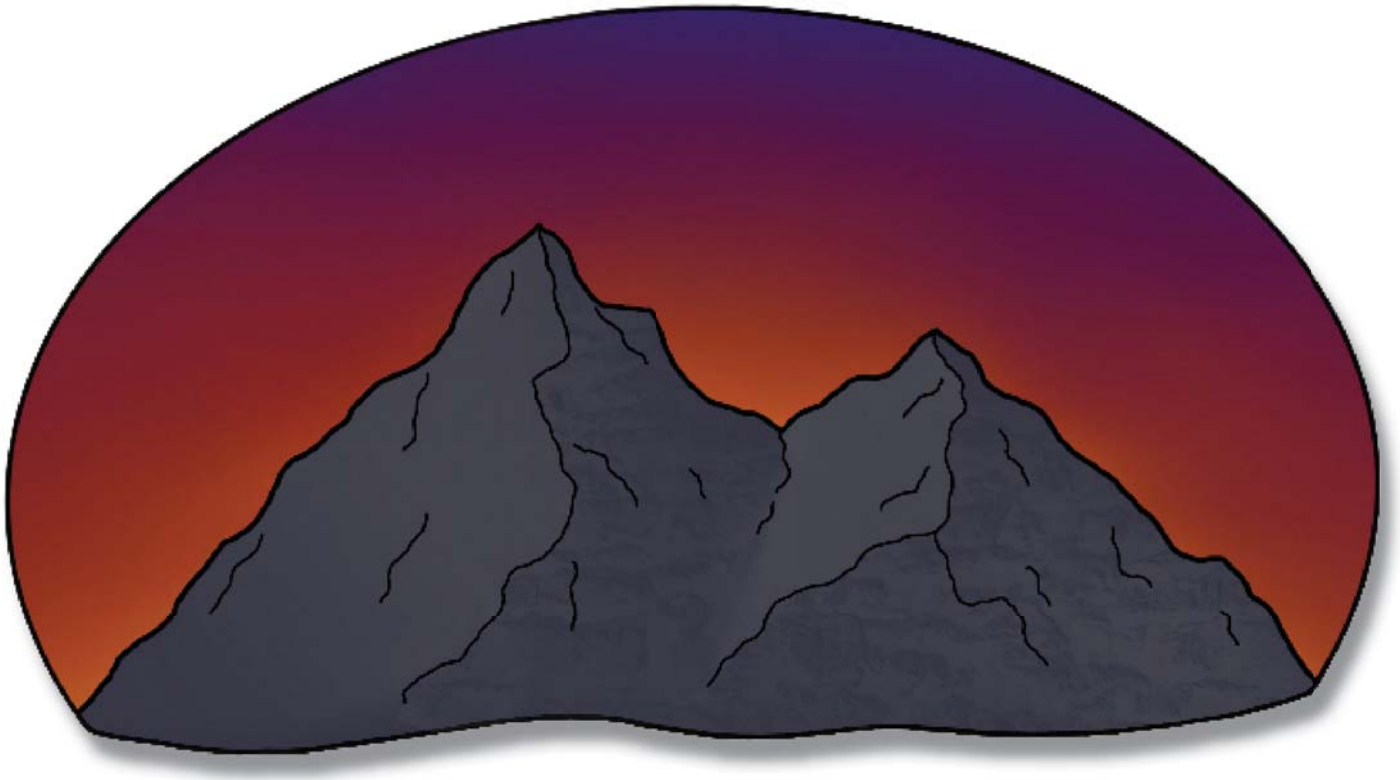
THE MISSIONARY BAPTIST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL LITERATURE COMMITTEE PRESENTS

TELL IT FROM THE MOUNTAINS



AGES 0-4

THE MISSIONARY BAPTIST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
LITERATURE COMMITTEE PRESENTS

TELL IT FROM THE MOUNTAINS

For Preschool or Ages 0-4

ALL LESSONS WRITTEN BY SISTER MICHELLE CORDER

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Lesson One: MOUNT ARARAT

Written By: Sister Michelle Corder
BACKGROUND: Genesis 7:11-8:14
LESSON TEXT: Genesis 8:15 - 9:1

The flood had ended and the Ark now rested on Mount Ararat, located in what is known as modern day Turkey. Ararat was a twin peaked mountain range, rising to a height of 17,000 ft. above sea level. It was almost an equal distance from the Persian Gulf, the Mediterranean Sea, the Black sea, and the Caspian Sea. According to *Harpers Bible Dictionary,* this is the place where Noah, his family, and all the living creatures, in whom was the breath of life, disembarked from the ark, and began to replenish the world with life .

The book of Genesis tells us of a time when the earth was full of evil. The people God had made became mean and unkind to each other. God was angry at most of the people that He decided to destroy the earth.

Noah was not perfect but he was an honest man and he walked with God. God told Noah that He was going to destroy the earth and all of the people. He told Noah that He was going to cause it to rain on the earth. God told Noah to build a very big boat called an ark. Noah had never built a boat because it had never rained before but he obeyed God.

Noah followed all of God's instructions. The ark was to be made out of gopher wood. Inside the ark were many rooms. The inside and outside were painted with tar. The ark was about 450 feet long and 75 feet wide and 45 feet tall. The ark had a roof, a door in the side, a window and three levels. Noah worked very hard. It took him 120 years to build the ark.

When Noah was finished building the ark, God told him to take two of some of the animals and seven of some of the other animals into the ark. He also had to take enough food to feed all the animals and his family for many months.

At last Noah had everything just as God had commanded. Noah and his family went inside the ark, and God shut the door.

Then God sent the rain. It rained for forty days and forty nights. The water rose higher and higher. It covered the highest mountains. The rain finally stopped and the water slowly went down. The ark came to rest on *Mt. Ararat*.

God told Noah to open the window and send out a dove. When the dove did

not return, Noah knew the earth was dry. God told Noah to bring his family and the animals out of the ark. Noah and his family built an altar to thank God for keeping them safe.

God promised to keep Noah and his family safe if he followed all of His instructions. God placed a beautiful rainbow in the sky to show that He always keeps His promise.

COLOR THE MOUNT ARARAT SCENE.

Lesson Two: MOUNT MORIAH

Written By: Sister Michelle Corder

BACKGROUND: 2 Chr. 3:1; Gen. 21:1-5; Heb. 11:17-19; 1 Peter 5:6-9

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 22:1-9

There are four notable events that took place in the Land of Moriah. They are: The test of Abraham's Faith; The purchase of Oman's Thrashing floor by David; The building of the Temple by Solomon; and the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. In the "Land of Moriah" there is a Mountain with several peaks, called by different names; for example; Mount Zion, Mount of Olives, Mount Calvary, and Mount Moriah.

When Abraham was 75 years old, God spoke to him. God said to Abraham, "leave your country, your family and your father's house and go to a land I will show you." Abraham had no idea where he was going, but he obeyed and trusted God. He took his wife, Sarah, his nephew, Lot, and everything they owned and began his journey.

After many days of traveling, they arrived in the new land. God had guided them all the way, had kept them safe, and had provided food and water as they traveled. Abraham trusted God all the way because he knew he was following God's plan.

Abraham and Sarah looked around their new land. This new land was very good, and they knew God planned to bless them, so they set up their tents and made the new land their home. Abraham built an altar to worship God and thank him for protecting them.

Abraham became a very rich man. He had lots of cattle and gold and silver. All he desired was a child of his own. God promised Abraham that he and Sarah would have a son.

Abraham and Sarah waited and trusted God; they knew He would keep his promise but they were getting very old. Most people thought they were too old to have a baby but they trusted God with all their hearts and God kept his promise. He gave Abraham and Sarah a baby boy, whom they named Isaac, and they loved him very much.

One day when Isaac was a young boy, God spoke to Abraham. God told him to take Isaac and offer him as a sacrifice. Abraham always obeyed God, so early one morning he and Isaac set out for the top of *Mt. Moriah* to worship. As they walked along, Isaac asked where the lamb was for the offering. Abraham told him that God would provide the lamb. At the top of the mountain, Abraham built an altar, he bound Isaac and placed him upon the altar. As Abraham raised his knife to complete the sacrifice, he heard a voice from heaven. "...Abraham, Abraham... Lay not thine hand upon the lad,..." (Genesis 22:11b-12a). Just then Abraham saw a ram caught in a bush, and he offered the ram in place of Isaac.

COLOR THE MOUNT MORIAH SCENE

Lesson Three: MOUNT SINAI

Written By: Sister Michelle Corder

BACKGROUND STUDY: Exodus Chapter 3; Exodus Chapters 13-34

The Sinai Peninsula was a 260 mile long triangle. It is characterized by a mountain range of granite peaks rising up to 8,000 feet above sea level. The two most notable peaks are Sinai and Horeb, sometimes identified as the same place. Sinai also had a 15-mile wide band of sandy dunes reaching south from the Mediterranean Sea; it also had a high plateau of limestone and gravel, and dry steam beds, running 150 miles south of the sand belt.

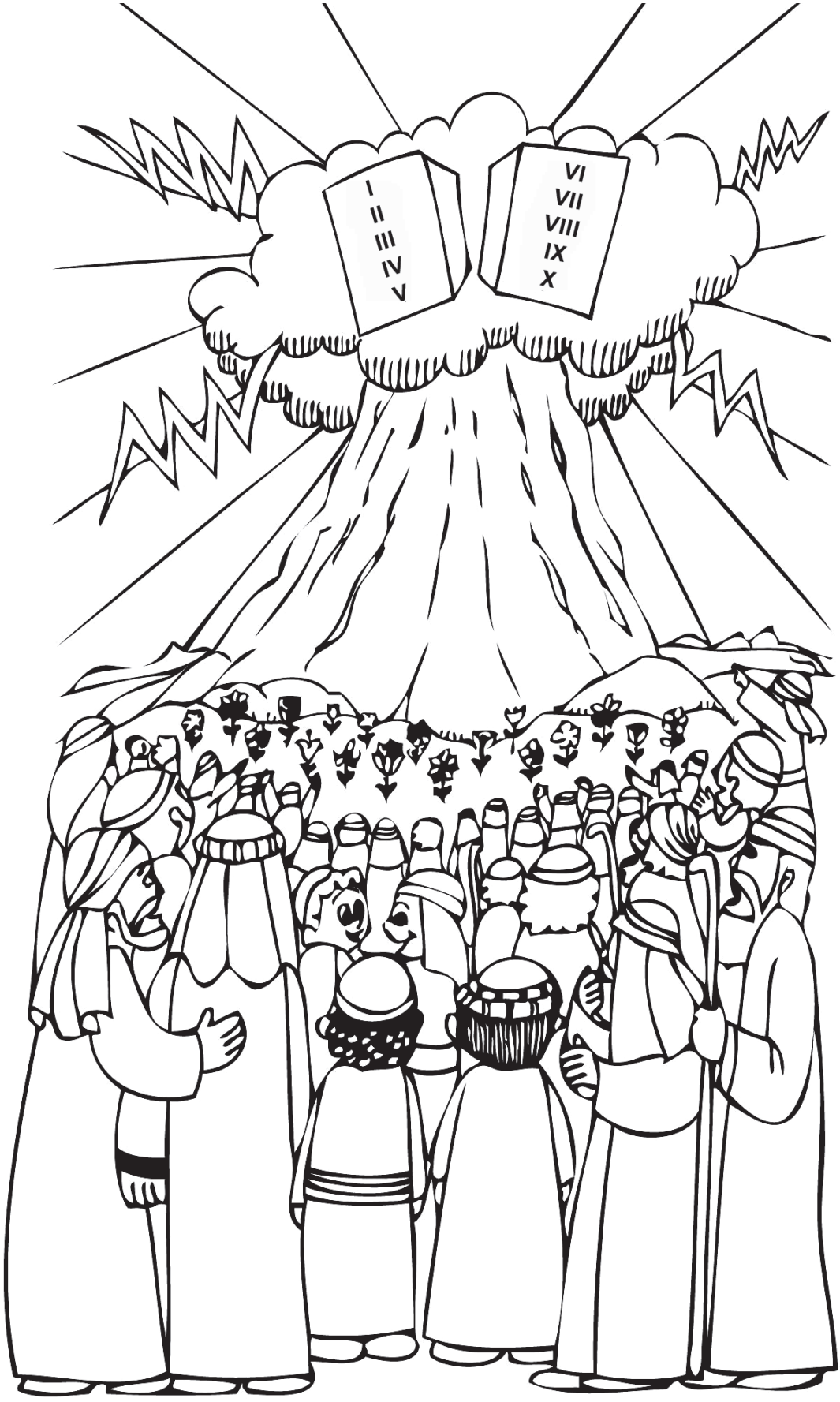
In Bible times, there was a group of people called the Israelites. They were God's chosen people. Some of these people had forgotten God's rules and they did not always obey God's laws. They were unhappy and had lots of troubles. God saw the Israelites needed to have the rules written down for them.

So, God called Moses, who was their leader, up to the top of *Mt. Sinai.* God talked to Moses and told him to tell the Israelites that they needed to obey His rules. God promised to make a great nation of the Israelite people if they would listen to, and obey, His rules. Moses went back to the people and told them all that God had said.

Three days later, the Israelites woke to thunder and lightning and a loud trumpet. There was fire and a cloud of smoke at the top of the mountain and the entire mountain was shaking. God had come down on the mountain. Moses and all the people gathered at the bottom. When Moses called out to God, the trumpet stopped. The people heard God's voice call Moses up to the top of the mountain.

Moses obeyed God and went back up the mountain into the cloud of smoke. God carved His rules on two stone tablets. Moses brought the stone tablets down to the people. Ten rules were written on the stones. The Israelites knew they had not been acting in ways that pleased God; they promised Moses they would listen and obey.

COLOR THE PICTURE.



Lesson Four: MOUNT CARMEL

Written By: Sister Michelle Corder

BACKGROUND STUDY: I Kings Chapter 18

The setting for this lesson is Mount Carmel. Although, called Mount Carmel, it is more like a hilly range that stretches for about 25 miles along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, between and behind, the modern-day cities of Haifa and Hadera. The highest point of Mt. Carmel is 1791 feet above sea level and is about twenty miles long and eight miles wide. The Valley of Jezreel lies to the immediate Northeast of the mountain range. The brook Kishon is also nearby.

Elijah was a prophet. A prophet is a messenger of God. God sent Elijah to deliver a message to King Ahab.

King Ahab lived in Israel with his wicked wife, Jezebel. Israel had become an evil place under the reign of King Ahab. The king and most of the people believed in a god named Baal. They worshipped this god and did many bad things.

God sent Elijah to tell King Ahab that He was angry with him because he was worshipping a false god. Elijah was to tell Ahab that there would be no rain or dew for three years unless Elijah commanded it.

After warning the king, God sent Elijah to a quiet place in the country. He waited there by a brook and God sent ravens to feed him. They brought bread and meat morning and night. Elijah drank from the brook.

Soon the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land. Elijah knew that God's word was coming true. The whole country was short of water. The crops didn't grow and the people were hungry.

God sent Elijah back to King Ahab. He was very scared because Queen Jezebel had killed many prophets. Elijah did not question God; he knew God would take care of him. The king accused Elijah of causing the drought. Elijah quickly replied that the drought was because the king's family had disobeyed God by worshipping Baal.

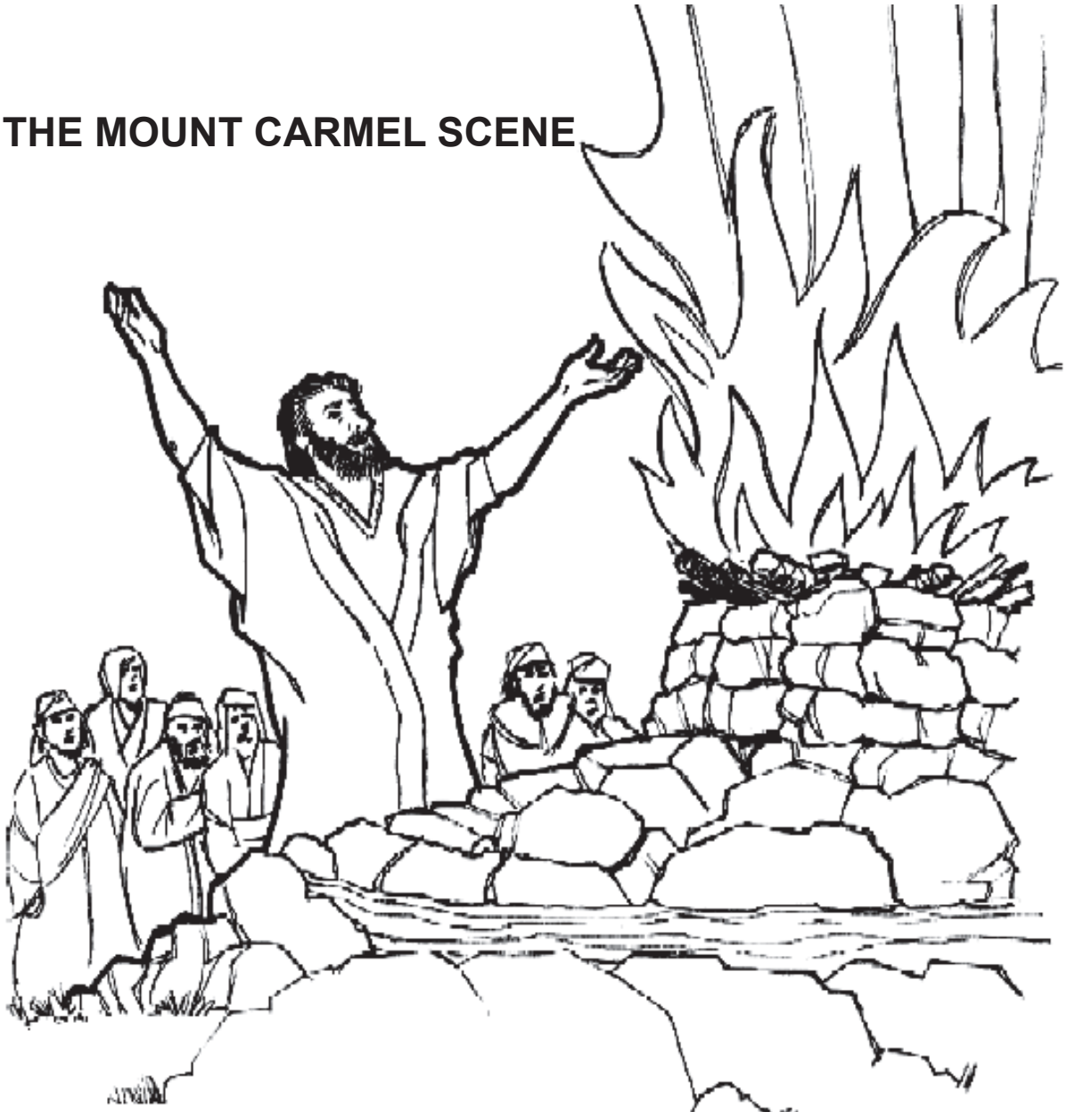
Elijah told the king to send all the people of Israel and all the prophets of Baal at the top of *Mt. Carmel.* With all the people gathered at the top of the mountain, Elijah said, "I am the only prophet of God left while Baal has hundreds." Elijah then offered a challenge to King Ahab; he wanted all of the people to see how mighty God was. Two altars would be built and a sacrifice offered but the fire must come from the true God.

Elijah had enough wood gathered to build two altars. The prophets of Baal built their altar and prepared their sacrifice. They prayed, shouted and called out to Baal until late in the day but Baal did not answer.

Elijah called all the people to the site of his altar. He began building his altar using twelve stones – one for each of the twelve sons of Jacob. Then he dug a trench around it. He poured water all over the altar until everything was soaked and water ran down and filled the trench.

Then Elijah stood in front of the altar and prayed so that everyone could hear him. He asked God to prove to the people that He was the God of Israel. Suddenly, there was a fire on Elijah's altar. It was hot and red and burned everything. It even made the water boil away. Across the sea, there was a small dark cloud. It came quickly, the sky darkened and big drops of rain began to fall.

COLOR THE MOUNT CARMEL SCENE



Lesson Five: MOUNT CALVARY

Written By: Sister Michelle Corder

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 27:31-54, Mark 15:20-47, Luke 23:26-56, John 19:16-42

The exact location also is not known. It was called Golgotha, meaning the place of a skull (Matthew 27:33, Mark 15:22, John 19:17). Also, it was called Calvary (Luke 23:33). Although the Scripture does not call the location a mountain or even a hill, it was evidently an elevated place where the Romans crucified convicted criminals. It was outside the walls of Jerusalem, yet it was near-by.

Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem. As Jesus and the disciples neared the city, He asked them to go borrow a donkey for Him to ride on. When they had found the donkey, they laid their coats on its back so Jesus could ride. The road into Jerusalem was very crowded. As Jesus rode along the road some of the people laid their coats on the ground. Other people cut palm branches and laid them on the road. The people were singing praises to Jesus.

Jesus had come to Jerusalem for the feast called the Passover. It was a special celebration and Jesus knew that this would be the last time He would be at the feast with His disciples. After they ate, Jesus gave the disciples unleavened bread and fruit of the vine in a cup. He asked them to remember Him by eating the bread and drinking from the cup. When they had finished eating, Jesus talked to the disciples about lots of things He wanted them to know. Then they left the upstairs room and walked through the city into a garden called Gethsemane. The garden was in the Cedron Valley at the foot of the Mt of Olives.

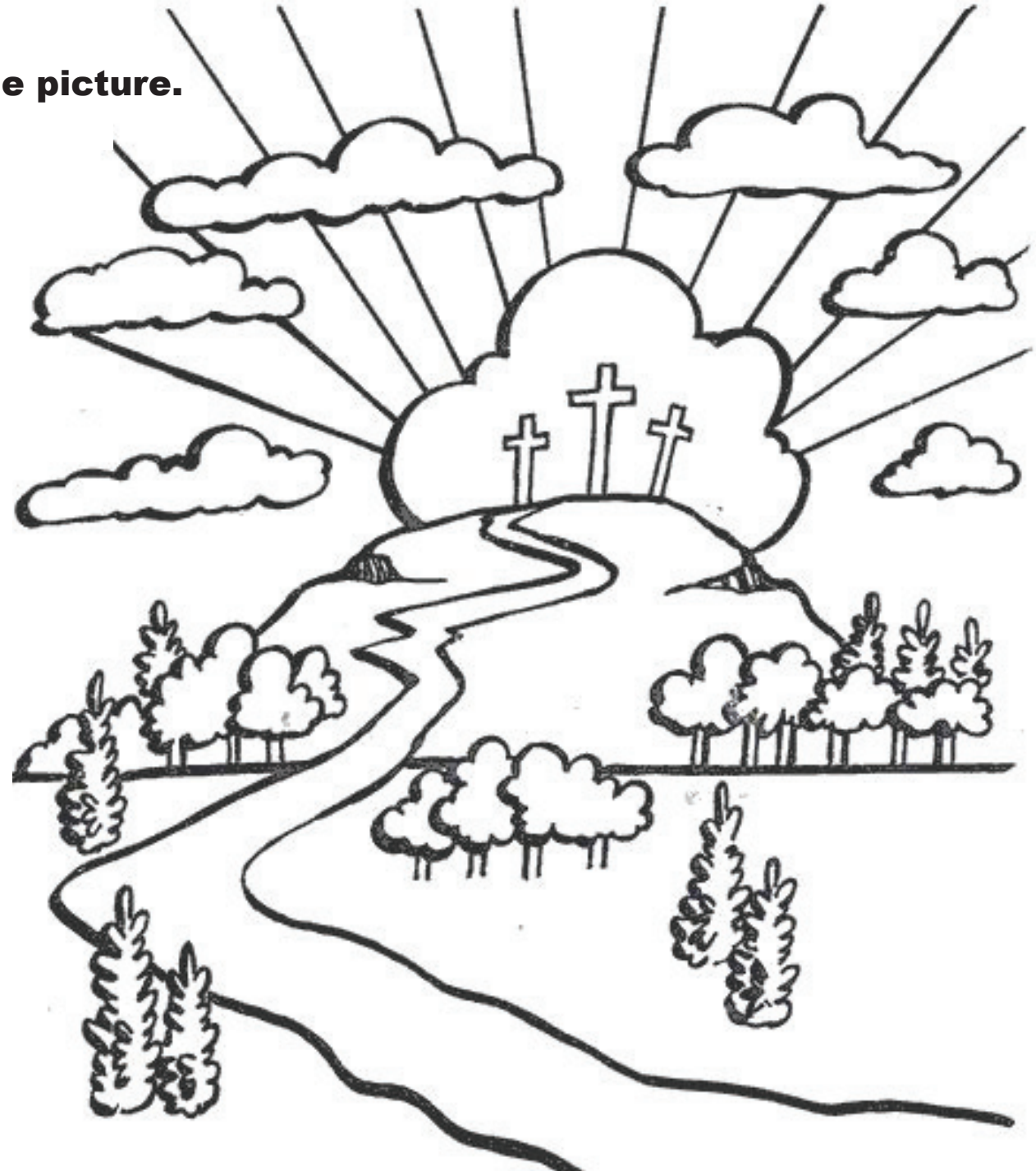
When they reached the garden, Jesus had the disciples wait at the gate while He went into the garden to pray. He took three disciples with Him a little farther into the garden. Jesus was very sad because He knew He would have to leave His friends soon. He asked the three disciples to sit and watch while He prayed.

Jesus walked a little farther into the garden and knelt down to talk to His father in prayer. As He prayed, He knew it was God's plan for Him to die so that the people could be saved from their sins. It was a hard thing to do but He was ready to do the will of God. Suddenly a light appeared in the darkness. A group of soldiers were coming into the garden. Jesus knew they were looking for Him.

Jesus was arrested and taken before the leaders of the people. They treated Him very badly. Most of the leaders did not believe any of Jesus' teachings or that He was God's son. They thought that He should be crucified. Jesus was lead out of the city to Mt. Calvary. There He was nailed to a wooden cross. Jesus died that day. All the people who loved Jesus were very sad but He had told them that He would rise again.

God loved us all so much that He gave us His only son. Jesus loved us so much that He was willing to die for our sins.

Color the picture.



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