

Remembering God's Love

A story based on Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A long, long time ago, the people of Israel did not have a place to live. A man named Moses had led them away from a powerful and cruel king. "I will be with you," God promised.

Moses led the people. Step, step, step – mothers and fathers, aunts and uncles, grandmothers and grandfathers walked with Moses. Step, step, step – girls and boys walked with Moses. Clippity-clop, clippity-clop – sheep, goats, cows, and donkeys walked with Moses. All the people and animals walked with Moses. It took a long, long time to get to their new home. And all the time, the people knew that God was taking care of them.

Then one day when they were almost there, Moses said to the people, "We have wandered around for a long time, looking for a place to stay.

"Our journey together is finished. It is time to build your homes in this new land. Look after your animals, plant seeds, and care for them. Take the first fruits and vegetables that you pick and put them in a basket. Put this basket in a special place and remember the many ways that God loves you. This is a special way of saying thank you to God."

And that is just what happened. The people found new homes, planted new gardens, and cared for their animals. And every year they would bring baskets of fruits and vegetables to a special place to thank God. And they would remember the story of how Moses led them away from the powerful and cruel king and brought them to a new land. Afterwards there would be a big party. Everyone was invited. It was a wonderful way to say thank you to God.

Create: Thanksgiving Garland

Materials

- 5 cm/ 6 in plain paper hearts
- Yarn
- Scissors
- Hole punch

Instructions

God has given us so many good things.

1. On paper hearts draw pictures of things for which you would like to thank God.
2. Punch two holes at the top of each heart.
3. As each heart is completed, thread yarn through the two holes to create a garland.
4. Hang the finished garland in the worship area at church or in a special place at home.



Activity: Thank You, God

You will need

- Markers
- Crayons
- Coloured pencils
- Scissors

Instructions

When the people of Israel came to a new land, they grew beautiful flowers and delicious fruit. There were beautiful birds, healthy animals, and yummy honey. All these things reminded them that God was looking after them.

1. Decorate the pictures with crayons, markers, or coloured pencils.
2. Cut around the pictures and place them around the building or at home; maybe in books, or on tables and chairs where people will find them and be reminded that God is still looking after us all today – just as God has always done.

