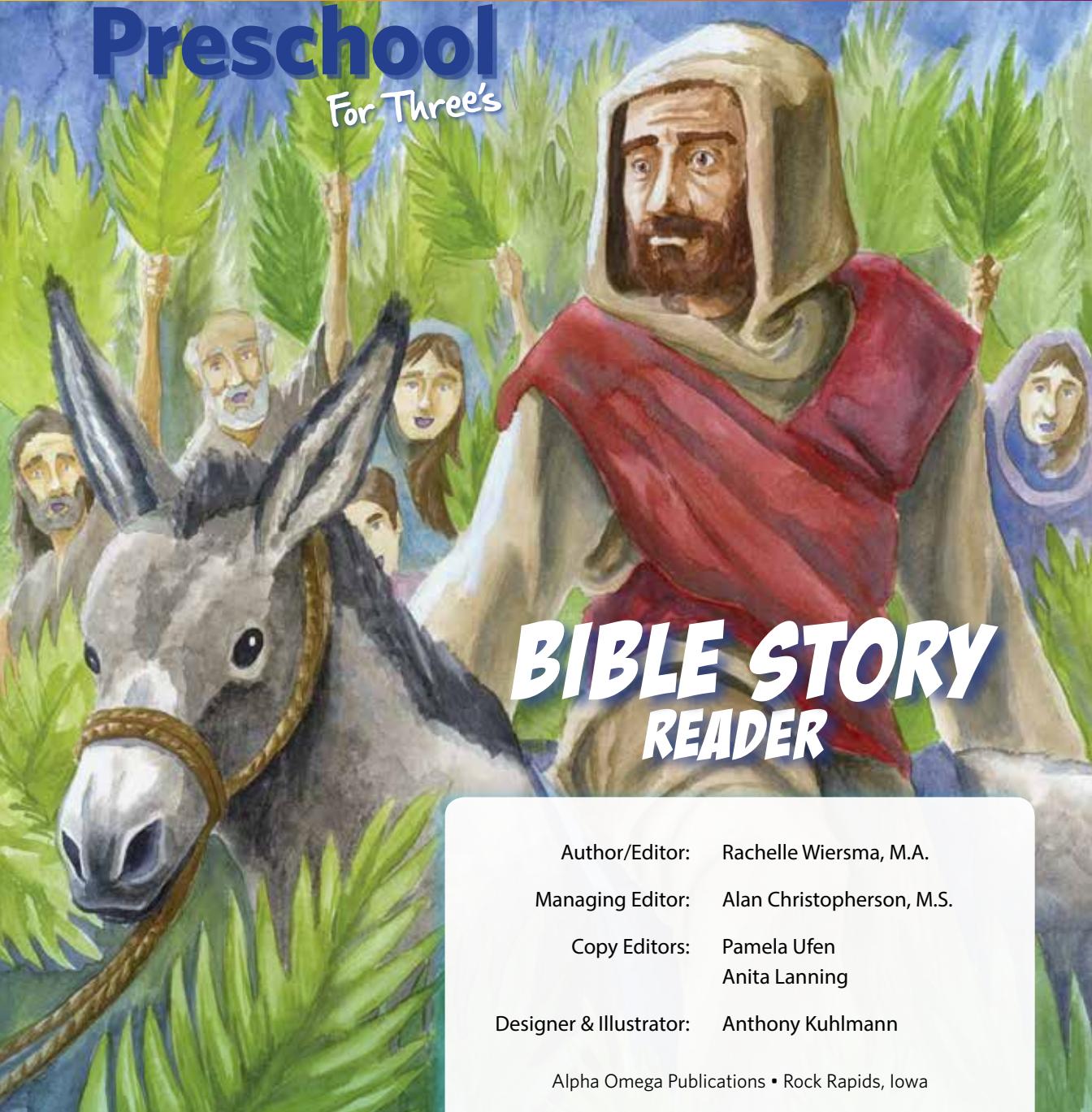


Horizons

Preschool

For Three's



BIBLE STORY READER

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Food in the Desert

The people of Israel lived in the desert for 40 years. A desert is a dry place. Few plants grow in a desert. There were many Israelites who needed to be fed. No grocery stores could be found in the desert either. God sent His people a very special food called manna. The people gathered the manna and cooked it in a variety of ways. Each day manna would fall and the people would gather it. As long as they lived in the desert, God provided manna. When they reached the land of Canaan, God no longer sent manna.

Thought Questions:

Look at the people in the picture. They are filling baskets with manna. God sent enough manna for each day. On the last day of the week, they were to gather twice as much manna. This way the people would not work the next day. That day was set apart to worship God. How do you make Sunday a special day to worship God? Do you go to church? Do you spend time with the family God gave you? Maybe you can think of a special way you can worship God on Sunday.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Thank You for providing me with food each day. Thank You for the people that make the food for me. Thank You for Sunday, a special day to worship You. Help me find ways to serve You on Sunday. Amen.



A New Home

God's people finally arrived at their new home. God had promised that one day they would live in Canaan. The people were excited to see this Promised Land. There were wonderful fruits and vegetables growing in the land. No longer would they live in the desert. However, there were other people living in the land. These people did not love or worship God. The Israelites would have to fight in order to take the land. God would be with His people as they fought their enemies.

Thought Questions:

Moving to a new home can be an exciting and scary experience. Have you ever moved to a new home? Have you ever moved to a different bedroom in your home? What things do you think you would miss if you moved to a new home? The Israelites were worried about moving to a new home. They would have to get used to different types of food. They would have different neighbors. They were also excited. This was the home God had promised them. They would no longer have to live in tents.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Thank You for bringing the Israelites to their new home. Thank You for caring for them in the desert. Thank You for giving me a home. Help me to take care of the home You have given me. Amen.



Jericho

Other people lived in the land God promised His people. These people had built cities and homes. They did not love or follow God like the Israelites. God wanted His people to live in and care for the land of Canaan. After Moses died, God chose Joshua as Israel's leader. Joshua would lead the Israelites in conquering Canaan. In order to enter Canaan, the Israelites needed to capture the city of Jericho. The city had tall walls and a large army. God had an unusual way for the Israelites to take the city. He ordered the Israelites to march around the city once for six days. On the seventh day, they were to march around the city seven times with the priests blowing trumpets. After the final trumpet blast, the people were to shout and the walls would come down. When this happened, the people knew that God had given them the city. He was on their side.

Thought Questions:

Can you say the names Joshua and Jericho? Do you remember the special plan God had for conquering Jericho? How many days were the Israelites to march once around the city? How many times were they to march around the city the last day? When were the people to shout so that the walls came down? Do you think you could shout and bring down a wall? Do you think if your entire family shouted together they could bring down a wall? We know that only God could use the shouts of the people to bring down the thick, tall walls of Jericho.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Thank You for being a mighty God. We know that You can do powerful things. Help me to follow You every day. Forgive me when I do wrong. Amen.



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Hannah's Prayer

A woman named Hannah lived in Israel. More than anything else she wanted a baby. She prayed to God every day that He would give her a child. Once a year she went with her husband to Shiloh. A special place was built there for the people to worship God. Each year she said the same prayer. She asked God for a child. One year a priest named Eli saw her praying. She told Eli her desire to have a child. Eli told her that God would give her what she asked. When the baby was born, she named her baby Samuel. When Samuel was old enough, he would go and live with the priest Eli. Samuel would help Eli in serving God.

Thought Questions:

Is there anything you have ever wanted? Some people pray to God for things they want or need. Sometimes God's answer is yes. He agrees that this is something they should have. Sometimes God's answer is no. He doesn't think that they need the thing. Other times, God's answer is to wait. God knows what is best for His people. He knows if what you pray for is something you should have, should not have, or should wait to have. It is important to trust that God knows what is best for you, because you are His special child.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Thank You for knowing what's best for me. Help me to accept Your answers of yes, no, and wait. Thank You for listening to my prayers. Amen.