



LESSON 10

REFERENCES: EXODUS 13:21, 22; 14:19, 20; PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS, PP. 282-287.

Pillars of Cloud and Fire

Have you ever been lost? The Israelites didn't get lost, because they had two things to lead them.

M

any years had passed since Pharaoh's daughter had found Moses in the basket by the edge of the river. While Moses

lived with his family, his parents taught him to know and love God. When he was about 12 years old, he went to live with Pharaoh's daughter in the king's palace.

Memory Verse

"I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go."

GENESIS 28:15, NIV.

The Message

We thank God for taking good care of us.

Moses had grown to be a wise man, and God had chosen him to lead the Israelites away from the cruel Pharaoh in Egypt to a better land.

When the Israelites left Egypt, they crossed the Red Sea and soon found themselves in the desert. What is a desert like? It's very



hot and dry and full of sand; very hot during the day and very cold at night. Wild animals lived there. But God had a special plan to keep them safe and to make sure they wouldn't get lost. God led them in a wonderful way.

During the daytime the Israelites could see above them a huge cloud rising up like a pillar into the sky. The cloud moved forward slowly, and they moved with it, for God was in the cloud leading them. But the cloud did more than just show them where to go. During the heat of the day, the cloud gave them shade to keep them cool. It protected them from the burning sun.

At night, when it was cold and dark, the Israelites didn't need a cloud. The Israelites needed light and warmth. And that was when the huge cloud became a pillar of fire. The fire gave them light at night. It helped to keep them warm in the cold desert. And it probably scared away any wild animals.

God had come up with the perfect way to protect and lead His people. Day or night the Israelites could always see that God was leading them and keeping them safe. They knew He was protecting them, and they praised Him for His care.

We can thank God for taking care of us, too. He watches over us and leads us every day. We don't see a cloud or fire, but we know that God still protects us. Let's remember to thank Him for taking good care of us.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story together and review the memory verse:

- I** Point upward.
- am with you** Point to self.
- and will watch** Hand above eyes.
- over you** Point to others.
- wherever you go** Walk in place.
- Genesis 28:15** Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

Encourage your child to share the cloud and fire pillars they made in Sabbath School with someone and tell them about the cloud and pillar of fire that led the Israelites.

MONDAY

The Israelites left Egypt in such a hurry that they made bread with no yeast. They didn't have time to wait for the yeast to make the dough rise. Have your child help you make some unleavened bread, or buy some flatbread and eat it for lunch.

Do the finger play "God's Care" on page 68. When you pray, thank God for caring for your family as He did for the Israelites.

TUESDAY

Play follow the leader with your child. Take turns being the leader and the follower. Talk about how God led Moses, and how He leads your family.

WEDNESDAY

Together, read Exodus 13:21, 22. Ask: How did God lead the Israelites in the daytime? at nighttime? Whom does God use to lead you places? (Mommy, Daddy, teacher, etc.) Thank God for leading us.

With your child, look online or find a book about the desert. Ask: What kind of plants grow in a desert? What is the temperature like? If possible, let your child play with sand. Ask: How does it feel to walk on sand?



THURSDAY

Look at a map with your child. Discuss its purpose and how to use it. Show your child on the map a trip your family has taken or will take. Ask: Did the Israelites have a map? (No, they had something better—God led them using pillars of cloud and fire.)

FRIDAY

Act out the story with your family for evening worship. Use a flashlight for the pillar of fire as you "travel" around the house or yard.

Have each family member tell one way that God has cared for them this week. Sing songs about God's care, then thank Him for it.

