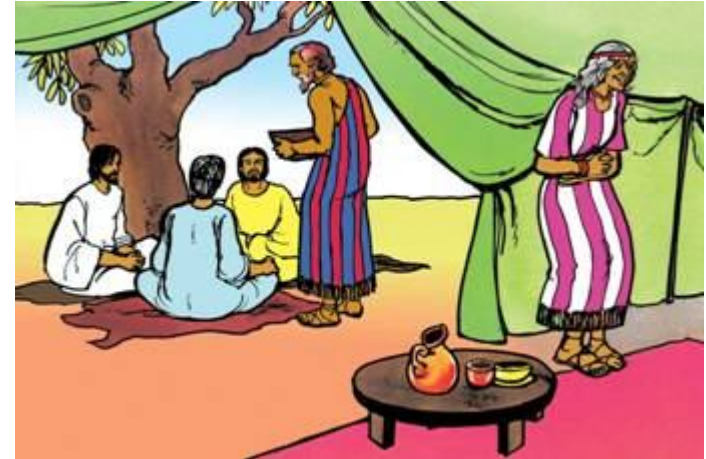


Set 4: story 1
Abraham
God is Faithful – Genesis 22

God spoke to Abraham.
“Abraham,” He said, I will bless Sarah.
I will send her a baby.
I will send her a baby boy.”

Abraham laughed. Sarah laughed.
“But Lord,” they said, “we are too old!”
“I can do all things,” said the Lord.
“I will send you a baby boy.”



The next year Sarah had a baby boy.
Abraham and Isaac were so happy.
“We will call him Isaac”, they said.



Set 4: story 2
A Wife for Isaac
God is Provider – Genesis 24

Abraham was very old. He sent for his servant.

“Promise me,” said Abraham, “that you will go back to the land where I used to live. Go to my father’s people to find a wife there for my son Isaac.”

The servant got ten camels ready. Then he traveled a long way to the place where Abraham used to live.

Late one after-noon he came to the place. There was a well there. The servant made his camels lie down. He prayed to God, “Lord God of Abraham, show me the girl you want for Isaac.

If I say to a girl, “Please put your jar into the well and give me a drink of water.” If she says, “Drink, and I will also bring water for your camels, then I will know she is the girl for Isaac.”

Soon, a lovely girl came to the well. She had a water jar on her shoulder. The servant ran to meet her. He said, “Please give me a drink of water from your jar.”

The girl gave him a drink. Then she said, “I will also give water to your camels.” Then the servant put a gold ring in her nose and two large gold bracelets on her arms. He knew she was the right girl.

“Who is your father?” he asked. “Is there room for me and my men in your father’s house tonight?”

“My father is Bethuel, son of Nahor.”
There is a place for you and your men to stay in my father’s house.”

Then the servant said, “Praise the Lord, for He has brought me to Abraham’s relatives. Nahor is the brother of my master, Abraham.”

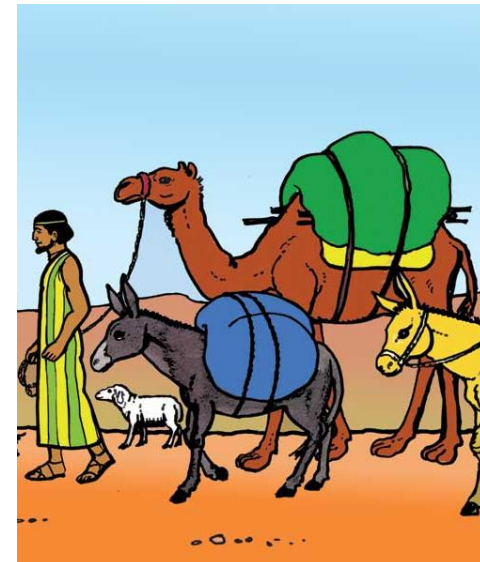
So the servant and his men went into the house. Before he ate, the servant spoke to Laban. Laban was the brother of the lovely girl, Rebecca.

“The Lord led me here. He said I would find a wife for my master’s son, Isaac. He led me to find Rebecca. Please tell me. May Rebecca come back with me to marry Isaac, Abraham’s son?”

“Yes,” said Laban, Rebecca can go with you.”

The servant brought out some lovely gifts for Rebecca, her brother and mother. Rebecca got ready. Then she and her servants got on their camels to go with Abraham’s servant.

They traveled a long way. One evening they came to the land of Canaan. There they met Isaac walking in the field. Rebecca went to meet him. Soon she became his wife.



Set 4: story 3

David the shepherd

God is our Shepherd – 1 Samuel 16

David sat on a rock in a field. He played his harp and sang softly. Not far away the sheep grazed on the green grass.

Today it was easy to find grass for the sheep. Sometimes David had to work very hard. He was a shepherd and had to look after his father's sheep.

Some days he had to take the sheep a long way to get food. He had to walk over rocky ground, and the sun was very hot. Some-times the sheep got lost. Sometimes they fell down steep

places, or they were caught in thorn bushes. But David was kind and good to his sheep and he loved them.

David loved God. He knew that God took care of him

One night, David was watching the sheep. A big lion got one of the baby lambs. God helped David to fight the lion.

He killed the lion and saved the sheep. God helped him kill a bear, too.

When David had time he made up songs and sang them to God. He sang a song that said:

The Lord is my shepherd,
I have everything I need.

He lets me rest in fields of green grass
and leads me to quiet pools of fresh
water.

He gives me new strength.
He guides me in the right paths, as He
promised.

Even if I go through the deepest
darkness,
I will not be afraid, Lord, for you are
with me.
Your shepherd's rod and staff protect
me.

You prepare a feast for me, where all
my enemies can see me.
You welcome me as an honoured
guest and fill my cup to the brim.

I know that your goodness and love

will be with me all my life.
And your house will be my home as
long as I live.

Psalm 23



Set 4: story 4

Samuel

God is faithful: He keeps his promises – 1 Samuel 19

“Hannah, are you sick? You look so sad.”

“No Eli. I am not sick. I am very sad. I am praying to God. I want Him to give me a baby.”

Eli was the priest. He told the people what God wanted them to do. He put his hand on Hannah.
“Go in peace, Hannah. May God give you your wish.”

Hannah had prayed for a baby. God

was good to her. She had a baby boy the next year.

“I will call him Samuel, for I asked the Lord for him.”

When Samuel was three years old Hannah called him to her.

“Samuel, I made a promise to God when you were born. I promised to give you to Him. I love you my son. I wanted you so much.

So Hannah took Samuel to Eli, the priest. Samuel lived in the temple with Eli.

One night, Samuel was asleep. He lay near the dim lamp in the temple. He woke up. He heard a voice call him:

“Samuel! Samuel!”

Did Eli call? Samuel ran to him.

“Yes Eli, here I am.”

“I didn’t call you, Samuel.
Go back to sleep.”

“Samuel! Samuel!”

Again Samuel ran to Eli.

“No, my boy, I did not call you.
Go back to sleep.”

“Samuel! Samuel!”

Again Samuel ran to Eli.”

You called me, Eli. Here I am.”

“Samuel, it must be the Lord calling
you. Go back and listen to Him.”

Samuel went back and lay down.

“Samuel! Samuel!”

“Yes, Lord. I’m listening to you.”

“Samuel, Eli does not listen to me. I
will talk to you. Tell the people to do
good and right things. Then I will
help your land and your people.”

Samuel listened to God. All his life
he told people what God wanted
them to do.



Set 4: story 5

Elijah on Mount Sinai

God is peace: He speaks in a still, small voice - 1 Kings 19

Elijah was very frightened. A queen called Jezebel had sent a message to say that she would get someone to kill him.

Elijah went into the wilderness. He sat down in the shade of a tree and said to God, "It's too much, Lord. Take away my life. I may as well be dead."

He lay down under the tree and fell fast asleep.

Soon an angel came and touched him. When he woke up he found a loaf of bread and a jar of water next to him.

"Elijah!" said the angel, "You must go on a long journey for forty days. You must eat this food to make you strong for the journey."

Elijah ate all the food then set off on his journey. He walked and walked and walked till he came to Mount Sinai. There he went into a cave to sleep.

Suddenly the Lord spoke to him: "Elijah, what are you doing here?"
"O, Lord God Almighty," Elijah answered, "I have always served you and you alone. But now the people of Israel have broken their promises to you. They've killed all the other prophets. Now they want to kill me."
"Elijah, Go out and stand before me on top of the mountain." Elijah went out as God told him.

Then the Lord sent a fierce roaring wind that split the hills and shattered the rocks. But Elijah knew that the Lord wasn't in the wind. Next the whole earth quaked and quaked. There was such a lot of loud noise. But Elijah knew that the Lord was not in the earth-quake.

The shaking of the earth stopped and a big fire started where the rocks fell down. The fire burned fiercely. It crackled and roared. But Elijah knew that the Lord was not in the fire.

Then it became very, very quiet. There was not a sound, just peace and quiet all around Elijah.

"Elijah!" said a soft, gentle voice, "what are you doing here?"

Then Elijah knew that God was not in all the frightening noise, but God was in the peace and quiet.

Again Elijah said, "Lord God Almighty, I have always served you, you alone. But the people of Israel have broken their promises to you. They have torn down your altars and killed all the other prophets. Now they want to kill me." So the Lord spoke quietly once more to Elijah.

"Go back to the wilderness, Elijah," He said. "Do the work I told you to do. Trust Me; I will take care of you."



Set 4: story 6

Elijah and the widow

God is Provider – 1 Kings 17

There had been no rain for a long time. The brook dried up. God said, “Elijah, I want you to go to the town.”

Elijah did what God said and went to the town.

There he saw a woman. She was picking up sticks.

Elijah said to her, “Please get me some water in a jar. And could you please give me a piece of bread to eat?”

The woman looked unhappy “I’m sorry,” she said sadly, “I have no bread. I have a little flour in a bowl and a little oil in a jar. That is all I have. I think my son and I will die. We have no more food.”

“Do not be afraid,” said Elijah. “Make a little bread for me. Then make bread for yourself and your son.”

God spoke and said to me, “The bowl of flour will not be finished. The jar of oil will not be empty, until the day when God sends rain.”

That is what happened. The bowl of flour was never empty; the jar always had enough oil to make bread for each day. God kept His promise to care for Elijah, the woman and her son until at last the rain fell and the grass was green again.



Set 4: story 7
Elijah and the ravens
God is Provider

God spoke to Elijah. “Elijah, go to the brook named Cherith. The ravens will bring you food there.”

So Elijah went to the brook. When he got there he lay down to rest. In the morning Elijah looked up at the sky. He could see little black specks in the sky, far off. As they drew nearer he smiled and said, “Here they come!”

Down flew some ravens. Some carried meat in their beaks and others carried bread. They dropped the food on the ground beside Elijah and flew off.

Elijah ate the food and drank water from the brook.

In the evening the ravens came back with more food. For many days the ravens brought food every morning and night for Elijah and he drank water from the brook.

“Thank you Lord for food and water,” he prayed.



Set 4: Story 8
Elisha and the woman of
Shunem
God is Provider

Elisha was a prophet, a man who told the people what God wanted them to do.

One day he went to Shunem. A rich woman lived there. She invited him to have a meal at her house.

After that, every time he went to Shunem Elisha visited the woman and her husband.

One day she said to her husband, "I am sure this man is a holy man of God. Please, could we build a little room upstairs for him. We could put a bed in it, and a table, a chair and a lamp-stand. When he visits Shunem he could sleep there."

One day Elisha came to Shunem again. He said to his servant, "Gehazi, go and see the Shunnamite woman. Ask her if there is anything she really wants, or needs. I would like to help her. She has been very kind to me."

The servant went to her. He said, "My master wants to know if there is anything he can do for you. Would you like him to tell the king how good you have been?"

"I don't need anything from the king," she said, "I have all I need."

The servant told Elisha what the woman said.

"What can I do for her, then?" asked Elisha

"Well, she has no son and her husband is old," said Gehazi.

"Go and bring her to me," Elisha said.

The woman came to Elisha. "Thank you for being so kind to me," he said. "This time next year, you will be holding a son in your arms."

"Oh!," she said, "Please don't lie to me! You are a man of God!" But Elisha was right. A year later the woman had a baby boy.

One day, some years later, when the boy was quite big, he went out in the field to where his father was working. As he was watching his father, he suddenly cried out, "O! My head! My head! It hurts"

His father called a servant, "Carry him quickly to

his mother. His head is hurting.”

The boy sat on his mother’s lap, but about noon, he died. His mother carried him up to Elisha’s room, put him on the bed and closed the door.

She called her husband, “Quick! Send a servant and a donkey! I must go to the man of God.”

“Why?” he asked.

“Never mind. Just let me go quickly!”

As fast as she could she rode to Mount Carmel, where Elisha was. Elisha saw her coming and knew something was wrong.

“O, Elisha,” she cried, “my son has died. I didn’t ask God for him, did I? Why has God taken him from me?”

“Gehazi,” said Elisha, “Hurry. Go to the woman’s house. Hold this stick of mine over the boy.”

The servant hurried on ahead and held Elisha’s stick over the boy. He came back to meet Elisha and the woman.

“It’s no use” said Gehazi, “I put the stick on the boy’s body, but he didn’t wake up.”

When Elisha arrived he went up alone to the room and he prayed to God to give the boy his

life again.

Then he lay down on the boy until he felt the boy’s body begin to get warm.

Elisha got up, walked around the room, then lay down on the boy again. Suddenly the boy sneezed seven times and then opened his eyes. God had given back the boy’s life to him.

“Gehazi!” called Elisha, “Bring the boy’s mother here!”

The woman hurried in and fell on her knees to thank Elisha. Then she took her son and left, thanking God for all he had done through Elisha.



Set 4: story 9

Baby Moses

God is Protector

“Miriam, we will have to hide our baby.”

“Why, Mummy?” Miriam asked.

“The king says he will kill every baby boy who is an Israelite,” the mother answered. “We live in Egypt but our fathers and grandfather came from Israel many years ago.”

“Come now and help me hide our lovely baby. We must save him from the angry king. God said I must hide him.

They gathered reeds that grew beside the river and wove a strong basket. They floated it on the river among the

reeds. It was so thick that the water could not get in the basket. Mother put the baby in the basket and hid it among the reeds.

“Miriam, please stay here and watch over our baby.”

Miriam stayed nearby and looked after her baby brother.

One day the daughter of the king came to swim in the river. She found the basket with the baby in it.

“Come and see!” she called to her maids. “There’s a little baby in the basket. I want to take him home and have him for my own. I’ll call him Moses.”

Miriam came out from the reeds and spoke to the princess.

“Would you like me to get a nurse for him?” she asked.

She ran home to get her mother. The princess was glad to have a nurse for Moses and she went to the palace to care for her baby.

God was pleased. He wanted Moses to live because He had a special plan for his life.



Set 4: Story 10

Moses in the wilderness

God is Provider

Moses grew to be a man. God called him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. God said, "I will show you the land where you will live."

Now they were in the wilderness, on the way to their new land. The people began to grumble. "Why did God bring us here? We have no water to drink"

Then they found a pool of water but the water was not good to drink. God told Moses to throw a branch into the water, and the water was made fresh. The people could drink it!

"In Egypt we had plenty to eat. There is no food here!" said the people.

"Don't grumble," said Moses, "God will take care of us. He told me He will give us meat in the evening and bread in the morning."

The next evening thousands of little brown birds, called quails, flew into the camp to rest.

"Come and look!" shouted someone. "God has sent the quails for food!"

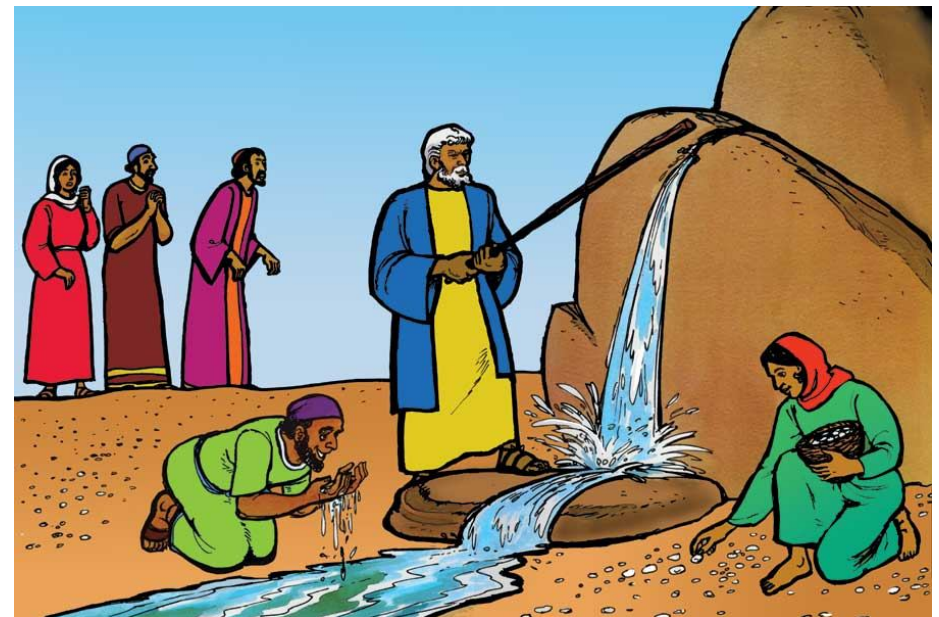
So the people caught the quails and ate them. The next morning there was dew on the ground. When the dew dried there were tiny things like seeds left on the ground. They called it manna. It tasted like honey bread. The people gathered the manna.

Each one picked up just enough for one day. Every day there was fresh manna on the ground.

Moses spoke to the people:
“God said that on the sixth day you are to gather enough manna for two days. No manna will fall on the seventh day.”

Some people were greedy. They took too much and tried to save it.
“See what has happened,” they said, “The manna has gone bad!”
“Yes,” said Moses, “God told you not to keep it. He will give you fresh manna every day. You must do what God tells you.”

For forty years God sent manna every day and the people were never hungry again.



Set 4: story 11

God made Joseph wise

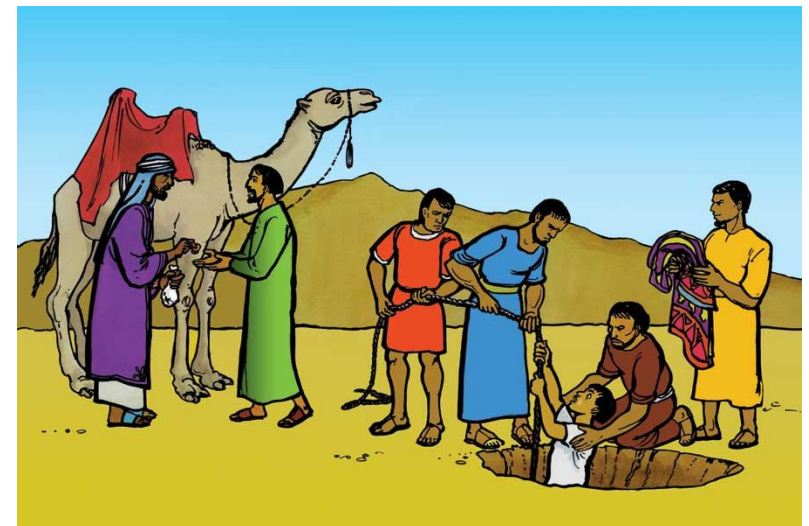
God is Wise

God wanted Joseph to be His helper. So when He was a young man God made him wise. Joseph could tell people the meaning of their dreams.

Joseph had eleven brothers. One day Joseph had a dream about eleven bundles of wheat bending over as if they were bowing to Joseph. He told the brothers about the dream. It was as if the bundles of wheat were the brother bowing down to Joseph. The brothers did not like this.



They put him in a big pit and waited until some men on camels came by. They took him to Egypt. There he was sold as a slave.



In Egypt Joseph was blamed for something he didn't do. He went to prison. In prison Joseph told people the meaning of their dreams.

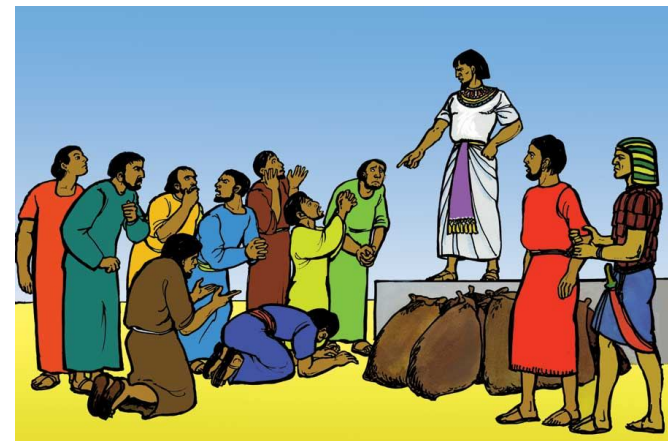
One night the king, Pharaoh, had a strange dream. One of his men said, "Oh King, I know a man who is in prison. He can tell you what the dream means."

The king sent for Joseph. "Joseph," he said, "I had two dreams. Seven fat cows came up from the river to eat the green grass." "Then seven ugly thin cows came up from the river. They ate the seven fat cows. That was the first dream I had. I slept again." "Then I saw seven fat ears of corn on a stem. Then came seven thin ears of corn, burnt by the wind. They ate the fat ears of corn."

"Joseph, can you please tell me the meaning of my dreams?"

"Yes," said Joseph, "God has told you what He is about to do. Grain will grow well in Egypt for seven years." "Then for the next seven years nothing will grow. There will be no food" God says that in the seven good years you must save the grain. Put it in big barns. Then you will have grain for the seven lean years."

"Thank you, Joseph," said the king, "I want you to save the grain for me. I want you to see that all the people have food when the bad years come."



Set 4: story 12

Jonah

God is Protector

God spoke to Jonah, a prophet of God.

“Jonah, go to Nineveh and tell the people to turn and obey Me.”

“Lord,” replied Jonah, “I don’t want to go. I won’t go.”

So Jonah went off to the coast and hid in a sailing ship. It was sailing away from Nineveh.



God sent a big storm. The ship was tossed about on the big waves. The sailors and Jonah were afraid. The sailors threw Jonah into the sea.

God sent a very big fish. He made Jonah go into the fish. He was in the fish for three days. Jonah prayed to God,



“God, I’m sorry I didn’t do as you told me to.

Please get me out of this big fish and I’ll go to Nineveh to tell the people to turn to you.”

The big fish spat Jonah out and he landed on the sandy beach. Jonah went to Nineveh and spoke to the people. They listened to him and turned to God.

Set 4: Story 13

Daniel and the king's dream

God is Light

King Neb-u-chad-nez-zar of Babylon had a dream. It was a very strange dream. He could not understand what it meant.

The king sent for the magicians and wizards.

"I had a strange dream," he told them. "You are so clever, you must tell me what my dream was about. I also want you to tell me the meaning of my dream. If you cannot tell me, you must be killed!"

"No-one can know what you dreamt about, except the gods, and they don't live here on earth," said the magicians.

Daniel's friends told him about the king and his dream. Daniel said, "We must pray and ask God to show us what the dream was and what it means."



That night God showed Daniel a vision that told him all about the dream and its meaning.

“Oh God,” he prayed. “You are wise and wonderful and I praise you. You can show us things that are deep and secret. You know what is hidden in darkness, but you have light all around you. You have answered our prayer and you have shown us what to tell the king. I thank you!”

Daniel went to the king. “Your majesty, no wizard or fortune teller can tell you what you dreamt about. But our God in heaven knows all things and he has shown me what your dream was and what it means.”

King Neb-u-chad-nez-zar was amazed when Daniel told him exactly what he dreamt and exactly what it meant.

“Your God is the greatest of all gods. He is the Lord over all kings!” cried the king. “Daniel, I will make you a head man in my kingdom. I will give your friends parts of the kingdom of Babylon to rule over.

Set 4: Story 14

The birth of baby Jesus

God is our Father / God is our Saviour

It was time for Baby Jesus to be born. Mary and Joseph had come a long way. They came to Bethlehem. There were many people there.

Joseph spoke to the inn-keeper, "Have you a room for us, Mr. Inn-keeper? We are so tired."

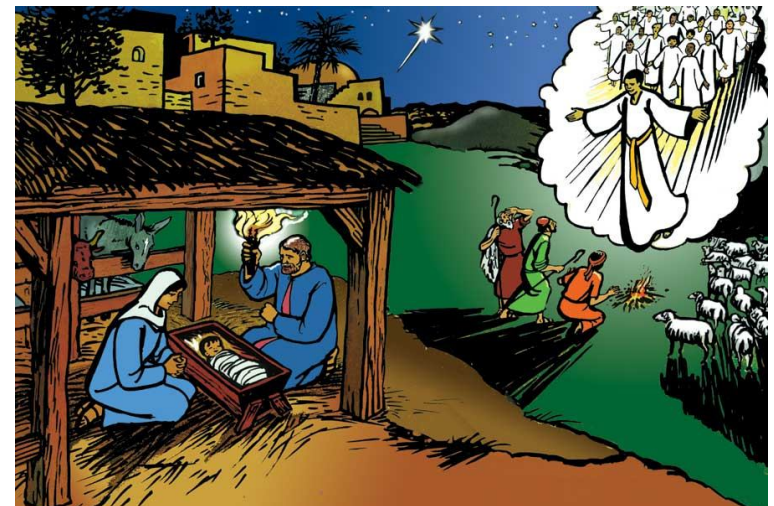
"I'm sorry," said the inn-keeper, "many people have come to pay their tax. I have no room for you. But wait. If you would not mind, I can make a place for you in the stable."

He gave Joseph a broom. He gave Joseph some hay. Joseph quickly swept the stable. He put the cows outside. He put his donkey outside also. He put clean hay into the manger. He put clean hay over the floor. Now Mary and Joseph could lie down.

They said, "Thank you, Lord for this good place to rest."

That night Baby Jesus was born. Mary put baby clothes on him and laid him close by in the manger.

"Thank you, Lord, for your son, Baby Jesus."



Set 4: story 15

The Wise Men

God is Protector / Our Saviour

Three men lived far away in the east. They were very wise. Every night they looked at the stars.

One night they saw a new star. It was very big. It was very, very shiny. They knew a king had been born. They got ready and started out on their camels. They were going to look for the new king. They rode and rode for many nights and days. They followed the big star.

At last they came to King Herod's palace.

They said, "Where is the new king?" "There is no new king here," said Herod, "do tell me if you find him."

The wise men went to look in Bethlehem. They saw the star had stopped. It had stopped above a stable in Bethlehem.

The wise men went into the stable and found a baby with his mother Mary and Joseph. They knelt down to worship the baby and they gave him some lovely gifts. They knew that this baby was the new king.

Then God spoke to them in a dream. He said, "Do not go back to Herod. Go back home another way."

So they didn't go back to Herod. They didn't tell him where to find the baby.

Mary and Joseph took Baby Jesus to Egypt. God kept him safe there until King Herod died. Then they came back to Nazareth to live.



Set 4: Story 16

Jesus calls the first disciples

God is Lord and King

Jesus was teaching on the shore of the lake.

The people wanted to hear Him, so they pushed closer and closer.

Jesus saw two boats pulled up on the beach.

The fishermen had left them and they were washing their nets.

Jesus spoke to one of the fishermen. "Simon," He said, "Please push your boat out a little way from the shore

and let me sit in it."

Simon did this and Jesus sat in the boat.

He taught the crowd of people sitting on the shore.

When He had finished speaking He said,

"Simon! Push your boat out into the deep water. You and your friends can let your nets down for a catch."

"Master," said Simon, "we worked hard all night long and caught nothing. But if you say so, I will let down the nets."

So they rowed the boat out into deep water and let down the nets. They caught so many fish that the nets were about to break.

“Come!” They called to some men in another boat.

“Please come and help us!”
Soon both boats were so full of fish that they were about to sink. Simon Peter was afraid. He fell down at Jesus’ feet.

“O Lord, go away from me, for I am a sinful man,” he said.

Jesus said, “Do not be afraid. From now on, Simon Peter, you and James and John will be catching men.”

The fishermen brought their boats to land.

They left everything and they followed Jesus.



Set 4: story 17

Jesus feeds five thousand people

God is Provider / God is a Servant

The disciples looked at Jesus. He looked very tired.

“Jesus, you have healed many people. You must be so tired and hungry. Send the people away to get some food.”

But Jesus said, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

“But Jesus,” they said, “we have only five loaves of bread and two small fish. That will never feed all these people.”

“Bring me what you have,” said Jesus. Jesus turned and spoke to the crowd of people.

“Will you all please sit down on the grass,”

They sat down in groups as Jesus told them to. Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and prayed to His Father God.

He blessed the food.
He broke the loaves.....
and He broke the loaves.....
and He broke the loaves.....
and He broke the fish.....
and He broke the fish.....

All the people had plenty of food to eat. There were twelve baskets of scraps left. The disciples picked them up and left the grass clean and tidy. There were five thousand men there with their women and children. They all had enough food to eat.



Set 4: story 18
The Good Samaritan
God is a servant

“Help! Help! Please help me!”

A man lay at the side of the road. Some bad men had hit him. They stole his money and his bag of things. They left him nearly dead. Now he could hear footsteps. Some-one was coming.

He thought to himself, “If I call out they will come and help me.”

He called again, “Help me, please.” A priest came by. He looked at the poor man. Then he quickly walked to the other side of the road. He did not help the man. He left him by the road.

Then he could hear more footsteps. “Help me!” he called. “Help me, please!”

A Levite came by. He looked at the poor man. But he did not help him. He went past on the other side of the road.

Clip-clop; clip-clop.

“I hear some-one coming,” the man said to him-self. “Help me! Help me!” he called.

The donkey stood still. The poor man looked at the man on the donkey. He was a Samaritan.

“He won’t help me,” the poor man said to himself. My people are not good friends with Samaritans.”

But the Samaritan got down off his donkey. He came to the poor man. “Oh, you poor man,” he said. “Someone hit you. Someone robbed you. I will help you.”

He got oil and wine out of his bag. “Here, I have oil and wine. I will put them on the cuts. That will make them better.”

The Samaritan put the man on his donkey. “I will take you to the inn down the road. You can rest there until you are better.”

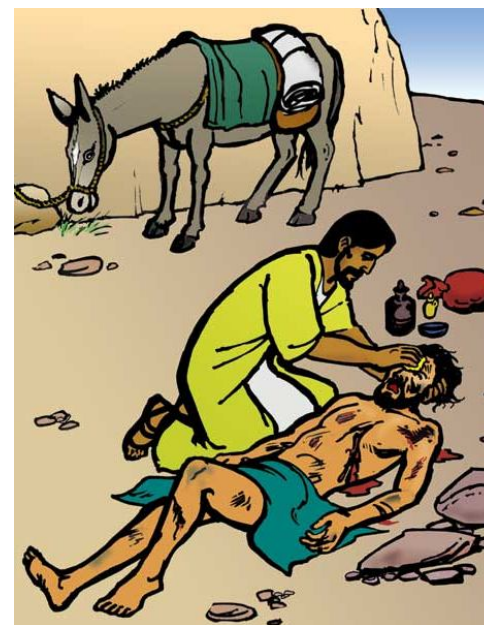
The Samaritan walked the donkey to the inn with the man on its back. “Good morning Mr. Inn-keeper. Can you give us beds for the night? This

man needs to rest. Some bad men hit him and robbed him.”

Next day the Samaritan spoke to the inn-keeper.

“I must go now. Here is money for food and a bed for this man. I will come back soon and give you more money if you need it.”

The Samaritan said ‘Goodbye’ to the man. “God will take care of you,” he said as he went on his way.



Set 4: story 19

Jesus heals a lame man

God is Healer / God is Merciful

Jesus loves us. He is sad if we get sick. He loves to make people well again.

Once there was a man who could not walk. His bed was a mat. He lay all day on his mat. The man had four friends. They wanted Jesus to heal the man. Jesus was in a house teaching and healing the people.

A crowd of people was outside the house. They stopped the friends from getting inside. So the men got up on the roof and made a big hole in it. The men held the man's mat and let him

down through the hole in the roof.

Jesus said to him, "I forgive you your sins. Stand up, pick up your mat and go home."

The man stood up by himself. He was not lame any more. Jesus had healed him.

Many people saw he was healed. They praised God for all that Jesus had done.



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Set 4: story 20

Jesus stills the storm

God is Lord and King

Jesus had been busy with the crowd all day. He taught them about Father God. He healed the sick people, gave sight to blind people. Lame people could walk when Jesus prayed for them.

But now it was evening and He was very tired.

“Let us go across to the other side of the lake,” He said.

He climbed into the boat with the disciples. He was so tired He soon went fast asleep.

Suddenly the wind began to blow. It blew harder and harder. The waves grew higher and higher until they began to spill over into the boat.

The disciples were so afraid.

“What shall we do?” they shouted.

“Come, let us wake Jesus! How could He sleep in such a storm?”

They called out to Him and woke Him.

“Jesus!” they cried, “Don’t you care that we are nearly drowned? Please help us. Please wake up.”

Jesus opened His eyes. “Save us Lord,” they cried, “We are going to die.”

“Why are you so frightened?” asked Jesus. “What little faith you have.”

Jesus stood up in the rocking boat.

“Wind, be quiet,” He cried.

“Waves, be still!”

At once the storm stopped and the waves died down. There was a great calm.

The disciples were amazed. They looked at each other.

“What a wonderful man Jesus is,” they said, “Even the winds and the waves obey Him.



Set 4: story 21

Jesus walked on the water

God is Lord and King

It was evening. Jesus said, “I am so tired. I will go up the hill. I will pray to my Father God.”

The disciples said, “We will go in the boat. We will cross the lake.”

They got into the boat. They rowed and rowed.

They rowed for a long time.

The wind began to blow.

Then John called out, “Look! Look!”

They saw someone on the water.

“Look! It is Jesus. He is walking on the water!”

Peter called to Jesus. “Jesus I will walk on the water with you.”

Peter began to walk on the water too. He saw the big waves and he was afraid. He began to sink.

Jesus said, “O Peter, why are you afraid?”

I am here with you. You need not be afraid.”

Jesus held Peter’s hand. He took Peter back to the boat.

At once the wind stopped.

“Thank you, Jesus. You are Lord. You are our King!”



Set 4: story 22
Jesus rides into Jerusalem
God is humble

It was soon to be the time of the Feast of Passover. This was the time when the Jews remembered how God saved their people. He helped Moses lead them all out of Egypt to the land of Israel where they now lived. Every year the families had a big feast to remember this time.

People were looking around for Jesus. “Do you think He will come to the Passover in Jerusalem?”

“I don’t know. He may not come this year. Some men want to get rid of Him. They don’t like what He says about them so they hate Him.”

But Jesus and His disciples were just down the road a little way from Jerusalem, at a village called Bethphage.

Jesus stopped and spoke to His disciples.

“Will two of you please go ahead to that village... You will find a donkey tied there with her colt beside her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell them, ‘The Master needs them’ and he will let them go at once.”

Jesus knew that, long before, a prophet had said, “Tell the city of Zion, ‘Look, your king is coming to you.

He is humble and rides on a donkey and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

So the two disciples went ahead and did what Jesus told them to do. They brought the donkey and the colt, threw their cloaks over them. Jesus got up on the donkey.

Crowds of people heard that Jesus was coming. They quickly spread their cloaks on the road. Others cut branches from trees and spread them on the road, too.

“Praise God! Praise God!”

“Hosanna! Hosanna!”

“Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

“Praise to the Son of David!”

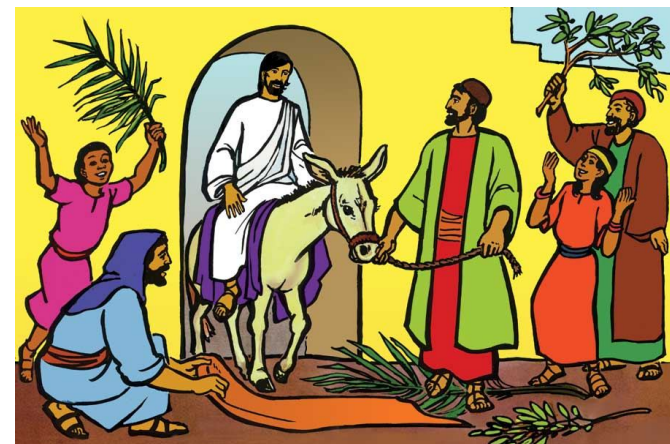
The people shouted loudly to welcome Jesus. Some Pharisees in the crowd

heard what the people said, they cried out to Jesus,

“Teacher, tell your disciples to be quiet!”

“I tell you,” Jesus said, “that if they keep quiet, the stones themselves will start shouting.”

Jesus rode on into Jerusalem and looked around at everything. Then He went out of Jerusalem to Bethany where He and the disciples spent the night.



Set 4: story 23

The deaf and dumb man

God is Healer

Once there was a man who was deaf. He could not hear. He could only speak a little bit. Some of his friends came to Jesus. They begged Jesus to heal the man.

Jesus took the man away from the crowd. The man was alone with Jesus. Jesus put His fingers into the man's ears. He spat and then touched the man's tongue.

Then Jesus looked up to heaven. He groaned and said, "Open up!" At once the deaf man could hear. He opened his mouth and he was able to speak, too.

Jesus said to him, "Please don't tell anyone about this."

But the people could not stop talking about it.

"See what Jesus is able to do," they said. "He can even make the deaf hear. And He has made the dumb man speak.



Set 4: story 24

The centurion's servant

God is healer

One day Jesus went to a place called Capernaum. As he arrived a Roman soldier, called a centurion, came up to him.

“Sir,” he said, my servant is ill at home. He is paralyzed. He cannot move and he is in so much pain.”

“Oh,” said Jesus, “I will come and heal him.”

“Lord,” said the centurion, “I don’t deserve to have you in my home. You just say the word and my servant will be healed. Like you, Jesus, I have people who work for me. I say to one of them, ‘Go’ and he goes. I say to

another one ‘Come’ and he comes. I say to my slave, ‘Do this’ and he does it.”

Jesus was surprised to hear the centurion talk like that. He spoke to the crowd of people following Him, “Truly,”

He said, “I have not met anyone in Israel who has as much faith as this man.”

He said to the centurion, “Go home. You have believed that I could heal your servant and he is well now.”

When the centurion arrived home he found his servant quite well. Jesus’ word had healed him.



Set 4: story 25

Jesus heals a blind man

God is Healer

Jesus was walking along the road with His disciples. They saw a man sitting by the road.

“Look Jesus,” said one of His men, “that man is blind. He can’t see. Will you help him?”

“Yes,” said Jesus, “God sent me to heal people. He sent me to be the light of the world.”

Jesus bent down next to the man. He spat on the ground to make it wet. He rubbed the ground to make it into clay.

“Now, sit very still,” Jesus said. “I will put the clay on your eyes.”

Jesus rubbed the clay on the man’s eyes. “Now,” he said, “Go to the pool of Siloam and wash the mud off your eyes.”

The man went to the pool. He washed his eyes. As he opened his eyes he looked around.

“I can see!” he cried. “I’m not blind any more!”

He was so happy. He told crowds of people that a man had healed him. He did not know His name. Jesus came to find the man who was healed. He bowed down before Jesus.

“Now I know you are the special Man sent from God,” he said.

The man told many people about Jesus.



Set 4: story 26

The two sons

God is a forgiving father

Once a man had two sons. They helped their father work with their sheep and cattle. One day the second son said to his father, "Father, may I please have my share of your money? I want to go and work in the town."

His father was sad to see his son go away, but he gave him the money and let him go.

When the son got to the town he made many friends. He spent his money on parties. The friends came to all the parties. They had a merry time.

Soon all the money was gone. Now no-one was his friend. The young man had no bed, no food, nowhere to sleep. He had to look for work.

A farmer said, "Yes, I have work for you. You can feed the pigs." The young man did not want to feed the pigs, but he had to do it. He was even glad to eat some of the pig's food.

At last he was so unhappy he thought, "This is an unhappy life here. I wish I was back at home with my father. I'm sorry I left home."

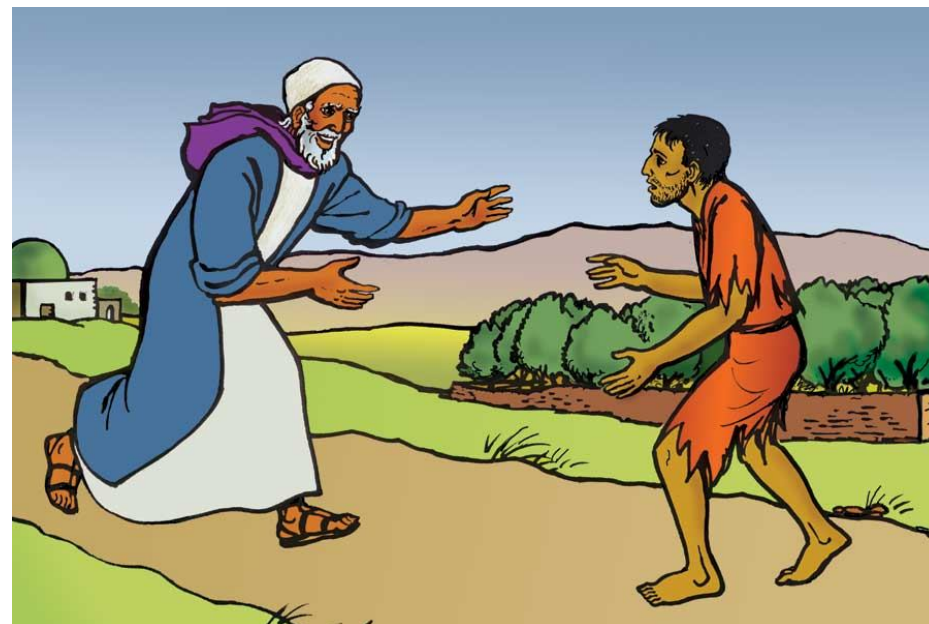
He left the pigs and walked all the long way home. When he was near his home his father saw him coming. He ran with open arms to welcome his son back home. He was glad to see his son come back.

He hugged and kissed his son. He told the servants to kill a calf for meat. They would have a big party because the lost son was found.

“I’m sorry for spending your money. I’m sorry I went away from you. I’ll work for you as a servant if you will let me come home,” cried the son.

“My son, I forgive you. You will come home with us and help me like you did before. You were lost but now we have found you again.”

They all had a happy time together at the party.



Set 4: story 27
The Good Shepherd
God is Love

Once there was a shepherd who had one hundred sheep. Every day he led them over the hills to find grass to eat. At the end of the day he led them back to the fold. Into the fold they went....one, two, three, four, five. He got to ninety-nine. One sheep was missing.

He set off to look for the missing sheep. He looked under bushes. He looked behind rocks. He called out the sheep's name.

He could hear a sheep crying out. He looked in a bush and there was his sheep. Its leg was stuck in the prickly

bush.

Gently the shepherd lifted the sheep out of the bush. He carried it all the way back to the fold. He put it down in the fold with the other ninety-nine sheep.

The shepherd was happy. He had found his lost sheep. He lay down at the door of the fold. He would keep his sheep safe from wild animals. "Thank you Lord that you helped me find my sheep," he prayed as he fell asleep.



Set 4: story 28

The Lost Coin

God is love

A woman had coins in her hand. She counted them.

“One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine...”

“I know I had ten coins,” she said. “I must have lost one. Where can it be?”

“Dear Lord,” she prayed, “will you please help me find my coin?”

She got up. She lit the lamp. She picked up the broom. She swept the floor. She looked every-where.

At last, in a dark corner, she found her lost coin. She was so glad. She ran to tell her friends.

“Come and be happy with me,” she called. “I lost my coin but God helped me to find it.”

They all sang together, “Thank you, Lord that you helped our friend find the coin.”



Set 4: Story 29

The Unforgiving Slave

God is forgiving

The king was counting his money. There was a slave who owed him a lot of money.

“Send that man to me,” he said to a servant.

The man came to the king. “You owe me a lot of money,” the king said, “If you can’t pay me, you and your wife and children must be sold.”

“O King,” said the slave, “please forgive me. Let me go and work. I can get money to pay you all I owe.”
“Very well,” said the king, “I will forgive

you.”

The slave went out into the street. He was glad the king had forgiven him all the money he owed.

As the slave walked along the street he saw another man. This man owed him a little money. The slave held him by his throat. “You owe me money,” he shouted. “Give it to me now. I want it at once!”

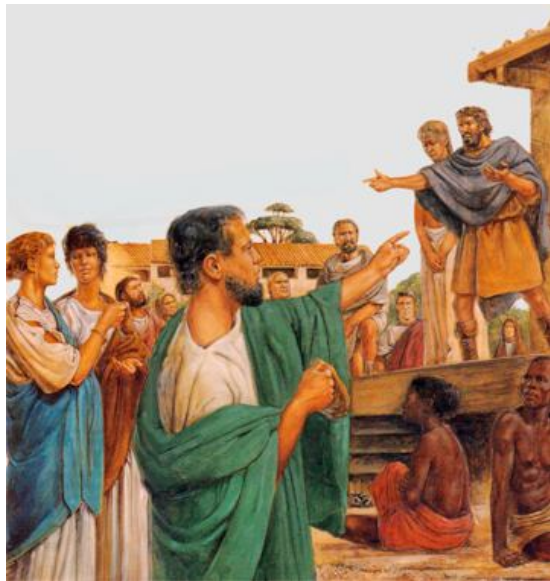
“Please wait,” begged the poor man, “I will pay it back.”
“No, I can’t wait. You must go to jail.”

So the man was put in jail. Some men went to the king. They told him what the slave had done.

The king sent for him.

“You mean man!” he cried, “I forgave you a big lot of money, yet you will not forgive this poor man the little bit he owes you. You must be punished.”

Jesus told his disciples that they must forgive anyone who hurts them.



Set 4: story 30

Peter and the lame man

God is Healer / God gives joy

Peter and John were disciples of Jesus. One day they were going to the temple to pray. They could hear a man calling,

“Please give me silver! Please give me gold! I am lame. I cannot walk.”

They saw the man sitting bent up at the gate of the temple. They stopped to talk to the man.

“I’m sorry,” said Peter. “I have no gold or silver. But I can give you something better than that.”

Peter looked at the man. He took the man’s right hand and lifted him to his feet.

“In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk.”

At once the man’s feet and ankles became strong and he jumped up and down. Then he began to walk.

“Oh, I am so happy” he shouted with joy. “Praise God I can walk! I can jump! Oh, praise God!”

People came running from the temple to look.

“How did you heal him, Peter? What did you do to make him walk?”

The people were all talking and asking each other what happened.

“You foolish people,” cried Peter, “I did not heal this man! You put our Lord Jesus to death, but God gave Him life again. God can still heal people. It was God who made this man walk. He was lame but God healed him.”

He was healed by faith in the name of Jesus Christ.

“Didn’t you hear me say, ‘in the name of Jesus Christ, walk.’? Jesus Christ has given him healing and joy.”

Away went the man who had been lame, leaping and shouting: “Thank you Lord Jesus! Thank you for making me walk again. Oh! Praise God!”



Set 4: story 31

Ananias and Sapphira

God is Truth

After Jesus went back to heaven many people believed that He was the Son of God. They shared all they had with each other. They shared their food with the hungry. They shared their money with poor people. They shared their houses with those who had no- where to stay.

There was a man named Ananias. His wife was called Sapphira. They sold their land and said they would give the money to the disciples to help the people who needed it.

But Ananias and Sapphira decided to keep some of the money for themselves. Ananias brought the rest of it to the disciples. The Holy Spirit showed Peter what Ananias had done.

“Ananias,” asked Peter, “Why did you keep some of the money? Why did you pretend that you had given us every-thing? You have not lied to men, you have lied to God.”

When Ananias heard this he fell down dead in front of the disciples. All the people who saw what happened were very frightened. Some young men came in.

They wrapped up his body and carried him out.

About three hours later, Sapphira came in. She did not know what had happened to her husband.

Peter asked her, “Sapphira, did you and Ananias bring all the money you had to the disciples?”

“O, Yes,” said Sapphira, “We brought it all.”

Peter was sad because Sapphira did not tell the truth.

“Sapphira, why did you and Ananias test the Lord? Why did you not tell the truth? Ananias is dead, and you will die too.”

At once Sapphira fell down at Peter’s

feet and died.

Young men carried her out and buried her next to Ananias. All the people who saw it happen were afraid for they knew that God had punished Ananias and Sapphira for not telling the truth.

