

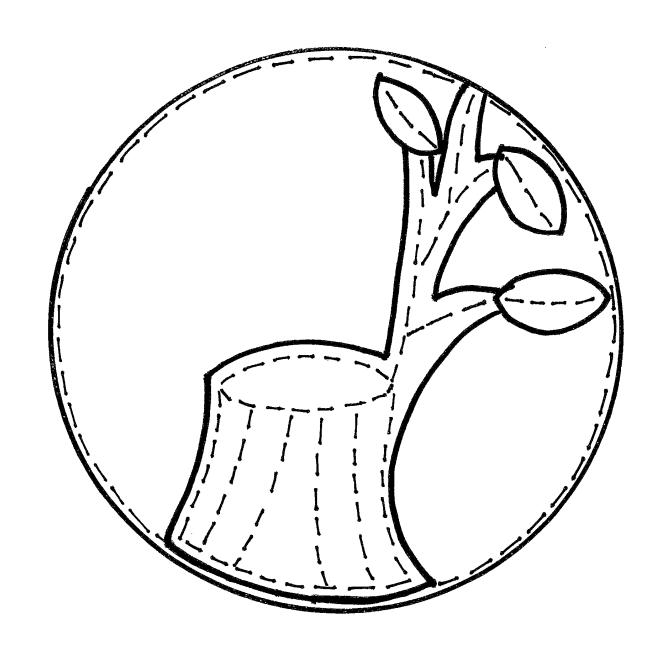
Written and Illustrated by Katie Pawlak

THIS COLORING BOOK INCORPORATES THE JESSE TREE APPROACH TO CELEBRATING ADVENT. IN THE DAYS LEADING UP TO CHRISTMAS, FAMILIES READ STORIES FROM THE BIBLE THAT POINT AHEAD TO THE LINEAGE AND BIRTH OF CHRIST, THE LONG-AWAITED MESSIAH. IN DOING SO, WE ARE ENCOURAGED TO SLOW DOWN AND TAKE TIME EACH DAY TO CELEBRATE GOD'S ENDURING FAITHFULNESS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH THE SENDING OF HIS SON TO EARTH THAT FIRST CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

THIS COLORING BOOK CAN BE USED ON ITS OWN AS A DAILY TOUCHPOINT DURING THE ADVENT SEASON. IT CAN ALSO BE USED ALONG WITH THE GOD WITH US: FAMILY ADVENT CELEBRATION BOOK TO KEEP LITTLE HANDS BUSY WHILE SCRIPTURE IS BEING READ AND DISCUSSED.

I PRAY THIS BECOMES A TREASURED SEASON AND TRADITION IN YOUR FAMILY. AS IT HAS IN OURS. HAVE A BLESSED ADVENT!

-KATIE



December 1 The Jesse Tree

ISAIAH 11:1-2

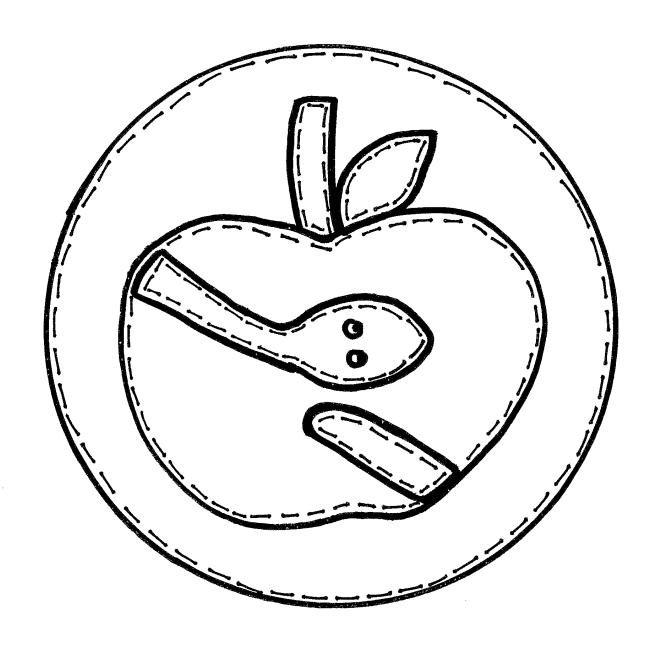
A SHOOT WILL COME UP FROM THE STUMP OF JESSE: FROM HIS ROOTS A BRANCH WILL BEAR FRUIT. THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD WILL REST ON HIM—THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND OF UNDERSTANDING. THE SPIRIT OF COUNSEL AND OF MIGHT. THE SPIRIT OF THE KNOWLEDGE AND FEAR OF THE LORD...



December 2 Creation

GENESIS 1:1, 27, 31

IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH... GOD CREATED MANKIND IN HIS OWN IMAGE, IN THE IMAGE OF GOD HE CREATED THEM; MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM... GOD SAW ALL THAT HE HAD MADE, AND IT WAS VERY GOOD...



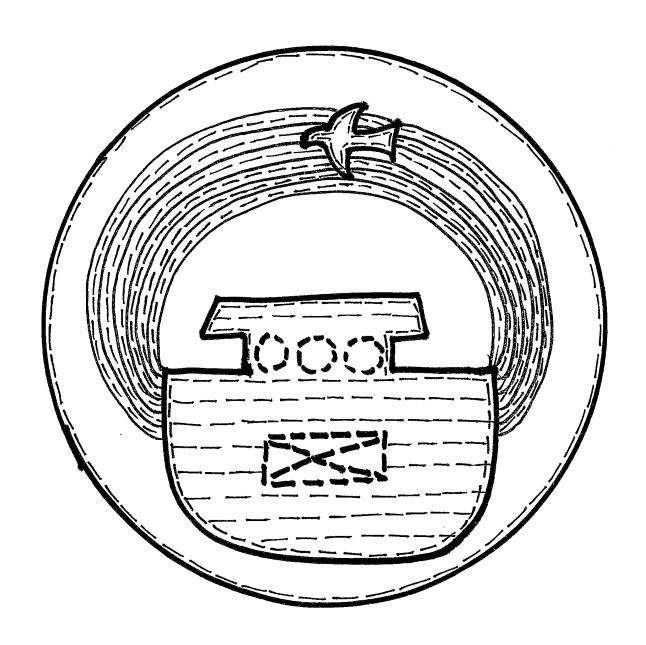
December 3 Adam and Eve

GENESIS 3:12-13

THE MAN SAID. "THE WOMAN YOU PUT HERE WITH ME-SHE GAVE ME SOME FRUIT FROM THE TREE, AND I ATE IT." THEN THE LORD GOD SAID TO THE WOMAN. "WHAT IS THIS YOU HAVE DONE?" THE WOMAN SAID. "THE SERPENT DECEIVED ME, AND I ATE."

ISAIAH 53:6

WE ALL, LIKE SHEEP, HAVE GONE ASTRAY, EACH OF US HAS TURNED TO OUR OWN WAY: AND THE LORD HAS LAID ON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL.



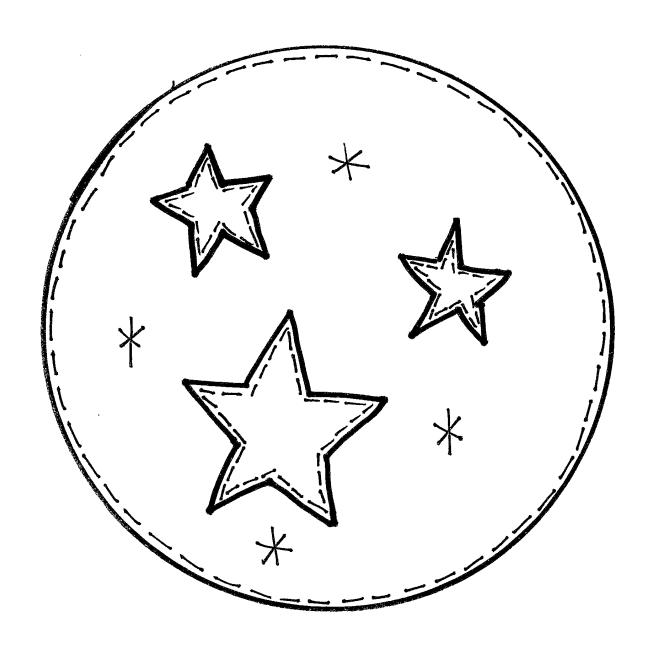
December 4 Noah

GENESIS6:17-19

I AM GOING TO BRING FLOODWATERS ON THE EARTH TO DESTROY ALL LIFE UNDER THE HEAVENS, EVERY CREATURE THAT HAS THE BREATH OF LIFE IN IT. EVERYTHING ON EARTH WILL PERISH. BUT I WILL ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH YOU, AND YOU WILL ENTER THE ARK-YOU AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR WIFE AND YOUR SONS' WIVES WITH YOU. YOU ARE TO BRING INTO THE ARK TWO OF ALL LIVING CREATURES, MALE AND FEMALE, TO KEEP THEM ALIVE WITH YOU.

GENESIS 9:11-13

...I ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH YOU: NEVER AGAIN WILL ALL LIFE BE DESTROYED BY THE WATERS OF A FLOOD; NEVER AGAIN WILL THERE BE A FLOOD TO DESTROY THE EARTH." AND GOD SAID. "THIS IS A SIGN OF THE COVENANT I AM MAKING BETWEEN ME AND YOU AND EVERY LIVING CREATURE WITH YOU, A COVENANT FOR ALL GENERATIONS TO COME; I HAVE SET MY RAINBOW IN THE CLOUDS, AND IT WILL BE THE SIGN OF THE COVENANT BETWEEN ME AND THE EARTH.



December 5 Abraham

GENESIS 12:2

I WILL MAKE YOU INTO A GREAT NATION. AND I WILL BLESS YOU: I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME GREAT. AND YOU WILL BE A BLESSING.

GENESIS 15:5-6

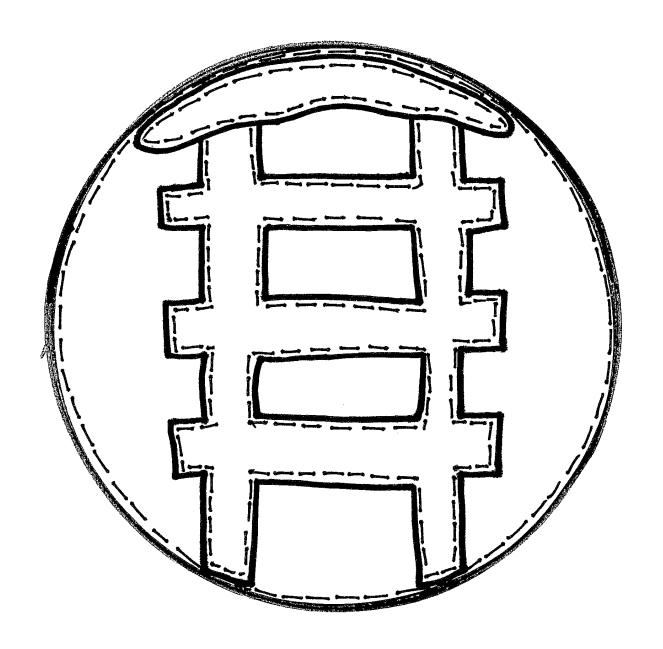
AND HE TOOK HIM OUTSIDE AND SAID. "LOOK UP AT THE SKY AND COUNT THE STARS-IF INDEED YOU CAN COUNT THEM." THEN
HE SAID TO HIM, "SO SHALL BE YOUR OFFSPRING BE." ABRAHAM BELIEVED THE LORD, AND HE CREDITED IT TO HIM AS
RIGHTEOUSNESS.



December 6 [Saac

GENESIS 22:8-13

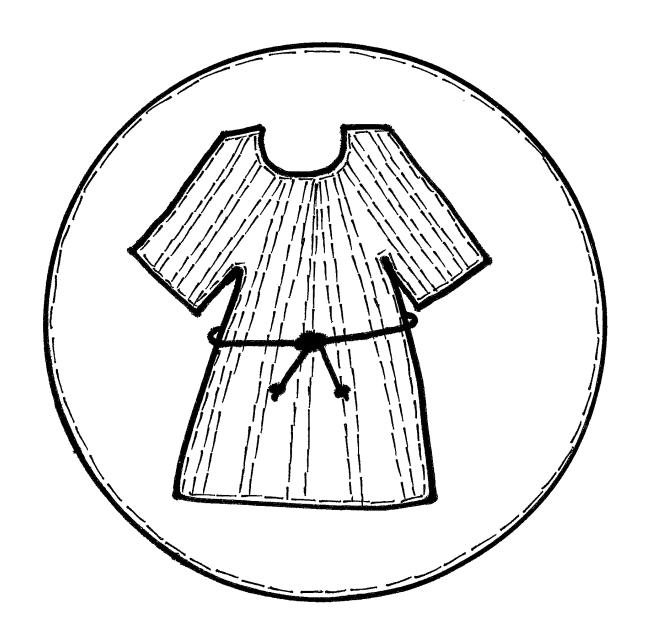
ABRAHAM ANSWERED. "GOD HIMSELF WILL PROVIDE THE LAMB FOR THE BURNT OFFERING. MY SON." AND THE TWO OF THEM WENT ON TOGETHER. WHEN THEY REACHED THE PLACE GOD HAD TOLD THEM ABOUT. ABRAHAM BUILT AN ALTAR THERE AND ARRANGED THE WOOD ON IT. HE BOUND HIS SON ISAAC AND LAID HIM ON THE ALTAR. ON TOP OF THE WOOD. THE HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND TOOK THE KNIFE TO SLAY HIS SON. BUT THE ANGEL OF THE LORD CALLED OUT TO HIM FROM. "ABRAHAM! ABRAHAM!" "HERE I AM." HE REPLIED. "DO NOT LAY A HAND ON THE BOY." HE SAID. "DO NOT DO ANYTHING TO HIM. NOW I KNOW THAT YOU FEAR GOD. BECAUSE YOU HAVE NOT WITHHELD FROM ME YOUR SON. YOUR ONLY SON." ABRAHAM LOOKED UP AND THERE IN THE THICKET HE SAW A RAM CAUGHT BY ITS HORNS. HE WENT OVER AND TOOK THE RAM AND SACRIFICED IT AS A BURNT OFFERING INSTEAD OF



December 7 Jacob

GENESIS 28:12-15

HE HAD A DREAM IN WHICH HE SAW A STAIRWAY RESTING ON THE EARTH, WITH ITS TOP REACHING TO HEAVEN, AND THE ANGELS OF GOD WERE ASCENDING AND DESCENDING ON IT. THERE ABOVE IT STOOD THE LORD, AND HE SAID: 'I AM THE LORD, THE GOD OF YOUR FATHER ABRAHAM AND THE GOD OF ISAAC I WILL GIVE YOU AND YOUR DESCENDANTS THE LAND ON WHICH YOU ARE LYING. YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE LIKE THE DUST OF THE EARTH, AND YOU WILL SPREAD OUT TO THE WEST AND TO THE EAST, TO THE NORTH AND TO THE SOUTH. ALL PEOPLES ON EARTH WILL BE BLESSED THROUGH YOU AND YOUR OFFSPRING. I AM WITH YOU AND WILL WATCH OVER YOU WHEREVER YOU GO, AND I WILL BRING YOU BACK TO THIS LAND. I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU UNTIL I HAVE DONE WHAT I HAVE PROMISED YOU.



December 8 Joseph

GENESIS 45:4-7

THEN JOSEPH SAID TO HIS BROTHERS, "COME CLOSE TO ME." WHEN THEY HAD DONE SO, HE SAID, "I AM YOUR BROTHER JOSEPH, THE ONE YOU SOLD INTO EGYPT! AND NOW, DO NOT BE DISTRESSED AND DO NOT BE ANGRY WITH YOURSELVES FOR SELLING ME HERE, BECAUSE IT WAS TO SAVE LIVES THAT GOD SENT ME AHEAD OF YOU. FOR TWO YEARS NOW THERE HAS BEEN FAMINE IN THE LAND, AND FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS THERE WILL BE NO PLOWING AND REAPING. BUT GOD SENT ME AHEAD OF YOU TO PRESERVE A REMNANT ON EARTH AND TO SAVE YOUR LIVES BY A GREAT DELIVERANCE."

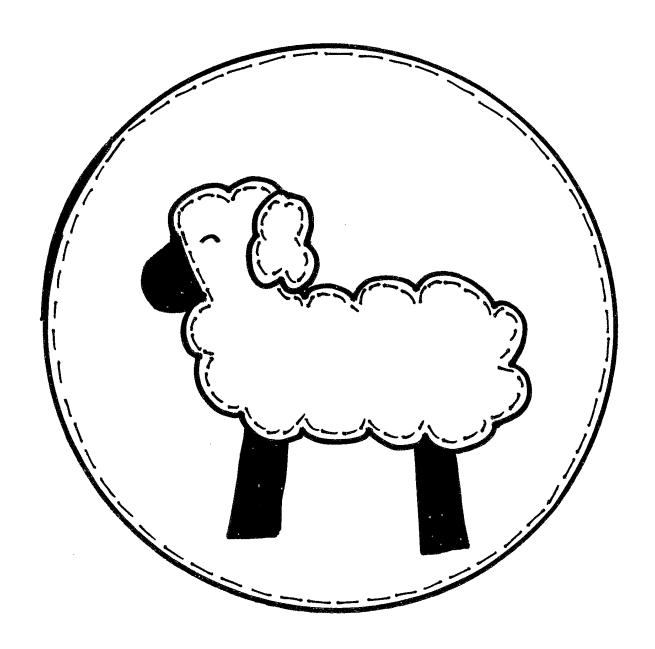


December 9 Moses

EXODUS 3:2-7, 10

THE ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO HIM IN FLAMES OF FIRE FROM WITHIN A BUSH. MOSES SAW THAT THOUGH THE BUSH WAS ON FIRE IT DID NOT BURN UP. SO MOSES THOUGHT, "I WILL GO OVER AND SEE THIS STRANGE SIGHT-WHY THE BUSH DOES NOT BURN UP." WHEN THE LORD SAW THAT HE HAD GONE OVER TO LOOK, GOD CALLED TO HIM FROM WITHIN THE BUSH. "MOSES! MOSES!" AND MOSES SAID, "HERE I AM." "DO NOT COME ANY CLOSER," GOD SAID. "TAKE OFF YOUR SANDALS, FOR THE PLACE WHERE YOU ARE STANDING IS HOLY GROUND." THEN HE SAID, "I AM THE GOD OF YOUR FATHER, THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB." AT THIS, MOSES HID HIS FACE, BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID TO LOOK AT GOD. THE LORD SAID, "I HAVE INDEED SEEN THE MISERY OF MY PEOPLE IN EGYPT I HAVE HEARD THEM CRYING OUT BECAUSE OF THEIR SLAVE DRIVERS. AND I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR SUFFERING...SO NOW, GO. I AM SENDING YOU TO PHARAOH TO BRING MY PEOPLE THE

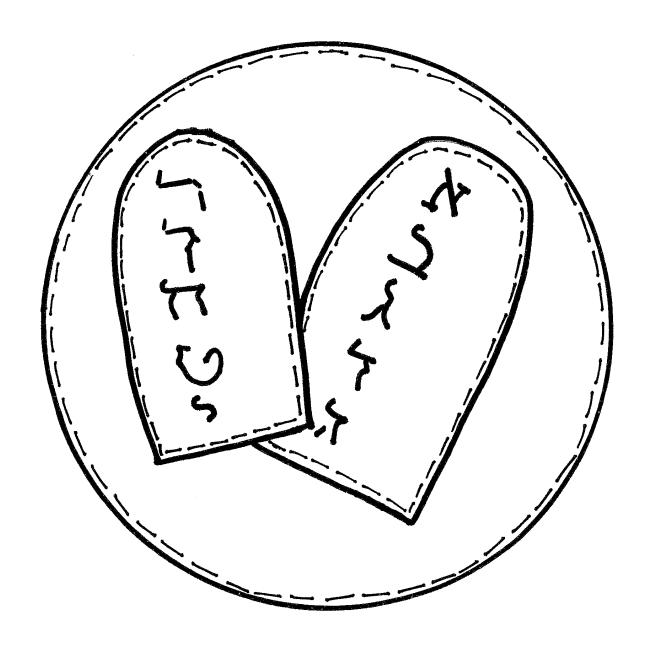
ISRAELITES OUT OF EGYPT."



December 10 The Passover Lamb

EXODUS 12:21-23

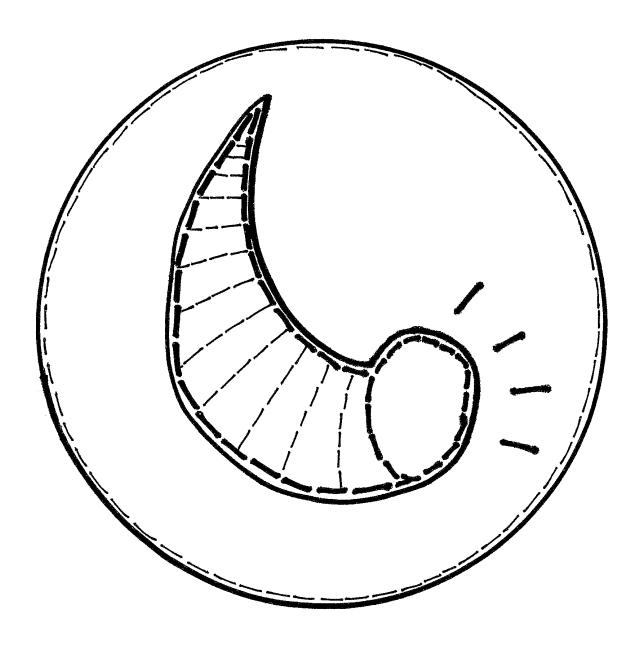
THEN MOSES SUMMONED ALL THE ELDERS OF ISRAEL AND SAID TO THEM, "GO AT ONCE AND SELECT THE ANIMALS FOR YOUR FAMILIES AND SLAUGHTER THE PASSOVER LAMB. TAKE A BUNCH OF HYSSOP, DIP INTO THE BLOOD IN THE BASIN AND PUT SOME OF THE BLOOD ON THE TOP AND ON BOTH SIDES OF THE DOORFRAME. NONE OF YOU SHALL DO OUT OF THE DOOR OF YOUR HOUSE UNTIL MORNING. WHEN THE LORD GOES THROUGH THE LAND TO STRIKE DOWN THE EGYPTIANS, HE WILL SEE THE BLOOD ON THE TOP AND SIDES OF THE DOORFRAME AND WILL PASS OVER THAT DOORWAY, AND HE WILL NOT PERMIT THE DESTROYER TO ENTER YOUR HOUSES AND STRIKE YOU DOWN."



December 11 The Ten Commandments

EXODUS 20:1-8, 12-17

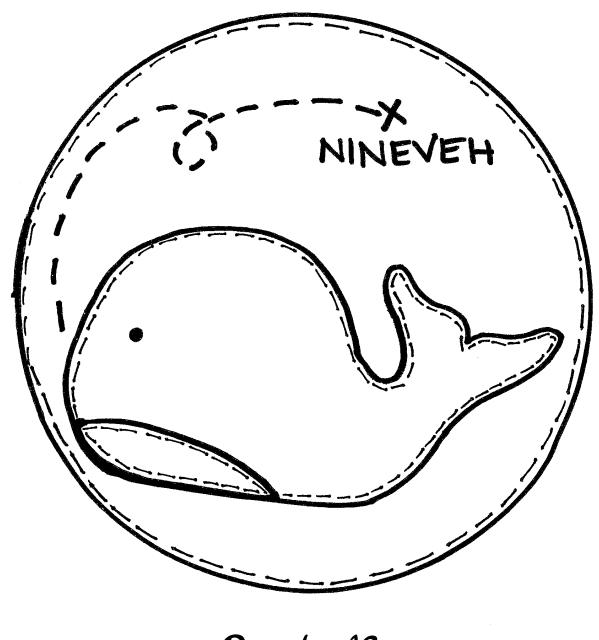
AND GOD SPOKE ALL THESE WORDS: "I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD, WHO BROUGHT YOU OUT OF EGYPT, OUT OF THE LAND OF SLAVERY. "YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME. "YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FOR YOURSELF AN IMAGE IN THE FORM OF ANYTHING IN HEAVEN ABOVE OR ON THE EARTH BENEATH OR IN THE WATERS BELOW. YOU SHALL NOT BOW DOWN TO THEM OR WORSHIP THEM; FOR I, THE LORD YOUR GOD, AM A JEALOUS GOD, PUNISHING THE CHILDREN FOR THE SIN OF THE PARENTS TO THE THIRD AND FOURTH GENERATION OF THOSE WHO HATE ME. BUT SHOWING LOVE TO A THOUSAND GENERATIONS OF THOSE WHO LOVE ME AND KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS. "YOU SHALL NOT MISUSE THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD, FOR THE LORD WILL NOT HOLD ANYONE GUILTLESS WHO MISUSES HIS NAME. "REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY BY KEEPING IT HOLY... HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER, SO THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG IN THE LAND THE LORD YOUR GOD IS GIVING YOU. YOU SHALL NOT MURDER. YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY. YOU SHALL NOT STEAL. YOU SHALL NOT GIVE FALSE TESTIMONY AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE. OR HIS MALE OR FEMALE SERVANT, HIS OX OR DONKEY, OR ANYTHING THAT BELONGS TO YOUR NEIGHBOR.



December 12 Joshua

JOSHUA 6:15-16, 20

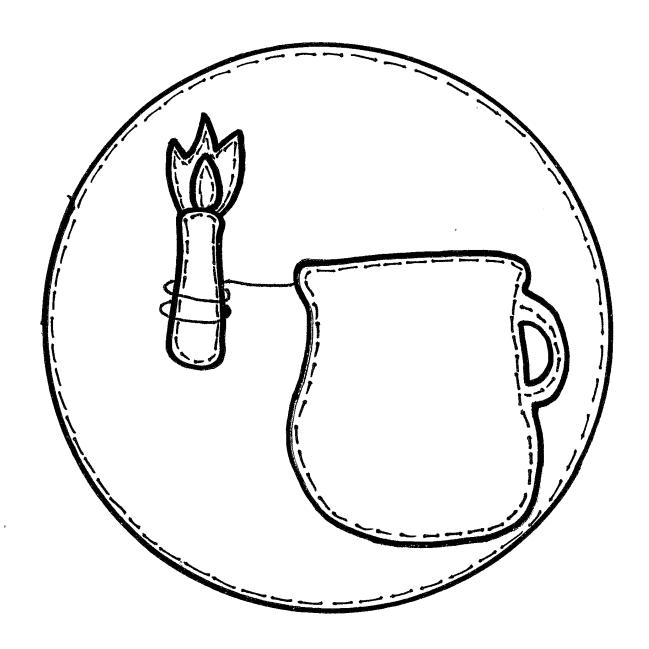
ON THE SEVENTH DAY, THEY GOT UP AT DAYBREAK AND MARCHED AROUND THE CITY SEVEN TIMES IN THE SAME MANNER. EXCEPT ON THAT DAY THEY CIRCLED THE CITY SEVEN TIMES. THE SEVENTH TIME AROUND, WHEN THE PRIESTS SOUNDED THE TRUMPET BLAST, JOSHUA COMMANDED THE ARMY. "SHOUT! FOR THE LORD HAS GIVEN YOU THE CITY!"...,LIHEN THE TRUMPETS SOUNDED, THE ARMY SHOUTED, AND AT THE SOUND OF THE TRUMPET, WHEN THE MEN GAVE A LOUD SHOUT, THE WALL COLLAPSED: SO EVERYONE CHARGED STRAIGHT IN, AND THEY TOOK THE CITY.



December 13 Jonah

JONAH 3:1-5, 10

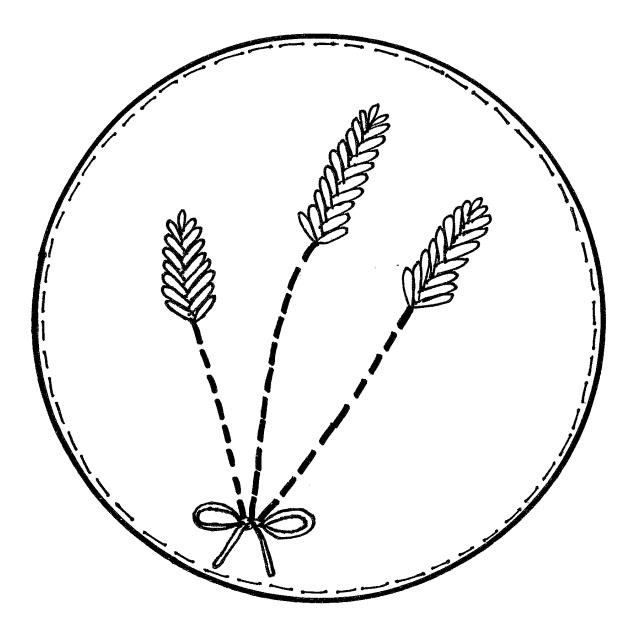
THEN THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO JONAH A SECOND TIME: "GO TO THE GREAT CITY OF NINEVEH AND PROCLAIM TO IT THE MESSAGE I GIVE YOU." JONAH OBEYED THE WORD OF THE LORD AND WENT TO NINEVEH NOW NINEVEH WAS A VERY LARGE CITY: IT TOOK THREE DAYS TO GO THROUGH IT. JONAH BEGAN BY GOING A DAY'S JOURNEY INTO THE CITY, PROCLAIMING. "FORTY MORE DAYS AND NINEVEH WILL BE OVERTHROWN" THE NINEVITES BELIEVED GOD. A FAST WAS PROCLAIMED, AND ALL OF THEM, FROM THE GREATEST TO THE LEAST, PUT ON SACKCLOTH...WHEN GOOD SAW WHAT THEY DID AND HOW THEY TURNED FROM THEIR EVIL WAYS, HE RELENTED AND DID NOT BRING ON THEM THE DESTRUCTION HE HAD THREATENED.



December 14 Gideon

JUDGES 7:20-21

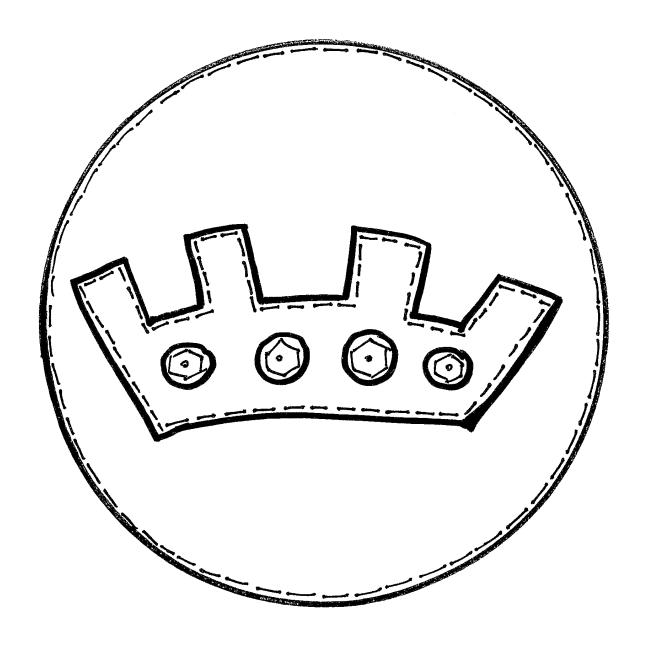
THE THREE COMPANIES BLEW THE TRUMPETS AND SMASHED THE JARS. GRASPING THE TORCHES IN THEIR LEFT HANDS AND HOLDING IN THEIR RIGHT HANDS THE TRUMPETS THEY WERE TO BLOW, THEY SHOUTED, "A SWORD FOR THE LORD AND FOR GIDEON!" WHILE EACH MAN HELD HIS POSITION AROUND THE CAMP, ALL THE MIDIANITES RAN, CRYING OUT AS THEY FLED.





RUTH 4:13-17

SO BOAZ TOOK RUTH AND SHE BECAME HIS WIFE. WHEN HE MADE LOVE TO HER, THE LORD ENABLED HER TO CONCEIVE, AND SHE GAVE BIRTH TO A SON. THE WOMEN SAID TO NAOMI: "PRAISE BE TO THE LORD. WHO THIS DAY HAS NOT LEFT YOU WITHOUT A GUARDIAN-REDEEMER. MAY HE BECOME FAMOUS THROUGHOUT ISRAEL! HE WILL RENEW YOUR LIFE AND SUSTAIN YOU IN YOUR OLD AGE. FOR YOUR DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, WHO LOVES YOU AND WHO IS BETTER TO YOU THAN SEVEN SONS, HAS GIVEN HIM BIRTH." THEN NAOMI TOOK THE CHILD IN HER ARMS AND CARED FOR HIM. THE WOMEN LIVING THERE SAID. "NAOMI HAS A SON!" AND THEY NAMED HIM OBED. HE WAS THE FATHER OF JESSE, THE FATHER OF DAVID.



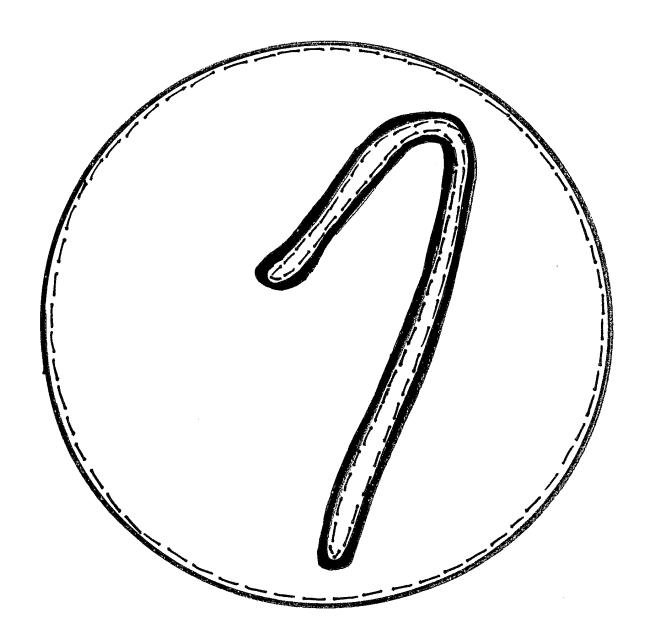
December 16 Samuel

1 SAMUEL 3:19-21

THE LORD WAS WITH SAMUEL AS HE GREW UP, AND HE LET NONE OF SAMUEL'S WORDS FALL TO THE GROUND. AND ALL ISRAEL FROM DAN TO BEERSHEBA RECOGNIZED THAT SAMUEL WAS ATTESTED AS A PROPHET OF THE LORD. THE LORD CONTINUED TO APPEAR AT SHILOH, AND THERE HE REVEALED HIMSELF TO SAMUEL THROUGH HIS WORD.

1 SAMUEL 12:19-24

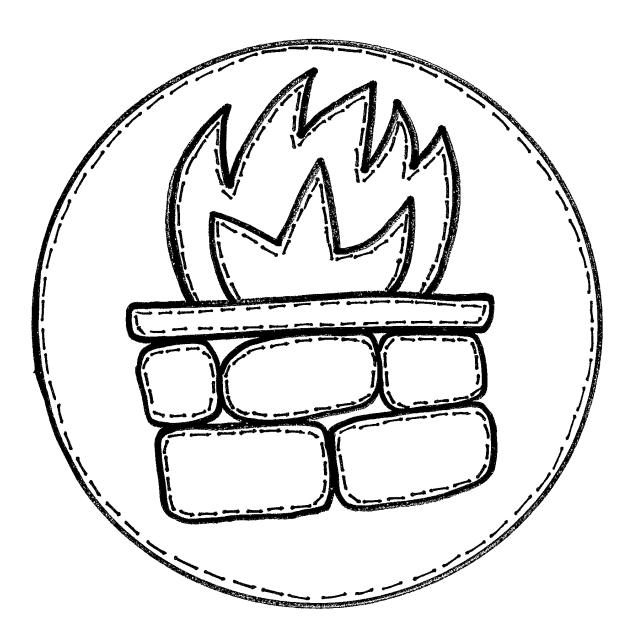
THE PEOPLE ALL SAID TO SAMUEL. "PRAY TO THE LORD YOUR GOD FOR YOUR SERVANTS SO THAT WE WILL NOT DIE, FOR WE HAVE ADDED TO ALL OUR OTHER SINS THE EVIL OF ASKING FOR A KING." "DO NOT BE AFRAID," SAMUEL REPLIED. "YOU HAVE DONE ALL THIS EVIL; YET DO NOT TURN AWAY FROM THE LORD, BUT SERVE THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART. DO NOT TURN AWAY AFTER USELESS IDOLS. THEY CAN DO YOU NO GOOD. NOR CAN THEY RESCUE YOU. BECAUSE THEY ARE USELESS. FOR THE SAKE OF HIS GREAT NAME THE LORD WILL NOT REJECT HIS PEOPLE, BECAUSE THE LORD WAS PLEASED TO MAKE YOU HIS OWN. AS FOR ME, FAR BE IT FROM ME THAT I SHOULD SIN AGAINST THE LORD BY FAILING TO PRAY FOR YOU. AND I WILL TEACH YOU THE WAY THAT IS GOOD AND RIGHT. BUT BE SURE TO FEAR THE LORD AND SERVE HIM FAITHFULLY WITH ALL YOUR HEART; CONSIDER WHAT GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE FOR YOU.



December 17 David

1 SAMUEL 16:11-13

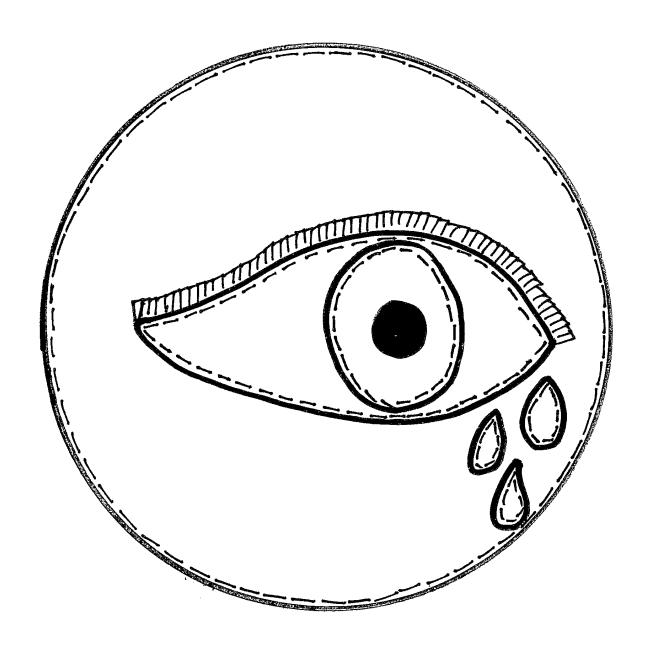
SO HE ASKED JESSE, "ARE THESE ALL THE SONS YOU HAVE?" "THERE IS STILL THE YOUNGEST," JESSE ANSWERED. "HE IS TENDING THE SHEEP." SAMUEL SAID, "SEND FOR HIM; WE WILL NOT SIT DOWN UNTIL HE ARRIVES." SO HE SENT FOR HIM AND HAD HIM BROUGHT IN. HE WAS GLOWING WITH HEALTH AND HAD A FINE APPEARANCE AND HANDSOME FEATURES. THEN THE LORD SAID, "RISE AND ANOINT HIM; THIS IS THE ONE." SO SAMUEL TOOK THE HORN OF OIL AND ANOINTED HIM IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS BROTHERS, AND FROM THAT DAY ON THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD CAME POWERFULLY UPON DAVID, SAMUEL THEN WENT TO RAMAH.



December 18 Elijah

1 KINGS 18:38-39

THEN THE FIRE OF THE LORD FELL AND BURNED UP THE SACRIFICE. THE WOOD, THE STONES AND THE SOIL, AND ALSO LICKED UP THE WATER IN THE TRENCH. WHEN ALL THE PEOPLE SAW THIS, THEY FELL PROSTRATE AND CRIED, "THE LORD—HE IS GOD! THE LORD—HE IS GOD!"



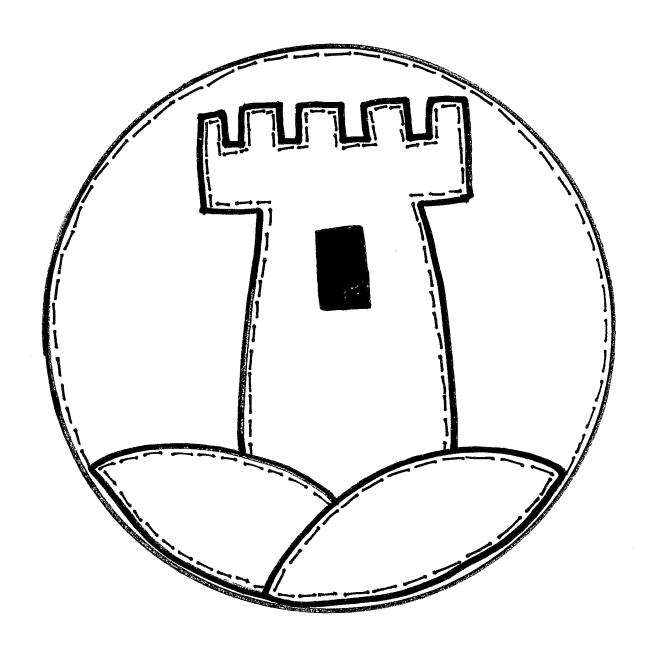
December 19 Jeremiah

JEREMIAH 23:5-6

"THE DAYS ARE COMING." DECLARES THE LORD. "WHEN I WILL RAISE UP FOR DAVIDIA) A RIGHTEOUS BRANCH. A KING WHO WILL REIGN WISELY AND DO WHAT IS JUST AND RIGHT IN THE LAND. IN HIS DAYS JUDAH WILL BE SAVED AND ISRAEL WILL LIVE IN SAFETY. THIS IS THE NAME BY WHICH HE WILL BE CALLED: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUS SAVIOR."

2 CHRONICLES 36:15-16, 20-21

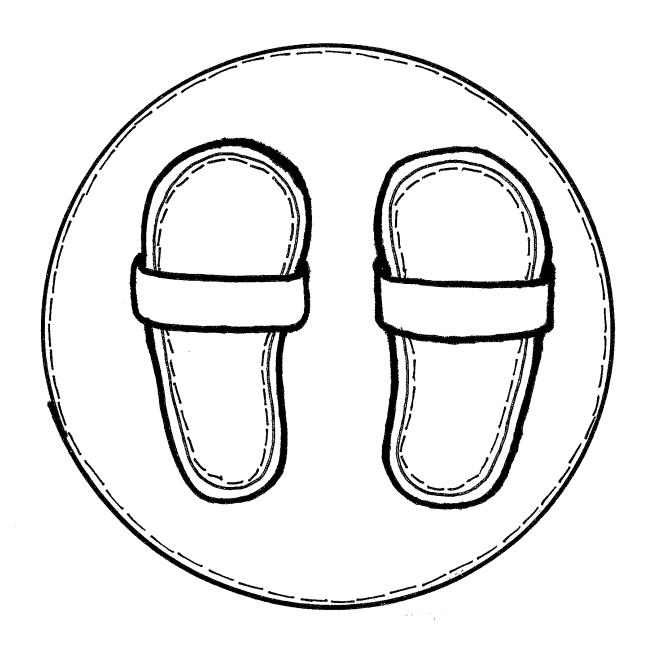
THE LORD, THE GOD OF THEIR ANCESTORS, SENT WORD TO THEM THROUGH HIS MESSENGERS AGAIN AND AGAIN, BECAUSE HE HAD PITY ON HIS PEOPLE AND ON HIS DWELLING PLACE. BUT THEY MOCKED GOD'S MESSENGERS, DESPISED HIS WORDS AND SCOFFED AT HIS PROPHETS UNTIL THE WRATH OF THE LORD WAS AROUSED AGAINST HIS PEOPLE AND THERE WAS NO REMEDY...HE CARRIED INTO EXILE TO BABYLON THE REMNANT, WHO ESCAPED FROM THE SWORD, AND THEY BECAME SERVANTS TO HIM AND HIS SUCCESSORS UNTIL THE KINGDOM OF PERSIA CAME TO POWER. THE LAND ENJOYED ITS SABBATH RESTS; ALL THE TIME OF ITS DESOLATION IT RESTED, UNTIL THE SEVENTY YEARS WERE COMPLETED IN FULFILLMENT OF THE WORD OF THE LORD SPOKEN BY JEREMIAH.



December 20 Habakkuk

HABAKKUK 2:1, 3

I WILL STAND AT MY WATCH AND STATION MYSELF ON THE RAMPARTS; I WILL LOOK TO SEE WHAT HE WILL SAY TO ME...FOR THE REVELATION AWAITS AN APPOINTED TIME; IT SPEAKS OF THE END AND WILL NOT PROVE FALSE. THOUGH IT LINGER, WAIT FOR IT: IT WILL CERTAINLY COME AND WILL NOT DELAY.



December 21 John the Baptist

MATTHEW 3:1-3, 11

IN THOSE DAYS JOHN THE BAPTIST CAME, PREACHING IN THE WILDERNESS OF JUDEA AND SAYING, "REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN HAS COME NEAR." THIS IS HE WHO WAS SPOKEN OF THROUGH THE PROPHET ISAIAH: "A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS. 'PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD, MAKE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR HIM"..."I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER FOR REPENTANCE. BUT AFTER ME COMES ONE WHO IS MORE POWERFUL THAN I, WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO CARRY. HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE."

JOHN 1:6-8

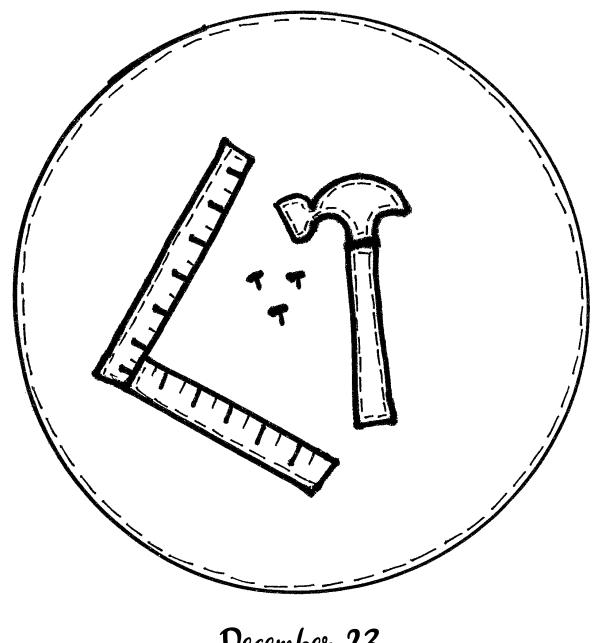
THERE WAS A MAN SENT FROM GOD WHOSE NAME WAS JOHN. HE CAME AS A WITNESS TO TESTIFY CONCERNING THAT LIGHT, SO THAT THROUGH HIM ALL MIGHT BELIEVE. HE HIMSELF WAS NOT THE LIGHT; HE CAME ONLY AS A WITNESS TO THE LIGHT.



December 22 Mary

LUKE 1: 26-33

IN THE SIXTH MONTH OF ELIZABETH'S PREGNANCY, GOD SENT THE ANGEL GABRIEL TO NAZARETH, A TOWN IN GALILEE, TO A VIRGIN PLEDGED TO BE MARRIED TO A MAN NAMED JOSEPH, A DESCENDANT OF DAVID. THE VIRGIN'S NAME WAS MARY. THE ANGEL WENT TO HER AND SAID. "GREETINGS. YOU WHO ARE HIGHLY FAVORED! THE LORD IS WITH YOU." MARY WAS GREATLY TROUBLED AT HIS WORDS AND WONDERED WHAT KIND OF GREETING THIS MIGHT BE. BUT THE ANGEL SAID TO HER. "DO NOT BE AFRAID, MARY: YOU HAVE FOUND FAVOR WITH GOD. YOU WILL CONCEIVE AND GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND YOU ARE TO CALL HIM JESUS. HE WILL BE GREAT AND WILL BE CALLED THE SON OF THE MOST HIGH. THE LORD GOD WILL GIVE HIM THE THRONE OF HIS FATHER DAVID. AND HE WILL REIGN OVER JACOB'S DESCENDANTS FOREVER: HIS KINGDOM WILL NEVER END."

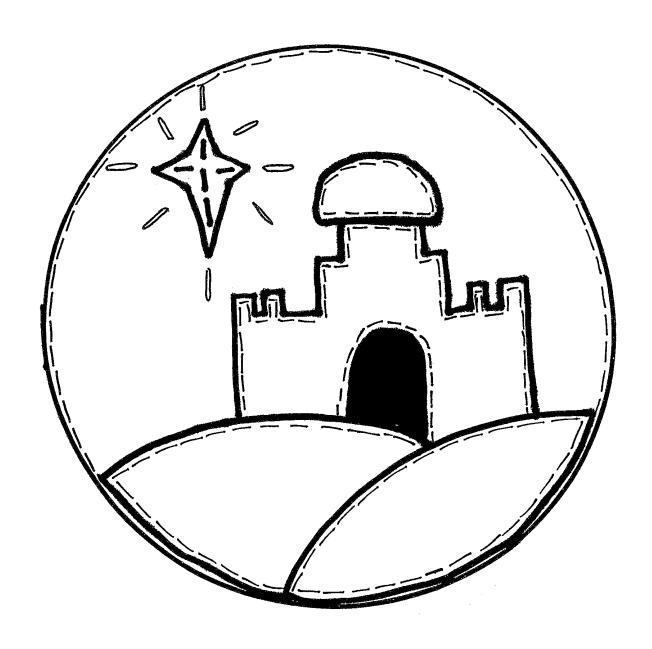


December 23 Joseph

MATTHEW 1:18-25

THIS IS HOW THE BIRTH OF JESUS THE MESSIAH CAME ABOUTEDI: HIS MOTHER MARY WAS PLEDGED TO BE MARRIED TO JOSEPH, BUT BEFORE THEY CAME TOGETHER. SHE WAS FOUND TO BE PREGNANT THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT. BECAUSE JOSEPH HER HUSBAND WAS FAITHFUL TO THE LAW, AND YET DID NOT WANT TO EXPOSE HER TO PUBLIC DISGRACE, HE HAD IN MIND TO DIVORCE HER QUIETLY. BUT AFTER HE HAD CONSIDERED THIS. AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO HIM IN A DREAM AND SAID, "JOSEPH SON OF DAVID, DO NOT BE AFRAID TO TAKE MARY HOME AS YOUR WIFE, BECAUSE WHAT IS CONCEIVED IN HER IS FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT. SHE WILL GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND YOU ARE TO GIVE HIM THE NAME JESUS, BECAUSE HE WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS." ALL THIS TOOK PLACE TO FULFILL WHAT THE LORD

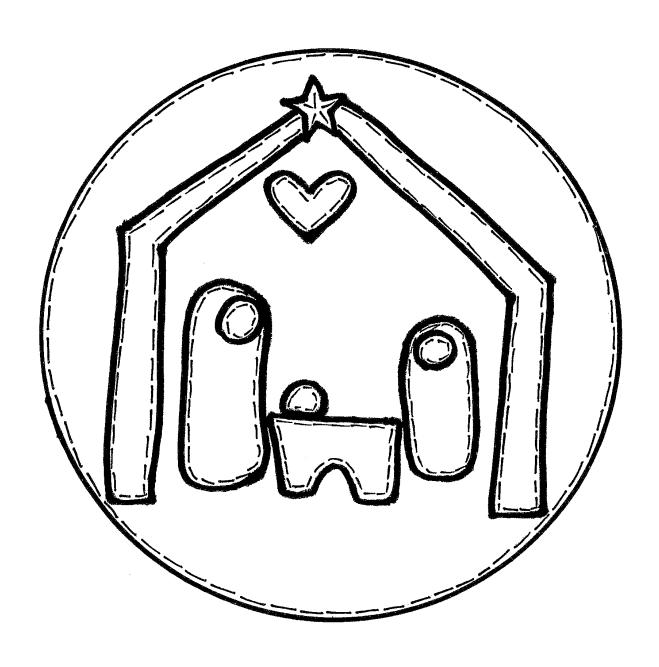
HAD SAID THROUGH THE PROPHET: "THE VIRGIN WILL CONCEIVE AND GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND THEY WILL CALL HIM IMMANUEL" (WHICH MEANS "GOD WITH US"). WHEN JOSEPH WOKE UP, HE DID WHAT THE ANGEL OF THE LORD HAD COMMANDED HIM AND TOOK MARY HOME AS HIS WIFE. BUT HE DID NOT CONSUMMATE THEIR MARRIAGE UNTIL SHE GAVE BIRTH TO A SON. AND HE GAVE HIM THE NAME JESUS.



December 24 Bethlehem

111KE 2.9-20

AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO THEM, AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHONE AROUND THEM, AND THEY WERE TERRIFIED. BUT THE ANGEL SAID TO THEM, "DO NOT BE AFRAID. I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS THAT WILL CAUSE GREAT JOY FOR ALL THE PEOPLE. TODAY IN THE TOWN OF DAVID A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN TO YOU; HE IS THE MESSIAH, THE LORD. THIS WILL BE A SIGN TO YOU; YOU WILL FIND A BABY WRAPPED IN CLOTHS AND LYING IN A MANGER." SUDDENLY A GREAT COMPANY OF THE HEAVENLY HOST APPEARED WITH THE ANGEL, PRAISING GOD AND SAYING, "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST HEAVEN, AND ON EARTH PEACE TO THOSE ON WHOM HIS FAVOR RESTS." WHEN THE ANGELS HAD LEFT THEM AND GONE INTO HEAVEN, THE SHEPHERDS SAID TO ONE ANOTHER, "LET'S GO TO BETHLEHEM AND SEE THIS THING THAT HAS HAPPENED, WHICH THE LORD HAS TOLD US ABOUT." SO THEY HURRIED OFF AND FOUND MARY AND JOSEPH, AND THE BABY. WHO WAS LYING IN THE MANGER. WHEN THEY HAD SEEN HIM, THEY SPREAD THE WORD CONCERNING WHAT HAD BEEN TOLD THEM ABOUT THIS CHILD. AND ALL WHO HEARD IT WERE AMAZED AT WHAT THE SHEPHERDS SAID TO THEM. BUT MARY TREASURED UP ALL THESE THINGS AND PONDERED THEM IN HER HEART. THE SHEPHERDS RETURNED, GLORIFYING AND PRAISING GOD FOR ALL THE THINGS THEY HAD HEARD AND SEEN, WHICH WERE JUST AS THEY HAD BEEN TOLD.



December 25 Jesus

HEBREWS 1:1-2. 3

LONG AGO GOD SPOKE MANY TIMES AND IN MANY WAYS THROUGH THE PROPHETS. AND NOW IN THESE FINAL DAYS. HE HAS SPOKEN TO US THROUGH HIS SON...THE SON RADIATES GOD'S OWN GLORY AND EXPRESSES THE VERY CHARACTER OF GOD.

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