead sons of Aaron taken out of the camp. [10:4-5]
- ☐ Moses gave strict instructions to Aaron and his other two sons about how they must respond to the deaths of Nadab and Abihu. They did what Moses said. [10:6-7]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [10:1] What did Nadab and Abihu do that was against Yahweh's command?
They placed unapproved fire into their censers to burn incense before Yahweh. He had not commanded them to do this.
2. [10:2] What happened to Nadab and Abihu as a result of their disobedience?
A fire devoured them, and they died before Yahweh.
3. [10:3] What did Moses say to Aaron?
Moses told Aaron that this is what Yahweh was talking about when he said that he must be treated as holy by those who come near to him, and that he must be glorified before all the people.
4. [10:3] How did Aaron respond?
He was silent.
5. [10:4-5] What did Moses tell Mishael and Elzaphan to do?
Moses told them to carry the bodies of Nadab and Abihu out of the camp. They did what Moses told them.

Leviticus 10:1-7 continued

6. [10:6-7] What did Moses tell Aaron, Eleazar, and Ithamar?

Moses told them not to let their hair hang loosely or to tear their clothes. If they did this, they would die, and Yahweh's wrath would come onto all the people. He told them to allow their relatives and the people of Israel to mourn for those that Yahweh had killed with fire. Moses also told them not to go out from the tent of meeting, or they would die, because Yahweh's anointing was on them. Aaron, Eleazar, and Ithamar obeyed.

7. [10:6] Why do you think Moses told them not to let their hair hang loosely or to tear their clothes?

(Answer may vary.) These were probably signs of mourning. Perhaps if they did not mourn, Aaron, Eleazar, and Ithamar would show that they understood that Aaron's other two sons had done something so dishonoring to Yahweh that they deserved great punishment. Perhaps their actions would demonstrate that honoring Yahweh was the most important thing for those who were anointed for his service. Perhaps it would show that they were different from Aaron's other two sons.

Comment Section:

Leviticus 16:1-34

The Day of Atonement

Background: In Exodus 25-31, God told Moses to build a tabernacle, or tent, where the people would worship God. This was called the tent of meeting. In the courtyard of the tabernacle, there was a large altar for sacrificing animals to God. Each corner of the altar had something sticking out that was called a horn. The tabernacle had two rooms with a curtain separating them. These rooms were the holy place and the most holy place. In the holy place, there was an altar for offering incense. In the most holy place, there was a box called an ark. The lid of the ark had a cover on it called the atonement lid.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to tell Aaron how he had to go into the most holy place. [16:1-5]
- ☐ Aaron had to kill a bull and a goat to atone for his sin and the people's sin. [16:6-9, 11]
- ☐ A second goat was kept alive to be sent into the wilderness. [16:10]
- ☐ Aaron must burn incense and sprinkle blood in the most holy place and in the tent of meeting, when he was all alone there. [16:12-20]
- ☐ Aaron must have a man take a live goat into the wilderness. [16:20-22]
- ☐ Aaron had to offer the burnt offerings. [16:24-25]
- ☐ Aaron must have a man burn parts of the bull and goat outside the camp. [16:27]
- ☐ Aaron and the people had to do this once a year. [16:29-34]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [16:1-2] What did Yahweh tell Moses to speak to his brother, Aaron?
Moses had to tell Aaron that he could not go into the most holy place at just any time.
2. [16:2] What would happen to Aaron if he went into the most holy place at just any time?
Aaron would die.
3. [16:2] Why would Aaron die if he went into the most holy place at just any time?
He would die because Yahweh would appear in the most holy place in a cloud over the atonement lid.
4. [16:3-4] What did Aaron have to do so that he could go into the most holy place?
 - He had to bring a young bull as a sin offering and a ram as a burnt offering.
 - He had to put on the holy linen tunic, the linen undergarments, a linen sash, and a linen turban.
 - He must bathe himself before he put those things on.

Leviticus 16:1-34 continued

5. [16:5, 7] Where did Aaron have to take the two goats?
He had to take them to the entrance to the tent of meeting and set them before Yahweh.
6. [16:8-9] What would happen to one goat on which the lot that Aaron cast fell for Yahweh?
The goat would be offered as a sin offering.
7. [16:10] What would happen to one goat on which the lot that Aaron cast fell for the scapegoat?
That goat would be brought alive to Yahweh, then sent into the wilderness as a scapegoat.
8. [16:6, 11] Who was the bull killed for as a sin offering?
It was killed on behalf of Aaron and his family.
9. [16:12] What did Aaron have to take inside the curtain?
He had to take burning coals and finely ground sweet incense.
10. [16:13] Why did Aaron have to burn the incense in the most holy place?
He did this so that the cloud of smoke from the incense would cover the atonement lid so that he would not die.
11. [16:14-15] What did Aaron have to do to the atonement lid?
He had to sprinkle the blood of the bull on the front of it. Then he had to sprinkle blood with his finger before it 7 times. He did the same with the goat's blood.
12. [16:16] Why did Aaron have to make atonement for the holy place?
He had to do this because of the sins of the people of Israel.
13. [16:17] Who could be in the tent of meeting with Aaron as he made atonement in the most holy place?
No one could be with him.
14. [16:18-19] What else did Aaron have to do with the blood of the bull and the goat?
He had to put the blood on the horns of the altar. Then he must sprinkle some blood on the altar 7 times to cleanse it, so that it could be used for Yahweh.
15. [16:20-21] What did Aaron have to do while his hands were on the live goat's head?
He had to confess all the evil things that the people of Israel had done.

Leviticus 16:1-34 continued

16. [16:21-22] Why do you think this goat was sent out into the wilderness?
The goat probably represented the sins of the people. When the goat was sent into the wilderness, this probably showed that Israel's sins had been removed from them and that Yahweh had forgiven the people.
17. [16:23] What did Aaron have to leave inside the tent of meeting?
He had to leave the linen clothes that he had put on before going into the most holy place.
18. [16:24-25] What did Aaron have to do after he bathed and put on his normal clothes?
He had to make a burnt offering for himself and one for the people. He had to burn the fat of the sin offering on the altar.
19. [16:26] What must the man do who took the goat into the wilderness?
He had to bathe himself and wash his clothes before he could go back into the camp.
20. [16:27] What had to happen to the rest of the bull and goat after they were killed as sin offerings?
Someone had to take them out of the camp and burn their hides, flesh, and dung.
21. [16:29, 34] How often were they supposed to do what Yahweh instructed in this passage?
They had to do this every year on the tenth day of the seventh month.
22. [16:30] What was the purpose of this day?
On this day, atonement would be made for the people, and they would be cleansed from their sins.
23. [16:29, 31] What else was commanded for that day?
It was a Sabbath of rest for the people. They must humble themselves and do no work.

Comment Section:

Leviticus 25:1-7 Instructions for the Sabbath year

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to tell the people of Israel that the land must keep a Sabbath. [25:1-2]
- ☐ The people had to plant, prune, and harvest their fields for six years. [25:3]
- ☐ They must let the land rest in the seventh year, and they must not sow, prune, or reap. [25:3-5]
- ☐ During the seventh year, all people and animals could get their food from the fields that they had not planted. [25:6-7]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [25:1-2] What did the people of Israel have to do when they came into the land that God was giving to them?
They had to give the land a Sabbath rest for Yahweh.
2. [25:3-4] What did the people have to do so that the land would have a Sabbath rest?
The people had to plant their fields, prune their vineyards, and gather the produce for six years. But in the seventh year, they were not allowed to plant their fields or prune their vineyards.
3. [25:5] What did Yahweh say about produce that grew on its own during the Sabbath year?
He said not to conduct the organized harvest work on whatever grew on its own.
4. [25:6-7] What were the people allowed to do with food that grew on its own during the Sabbath year?
All people were allowed to use what grew on its own for food. Their livestock and the wild animals were also allowed to eat what the land produced.

Comment Section:

Numbers 1:1-4 God tells Moses to count the fighting men

Background: The events in the book of Numbers follow the events in the book of Exodus, which told about God taking his people out of Egypt and rescuing them from slavery. Moses led them toward the Land of Canaan that God had promised to give them.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to count all the men of Israel who were over 20 years old and could fight as soldiers for Israel. [1:1-3]
- ☐ There had to be a man from each tribe to serve with Moses as the tribe's leader. [1:4]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [1:1] Where did Yahweh speak to Moses?
Yahweh spoke to Moses in the tent of meeting, while they were in the wilderness of Sinai.
2. [1:2-3] What did Yahweh tell Moses to do?
Yahweh told Moses to count all the men of Israel who were 20 years old or older and could fight as soldiers.
3. [1:4] What did one man from each tribe have to do?
One man from each tribe had to serve with Moses as the tribe's leader.
4. [1:4] What did each of those tribal leaders need to be?
Each tribal leader needed to be the head of his clan.
5. [1:4] What was the job of the leader of each tribe?
Each leader had to lead his tribe in battle.

Comment Section:

Numbers 6:22-27

Aaron's blessing

Background: Aaron was the brother of Moses. God had chosen Aaron and his sons and their male descendants to serve God as priests.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh said to Moses that he must tell Aaron and his sons to bless the people of Israel. [6:22-23]
- ☐ Yahweh told Moses the words that Aaron and his sons must use in their blessing. [6:24-26]
- ☐ After Aaron and his sons blessed the people of Israel, they gave them Yahweh's name. Then Yahweh blessed them. [6:27]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [6:22-23] What did Yahweh tell Moses to do?
Yahweh told Moses that he must tell Aaron and his sons to bless the people of Israel.
2. [6:24-26] What were the words of the blessing Aaron was told to give to the people?
May Yahweh bless you and keep you. May Yahweh make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May Yahweh look on you with favor and give you peace.
3. [6:25] What do you think it means for Yahweh to make his face shine on people?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps it means for Yahweh to look at people with kindness, or for him to want to be kind to them. Perhaps it means for Yahweh to show that he is present with people.
4. [6:27] What did Yahweh say that Aaron and his sons would do for the people of Israel with this blessing?
He said that in this way they would give his name to the people of Israel.
5. [6:27] What do you think it means to give Yahweh's name to people?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps it means to say that they belong to Yahweh. Perhaps it means to ask Yahweh to bless them.
6. [6:27] What did Yahweh say would happen if Aaron pronounced this blessing over Israel?
Yahweh would bless Israel.

Comment Section:

Numbers 13:17-33 The spies bring back a bad report

Background: Yahweh told Moses to send one man from each tribe to explore the land of Canaan. Canaan was the land that God had given to the people of Israel, but they had not gone into it yet.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Moses sent men to explore the land of Canaan. [13:17]
- ☐ He told them to find out whether the people in the land were strong, and whether there were many people. [13:18]
- ☐ He told them to find out if the land was good, and what the cities were like. [13:19]
- ☐ He told them to find out about the crops and trees in the land, and he told them to bring back some of the land's produce. [13:20]
- ☐ The men went and saw the land and the people. [13:21-22]
- ☐ They carried back some of the land's fruit to Moses and the others. [13:23-26]
- ☐ They said that the land was very good, but they also said that the people living there were very strong. [13:27-28]
- ☐ Caleb said that they should go and take possession of the land. [13:30]
- ☐ The other men said that they should not attack, because the people in the land were too strong for them. [13:31]
- ☐ These men spread a bad report among the Israelites. They said the land ate up its people. [13:32]
- ☐ They said that all the people in the land were very tall, and that the Israelites were like grasshoppers compared to them. [13:32-33]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [13:17] Where did Moses send the men?
Moses sent the men to Canaan to examine the land. He told them to go through the Negev, and then to go up into the hill country.
2. [13:18] What did Moses tell the men to observe about the inhabitants of the land?
Moses told the men to see if the people in the land were strong or weak, and if they were many or few in number.
3. [13:19] What did Moses tell the men to notice about the cities in Canaan?
Moses told them to see if the cities were like camps or if they were fortified.
4. [13:20] What did Moses tell the men to observe about the land, and what did he tell them to bring back?
Moses told the men to see if the land was good for growing crops and if there were trees there. He told them to bring back samples of the land's produce.

Numbers 13:17-33 continued

5. [13:21-23] What did the men do?
They examined the land and visited numerous cities and saw the descendants of Anak. They cut down a cluster of grapes. Two men carried the cluster of grapes between them with a staff. They also brought back pomegranates and figs.
6. [13:23] What do you think the cluster of grapes was like?
It was probably very big and very heavy, because they needed two men to carry it on a pole between them.
7. [13:25] How long did the men spend examining the land?
The men spent 40 days examining the land.
8. [13:26] Who did the men talk to when they returned, and what did they show them?
The men talked to Moses, Aaron and all the people of Israel, and they showed them the produce they had brought back.
9. [13:27] What did the men report about the land?
The men reported that the land flowed with milk and honey.
10. [13:27] What do you think it meant for the land to flow with milk and honey?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps it meant that the land was very fertile. Perhaps there were good fields for cattle to graze in and plenty of flowering plants and trees for bees.
11. [13:28-29] What did the men say about the people and the cities in Canaan?
They said that the people were strong. They said that the cities were fortified and very large. They named groups of people there and said where they lived.
12. [13:30] What did Caleb tell the people?
Caleb told the people to be quiet. He told them that they should go up and take the land because they were able to conquer it.
13. [13:31] What did the men who had gone with Caleb say?
The other men said that the Israelites were not able to attack the people of the land because those people were stronger than the Israelites.
14. [13:32] What did those men say about the land and the people there?
They said that the land ate up its inhabitants. They also said that the people were very tall.

Numbers 13:17-33 continued

15. [13:33] How did the men compare themselves to the inhabitants of the land?

The men said that they were like grasshoppers in comparison to the land's inhabitants.

Comment Section:

Numbers 20:1-13

Moses strikes the rock

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ The people went into the wilderness of Zin, and Miriam died there. [20:1]
- ☐ There was no water, and the people complained against Moses. [20:2-5]
- ☐ God told Moses to take his staff and command a certain rock to flow with water. [20:7-8]
- ☐ Moses spoke to the people and struck the rock with his staff. [20:9-11]
- ☐ Water flowed out, but Yahweh punished Moses and Aaron because they did not honor him. [20:11-12]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [20:1] What happened after the people entered the wilderness of Zin?
Miriam died, and she was buried there.
2. [20:2] What did the people do?
The people gathered against Moses and Aaron.
3. [20:3] What did the people say when they complained against Moses?
They told Moses it would have been better if they had died with their fellow Israelites in front of Yahweh.
4. [20:4] What did the people accuse Moses and Aaron of doing?
They accused Moses and Aaron of bringing them to that wilderness to die along with their animals.
5. [20:5] What did the people say was bad about the wilderness?
It was not a place for seed (or grain), figs, vines, or pomegranates, and there was no water to drink.
6. [20:6] What did Moses and Aaron do?
Moses and Aaron went away from the people and lay face down in front of the tent of meeting.
7. [20:7-8] What did Yahweh tell Moses to do?
Yahweh told Moses to take the staff, assemble the community, and speak to the rock so that it would produce water for the community and livestock to drink.

Numbers 20:1-13 continued

8. [20:9] What did Moses do?
Moses took the staff as Yahweh had commanded him.
9. [20:10] When Moses and Aaron had gathered the assembly together in front of the rock, what did he say?
Moses called them rebels, and he asked them, "Must we bring water out of this rock for you?"
10. [20:11] What did Moses do to bring water out of the rock?
Moses struck the rock twice with the staff.
11. [20:12] What did Yahweh tell Moses and Aaron would happen as a result of Moses striking the rock instead of speaking to it?
Yahweh told them that they would not bring the assembly into the land he had given to them, because they had not trusted and honored Yahweh as holy.
12. [20:12] How do you think Moses and Aaron failed to trust and honor Yahweh as holy?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps they had failed by disobeying, because Yahweh told Moses to speak to the rock, yet instead Moses hit the rock. Perhaps when Moses asked, "Must we bring water out of this rock?" he spoke as if he and Aaron would produce the water, and this meant that they did not honor Yahweh as the only one who was providing the water for the people.
13. [20:13] What did God show the people about himself?
He showed them that he is holy.

Comment Section:

Numbers 21:4-9 The bronze serpent

Background: After Yahweh freed the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt, he also provided food for them while they traveled in the wilderness. In the mornings, flakes of bread would appear around their camp. These flakes, which the people called manna, were like white coriander seeds and tasted like honey. The people could gather them and eat them. However, the people often complained to Moses about this food that Yahweh had provided for them.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ The people of Israel complained to Moses about the food and water in the wilderness. [21:4-5]
- ☐ God sent poisonous snakes, and many people died. [21:6]
- ☐ The people confessed their sin, and they asked Moses to pray for them. So he prayed for them. [21:7]
- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to make a snake and to attach it to a pole. [21:8].
- ☐ People who looked at the bronze snake lived even after a snake bit them. [21:9]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [21:4] As the people traveled from Mount Hor around the land of Edom, what happened to them?
The people became very discouraged.
2. [21:5] What did the people accuse God and Moses of doing?
They accused God and Moses of taking them out of Egypt to die in the wilderness.
3. [21:5] What did they say that the wilderness was like?
They said there was no food and no water. They said they hated the miserable food.
4. [21:5] What do you think the food was that the people hated and called miserable?
It was probably the manna that God provided for them.
5. [21:6] What did Yahweh do?
Yahweh sent poisonous snakes among the people. The snakes bit the people, which caused many people to die.
6. [21:7] What sin did the people say they done?
The people said that they had spoken against Yahweh and Moses.

Numbers 21:4-9 continued

7. [21:7] What did the people ask Moses to do?
They asked him to pray to Yahweh, so that Yahweh would take away the snakes.
8. [21:8] How did Yahweh respond when Moses prayed?
Yahweh told Moses to make a snake and to attach it to a pole. Anyone who was bitten would survive if they looked at it.
9. [21:9] What did Moses do?
Moses made a bronze snake and attached it to a pole as Yahweh had commanded.
10. [21:9] When a snake bit a person after the bronze snake was made, what happened?
If the person who was bitten looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

Comment Section:

Numbers 24:1-9 Balaam's third oracle

Background: In Numbers 22, King Balak of Moab sent messengers to Balaam and asked him to curse the people of Israel. In Numbers 23, King Balak took Balaam to two places where they could see the Israelite camp. King Balak wanted Balaam to curse Israel, but both times Balaam blessed Israel. Then King Balak took Balaam to the top of Mount Peor.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Balaam saw that Yahweh blessed Israel, so Balaam did not try to use sorcery at this time. [24:1]
- ☐ The Spirit of God came on Balaam. Balaam prophesied and told about the words and the vision that God gave him. [24:2-3]
- ☐ Balaam prophesied that Israel would spread throughout the land, and it would be delightful. [24:5-7]
- ☐ Balaam prophesied that Israel would have victory over other nations. [24:8-9]
- ☐ Balaam prophesied that all who blessed Israel would be blessed, and all who cursed Israel would be cursed. [24:9]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [24:1] Why did Balaam not use sorcery at this time?
He did not use sorcery because he saw that it pleased Yahweh to bless Israel.
2. [24:2] When Balaam looked and saw where all of Israel was camped, what happened?
The Spirit of God came on Balaam.
3. [24:3] What did Balaam say about his eyes?
He said that his eyes were wide open.
4. [24:4] What did Balaam say that he heard and saw?
He said that he heard God's words, and he saw a vision from the Almighty.
5. [24:5-6] How did Balaam describe Jacob's tents in his vision?
Balaam said that Jacob's tents were delightful. He said that they spread out like valleys. He said they were like gardens by the riverside. He said that they were like aloes planted by Yahweh, and like cedars beside the waters.
6. [24:7] What did he say would happen with Israel, from his vision?
Balaam said that water would flow from Israel's buckets and that their seed would have abundant water.

Numbers 24:1-9 continued

7. [24:7] What do you think this part of Balaam's vision meant?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps it meant that there would be plenty of water for the people of Israel and for their crops in the land of Canaan.
8. [24:7] What did Balaam prophesy about Israel's king, and about the kingdom of Israel?
He said that Israel's king would be greater than Agag. He said that their kingdom would be honored.
9. [24:8] What did Balaam say happened in his vision when God brought Israel out of Egypt?
When God brought Israel out of Egypt, he would have strength like a wild ox, eat up the nations that fight against him, break their bones, and shoot arrows into them.
10. [24:8] What do you think this meant that Israel's army would be like, because of God's power?
This probably meant that Israel's army would be strong because of God's power. It probably meant that Israel would be able to defeat the other nations.
11. [24:9] Why would someone not dare to disturb Israel in Balaam's vision?
Someone would dare not disturb Israel because Israel was like a lion crouching down.
12. [24:9] What would happen to those who blessed or cursed Israel?
Those who blessed Israel would be blessed, and those who cursed Israel would be cursed.

Comment Section:

Deuteronomy 3:1-11 The Israelites defeat King Og

Background: The events in the book of Deuteronomy began about forty years after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt. They were now on the eastern side of the Jordan River and were about to cross over into the land of Canaan. Moses spoke to the Israelites and reminded them of things that happened during those 40 years. In chapter 2, he reminded them of how God helped them defeat King Sihon of Heshbon. It is Moses who is speaking in this passage.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ The Israelites went up to Bashan, and the king of Bashan attacked them. [3:1]
- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to do to Og as he had done to Sihon. [3:2]
- ☐ Yahweh gave the Israelites victory, and the Israelites killed all of Og's people and took all their cities. [3:3-7]
- ☐ Israel took all of the land of the two Amorite kings. [3:8-11]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [3:1] What happened when Israel turned and went toward Bashan?
Og the king of Bashan and all his people went and attacked the people of Israel.
2. [3:2] What did Yahweh tell Moses?
Yahweh told Moses not to be afraid. He said that Moses would do to Og what he had done to Sihon.
3. [3:2] Why would Moses be able to do those things?
He would be able to do them because Yahweh had put all Og's people and land under Israel's control.
4. [3:3] What did Israel do to the people of Bashan?
Israel killed them all.
5. [3:4] What did the people of Israel take from the people of Bashan?
They took all 60 cities of Bashan.
6. [3:5] What did Moses say about those cities?
The cities were fortified with high walls, gates, and bars. There were also many unwallled villages.
7. [3:5] Why do you think Moses spoke about the cities having high walls, gates, and bars?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps this shows that it was not easy to attack and destroy the cities.

Deuteronomy 3:1-11 continued

8. [3:6] In the battle against Bashan, how much was destroyed?
The cities were completely destroyed, even the men, women, and little ones.
9. [3:7] What did the people of Israel do with the livestock and valuable things?
They took them for themselves.
10. [3:8, 10] What did the Israelites take from the two kings of the Amorites?
They took the land that extended from the valley of the Arnon River to Mount Hermon. They took all the cities of the plain, all of Gilead, and all of Bashan.
11. [3:10] Why do you think that Moses mentioned the cities Salekah and Edre?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps he mentioned them to make it clear that the Israelites took all of Bashan. Perhaps these cities were in a far-off part of Bashan.
12. [3:11] What do you think the size of Og's bed shows?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps it shows that Og was a very tall and large man. Perhaps it shows how important Og was.

Comment Section:

Deuteronomy 3:23-29

God does not let Moses enter the promised land

Background: In 3:12-22, Moses continued to speak to the Israelites while they were on the east side of the Jordan River. He reminded them that he gave the land they had conquered to the Israelite tribes of Reuben and Gad. In this passage, Moses is speaking to the Israelites about a conversation he had with Yahweh.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Moses asked Yahweh to let him cross the Jordan River to see the good land on the other side. [3:23-25]
- ☐ Yahweh was angry with Moses because of the Israelites. Yahweh said not to speak to him about the matter again. [3:26]
- ☐ Yahweh said that Moses could go up Mount Pisgah and see the land from there. [3:27]
- ☐ Yahweh told Moses to encourage Joshua. He said that Joshua would lead the people across the Jordan to the land. [3:28]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [3:23] What purpose did Moses have when he spoke to Yahweh in this passage?
He was pleading with Yahweh.
2. [3:24] What did Moses say first to Yahweh?
Moses said that Yahweh had begun to show his greatness and his mighty hand to him. Moses also asked what other god in heaven or earth could do the same things that Yahweh had done.
3. [3:25] What did Moses ask Yahweh to do for him?
Moses begged Yahweh to let him go over and see the good land on the other side of the Jordan River, the hill country, and Lebanon.
4. [3:26] What did Moses explain to the people who were hearing him about how Yahweh responded to this request?
Moses explained that Yahweh was angry with him because of the people who were hearing this explanation. So Yahweh would not listen to this request.
5. [3:27] What else did Yahweh say to Moses?
Yahweh told Moses to speak to him no more about the matter. He told Moses to go to the top of Pisgah, to look with his eyes at the land. Yahweh told Moses he would not go over the Jordan.

Deuteronomy 3:23-29 continued

6. [3:26] Why do you think Yahweh told Moses not to speak to him anymore about crossing the Jordan River?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps it was because Yahweh had already said that Moses would not cross the river, and Yahweh was not going to change his mind about it.

7. [3:28] What did Yahweh tell Moses to do in verse 28?
Yahweh told Moses to instruct Joshua, and to encourage and strengthen him, because Joshua would lead the people of Israel so that they could take the land that Moses saw.

8. [3:29] After this conversation, where did Moses and the people remain?
They remained in the valley of Beth-peor.

Comment Section:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 You shall love Yahweh your God

Background: In chapter 6 Moses continued speaking to the people of Israel while they were east of the Jordan River.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Moses told the Israelites Yahweh's command to hear that he is their one God. [6:4]
- ☐ Yahweh told the people of Israel how they should love him and honor him. [6:4-5]
- ☐ Yahweh told the people of Israel that they should teach their children the commandments of God. [6:6-7]
- ☐ Yahweh said the commandments should be a sign on their hands and on their forehead. [6:8]
- ☐ Yahweh said the commandments should be written on the doorposts of their homes. [6:9]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [6:4] Who is Israel's God?
Yahweh is the God of Israel.
2. [6:5] In what ways should the people of Israel love Yahweh?
They should love Yahweh their God with all their hearts, with all their souls, and with all their might.
3. [6:6] What did Yahweh tell the people about where his commandments should be?
The commandments of Yahweh should be in the hearts of the people.
4. [6:6] What do you think it meant for people to have God's commands in their hearts?
(Answer may vary.) It probably meant that they should remember God's commands and think about them.
5. [6:7] How must the people of Israel teach their children Yahweh's commands?
They must teach their children Yahweh's commands diligently.
6. [6:7] How often should they talk about Yahweh's commandments?
They should talk about Yahweh's commandments frequently: when they sat in their homes, when they walked on the road, when they lay down, and when they got up.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 continued

7. [6:8] What do you think was the purpose of tying God's commands on their hands or binding them on their foreheads?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps tying the commands on their hands and foreheads would remind them to think about the commands and obey them.
8. [6:9] What do you think was the purpose of writing God's commands on the doorposts of their houses and on their gates?
(*Answer may vary.*) The purpose of this was probably to remind them to obey God's commands, both as they left their homes and as they returned home.

Comment Section:

Deuteronomy 8:11-20

Warnings about forgetting Yahweh

Background: In chapters 6-8, Moses continued to speak to the people of Israel while they were east of the Jordan River.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Moses warned the people not to forget Yahweh their God by failing to obey him. [8:11]
- ☐ Moses warned them not to become proud or to forget Yahweh when things went well for them. [8:12-14]
- ☐ Moses reminded them that Yahweh had taken them out of Egypt and through the wilderness. [8:14-16]
- ☐ Moses warned them not to think that their own power and strength brought wealth to them. [8:17]
- ☐ Moses told them to remember that Yahweh was the one who enabled them to gain wealth. [8:18]
- ☐ If they forgot Yahweh, they would perish like other nations had perished. [8:19-20]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [8:11] What did Moses tell the people of Israel not to forget?
Moses told the people not to forget Yahweh their God by failing to keep his commandments.
2. [8:11-14] What would happen if the people failed to keep the commandments of Yahweh?
Their hearts would be lifted up.
3. [8:11-14] What do you think it meant for their hearts to be lifted up?
It probably meant that they would become proud.
4. [8:12-14] What might the people become proud about?
They might become proud when they had plenty to eat, when they built good houses and lived in them, when their herds and flocks increased, when their silver and gold increased, and when all their possessions increased.
5. [8:14] What had God done for the people of Israel?
He had brought them out of slavery in Egypt.
6. [8:15] How did Moses describe the wilderness?
The wilderness was terrifying. There were fiery serpents and scorpions, and there was no water.

Deuteronomy 8:11-20 continued

7. [8:15-16] What did Yahweh do for the people of Israel in the wilderness?
Yahweh led them through the wilderness, and he gave them water and manna.
8. [8:17] If the people forgot what God had done for them, what might they think?
They might think that they got their wealth by their own power and might.
9. [8:18] Why did God give the people of Israel the ability to gain wealth?
He gave them this ability because of the covenant that he had made with their ancestors.
10. [8:19] What did Moses say would happen if the people of Israel followed other gods and worshiped them?
They would surely perish.
11. [8:20] What would happen to them if they did not obey their voice of Yahweh their God?
They would perish the way other nations had perished.

Comment Section:

Deuteronomy 12:29-13:5

Warning against idolatry

Background: In chapters 10-12 Moses continued to speak to the people of Israel while they were east of the Jordan River.

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Moses warned the people of Israel not to be trapped into following the ways of the nations they were going to destroy. He warned them not to ask about how these nations served their gods. [12:29-30]
- ☐ Moses told the people of Israel that Yahweh hated all the terrible things the nations did to worship their gods. [12:31]
- ☐ Moses reminded the people to do all that Yahweh commanded, and not to add or take away from it. [12:32]
- ☐ Moses warned the people not to listen to prophets who spoke about following other gods, because Yahweh was testing them and how they would love him. [13:1-3]
- ☐ Moses reminded them to follow and honor Yahweh, to keep his commandments, to obey his voice, and to worship him. [13:4]
- ☐ Moses told the people that prophets or dreamers who spoke rebellion against Yahweh must be put to death. [13:5]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [12:29-30] What did Moses warn Israel not to do?
Moses warned them not to get trapped into following the nations or asking about how they worshiped their gods. They must not worship Yahweh as those people worshiped their gods.
2. [12:31] What did Yahweh think about how the nations worshiped their gods?
He hated everything they did to worship their gods.
3. [12:31] What example did he give of what Yahweh hated?
The other nations would even burn their sons and daughters as sacrifices to their gods.
4. [12:32] What did Moses say about whatever he commanded the people?
He told them to observe whatever he commanded. He told them not to add anything to it or take anything away from it.
5. [13:1-2] If a prophet or dreamer announced that a sign or wonder would happen and it actually did happen, what do you think people might believe about that prophet's or dreamer's words?
(Answer may vary.) People might believe that his words were true.

Deuteronomy 12:29-13:5 continued

6. [13:3] What did Moses say to do if a prophet or a dreamer encouraged them to worship other gods?
Moses said not to listen to that prophet or dreamer.

7. [13:3] What did he say might be Yahweh's reason for allowing a false prophet or dreamer's sign to happen?
Yahweh might do this to test his people's hearts and to know whether they would love him or turn to the other gods.

8. [13:4] How did Moses instruct the people to follow Yahweh their God?
Moses told the people to honor Yahweh and to keep his commandments. Moses told them to obey Yahweh, worship Yahweh, and cling to Yahweh.

9. [13:5] Why would a prophet or dreamer like Moses described have to be put to death?
Such a prophet or dreamer would have to be put to death because they had tried to get people to rebel against Yahweh, their God.

10. [13:5] What did Moses say about the prophet who wanted to pull the people away from obeying Yahweh's commandments?
Moses told the people that the prophet should be killed so that the evil would be completely removed from among them.

Comment Section:

Deuteronomy 31:1-8

Joshua becomes Israel's leader

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Moses told the people of Israel that he would not go across the Jordan with them. [31:1-2]
- ☐ Moses said that Yahweh himself would go before them, and Joshua would also lead the people. [31:3]
- ☐ Moses said that Yahweh would destroy the other nations and deliver them to the people of Israel. They should do to those nations what Yahweh commanded. [31:3-5]
- ☐ Moses told them to be courageous because Yahweh was with them and would not leave them. [31:6]
- ☐ Moses told Joshua to be strong and courageous because Yahweh would go before him. [31:7]
- ☐ He told Joshua that Yahweh would be with him and would not leave him. [31:8]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [31:1-2] How old was Moses when he spoke these words?
Moses was 120 years old.
2. [31:1-2] What did Moses say that he could no longer do?
Moses said that he could not go out and come in.
3. [31:1-2] What do you think Moses meant when he said he could not go out and come in?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps this meant that he could not do the work of leading them that he was doing before.
4. [31:2] What had Yahweh told Moses?
Yahweh had said that Moses would not go across the Jordan River.
5. [31:3] Who did Moses say would go over the Jordan with the people?
Yahweh their God would go over the Jordan before them, and also Joshua would go before them.
6. [31:3] What was Yahweh going to do when the people of Israel crossed over the Jordan?
Yahweh would destroy the nations before them.
7. [31:4] What did Moses say that Yahweh would do to the nations across the Jordan?
Yahweh would do to them as he did to Sihon and Og, and to their land, which he destroyed.

Deuteronomy 31:1-8 continued

8. [31:5] What would happen when they met the nations in battle?
Yahweh would deliver those nations over to Israel. The Israelites must do to the nations what they were commanded to do.
9. [31:6] Why should the people of Israel be strong and courageous, rather than fearful?
They should be strong and courageous because Yahweh would go with them, and he would not fail them or abandon them.
10. [31:7] What did Moses tell Joshua, in front of the people?
Moses told Joshua to be strong and courageous. He said that Joshua would go with the people into the land that Yahweh would cause them to inherit.
11. [31:8] Who did Moses say that Yahweh would do?
Moses said that Yahweh would go before Joshua. Yahweh would be with him. Yahweh would not fail him or leave him.
12. [31:8] What did Moses say to Joshua next?
He reminded Joshua not to be afraid or discouraged.
13. [31:7-8] Why do you think that Moses spoke to Joshua this way in front of the people of Israel?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps Moses wanted the people to know that Yahweh had chosen Joshua to be their leader. Perhaps he wanted to remind all of the people of Israel not to be afraid.

Comment Section:

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 The death of Moses

Read the passage.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Moses went up the mountain, and Yahweh showed him all the land he would give to Israel. [34:1-3]
- ☐ Yahweh told him that this was the land he had promised to give to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Moses could see it, but he could not go there. [34:4]
- ☐ Moses died in the land of Moab, and Yahweh buried him there. [34:5-6]
- ☐ Moses was 120 years old when he died, but he was still strong. [34:7]
- ☐ The people mourned for Moses for 30 days. [34:8]
- ☐ Joshua became the new leader, and the people of Israel listened to him. [34:9]
- ☐ There has never been a prophet like Moses. [34:10-12]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. [34:1-3] What did Yahweh show Moses when he went to the top of the mountain?
Yahweh showed Moses all the land: from Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah, to the Negeb, to Jericho the city of Palms, and as far as Zoar.
2. [34:4] What did Yahweh tell Moses about the land?
Yahweh told Moses that it was the land he had promised to give to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Yahweh told Moses that he had allowed Moses to see it with his eyes, but he would not go over there.
3. [34:5] What happened to Moses in verse 5?
Moses died in the land of Moab, just as Yahweh had said.
4. [34:6] What did Yahweh do with Moses' body?
Yahweh buried Moses' body in the land of Moab. No one knows where his grave is located.
5. [34:7] What was said about Moses in verse 7?
Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eyes were not dim, and his force was not gone.
6. [34:7] What do you think this description of Moses meant?
(Answer may vary.) Perhaps it meant that he could still see well, and he was still strong.

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 continued

7. [34:8] What did the people of Israel do when Moses died?
They mourned for him in the plains of Moab for 30 days.
8. [34:9] Why did the people of Israel listen to Joshua?
They listened to Joshua because he was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him.
9. [34:9] What do you think it meant that Moses had laid his hands on Joshua?
(*Answer may vary.*) Perhaps Moses had given him a blessing. Perhaps this was how Yahweh instructed Moses to pass the leadership of the Israelites on to Joshua.
10. [34:10] What was said about Moses after he died?
There has never been any prophet like him since that time.
11. [34:10] How was Moses different from all other prophets?
Yahweh knew Moses face to face.
12. [34:10] What do you think it meant for Yahweh to know Moses face to face?
It probably meant that Yahweh and Moses spoke to each other directly.
13. [34:11] What had Moses done in Egypt?
He did all the great signs and wonders that Yahweh had sent him to do.
14. [34:12] What had the people of Israel seen Moses do?
They had seen him do mighty deeds.

Comment Section: