

God made the world with a Plan for humans -
for them to rule and look after the world on His behalf.

Humans failed to love and trust God, but God still
loved them and had a Plan to fix everything.

This book tells the story of how God worked through Abraham and his family as they grew from a household to a kingdom, and then how Abraham's great great great great ... great grandson Jesus fulfilled God's big plan to rescue and restore the whole world.

The entire story of the Bible is told from the big picture perspective as a single story from start to end. The story is expressed using simple language suitable for young readers and complimented by vibrant illustrations that aid the storytelling and bring life to every page.



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Created by
Lachy & Stacey Donaldson

God's Big Plan

The Story of the Bible





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God's Big Plan

The Story of the Bible



A long time ago, back before anything and everything, God made the sky
(and everything else up there) and the ground (and everything else down here).

He filled these spaces with many good things... stars, birds, fish, plants, and animals.

But the thing He made that He was most pleased with was... people!

In fact, God loved people so much that He gave them the most special job...
to look after the world that He had made.

But, there was a rule. The people would need to do things God's way.
They would need to trust that what God says is good is truly good,
and that what God says is bad is truly bad.

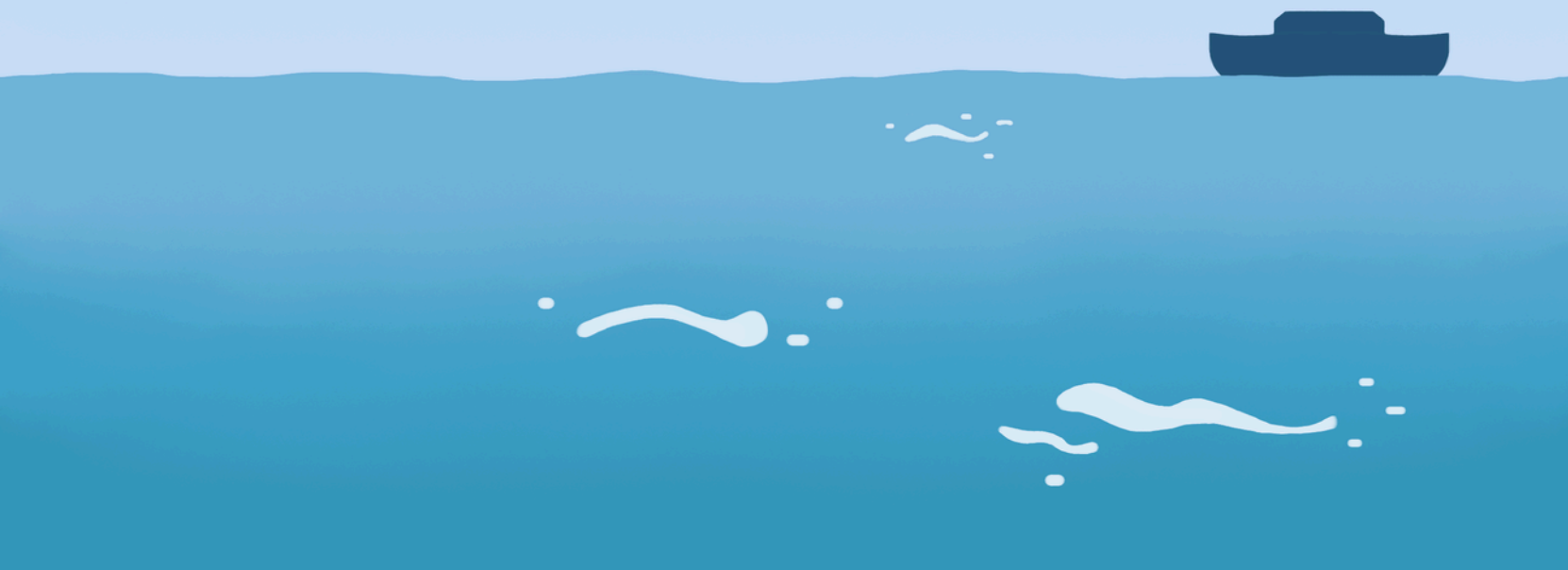


Sadly, the people didn't love God as much as He loved them.
They didn't want to do things God's way.
And the choices people made started to ruin things.

Time went by.
The grown-ups had children.
Their children grew up and had children.
And their children grew up and had children.

There were lots and lots of people.
But most of them didn't love God.
Most of them didn't want to do things God's way.
And their choices kept on ruining things.

But God didn't stop loving people.
He had a plan to fix everything!



God chose one person to be His special helper, a man named Abraham.
He was given a special job and it came with special promises.

God promised Abraham that he would have a really big family –
lots and lots of children, and grandchildren, and great grandchildren,
and great great grandchildren, and on and on and on.

And God promised that Abraham's family would live in a special place
that God had chosen especially for their special job.

The special job was for Abraham and his family to
make life more wonderful for everyone they met.
God would use Abraham and his family to start fixing things.



God's promises came true.

Abraham had children.

His children grew up and had children.

And their children grew up and had children.

And they were all living in the special place.

Sometimes Abraham and his family made mistakes and made life worse for people.

And sometimes they did the right thing and made life more wonderful for people.

But then something unexpected happened...

The special place ran out of food. In fact, most places ran out of food.

So Abraham's family went to a different place, a place with food, called Egypt.

Abraham's family stayed in Egypt for a long time.

The grown ups had children.

Their children grew up and had children.

And their children grew up and had children.

But Abraham's family was still in Egypt, not the special place.

And then things started to go wrong.

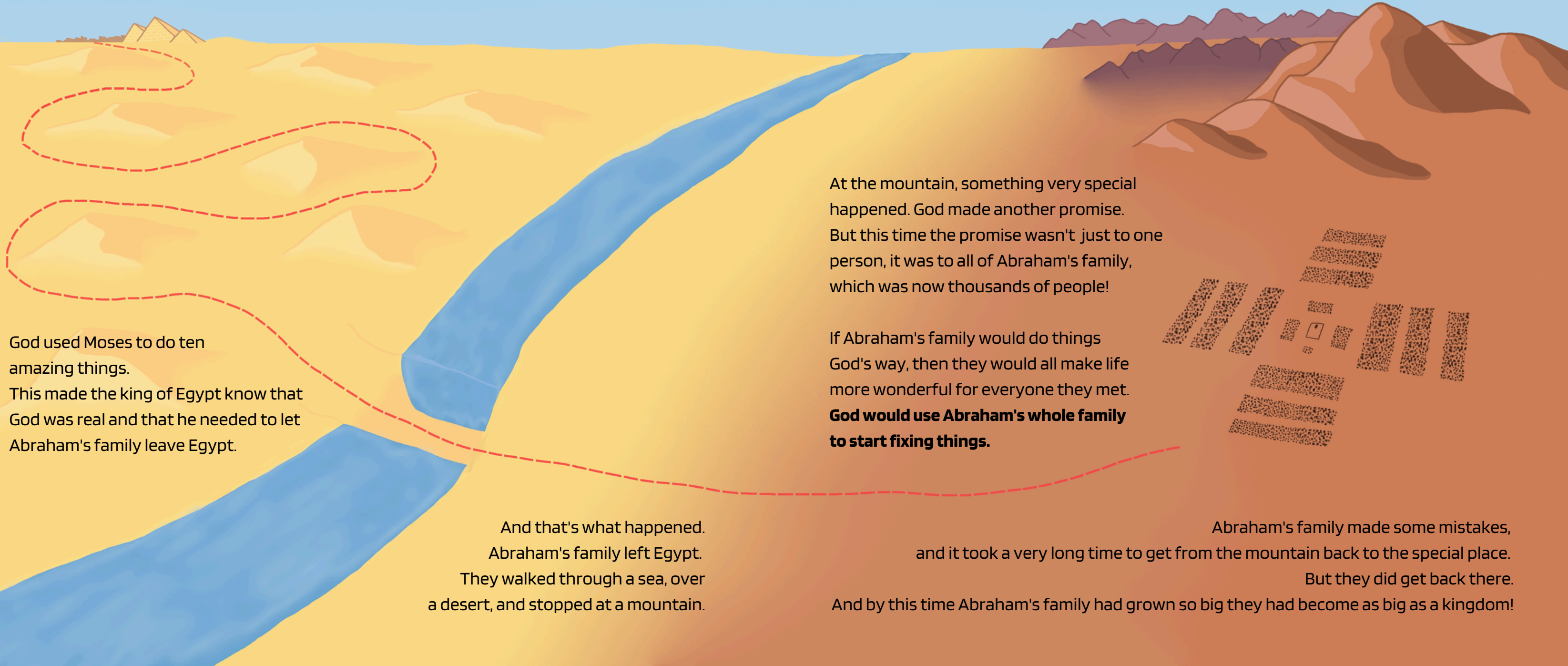
The new king of Egypt didn't like Abraham's family and was very mean to them.

And he wouldn't let them go back to their special place!

How would God fix things now?



God chose one person from Abraham's family to be His special helper, a man named Moses.
Moses' special job was to help all of Abraham's family leave Egypt and go back to the special place. Moses couldn't do this all by himself. He would need God's help.



God used Moses to do ten amazing things.
This made the king of Egypt know that God was real and that he needed to let Abraham's family leave Egypt.

And that's what happened.
Abraham's family left Egypt.
They walked through a sea, over a desert, and stopped at a mountain.

At the mountain, something very special happened. God made another promise.
But this time the promise wasn't just to one person, it was to all of Abraham's family, which was now thousands of people!

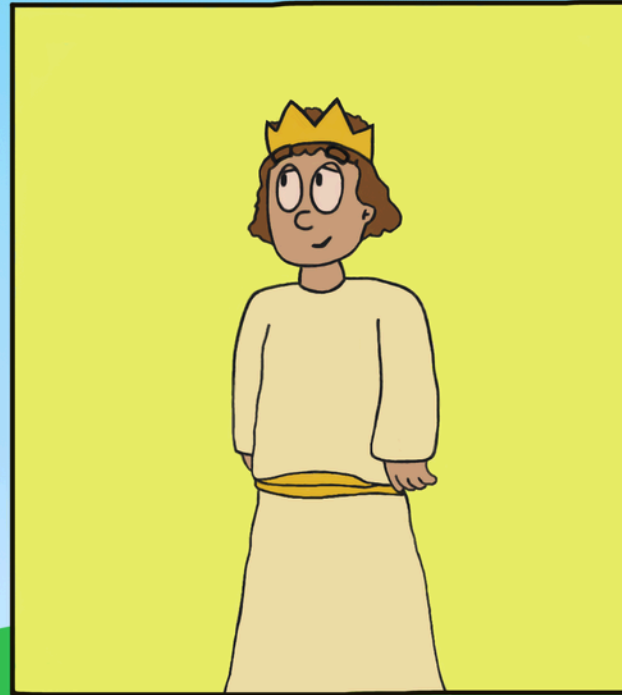
If Abraham's family would do things God's way, then they would all make life more wonderful for everyone they met.
God would use Abraham's whole family to start fixing things.

Abraham's family made some mistakes, and it took a very long time to get from the mountain back to the special place.
But they did get back there.
And by this time Abraham's family had grown so big they had become as big as a kingdom!

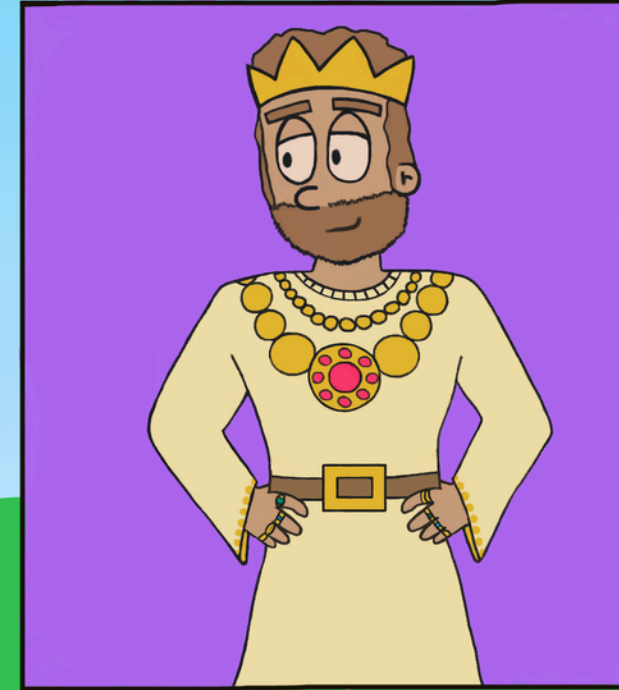
Now that Abraham's family had become as big as a kingdom, they wanted to have a king.
Just like the other kingdoms. Just like Egypt.
They ended up having many kings. But the first four kings were especially important.



The first king was a man named Saul.
He was tall and handsome,
but he didn't love God very much
and wasn't a very good king.



The second king was a man named David.
He loved God more than anyone and was a
very good king. God made a special promise
to King David that one of his great, great,
great - really great grandsons would be a
special forever-king.



The third king was King David's son, a man
named Solomon. He was one of the cleverest
people there ever was. King Solomon built a
special building where people could go to
pray and say thank you to God.
It was called a temple.



The fourth king was King Solomon's son, a
man named Rehoboam. He was one of the
silliest kings there ever was. So silly, that half
of the kingdom left and became their own
kingdom. So then there were two kingdoms
living in the special place.

After this, most of the kings and people in the kingdom forgot about God's promises.

They forgot about doing things God's way.

And they didn't make life wonderful for everyone.

But God still had a plan to fix things.

God chose some people to be special messengers.

The special messengers reminded the kings about God's promises.

Sometimes the kings listened and did the right thing.

But sometimes they didn't listen and kept doing the wrong thing.

After lots of warnings, God decided that both of the two kingdoms needed a big 'time out'.

All of Abraham's family living in the two kingdoms had to leave the special place.

One of the two kingdoms never got to go back.

But the other kingdom – the one with King David's great great great great grandson as king – had a more interesting story:

The people were taken away to a different place called Babylon.

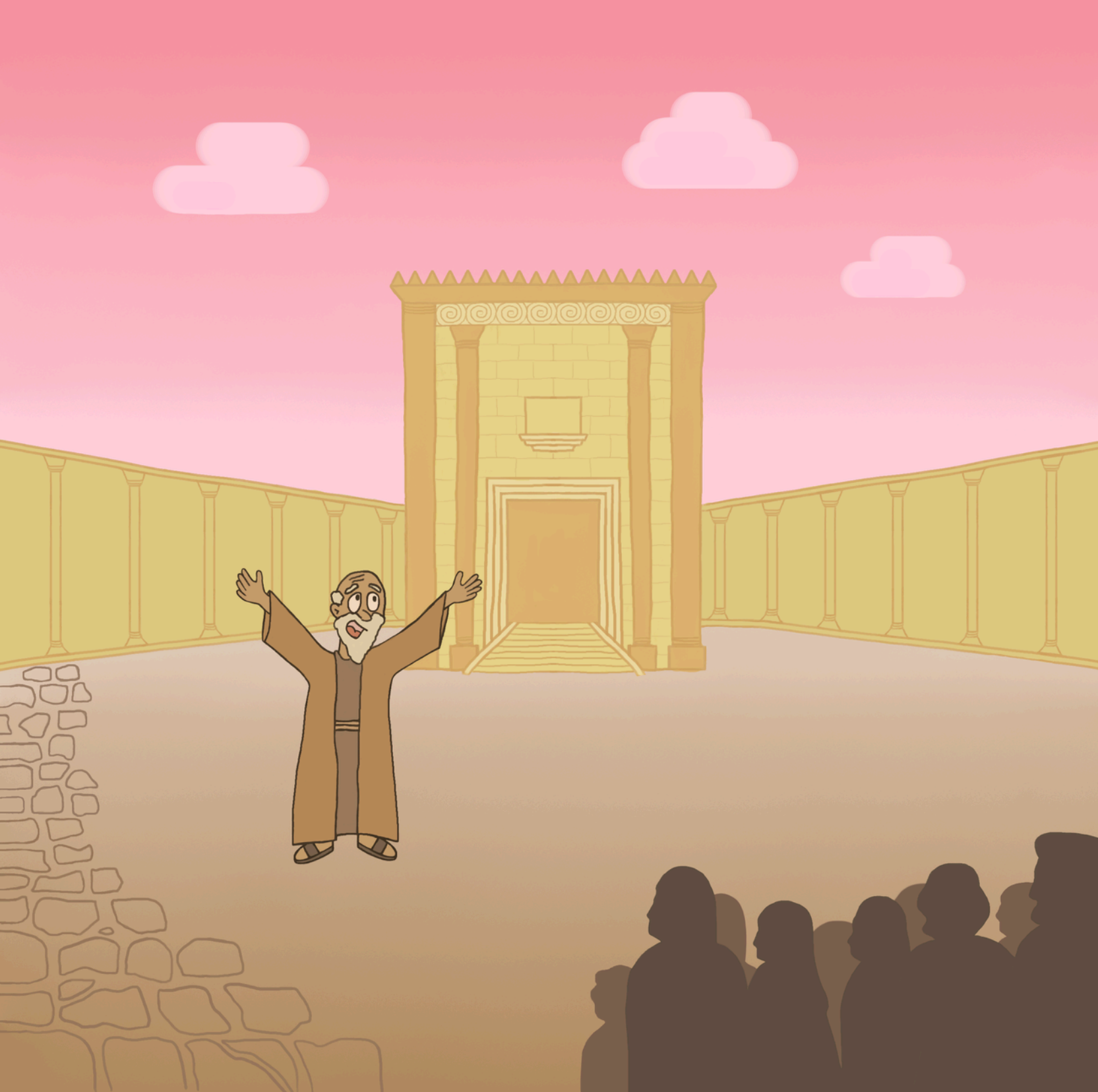
The king of Babylon didn't like Abraham's family and was very mean to them.

He even ruined the special temple that King Solomon had built.

And he wouldn't let them go back to the special place!

But God still had a plan to fix things.





First, God sent more special messengers to remind Abraham's family about God's special promise that one of King David's really great grandsons would be a special forever-king.
And then God did some amazing things to bring the people back to the special place.
The people even built a new temple in the special place.

But things weren't quite the same.
The kingdom didn't have their own king anymore.
Someone from outside of Abraham's family was their king, which made it hard for them to keep doing their special job.

The grown ups had children.
Their children grew up and had children.
And their children grew up and had children.
And Abraham's family kept on being ruled by different kings that weren't from Abraham's family.
But God still had a plan to fix things.



God chose another person to be His special helper.
This time it was a girl called Mary, married to a boy called Joseph.
Her special job was to look after someone that was very, very, very special to God –
a little baby boy called Jesus. In fact, Jesus was God's very own son!

Jesus was born in the same town that King David came from. And this isn't by accident –
Jesus was King David's really great grandson that God promised would be the special
forever-king. Jesus even had other kings visit him when he was born and give him
special birthday presents!

But since a mean king was still ruling over the special place, it wasn't safe for Mary, Joseph
and baby Jesus to stay there, so they went to Egypt for safety.
Just like Abraham's family did long long ago.

When Jesus grew up he went back to the special place and became the greatest special messenger.

Jesus taught everyone living in the special place how to do things God's way.

And Jesus did many amazing things that made life more wonderful for everyone.

Some of the people who listened to Jesus became his friends.

And then they also did amazing things and taught others how to live God's way.





Sadly, not everyone loved Jesus and the things Jesus said and did.
Some people wanted Jesus gone.
They told lies about Jesus to the mean king.
And then they killed him.

Jesus could have fought back and stopped this from happening.
But he didn't.
Why?

Because this was all part of God's big plan to fix everything!

God brought Jesus back to life!

This showed everyone that God is able to make things new again!

God's plan was always to fix everything - and it started with Jesus!

Jesus visited his friends and asked them to be His special helpers.

He gave them some very special jobs, which came with some very special promises.

The special jobs were to go and tell everyone about who Jesus is and what he had done,
to live God's way, and to help other friends of Jesus to live God's way.

And one of the special promises was that God would be with them, wherever they go!

And that he would hear everyone's prayers, wherever they are and whenever!

They didn't need to go to a temple anymore. Now Jesus's friends are like a temple!

Now these jobs and promises aren't just for Abraham's family, or for people living in the
special place. They are for everybody who wants to be friends with Jesus,
no matter what family they are from or where they live.

And it's not just for the people living back then - it's still true for people alive today!

After teaching these things, Jesus went away.

For a very, very, very long time.

Right now he is with his father God, watching over his new friends.

**But Jesus promised that one day he would come back and finish God's big plan,
fixing everything, once and for all.**



Key Passages

God tells humans to be fruitful, multiply, take control of the Earth and rule over it.
Genesis 1:28

God tells Abraham to go to the promised land so that "all peoples on earth will be blessed through you".
Genesis 12:1-3

God promises Abraham that his family will be as numerous as the stars in the sky and that his family will live in the promised land.
Genesis 15:1-21

God tells Abraham's family (through Moses) that if they live God's way, they will be a "kingdom of priests" and a "holy nation".
Exodus 19:5-6

God promises David that someone from his family line will be king forever.
2 Samuel 7:5-16

Jesus tells his disciples to "go and make disciples of all nations" and to teach them to "obey everything I have commanded you".
Matthew 28:18-20