

# Old Testament

Mission Arlington ◦ Mission Metroplex Curriculum ◦ 2011

## One Year Plan



GOD'S WORD

Created for use with young, unchurched learners Adaptable for all ages.

EXPLORING CANAAN



NUMBERS 13-14

**Memory Verse:**  
If God is for us, who can  
ever be against us?  
Romans 8:31

**Lesson Goals**

1. Understand that God's people had arrived at the Promised Land.
2. Learn that God sent twelve spies to look at the new land.
3. Learn that ten of the spies were afraid of the people in the land.
4. Recognize that the people were punished for their lack of faith.

**Prayer Time**

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to deliver us from sin.
3. Ask God to help you follow Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to be delivered from sin.

GOD'S WORD

## Read Numbers 13:17-33. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

### Do You Know Jesus?

God knew that sometimes we would choose wrong instead of right. He knew that this would separate us from Him. So, He made a bridge so that we could get to Him. He sent His Son, Jesus. Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for all our sin. To cross the bridge to God, we must trust in Jesus and believe that He died for our wrongs. We must ask Him to be our best friend and come into our lives. He will take away our sin. And one day, God will take us to Heaven!

### Application

God has done so many good things for us. He made us, He takes care of us, and He sent Jesus to die for our sins! He also gave us His Word, the Bible, to help us know Him better and encourage us. Yet sometimes we forget that God is bigger than any problems we may be having. We become afraid and want to run away from our problems, like the Israelites did. We need to open God's Word and ask Him to give us courage to press on with Him!

### Begin With Prayer

Last week we learned that while Moses was up on a mountain getting the Ten Commandments (rules) from God, the people of Israel became impatient. Aaron led the people of Israel to sin. God told Moses to stop the people. Moses came down from the mountain and stopped the people from their sin. But God punished Israel for their sin.

God's people continued traveling through the desert. God had promised them that He would take them to a wonderful land that was very beautiful and full of delicious fruits and vegetables—the "Promised Land." Finally, the people got to the border of the land that God had promised them. The people were excited! Moses chose 12 leaders to spy out the land. They were from 12 different clans, or families. Two of the people were Joshua and Caleb. (Numbers 13:1-16)

The 12 secretly spied out the land. They saw that the land was full of crops and fruit. In fact, it took two of the spies to carry one cluster of grapes! They also saw the people. They looked like giants. They had heard many things about these people, too. The people were expert warriors who got whatever they wanted. (Numbers 13:17-25)

After 40 days, the men returned to Moses. Ten of the men were afraid and scared. They told God's people that there was no way that they could take over the land. They saw the warriors' strength and their own weakness. (Numbers 13:26-29)

But the two other men, Joshua and Caleb, told the people that with God's help, they could do anything. However, the people were not listening to them. They were afraid of what the people might do, instead of remembering what God could do! (Numbers 13:29-30)

During the night, cries were heard everywhere. People were scared and frightened. They began to argue and complain. They thought about getting another leader and going back into slavery in Egypt! Can you imagine that? They wanted to trade their freedom for slavery again. (Numbers 14:1-3)

As they were complaining, they were forgetting one thing. They forgot about all the ways that God had helped them. He freed them from slavery, made a wall of water for them so they walked through the Red Sea, gave them food in the desert, and protected them from the heat. How quickly they had forgotten all that God had done for them.

The next morning, all the people gathered together. Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Caleb told the people that God would help them conquer these enemies. The people became angry. They even picked up stones to try to kill them! God's presence filled the area where they were gathered. God told the people that they would now have to wait 40 years to enter the land. (Numbers 14:33) He also told them that only Joshua and Caleb would get to enter the new land because they were the only two out of the 12 spies who believed and trusted God. (Numbers 14:22-24)

The people were very sorry for the sin that they had done. They confessed their sin to God. But, they decided to go ahead and enter the land, even though God had told them that they would not have the land for 40 years. Sure enough, God did not help them, and they lost the battle. The people in the land attacked them and drove them back into the desert. (Numbers 13:39-45)

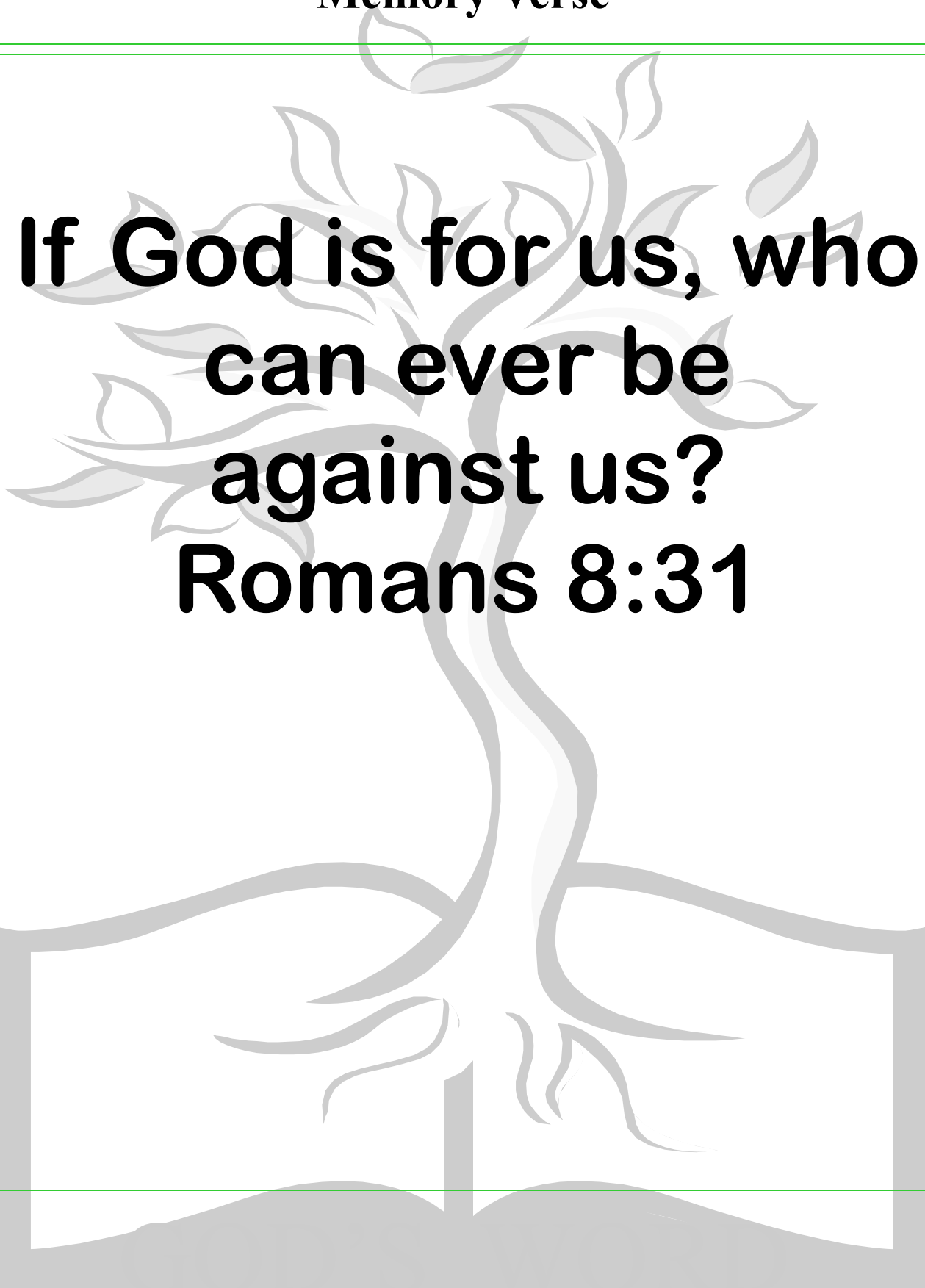
God loved His people and forgave them for the sin that they committed. God also knew that they would have to suffer the consequences for the sin that they had committed. Because they did not follow God, they had to stay in the hot desert for 40 more years!

### Review

1. What did God promise Israel? (The Promised Land)
2. What did Moses do? (He sent out 12 spies to view the land.)
3. Who gave a good report of the land? (Joshua and Caleb)
4. What did God do? (He told the people they had to wander in the desert for 40 years as punishment for not trusting and obeying Him.)

**Planning for Next Week: Balaam and the Donkey—Numbers 22**

**Memory Verse**



**If God is for us, who  
can ever be  
against us?  
Romans 8:31**

# Preschool Lesson

Read Numbers 13:17-30. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Memory verse for younger children:

If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Romans 8:31

•**Teacher:** Glue or tape two paper rolls together to look like binoculars. Talk about how the leaders spied out the land.

## Begin With Prayer

Last week we learned that while Moses was up on a mountain getting the Ten Commandments (rules) from God, the people of Israel became impatient. Aaron led the people of Israel to sin. God told Moses to stop the people. Moses came down from the mountain and stopped the people from their sin.

God's people continued traveling through the desert. God had promised them that He would take them to a wonderful land that was very beautiful and full of delicious fruits and vegetables—the "Promised Land." Finally, the people got to the border of the land that God had promised them. The people were excited! Moses chose 12 leaders to spy out the land. They were from 12 different clans, or families. Let's count to 12.

Two of the spies were Joshua and Caleb. The 12 secretly spied out the land. (Put your hand over your eyes as if you are spying) They saw that the land was full of fruits and vegetables. In fact, it took two of the spies to carry one cluster of grapes! They must have been very, very big grapes!

They also saw the people. They looked like giants. (Raise your hand as high as it will reach.) They had heard many things about these people, too. The people were mean warriors who got whatever they wanted.

After 40 days, the men came back to Moses. Ten of the men were afraid and scared. They told God's people that there was no way that they could take over the land. They saw the warriors' strength and their own weakness.

Joshua and Caleb told the people that with God's help, they could do anything. However, the people were not listening to them. They were afraid of what the people might do, instead of what God could do!

During the night, cries were heard everywhere. People were scared and frightened. (Make crying noises) They began to argue and complain. They thought about getting another leader and going back into slavery! Can you imagine that? They wanted to trade their freedom for slavery again.

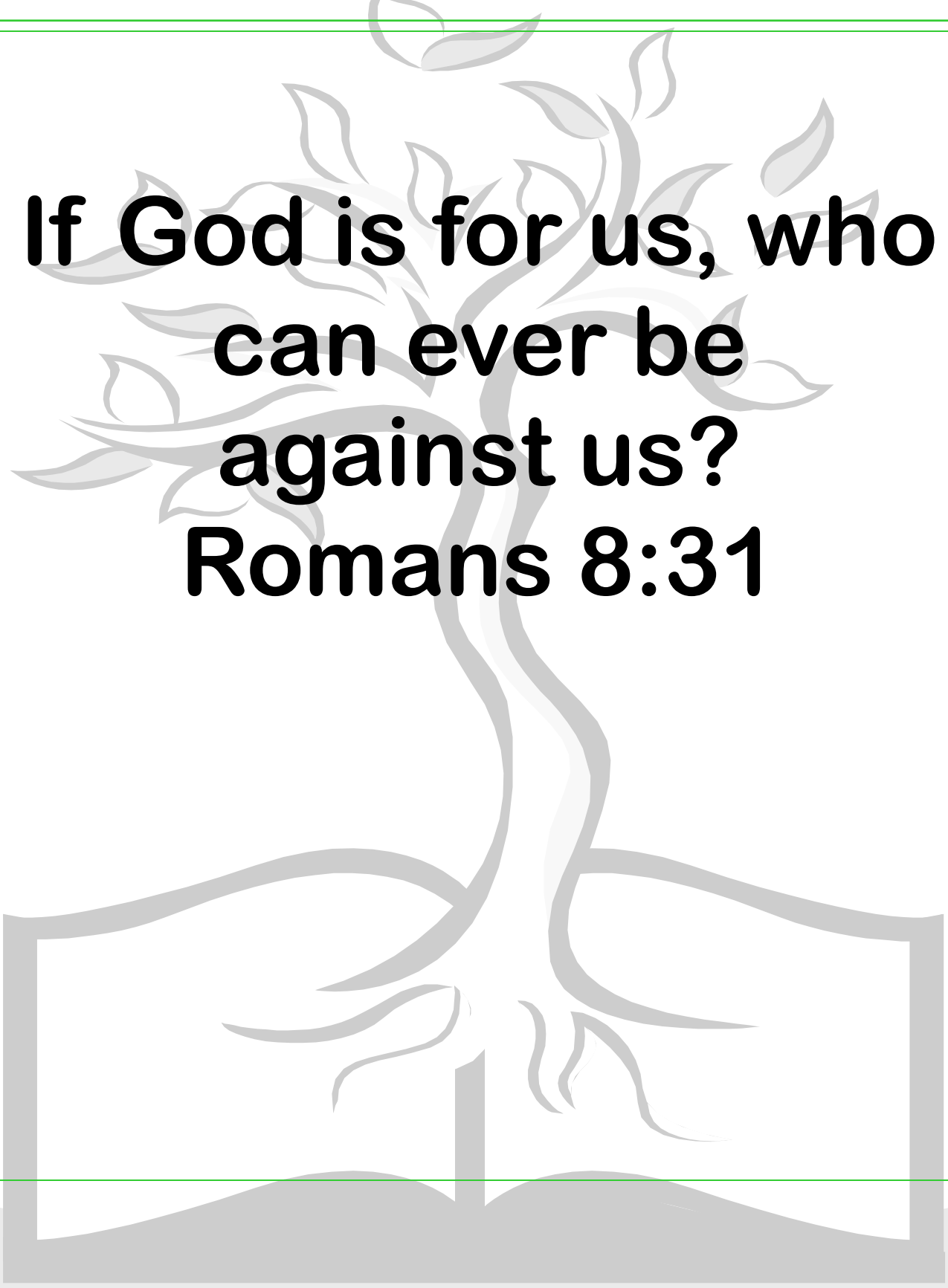
The next morning, the people gathered together. Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Caleb told the people that God would help them conquer these enemies. The people became angry.

God told them that only Joshua and Caleb would get to enter the new land because they were the only two out of the 12 who believed and trusted God. The people were very sorry for the sin that they had done. They told God they were sorry. God loved His people and forgave them. God loves us and wants us to obey Him and do what He says.

## Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus.

**Preschool Memory Verse**



**If God is for us, who  
can ever be  
against us?  
Romans 8:31**

# Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Blow up purple balloons to resemble the big grapes in the story. Tie the balloons together to look like grapes on a branch. Tie the grapes on a stick. Let two children at a time carry the grapes around the room or your area as they say the memory verse.

•**Test your memory** — Cut out people figures using newsprint or poster board. Make them 13” tall. Lay the figures on the floor. Cut out figures the height of your children. Lay the figures of the children next to the giant figures. Use the figures as you tell the story.

•**Taste activity** — Bring grapes and talk about how big the grapes must have been that the leaders saw.

•**Think about it** — Joshua and Caleb knew that with God all things are possible. Talk about other examples in the Bible that show how God made something impossible happen!!

•**Touch activity** — Glue or tape two paper rolls together to look like binoculars. Talk about how the leaders spied out the land.

Talk about how tall a giant must have been. Talk about how scary it would be to try to fight a giant. Now, share how nothing is impossible with God. Talk about the courage of Joshua and Caleb and how they stood up for what was right. Ask them to give examples of how they can stand up for what is right.

Play the “I spy” game.

Bring real binoculars or a magnifying glass if you have one. Place an object far away and try to zoom in with the glass and see it.

•**Run and play** — The people of Israel had to stay in the desert because of their disobedience. Have the children take 40 steps. Count out 40 seconds using a stop watch. Have them run in circles for four minutes.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to obey Him.

•**Sing** — Sing “Obedience,” “Trust and Obey,” or another song related to the story.

•**Reach out** — During class, pray for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts. Bring purple balloons with memory verse on it for each of the children.

# Rooted and Grounded



## Pray

Thank God for making a way for us to be right with Him through Jesus.  
Ask God to forgive us when we forget all the things He has done for us.  
Ask God to help us trust Him and obey His commands.  
Pray for those who need to know Jesus.

## Read the Bible Daily

This week, read Numbers 13-14. You might try reading a chapter a day out of the book of John also.

## Think About It

We may think that the Israelites were very bad people and that we wouldn't have acted like they did. But, how many times have we forgotten to trust God and we worried about things? Jesus said not to worry about anything. (Matthew 6:25-34) He said that our Father knows what we need, and He will take care of us. Let's remember to trust God in every situation!

## Do It

Make a list of all the things God has done for you.

## Tell About It

Share the Bible story with a friend. Talk about how the Israelites made things worse for themselves by turning away from God's plan. Share that we can avoid a lot of heartache if we will follow God's ways and trust Jesus.

## Change it

God may be telling you to do something, but you have been afraid to do it. Maybe He wants you to help someone at school and risk being embarrassed. Or maybe He wants you to tell someone about Him, but you are afraid they won't like you any more. Whatever it is, confess your fear to God, and ask Him to help you to be bold for Him.



Word Art

Trace the letters.

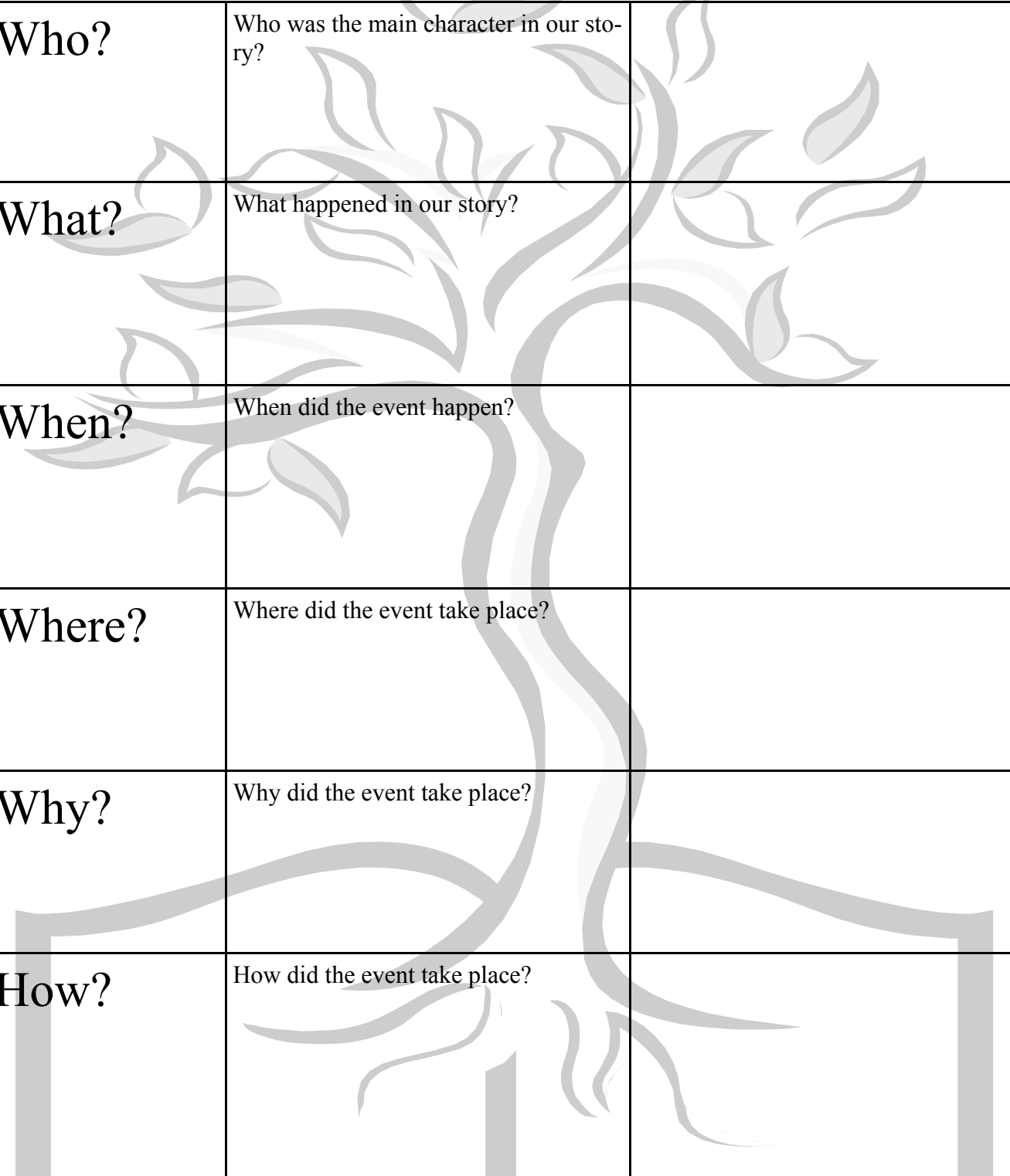
Moses

sent

spies.

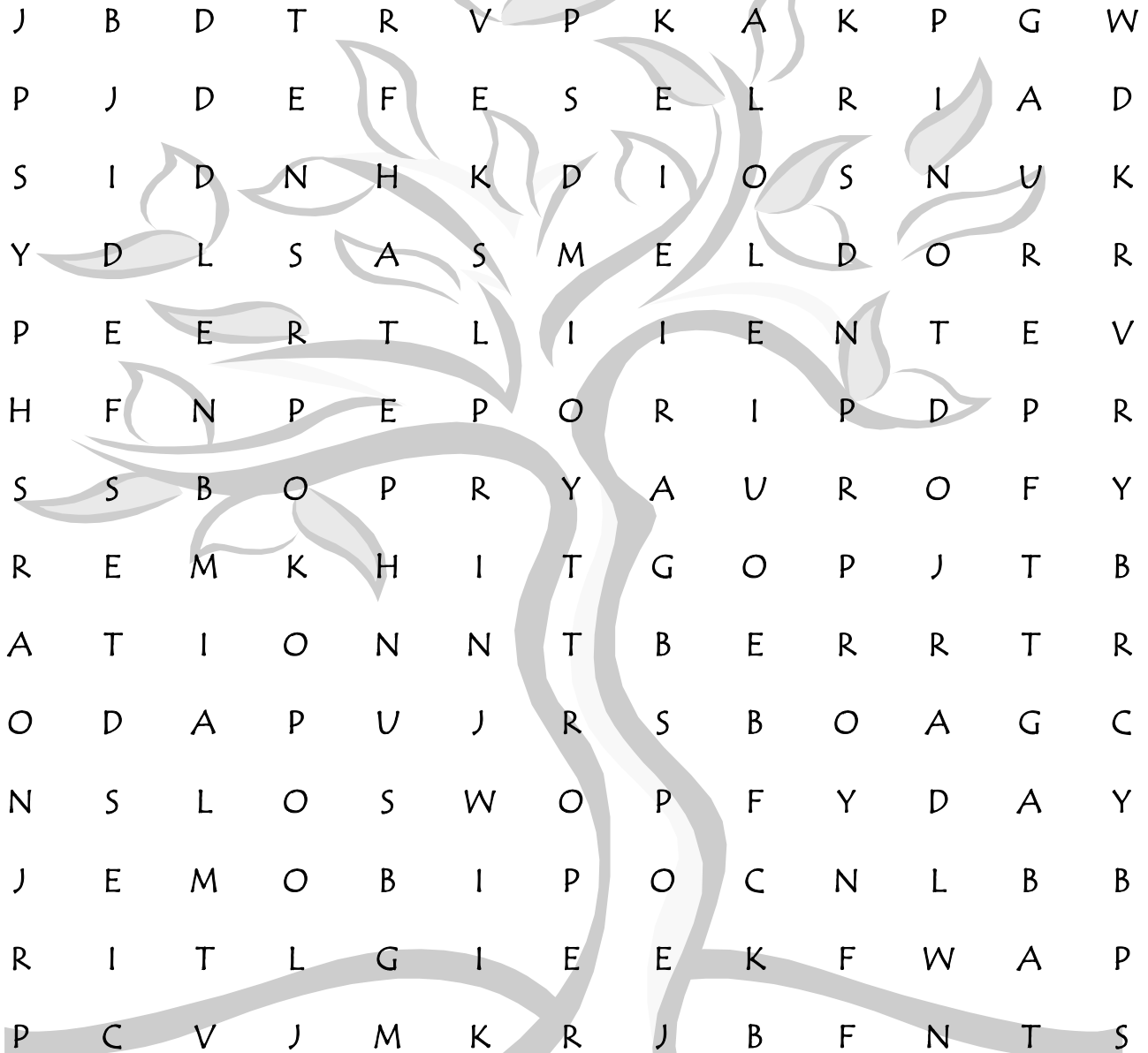
GOD'S WORD

# Learning the Facts



Who?	Who was the main character in our story?	
What?	What happened in our story?	
When?	When did the event happen?	
Where?	Where did the event take place?	
Why?	Why did the event take place?	
How?	How did the event take place?	

# Word Search



J B D T R V P K A K P G W  
P J D E F E S E L R I A D  
S I D N H K D I O S N U K  
Y D L S A S M E L D O R R  
P E E R T L I I E N T E V  
H F N P E P O R I P D P R  
S S B O P R Y A U R O F Y  
R E M K H I T G O P J T B  
A T I O N N T B E R R T R  
O D A P U J R S B O A G C  
N S L O S W O P F Y D A Y  
J E M O B I P O C N L B B  
R I T L G I E E K F W A P  
P C V J M K R J B F N T S

LAND

MILK

HONEY

BORDER

SPIES

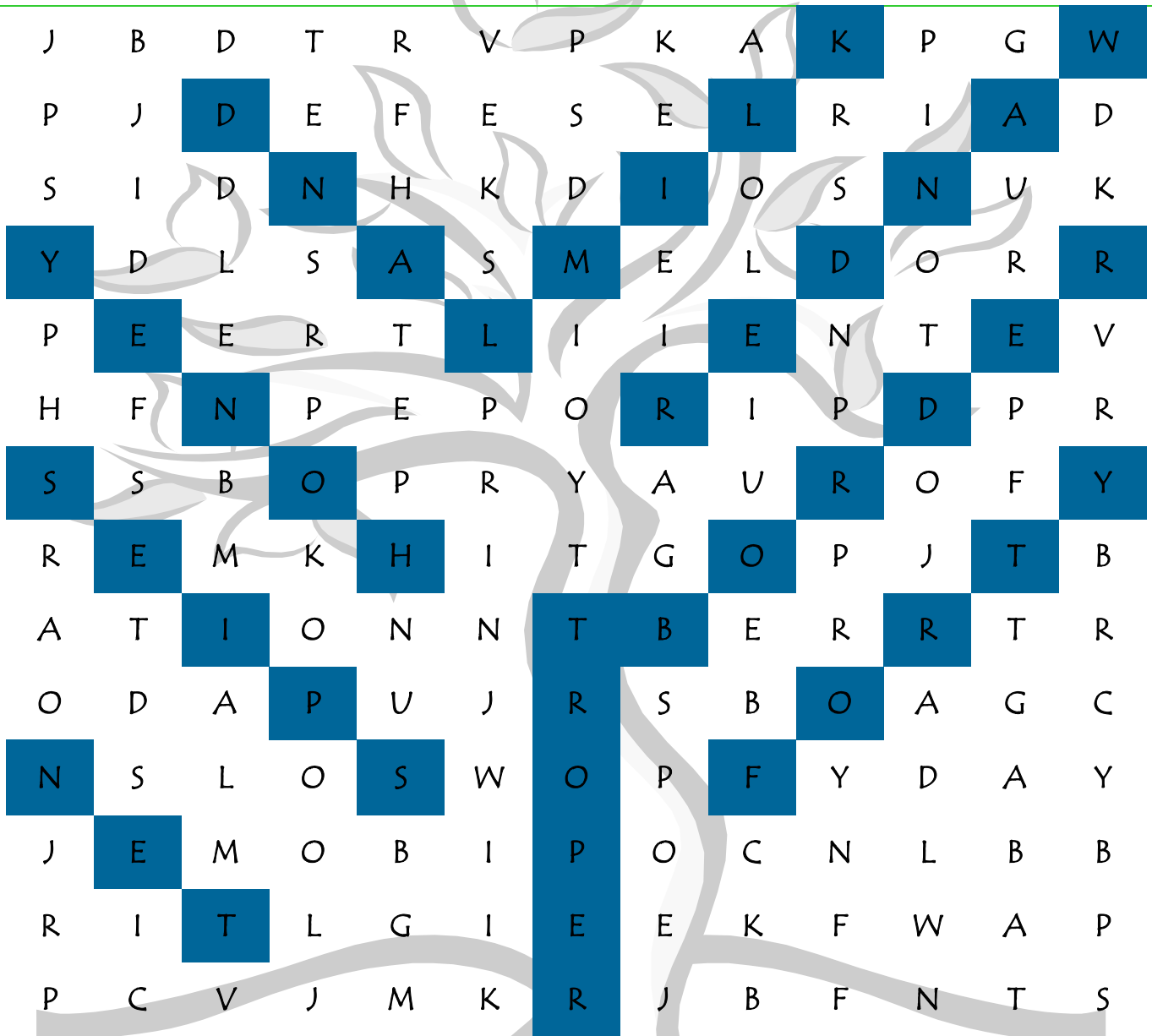
FORTY

REPORT

TEN

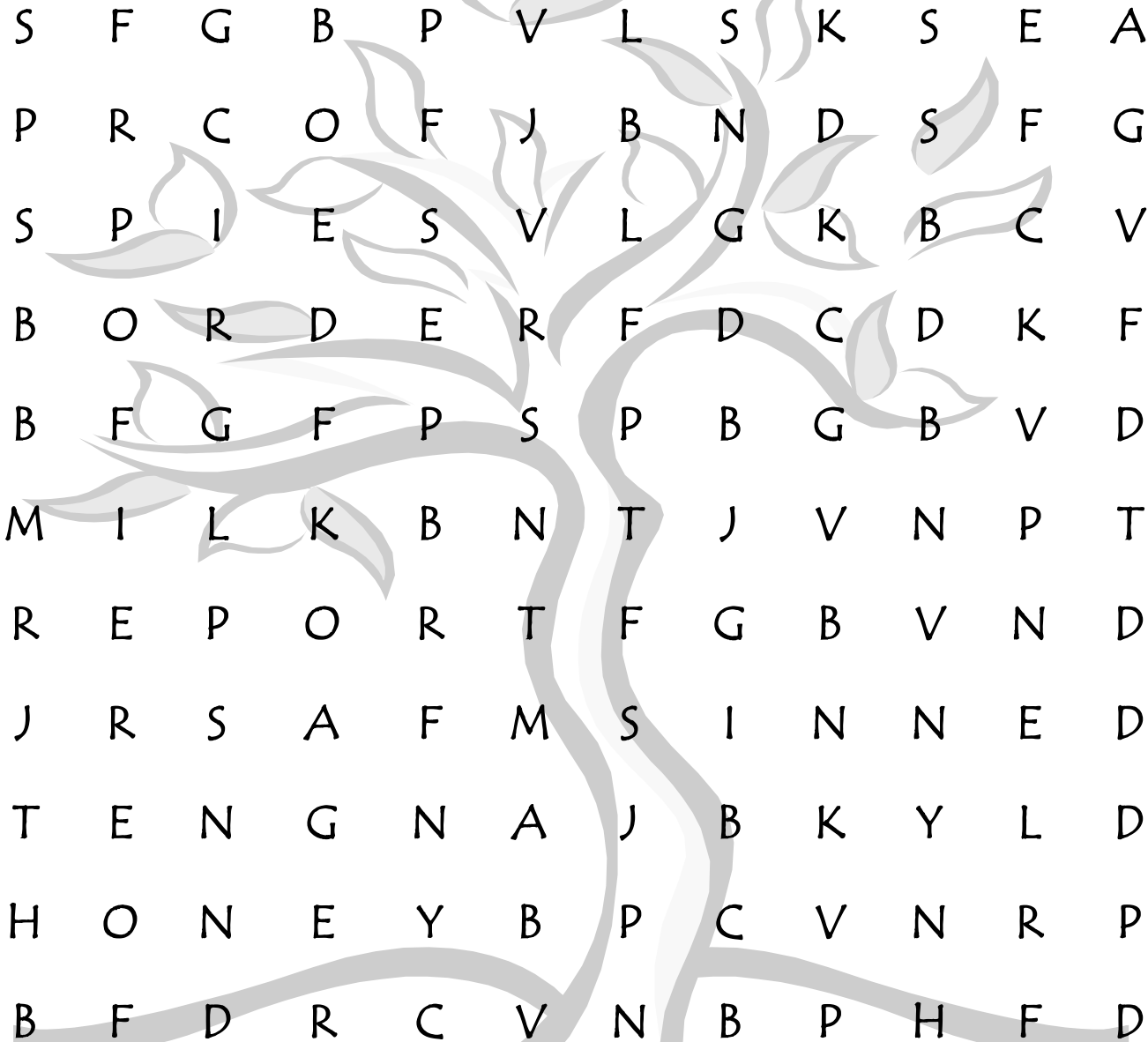
WANDER

# Word Search Solution



LAND MILK HONEY  
 BORDER SPIES FORTY  
 REPORT TEN WANDER

# Preschool Word Search



S	F	G	B	P	V	L	S	K	S	E	A
P	R	C	O	F	J	B	N	D	S	F	G
S	P	I	E	S	V	L	G	K	B	C	V
B	O	R	D	E	R	F	D	C	D	K	F
B	F	G	F	P	S	P	B	G	B	V	D
M	I	L	K	B	N	T	J	V	N	P	T
R	E	P	O	R	T	F	G	B	V	N	D
J	R	S	A	F	M	S	I	N	N	E	D
T	E	N	G	N	A	J	B	K	Y	L	D
H	O	N	E	Y	B	P	C	V	N	R	P
B	F	D	R	C	V	N	B	P	H	F	D

SPIES

HONEY

TEN

BORDER

MILK

REPORT

# Preschool Word Search Solution

S	F	G	B	P	V	L	S	K	S	E	A
P	R	C	O	F	J	B	N	D	S	F	G
S	P	I	E	S	V	L	G	K	B	C	V
B	O	R	D	E	R	F	D	C	D	K	F
B	F	G	F	P	S	P	B	G	B	V	D
M	I	L	K	B	N	T	J	V	N	P	T
R	E	P	O	R	T	F	G	B	V	N	D
J	R	S	A	F	M	S	I	N	N	E	D
T	E	N	G	N	A	J	B	K	Y	L	D
H	O	N	E	Y	B	P	C	V	N	R	P
B	F	D	R	C	V	N	B	P	H	F	D

SPIES

HONEY

TEN

BORDER

MILK

REPORT

# Anagram

DATSN

HATIF

HOASUJ

BACEL

ODOG

SITANG

DERAFE

DUHEPINS

NADDEWR

GOD'S WORD

## Anagram Solution

STAND

FAITH

JOSHUA

CALEB

GOOD

GIANTS

FEARED

PUNISHED

WANDERED

GOD'S WORD