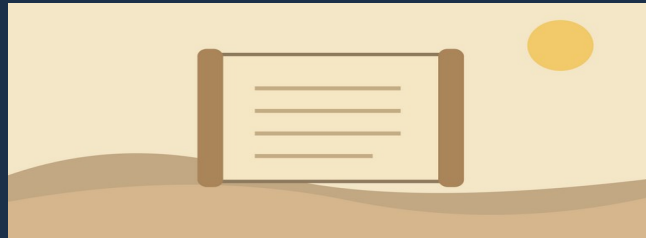


RICA FOR TEENS • LESSON 02

Faith and the History of God's People

From Abraham to Moses, from the judges to the prophets



What is faith?

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

The Catechism teaches:

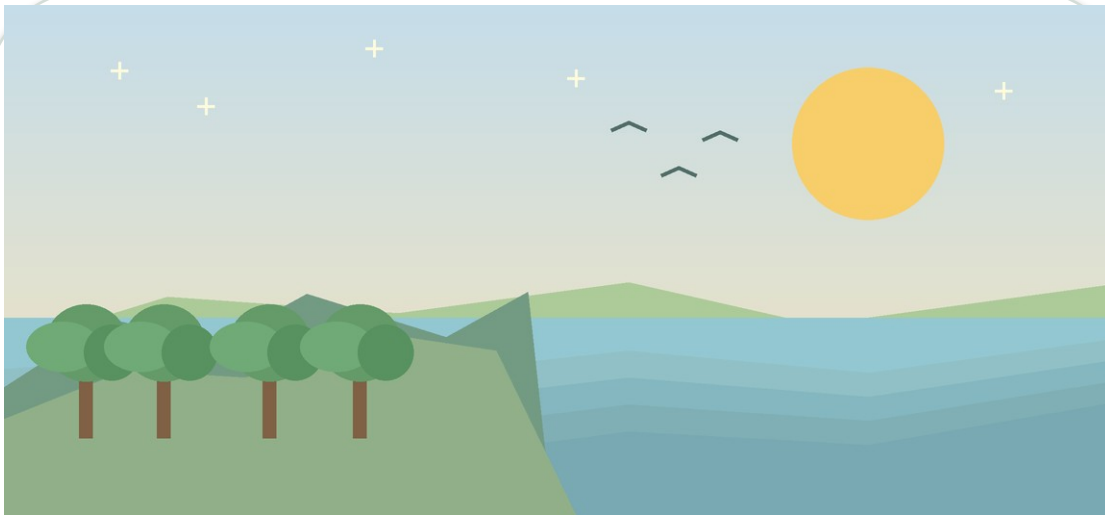
“Faith is the theological virtue by which we believe in God.”

Believing also means listening, trusting, and freely responding to God.

St. Augustine: **“Faith is to believe what you do not see.”**

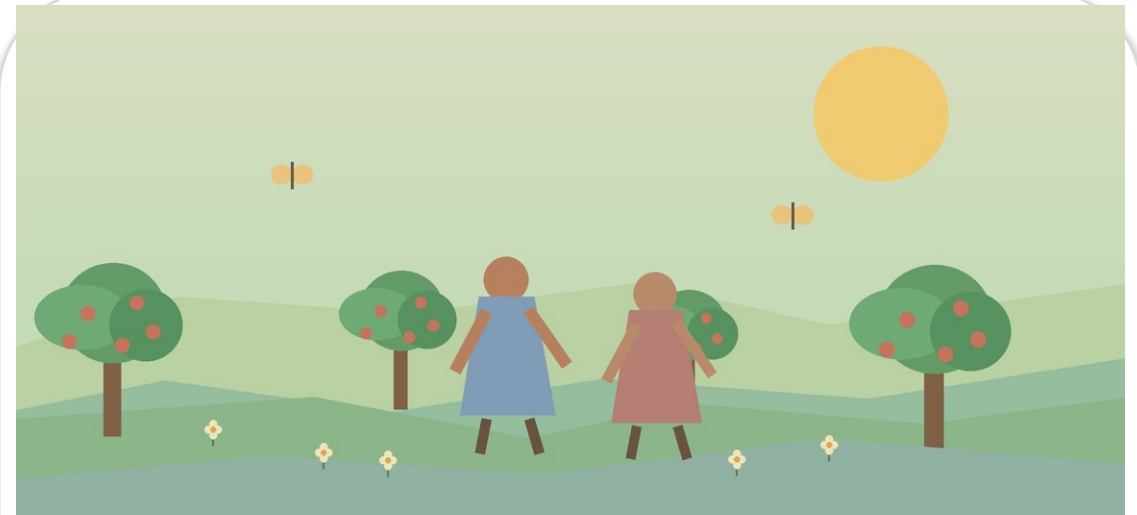
Genesis: God Creates the World and Humanity

STORYBOARD · CREATION



God creates a good world

God creates light, sky, land, sea, and living creatures. All creation is a good gift.



Made in God's image

God creates man and woman in his image. Every person has dignity and is called to know and love him.

REMEMBER · God creates out of love; every human person has unique dignity.

Genesis: Temptation and Leaving Eden

STORYBOARD · THE FALL



The serpent tempts

The serpent plants doubts about God. Adam and Eve disobey and eat the forbidden fruit.



Outside the garden

Sin breaks harmony. They leave Eden, but God does not abandon humanity.

REMEMBER · Sin wounds our friendship with God; he promises to save us.

One Story: God Makes Covenants

MAP OF THE LESSON

The covenants show how God seeks to gather humanity together and lead us to salvation.



Abraham is crucial, but his was not the first covenant after the fall.

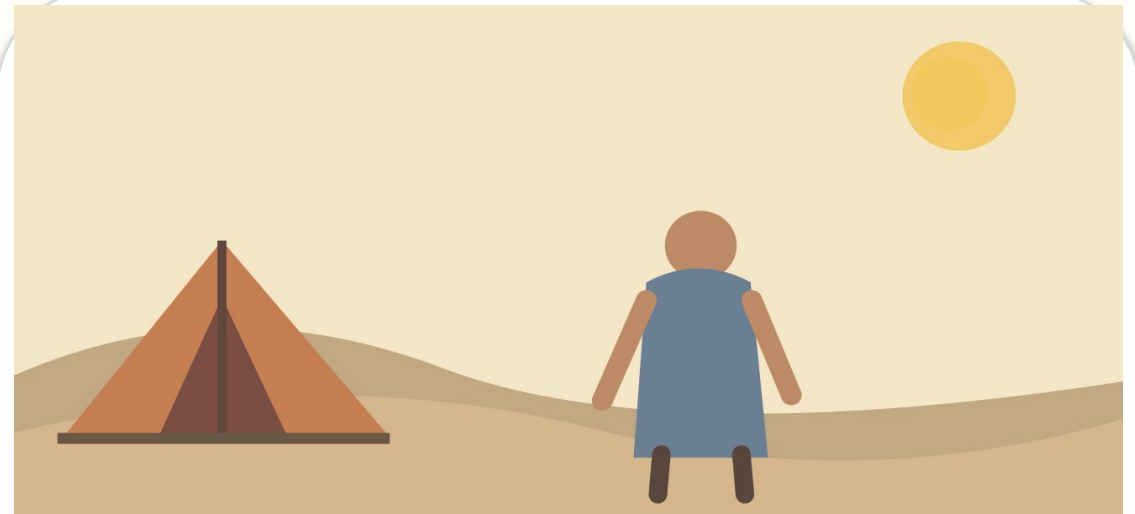
Meet Abraham, Our Father in Faith

ABRAHAM AND THE ONE TRUE GOD



A world of many gods

Abraham's ancestors lived in a culture where other gods were worshiped.



God calls Abraham

God invites him to leave his land and trust in the one living and true God.

REMEMBER · Faith begins by listening to God's call.

Abraham Answers the Call

STORYBOARD · ABRAHAM 1 OF 3



A courageous choice

God asks Abraham to leave without showing him the whole road.



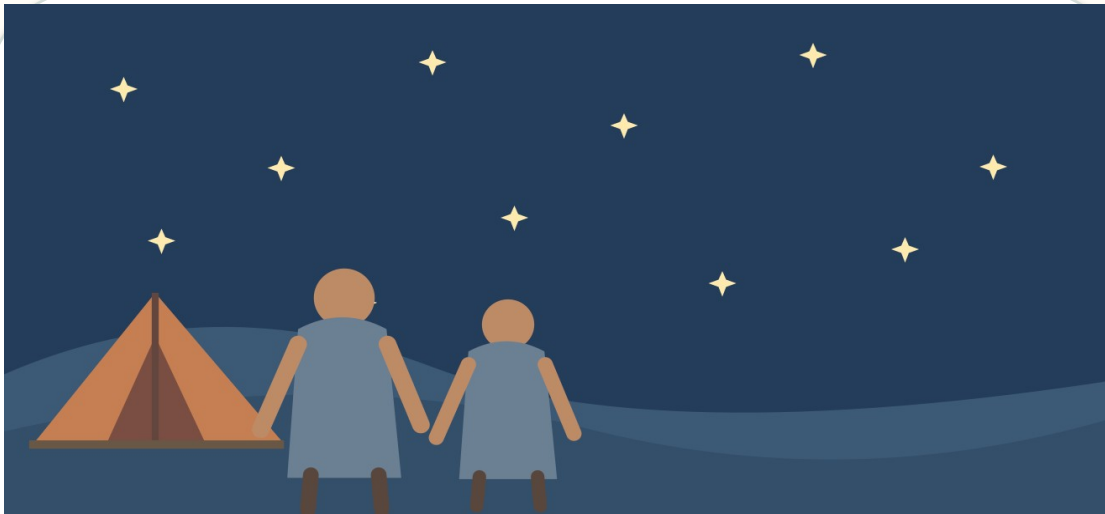
He walks in faith

Abraham leaves his homeland and travels toward the promised land.

REMEMBER · Trusting God also means taking the first step.

A Promise Under the Stars

STORYBOARD · ABRAHAM 2 OF 3



Look up at the sky

God promises Abraham countless descendants.



The covenant

God promises land, descendants, and a blessing for the nations.

REMEMBER · Abraham believes even before he sees the promise fulfilled.

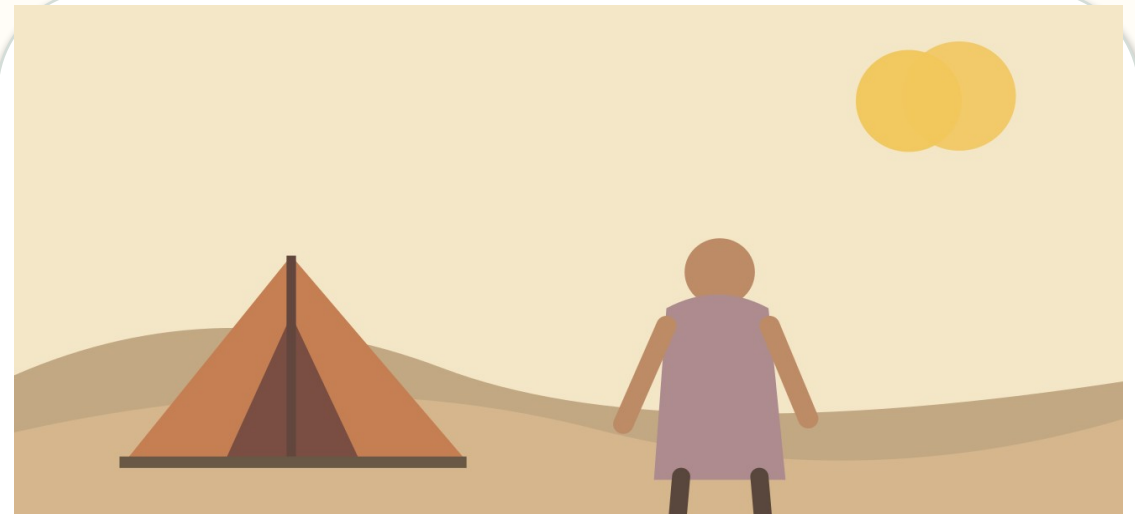
Three Visitors and Sarah's Laughter

STORYBOARD · AN UNEXPECTED VISIT



Three men arrive

Abraham welcomes three visitors. In the account, the Lord promises a son.



Sarah laughs

Sarah hears the promise and laughs: she thinks it is too late!

REMEMBER · Sarah's age does not prevent God from keeping his promise.

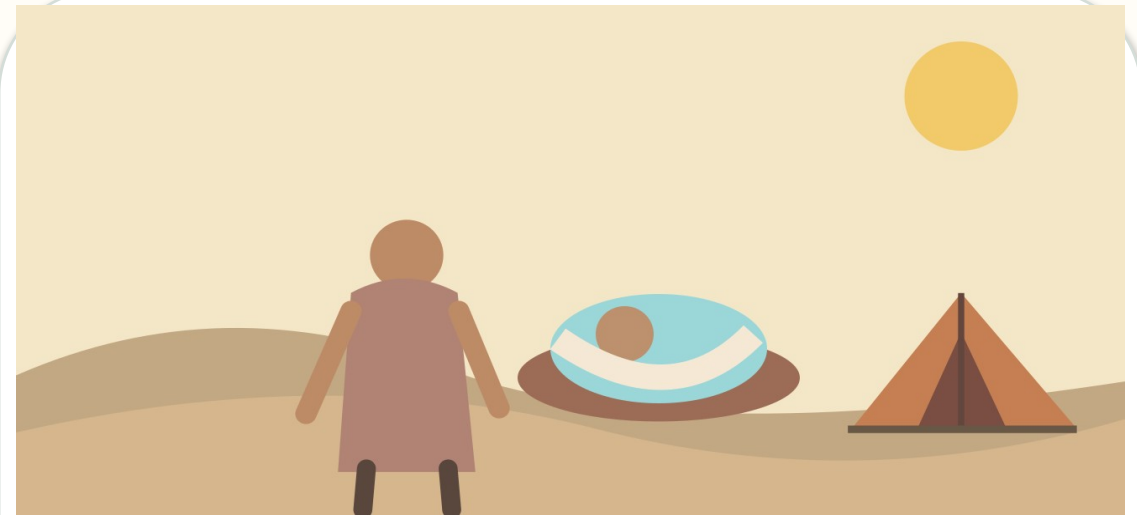
Hagar and Ishmael: A Difficult Wait

STORYBOARD · BEFORE THE THREE VISITORS



Sarah grows impatient

Sarah offers Hagar to Abraham, according to the customs of the time.



Ishmael is born

Hagar gives birth to Ishmael, Abraham's first son. God hears and blesses him too.

REMEMBER · God remains present even when people make mistakes.

The Birth of Isaac

STORYBOARD · THE PROMISE IS KEPT



Isaac is born

Sarah gives birth to the promised child.
His name recalls laughter.



God is faithful

Abraham's story continues through Isaac
and his family.

REMEMBER · Trust teaches us to wait for God's timing.

Jacob: A Story of Transformation

STORYBOARD · THE NEXT GENERATION



Jacob and Esau

Isaac and Rebekah have two sons. Their family experiences rivalry and reconciliation.



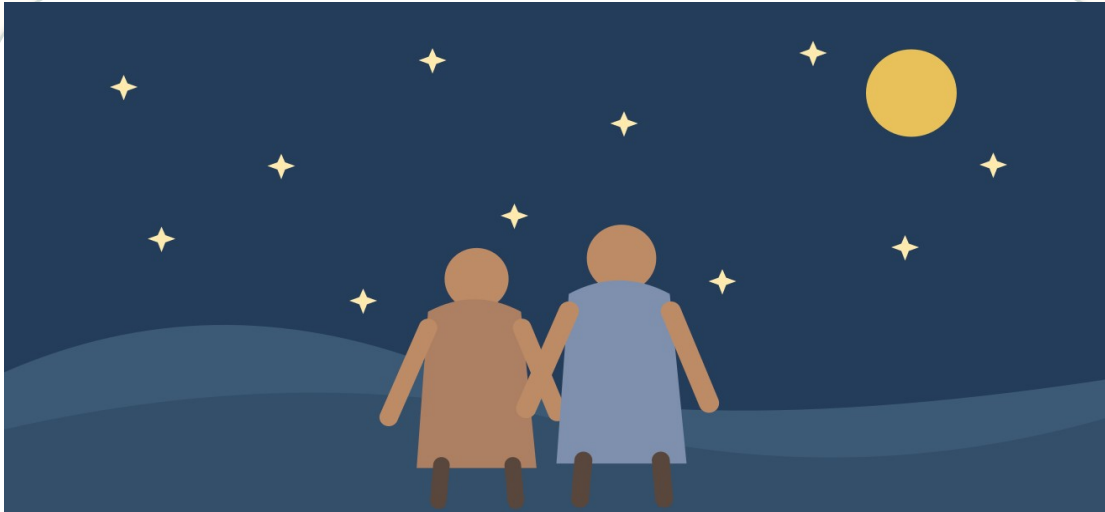
Jacob's ladder

In a dream, Jacob receives the promise of God's presence.

REMEMBER · God accompanies real people, even with conflicts and weaknesses.

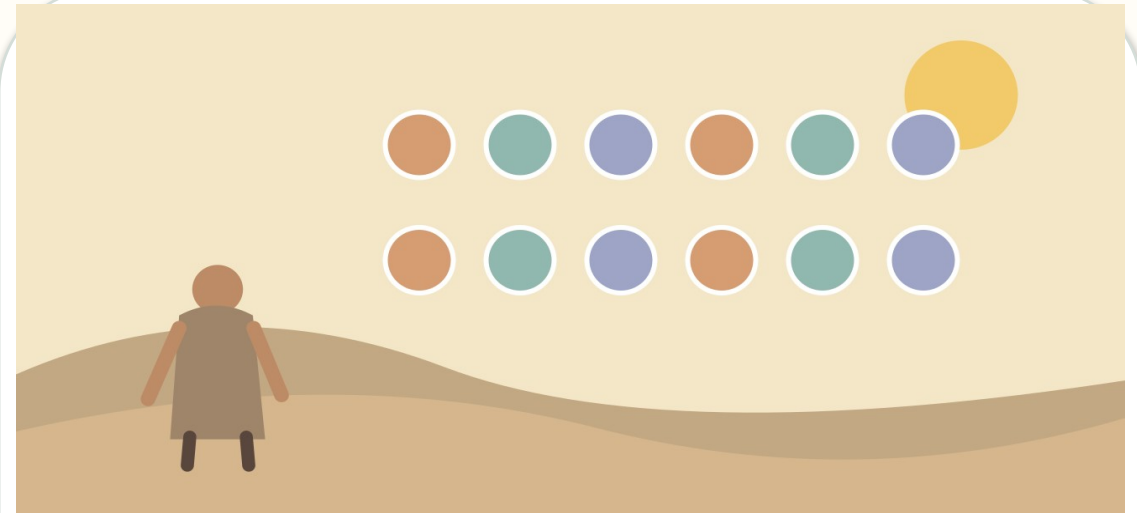
Jacob Receives a New Name: Israel

STORYBOARD · THE TRIBES BEGIN



Jacob wrestles

After a night of wrestling, Jacob receives the name Israel.



A large family

His twelve sons are linked to the origins of Israel's twelve tribes.

REMEMBER · God's promises continue from generation to generation.

What is the Pentateuch, or Torah?

THE WORD THAT HOLDS THE STORY

“Pentateuch” means five books. The Torah is central to Jewish Scripture and comprises the first five books of our Bible.

1**GENESIS**

Beginnings;
Abraham and Jacob

2**EXODUS**

Moses and
liberation

3**LEVITICUS**

Worship and
holiness

4**NUMBERS**

The journey
through the desert

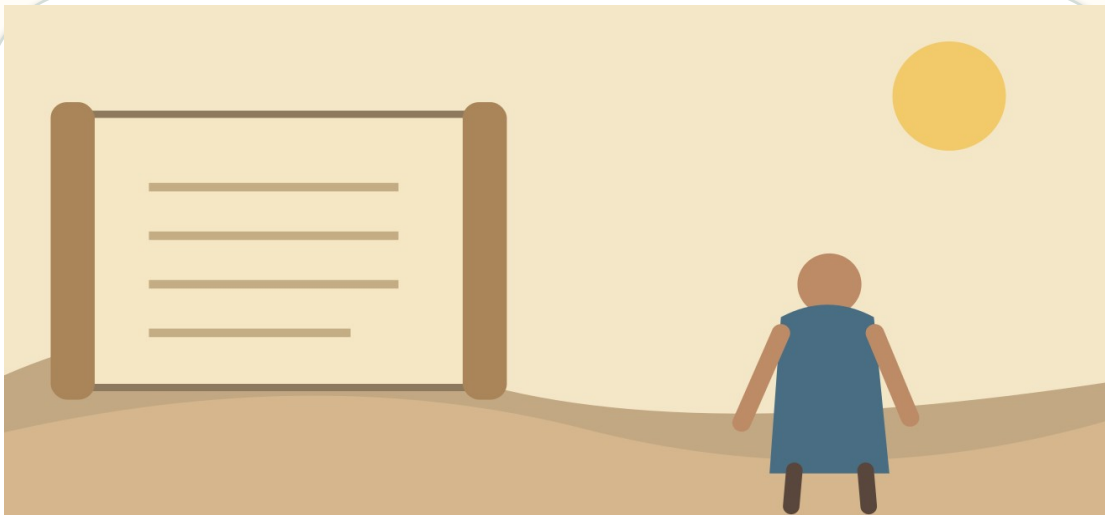
5**DEUTERONOMY**

Renewing the Law

It is faith, teaching, memory, and covenant—not just a list of rules.

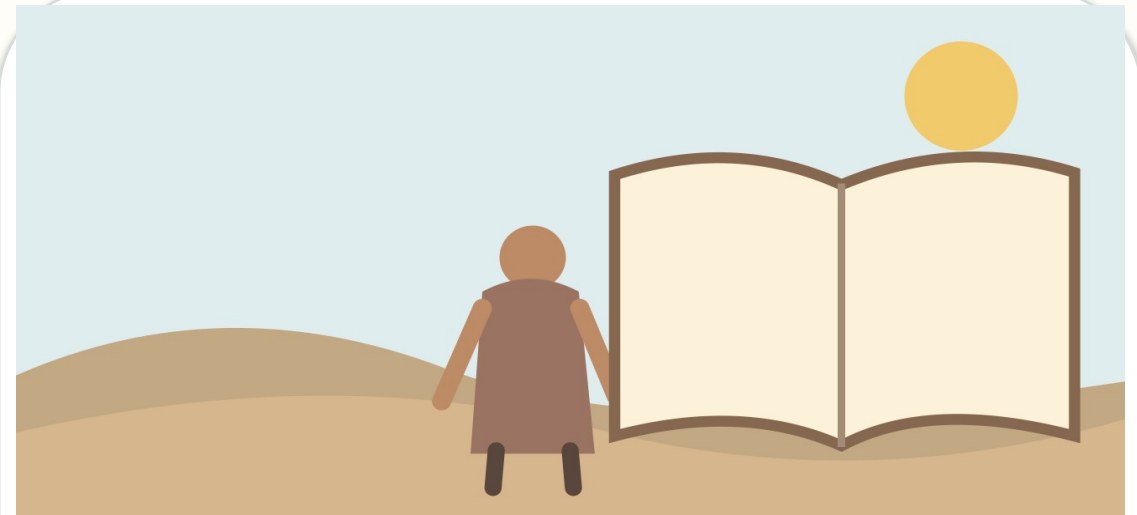
The Torah Today and in Jesus' Time

THE SAME SCRIPTURE, DIFFERENT TRADITIONS



The Jewish people

Today the Torah is read in the synagogue, especially on the Sabbath, and guides Jewish life.



Jesus knew the Torah

Jesus quotes Deuteronomy and Leviticus when teaching about love of God and neighbor.

REMEMBER · We respect Judaism and recognize our biblical roots.

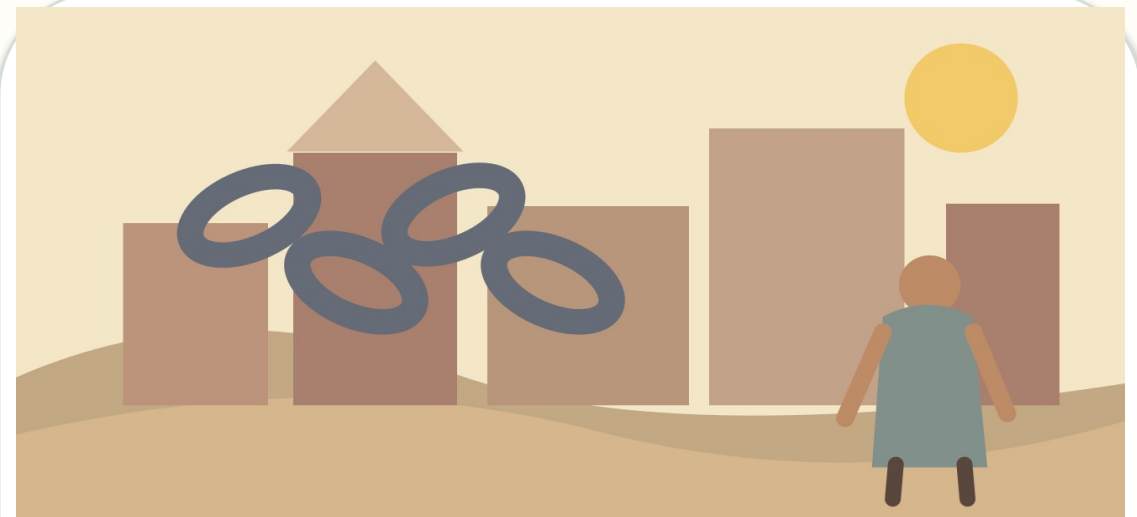
From Joseph to Slavery in Egypt

STORYBOARD · FROM FAMILY TO PEOPLE



The family comes to Egypt

Joseph lives in Egypt; later his brothers and father Jacob settle there.



A Pharaoh oppresses them

Generations later, a new Pharaoh fears the people and forces them into labor.

REMEMBER · God does not abandon his people in suffering.

Moses: From the River to the Burning Bush

STORYBOARD · GOD CALLS A LIBERATOR



Moses is rescued

As a baby, Moses is rescued from the Nile and grows up in Egypt.



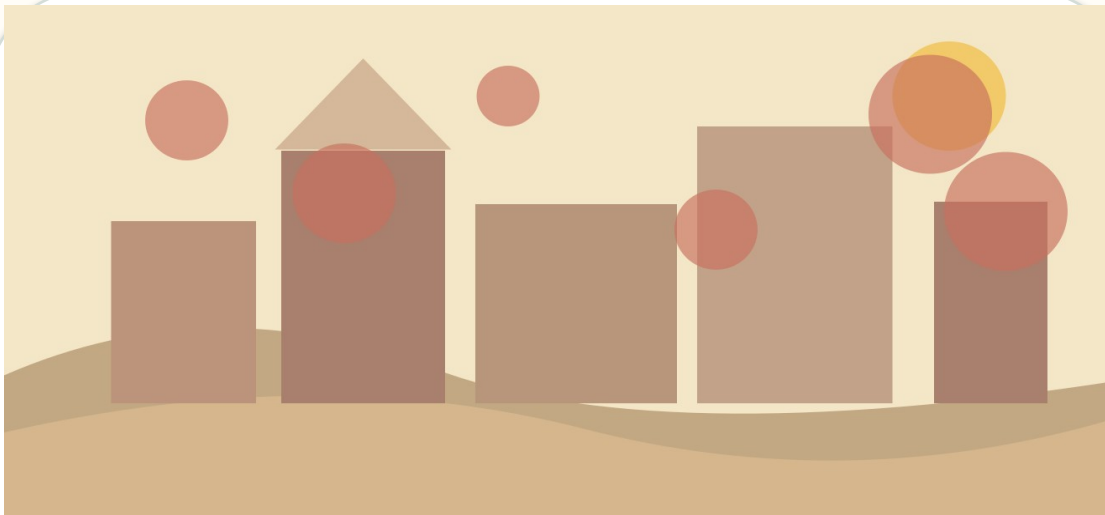
God speaks from the fire

When Moses is grown, God calls him from a bush that burns without being consumed.

REMEMBER · God hears the people's cry and sends Moses.

Plagues and Passover: The Exodus Begins

STORYBOARD · GOD FREES ISRAEL



Pharaoh resists

Moses asks for freedom. The narrative presents the plagues as signs of God's power.



The first Passover

Israel celebrates Passover and prepares to leave Egypt.

REMEMBER · Liberation is God's gift and the start of a new life.

The Sea Opens: A Path to Freedom

STORYBOARD · CROSSING THE SEA



No way out?

The people reach the sea while the Egyptian army pursues them.



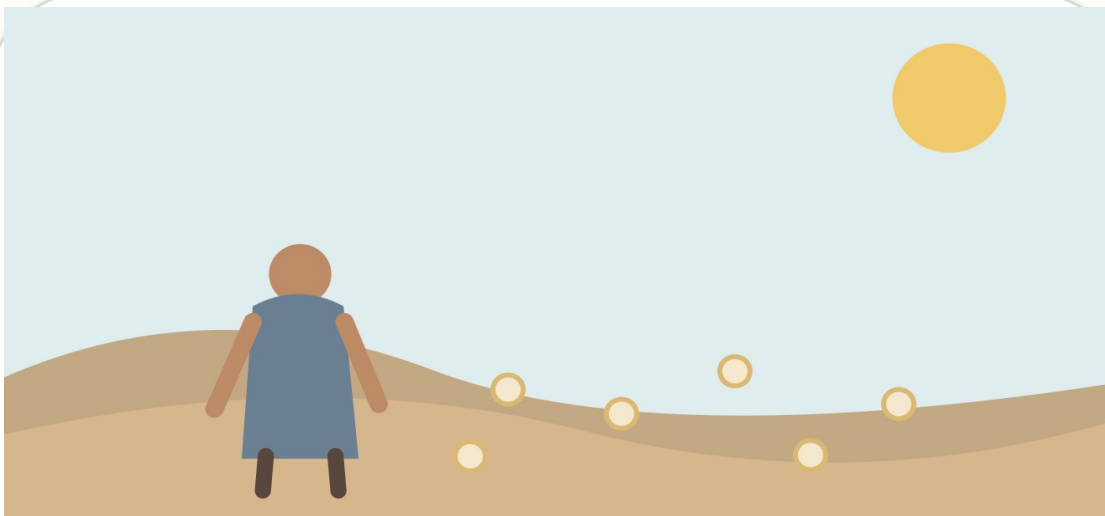
God opens a path

Israel crosses the sea and celebrates God's liberation.

REMEMBER · Salvation comes from God; his people learn to trust.

Forty Years in the Desert

STORYBOARD · LEARNING ON THE JOURNEY



God gives food

In the desert, the people receive manna and learn to depend on God.



God gives water

They also doubt, complain, and struggle to trust; God continues to guide them.

REMEMBER · Freedom means learning to live in trust and community.

The Covenant at Sinai

STORYBOARD · GOD FORMS HIS PEOPLE



God gathers Israel

At Mount Sinai, God makes a covenant with the people he has freed.



The commandments

God gives his Law to guide a life of faithfulness, justice, and holiness.

REMEMBER · We will study the Ten Commandments in another lesson.

Who Led the People in the Desert?

HOW ISRAEL WAS ORGANIZED



Moses and the elders

Moses shares responsibility with elders and leaders to care for the people.



Judges settle disputes

Judges are appointed to help administer justice. We read about this in the Pentateuch.

REMEMBER · These are not the same as the judges in the period after Joshua.

After the Desert: Judges and Kings

A NEW CHAPTER FOR ISRAEL



The era of the judges

After Joshua, various leaders help Israel during times of danger.



The kings arrive

Later Saul, David, and Solomon rule. David receives a promise about his royal line.

REMEMBER · Judges, Samuel, and Kings continue the story after the Torah.

The Prophets: Who Were They?

GOD'S VOICE IN HISTORY



They speak for God

A prophet is not simply someone who predicts the future.



They call for conversion

They defend justice, denounce idols, and recall the covenant.

REMEMBER · God corrects us out of love and keeps hope alive.

What Do Their Books Teach? · Part 1

ISAIAH AND AMOS



Isaiah: justice and hope

He condemns evil and announces comfort, a just king, and hope of salvation.



Amos: protect the vulnerable

He rebukes injustice and religious practice that ignores the poor.

REMEMBER · True faith is expressed in works of justice.

What Do Their Books Teach? · Part 2

JEREMIAH AND MICAH



Jeremiah: a new covenant

He announces a covenant that transforms people's hearts and their faithfulness.



Micah: live the faith

He reminds us to practice justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

REMEMBER · The prophets prepare the people for the hope of salvation.

The Whole Story Prepares Us for Jesus

A BRIDGE TO OUR NEXT LESSON



The promise continues

God guides history through the patriarchs, covenant, Law, and prophets.



Jesus, the Messiah

In Catholic faith, Christ brings the promises and salvation history to fulfillment.

REMEMBER · Not every prophetic passage predicts Jesus directly.

We End with Prayer

BEFORE THE QUESTIONS

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob:

Teach us to trust your promises.
Walk with us when we are afraid.
Help us to listen to your Word,
to defend those who suffer,
and to walk with you each day.
Amen.

Now: Think, Share, and Ask

CLOSING ACTIVITY

1. Remember

Which scene about Abraham, Moses, or the prophets surprised you most?

2. Connect

What does trusting God mean when you cannot see the whole road?

3. Ask

Write a question about what you learned. You may hand it in without your name.

Sources for Further Learning

BIBLE · CATECHISM · JEWISH LIFE

Catechism of the Catholic Church

142–146: Abraham's faith
55–64: stages of Revelation
1814: definition of faith

Bible

Gen 12–35: Abraham and Jacob
Ex 1–20: Moses and Exodus
Judges; Samuel; Prophets

Reading the Torah

The Torah remains central to Jewish prayer and weekly communal readings.
My Jewish Learning: "The Torah Service"