Introduction
WELCOME everyone! We are excited to be teaching you this year. We are going to look at the time when the children lived in the wilderness. Has anyone been to a wilderness or desert before? What is it like? Hot and dry!

Just a few classroom “rules” to start …
- We expect everyone to listen carefully and participate.
- If you have a question or comment, please raise your hand.
- Please don’t speak while others are speaking.
- Please try and go to the bathroom before class starts.
- Have fun being together and learn lots!

Background
- Israelites in Egypt for a long time.
- First there was a nice Pharaoh, then a mean Pharaoh was ruler.
- Life was hard … they were slaves and expected to do a lot.
- God delivered them out of Egypt and was going to lead them to the Promised Land.
- Moses was the leader.
- Because of grumbling and complaining, they had to spend 40 years in the wilderness.
- They now wished they were back in Egypt.
- Does God like grumbling? Do our parents like grumbling?
- We must be happy with what we have and not complain about things!

Life in the Wilderness
- Do you think they had houses to live in? No! They lived in tents – like at Bible Camp.
- But it would have been much hotter and dryer than Bible Camp.
- No taps with running water.

How did they know where to go?
- God showed them where to go … pillar of cloud by day, and pillar of fire by night (for light).
- Pillar stood above Tabernacle when they camped somewhere … when it moved, it was time to move too.
- Had to pack up their tents and move onto the next place.

Food and Water
- What do you think the Israelites ate in the wilderness?
- God provided manna for them.
- People had to go out and collect manna each morning (except on the Sabbath).
- They soon got sick of the manna and wished they had the food back in Egypt.
- God sent quails for them to eat – people were very excited about this!
- But some people were greedy and forgot to thank God for the food … lots of people died of a plague.
- Do you think you might complain if you only had manna, quail and water to drink for 40 years?
Laws and Commandments

- At Mt Sinai, God gave the people some special laws / rules to obey.
- God also gave them the 10 Commandments.
- A lot of people didn’t know much about God and how He wanted them to live.
- These laws and commandments were to help the people love and obey God, and each other.

Main Lessons for Us

- The time to get to the Promised Land took MUCH longer – because of complaining. Sometimes our Daddy or Mummy may ask us to do something and we don’t want to, so we complain and it takes much longer!
- We have to learn to be thankful ... and use our “PLEASE” and “THANK YOU” wherever we can.
- God always provides what we need, not what we want.
Review of Day 1 and Intro

- Yesterday we looked at what it was like to be in the wilderness.
- Do you think you could have survived living in a tent for 40 years? And only eating manna and quails?
- Today we are going to look at spying out the Promised Land.

12 Men Sent to Spy out Land

- Israel now in at border of Promised Land.
- People afraid to go into Land – wanted to send spies in first.
- One man from every trip chosen … look over the land for 40 days.
- Came back and gave their report – “good land … flowing with milk and honey”.
- Brought back fruits of the land – figs, pomegranates, huge bunch of grapes.
- 10 of the spies were negative – scared the people and told them about cities with high walls, big giants!
- Only two faithful spies – Joshua and Caleb.

The People are Scared

- People scared when they heard the report of the 10 faithless spies – didn’t trust in God.
- They cried all night! Complained AGAIN to Moses and Aaron.
- They wanted to choose a new leader and go back to Egypt!
- Joshua and Caleb tried to calm the people down and told them to trust in God – but they didn’t listen.
- God’s glory appeared and He wanted to destroy the people – but Moses pleads for them.

The Punishment

- All the faithless people 20 years+ would die in the wilderness (except Joshua and Caleb).
- People had to wander in wilderness for 40 years.
- 10 faithless spies died of a plague sent by God.

Main Lessons for Us

- Do you think you would have been brave or scared when the spies told you what the land was like?
- We have to believe that God will take care of us!
- God will reward those who trust in Him.
- Don’t spread bad things around – like the 10 faithless spies.
Review of Day 2 and Intro

- What did we talk about yesterday? How many spies were sent into the Promised Land? How many were faithful? Names of faithful spies?
- Today we are going to talk about an exciting lesson and hear about an amazing thing God did to some wicked people.

People are Jealous

- Moses had been chosen by God to be the special leader.
- Aaron was chosen to be the High Priest, and to help Moses.
- Korah, Dathan and Abiram were jealous of Moses and Aaron ... they wanted to be leaders too.

Before the Tabernacle

- Moses very angry – told all the people to come together the next day in front of the Tabernacle.
- Korah and 250 princes were to bring their bowls of burning coals ... Dathan and Abiram refused to come.
- They stood on one side ... Moses and Aaron on the other.
- Suddenly, glory of God appeared and a voice commanded Moses and Aaron to stand aside so God could destroy the people.
- People told to get away from the tents of the wicked people.
- Moses said if they die a normal death, then people would know Moses not specially chosen by God.
- But, if earth opened up and swallowed them, then people would know God had chosen Moses as leader.
- As soon as Moses finished speaking, the earth opened up and swallowed them and all their belongings!
- A fire from God destroyed the 250 princes – nothing left except their censers.

Another sign

- God gave another sign to Israel – to show who He had chosen to be High Priest.
- 12 rods with the names of the leaders of each tribe on them ... Moses put them in the Tabernacle.
- Next day ... Aaron’s rod had grown leaves, blossoms and almonds. The other 11 – just dry sticks still.
- God’s power had made the dry wood of Aaron’s rod become alive again!
- Israel now knew that Aaron was chosen by God as the High Priest.

Main Lessons for Us

- Don’t be jealous of other people, or want what others have.
- We don’t always have to be the leader, or the first!
Review of Day 3 and Intro

- What happened to Korah, Dathan and Abiram yesterday? Is it good to be jealous of others?
- Today we are going to learn about water that came out of a rock ... and something that Moses did that made God sad.

At Kadesh

- People again complain to Moses and Aaron ... that there was no water.
- Moses and Aaron knew God was the only one to help – went and prayed at the Tabernacle.
- God told Moses to take Aaron's rod, gather the people together with Aaron and SPEAK to the rock – and water would come out.
- Moses because angry with the people and said “Must WE get water from the rock”. For a moment, he forgot that God was the one who provided the water.
- Moses then HIT the rock twice, instead of speaking to it like God asked.
- Straightaway, water gushed from the rock ... lots of it! Everyone had plenty to drink and all the animals too.

The Punishment

- God was sad at the way Moses and Aaron acted in front of all the people. They had disobeyed God.
- They were supposed to set a good example for the rest of the people.
- God said that even though Moses and Aaron had been faithful up until this point, they would not lead the people into the Promised Land.
- This would have been very disappointing for Moses and Aaron, after all their hard work.
- They accepted what God said, because they knew God was right and fair. They had done wrong and deserved to be punished.

Main Lessons for Us

- We must obey God exactly ... not just do the parts we want to.
- How do we find out how to obey God? By reading the Bible and learning at Sunday School.
- Same applies to obeying our parents and other adults as well.
### Review of Day 4 and Intro
- How did Israel get water to drink in the lesson yesterday? Did Moses and Aaron do exactly what God had asked? What was their punishment?
- Today we are going to learn about fiery serpents that came and bit the children of Israel.

### More Complaining
- 40 years of wandering in wilderness was almost over ... getting close to Promised Land.
- It would have been a long, hot and dry 40 years!
- Again, the people start to complain about not having any water to drink. They complained about the dry ol’ manna they had to eat every day!
- Again they wished they were back in Egypt. They thought Moses had brought them out here to die!
- They were being very unthankful and selfish! They didn’t think about how God had cared for them all this time.
- They seemed to complain a lot didn’t they! Do you think we would be the same if we were in a hot and dry desert?

### God Sends Fiery Serpents
- God was very angry with them for complaining.
- Sent a plague of poisonous serpents (snakes) ... lots of people died from the bites.
- The people realised they had done wrong and they were sorry ... and they apologised to Moses.
- So ... Moses prayed to God for the people.
- God told Moses to make a fiery serpent out of brass and put it on a pole.
- Anyone that got bitten could look up at the brass serpent with faith and they wouldn’t die from the bite.
- Once again, God answered Moses’ prayer for the people ... even though they had complained.
- Can anyone think of someone who was put on a pole (cross) and hung up to die? Jesus. This brass serpent was a type of Jesus. We are saved because of what Jesus did.

### Main Lessons for Us
- Do we complain like the Israelites? Does God like complaining? We have to be thankful for what God has given us – not unthankful.
- But ... the people were sorry for complaining so much, and they asked Moses and God to forgive them. So if we find ourselves complaining, we should think about it and not do it again.