A big mistake

God is Creator - Genesis 3

Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden. They were very happy. God told Adam and Eve that they must obey Him. He told them that they could eat any food from the garden, but they must never eat the fruit from one tree.

There was an angel who was a wicked angel. His name was Satan. When he became wicked, he became like a snake. Satan said to Adam and Eve, "Go on. Eat the fruit. It will not hurt you."

So Eve ate the fruit. She gave some to Adam. At once they knew that they had done something very wrong.

They were sad. God said, "Now that you have done wrong, you cannot be in my

beautiful garden. You must go from here. You will not be so happy. This is because you did not obey me.

God sent a good angel to the garden. The angel had a sword. No one could go into the garden from now on. This was a very sad day. The world was now a place of sadness and sin. Adam and Eve were not happy. The animals were not happy.

God was very sad because people could no longer be with Him. God made a plan. He planned to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross and to forgive us for our sin. If we ask Jesus to forgive us for our sin, and if we ask Him to be our friend, then we can be with God, just like Adam and Eve were once with God in the Garden of Eden.

Jesus is a friend of children

God is Love - Mark 10:13-18

The children were happy. Jesus had come to their town. They wanted to see Jesus.

"Hurry, Mum," said the children. "We want to see Jesus. Please take us to see Him."

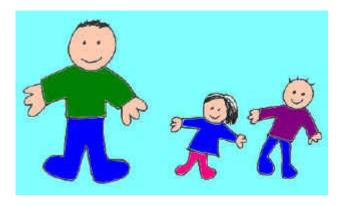
The Mums took their children to see Jesus. There was a big crowd.

The children wanted to go to the front of the crowd.

"Get back! Get back!" said the friends of Jesus. "There are grown ups here who want to be at the front!" "No!" said Jesus. "I want the children here. Bring them to me." The Mums brought the children to Jesus.

Jesus sat the children on His knee. "I love children," He said. "Children are very special. If grown ups want to be my friends, then they must be like these children."

Children can love Jesus with a special love. Jesus wants you to love Him. He loves you with a special love too.



Joseph

God is Wise - Genesis 37-46

Joseph loved God. Joseph's mother and father loved God.

Joseph had eleven brothers. Some of the brothers did not like Joseph. They sold him to some men with camels.

The men with camels took Joseph to Egypt. Joseph became a slave to the Pharaoh. He had to work very hard.

"I do not know why I am a slave," said Joseph, "but God is wise. He will help me."

The Pharaoh liked Joseph because he worked very hard. Joseph was also very wise. The Pharaoh wanted Joseph to help him. "What should I do?" asked the Pharaoh.

"There will be no rain in Egypt. You must store up food," said Joseph.

"How do you know?" asked the Pharaoh. "God told me," said Joseph.

"You are very wise," said the Pharaoh.

"It is God who makes me wise," said Joseph.

"I will put you in charge of many people," said the Pharaoh.

Joseph was in charge. He told people to store up food. After that there was no more rain. It was just as God had said. Joseph was in charge of giving food to people. Can you guess who came to him for food? Yes, it was his family.

Joseph was so glad to see his family again. Joseph said to his brothers, "I forgive you." The family was together again. God had turned something bad into

good.



Soldiers of God

God is Protector - Ephesians 6

We are God's children. God keeps us safe. He gives us special armour. Can you see this armour? No. Do you fight with this armour? No. God fights for us. He fights against the enemy, Satan. Here is the armour.

1. The belt of truth. We must always tell the truth.

2. The breastplate of righteousness. We must always do what is right.

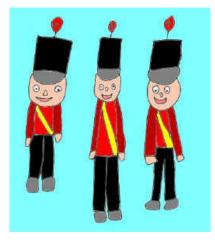
3. The shoes of Good News.We must take the Good News of Jesus to other people.

4. The shield of faith.

We must have faith in God, and put our trust in Him.

5. The helmet of salvation. This is the very first thing we need. Salvation means becoming a Christian. We must ask Jesus to forgive us for our sins, and tell Jesus we love Him.

6. The sword of the Spirit. This is God's word, the Bible. We must know what the bible says, and do what it says. When we do all these things, we have the armour of God. God will fight for us against our enemy, Satan.



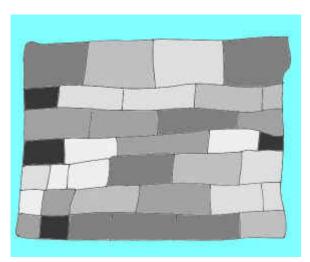
Joshua and the walls of Jericho

God is Powerful - Joshua 6

God's people had been in the desert for a long time. There was no food in the desert. There was no water in the desert. God had provided the food and water. But now it was time for a new land. God had promised His people a new land. The new land would not be a desert. The new land would have food and water. But the new land also had enemies. The enemies did not worship the true God.

"How can we get to this new land?" the people asked. "We must pass through the city of Jericho, where there are enemies. The city has big walls all around it." "God will find a way," said Joshua. "He is very powerful." God told Joshua what to do. God told Joshua to get trumpets. God told the people to march around and around the walls. The people marched around for seven days. On day seven, they marched around once. They marched around twice. They marched around seven times.

Then they shouted and made a big noise with their trumpets. The enemies were afraid. Then the walls fell down. God made the walls fall down with His power. The city now belonged to God's people. They could go into the new land that God had promised.



The golden calf

God is Truth - Exodus 32

God said, "Never, never make a god. You must not make a god out of clay, or wood, or stone. You must not make a god out of anything."

God said, "I am the only true God."

God's people did not obey God.

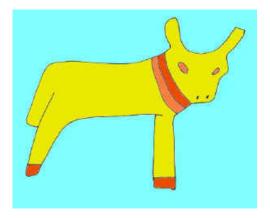
They made a god. They made it out of gold. They made it like a calf. It looked very pretty.

But God said that he did not like it.

God was not happy. He was very angry. He told Moses that he was very angry with the people.

The people were sorry. They told God that they were sorry. God gave Moses some special rules called the Ten Commandments.

He told the people that they must never, never make a god again.



The father who forgave his son

God is Pure - Luke 15:11-32

There was a man who had two sons. The sons were grown up. One son said, "I want to leave home, Dad. Please give me some money so that I can go to the city to live."

"O.K.," said Dad. So the son went to the city.

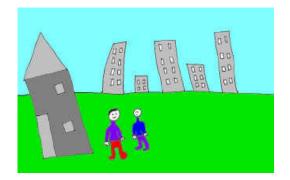
He had a good time in the city. He had lots of fun, but he did not always do good things. He spent all his money. He had no money left.

"I will go and get a job," said the son. "I will go and look after some pigs." So the son went to get a job with pigs. He did not like working with pigs. It was very smelly and dirty.

"Why don't I go home?" said the son to himself. "Will Dad want me home again? I have spent all his money. He may be very cross with me."

The son went home. Was the father cross with the son? Did he tell him to go away? No! The father was full of joy. He wanted his son home again. He gave him a big hug. He gave him a party!

God wants us to forgive people who do wrong things to us, just like the father forgave his son. God wants us to forgive others just as he forgives us.



Mephibosheth

God is Patient - 2 Samuel 4 & 9

There was once a little prince. He fell when he was a baby and became lame. He could not walk very well.

King David was a kind king. He wanted to help Mephibosheth. King David let Mephibosheth live in the palace.

Mephibosheth ate the King's food. He had a nurse to take care of him. He was very happy living in the King's palace.

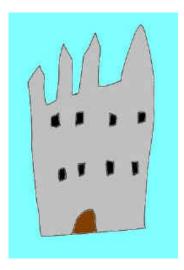
God wants us to be kind like King David. He wants us to care for people who cannot do things as well as we can. God wants us to be kind and patient with people like this.

Do you know anyone who cannot walk very well?

Do you know anyone who cannot see or hear very well?

Do you know anyone who cannot speak very well?

God wants you to spend time with people like this. Be kind to them and help them to be happy, because they cannot do things as well as you can.



The man at the pool

God is Servant John 5: 1-18

There once was a pool. It bubbled with special water. It was like a spa.

Sick people came to the pool because the water from the pool made them feel better.

There was a man who could not walk. He could not get into the pool. He had to lay on his mat beside the pool. He hoped that someone would help him get into the pool, so that he would feel better. But no one did.

Then Jesus came by. Do you think that Jesus would help the man to get into the pool? Jesus did something better than that. He said to the man, "Do you want to get well again?"

"Yes I do," said the man. "But no one will help me to get into the pool."

Jesus said, "Get up. Pick up your mat and walk."

The man stood up and walked. His legs were better. He could walk!



Nicodemus

God is Life - John 3:1-13

Nicodemus wanted to know more about Jesus. He was afraid of what his friends would think.

"I must go and see Jesus at night," thought Nicodemus. "I want to know more about God."

Nicodemus went to see Jesus at night.

Jesus said, "If you want to live forever, you must be born again."

"How can I be born again?" asked Nicodemus. Jesus told Nicodemus that he must have a new life.

When we become a follower of Jesus, we have a new life. We obey Jesus and do the things He wants us to do.

Just as we need air, water and food for our body, we need Jesus and His word. The Bible is God's word. It has words of life.



Ruth and Naomi

God is Provider - Ruth 1-4

Ruth had no husband. Her husband had died. Naomi had no husband. Her husband had died too.

"I must go to my own land where I can get food," said Naomi to Ruth. "I will come with you," said Ruth.

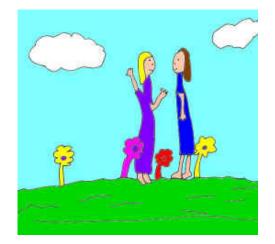
"No. You must stay here with your people," said Naomi. "No," said Ruth. "I want to come with you."

Ruth went with Naomi to Naomi's land. Ruth had to work hard to get food. Ruth picked up grains of wheat all day long. Naomi was too old to work. Ruth gave food to Naomi. "God will look after us," said Ruth.

Then one day, a kind man called Boaz said to Ruth, "You may work in my field. You may have all the grain you want."

"Thank you," said Ruth. "You are very kind."

Boaz fell in love with Ruth. They were married. They had a little baby boy called Obed.



Peter walks on water

God is Peace - Matthew 14:22-32

The friends of Jesus were in a boat. They said, "Let us row to the other side of the lake."

The wind was very strong. The waves were very big. Jesus saw them from the shore. He saw that they were having trouble rowing the boat. He wanted to help them. Jesus came to the boat, walking on the water! The friends were afraid.



They did not know it was Jesus. "Do not be afraid," Jesus said. "It is me, your friend Jesus."

Peter was not sure about this. He wanted to make sure it was true.

"Can I come to you?" asked Peter. "Can I walk on the water too?"

"Come on," said Jesus.

Peter got out of the boat. He could walk on the water too! He started walking to Jesus.

Then he started to feel afraid. "Oh no," said Peter. "I cannot do this."

He started to sink. Jesus walked to him and pulled him up. They got into the boat.

"Why were you afraid?" asked Jesus. "Why didn't you trust me?" The wind stopped. The waves stopped. Everything was still. The friends knew that they must trust in Jesus all the time. When we trust in Jesus we are not afraid. We have peace inside because we know that Jesus is looking after us.