

TRAIL GUIDE

BIBLE STUDY (younger)



Hey hey MACs and WOGs!

WELCOME TO TRAIL GUIDE time! Each day together we will give God the glory by spending time in His word. Our desire is to not only walk through a week of Bible Study with you, but to teach you HOW to study. We want you to be able to return home after a week of Christ-centered adventure and keep up the valuable practice of studying and reading Scripture daily.

**EVEN YOUTHS GET TIRED AND WEARY;
EVEN STRONG YOUNG MEN CLUMSILY STUMBLE.
BUT THOSE WHO WAIT FOR THE LORD'S HELP
FIND RENEWED STRENGTH;
THEY RISE UP AS IF THEY HAD EAGLES' WINGS,
THEY RUN WITHOUT GROWING WEARY,
THEY WALK WITHOUT GETTING TIRED.**

ISAIAH 40:28-31

HOW TO READ SCRIPTURE



PRAY: pray that God would work

Praise: glorify God for who He is

Admit: confess your sins to God

Request: ask God to forgive your sin

Thank: thank God for who He is

READ: read the passage in full

OBSERVE: what does it say?

5 W's and 1 H

Who said what? Who did what?

What are the main things that happened?

Where did this event happen?

Why did he say or do that?

How did or should people respond?

INTERPRET: what does it mean?

What does this story show us about God?

What does this story show us about people?

APPLY: how does it apply to me?

What will I do differently because of what I've learned?

PRAY: pray that God would work

DAY 1

God Promises

PRE-READ:

God is the creator of all things. He created the universe and everything in it. He also created human beings. Humans were the crowning jewel of God's work. God has always desired to be in relationship with human beings. Over and over again, we see God making a way to be close to us. In the story today, we will see a promise God makes to Abram so that He can be close to his people.

HIGHLIGHT VERSE:

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ." -Ephesians 1:3

1 **Observation:**

Abram was asked to drop everything and follow the Lord.

Abram wasn't given a specific location. God says that he "will" show him the land.

Interpretation:

Why do you think Abram was willing to leave his country, his family, and his people to follow God?

2 **Interpretation:**

Who was the great nation that the Lord was referring to?

Application:

How was the call of Abram similar to what we are called to as Christians?

3 **Observation:**

Because of Abram's faithfulness, all people on earth have been blessed.

Interpretation:

What was the ultimate blessing that the Lord is promising Abram in this verse?

Application:

What are ways that we can be obedient like Abram?

GENESIS 12:1-3

1 The Lord said to Abram:

Go from your land,
your relatives,
and your father's house
to the land that I will show you.

2 I will make you into a great nation,
I will bless you,

I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you,
I will curse anyone who treats you with contempt,
and all the peoples on earth
will be blessed through you.

WRAP UP QUESTIONS:

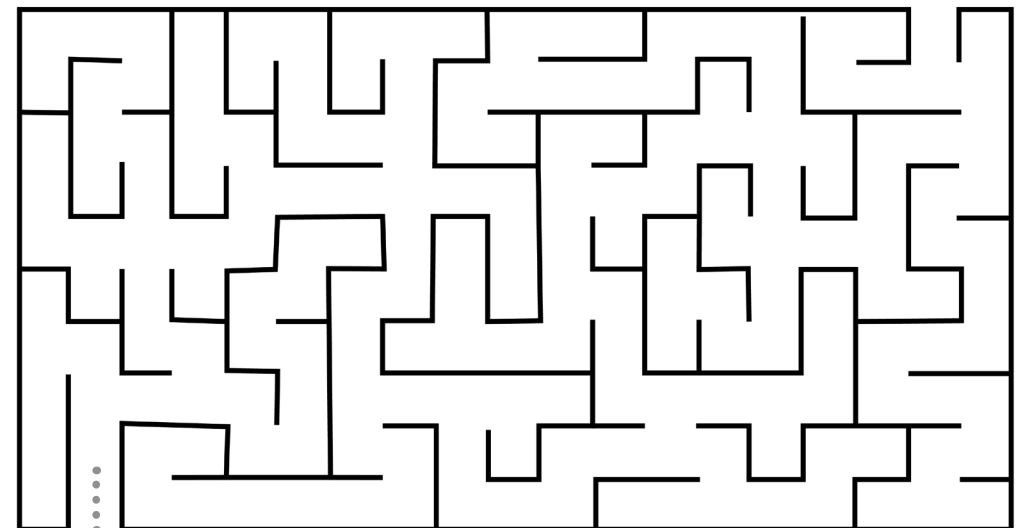
How do we see God desiring to be in relationship with His people?


What do we learn about God in this passage?


Draw: a circle around the words "I will" in the passage and draw a heart when you see the word "blessing."



Maze: Help Abram get to the land that God has promised.



 OBSERVE: Answer the 5 W's & 1 H for this passage:

 INTERPRET: What does this story show us about God? & men?

 APPLICATION: What will I do differently because of what I've learned?

 PRAYERS:

DAY 2

God's People Enslaved

PRE-READ:

God renames Abram to Abraham and turns his family into a great nation called Israel. God kept his promise to Abraham and his children. Eventually, because of a famine, this nation had to move to the country of Egypt. The Egyptians became scared of the Israelites because of how powerful they had become.

HIGHLIGHT VERSE:

"Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin." -John 8:34

8 **Observation:**

Joseph was a descendant of Abraham. Joseph brought the nation of Israel to Egypt.

9 **Interpretation:**

The Israelites were growing in power and number just as God had promised Abraham.

10 **Observation:**

What was the reason that the king wanted to deal shrewdly with the Israelites?

Interpretation:

What do you think the king was feeling in this moment?

12 **Observation:**

In the midst of oppression and forced labor, the Israelites continue to grow.

How did the Egyptians view the Israelites?

13-14 **Interpretation:**

What does the word "ruthlessly" mean?

Application:

Just as the Israelites were enslaved to the Egyptians. Without God, we are enslaved to sin in our lives. What should we do with the sin that we struggle with?

EXODUS 1:8-14

8 A new king, who did not know about Joseph, came to power in Egypt.

9 He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and powerful than we are.

10 Come, let's deal shrewdly with them; otherwise they will multiply further, and when war breaks out, they will join our enemies, fight against us, and leave the country."

11 So the Egyptians assigned taskmasters over the Israelites to oppress them with forced labor. They built Pithom and Rameses as supply cities for Pharaoh.

12 But the more they oppressed them, the more they multiplied and spread so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites.

13 They worked the Israelites ruthlessly

14 and made their lives bitter with difficult labor in brick and mortar and in all kinds of fieldwork. They ruthlessly imposed all this work on them.

WRAP UP QUESTIONS:

How are we like the Israelites in this story?

What does it mean in the highlight verse to be "A slave to sin?"

How is that similar to the story?

Do you think God is done with the story? What do you think will happen?

Fill in the blank: "____ answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, _____ who practices ____ is a _____ to sin."" _____ 8:34

Fill in the box: Write some sins that you can think of in the rectangle. This sin separated us from God.

YOU		GOD
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 OBSERVE: Answer the 5 W's & 1 H for this passage:

 INTERPRET: What does this story show us about God? & men?

 APPLICATION: What will I do differently because of what I've learned?

 PRAYERS:

DAY 3

Gospel Preparation

PRE-READ:

From the beginning, God has wanted to be in relationship with His people. He wants to bless us and be near us, but there is one big problem: sin. Sin is falling short of God's perfection. Because of sin, our relationship with the Lord has been broken. Today we will learn about God's plan to fix that big problem!

HIGHLIGHT VERSE:

³ For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures..." 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

SET UP QUESTIONS:

What have we learned so far this week? How does that relate to our relationship with God?

What was God's solution to our big problem?

Write down any question you have about Jesus and what he did for us:

YELLOW BEAD

Q: What is something that is yellow? The Sun!

Remember, in the beginning God said let there be LIGHT! **The yellow bead symbolizes creation, and the perfect relationship between God and man in the beginning!**

God said everything was good, and when he created us he said it was very good!

Q: Why do your parents give you rules or boundaries?

Because they love you, right! They know what is best for you and want to protect you.

How much more does God, who created us, know what is good for us! He knew how they could have abundant life, so he gave them a boundary.

BLACK BEAD

Q: What did Adam and Eve do?

They crossed the boundary God had given. They were tempted by the serpent and were disobedient to God. They redefined for themselves what was good.

Q: What does sin mean?

Sin means missing the mark. It is going against what God has said is good. It is brokenness between us and God. Because of sin, we cannot live in perfect relationship with God. **The black bead represents our sin and the brokenness present because of our sin.**

RED BEAD

Q: We know that sin isn't the end of the story! Who shows up when the light went red?

Jesus!

Q: What did they do to Jesus? Why did they do that?

They put Him to death on a cross. The cross was meant for criminals and the worst of the worst. They didn't believe that He was who He said He was.

He lived the perfect life that we couldn't live and died on the cross for our sin. His death on the cross and His blood would cleanse us from our sins. **The red bead represents the blood of Christ and His death on the cross.**

DAY 4

God Rescues

PRE-READ:

By an act of God, the Israelites were able to escape from Egypt, and head towards the land that God had promised them. Pharaoh, the leader of the Egyptians, didn't want Israel to leave so he pursued them on chariots and horses. Israel was stuck between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea.

HIGHLIGHT VERSE:

"He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves." - Colossians 1:13

EXODUS 14:21-31

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided,

22 and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

23 The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea.

24 During the last watch of the night the Lord looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion.

25 He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

26 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen."

WHITE BEAD

Q: What happened after Jesus died?

He rose from the grave! Why? He conquered sin and death. Through His death we have forgiveness of sins and in His resurrection we have new life in Him and can be brought back into right relationship with God by our faith and trust in Jesus! **The white bead represents our new life in Christ and that we are made clean!**

Q: Is it based on anything that we do?

No! By grace through faith! Ephesians 2:8-9 said, "For by grace you have been saved through faith and this is not your own doing it is the gift of God, not a result of works so that no one may boast." We cannot do anything to earn it, but it is a free gift when we trust in what Christ has done!

GREEN BEAD

Q: So what do we do now?

He rose from the grave! Why? He conquered sin and death. Through His death we have forgiveness of sins and in His resurrection we have new life in Him and can be brought back into right relationship with God by our faith and trust in Jesus! **The white bead represents our new life in Christ and that we are made clean!**

Q: Is it based on anything that we do?

Love others, forgive others, seek peace with our friends. We love God and love others! **The green bead represents our growth in Christ and sharing the good news with others!**

We love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, love others as ourselves, and continue to grow every day!

21 Interpretation:

The stretching out of Moses' hand is a common theme in the Exodus story. It was meant to symbolize the working of God. It meant that the Lord was about to do a miracle.

Observation:

Who does the text say drove back the sea?

22 Application:

God shows his control and power in the parting of the Red Sea. God goes to great lengths to save his people. What does that mean for us today?

Interpretation:

The entire nation of Israel walked through the Red Sea. It is estimated that there were over a million Israelites!

27 **Interpretation:**
How does this verse relate to the Gospel? To sin?

31 **Interpretation:**
What does it mean to "fear" the Lord?

Observation:
The Lord rescuing the Israelites led them to further trust in Him.

27 Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the Lord swept them into the sea.

28 The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

29 But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

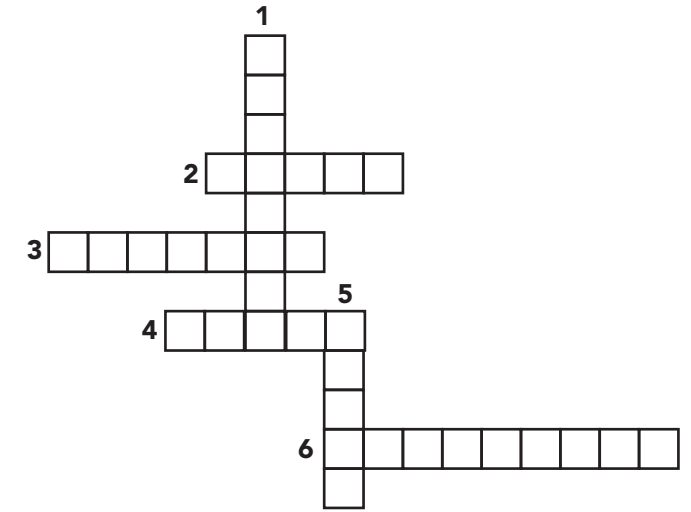
30 That day the Lord saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore.

31 And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant."

WRAP UP QUESTIONS:

Look back at the highlight verse. What did the Israelites need rescuing from?
What do we need rescuing from?

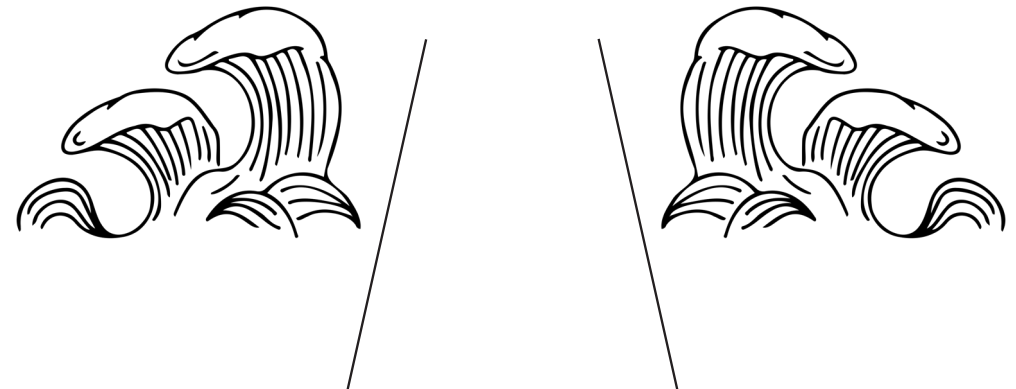
The Israelites were stuck between the Red Sea and the Egyptians. Could they have saved themselves?



Fill in the crossword puzzle:

- 1: The Egyptians had horses, horsemen, and _____ (v. 23).
- 2: In verse 31 the Israelites put their "_____" in the Lord.
- 3: Who was the leader of the Egyptians?
- 4: Who did God use to lead the Israelites and stretch his hand out over the sea?
- 5: Verse 30: "That day the Lord _____ Israel from the hands of the Egyptians."
- 6: Who were the Israelites running from?

Draw: the Israelites walking on dry land through the middle of the Red Sea.



 OBSERVE: Answer the 5 W's & 1 H for this passage:

 INTERPRET: What does this story show us about God? & men?

 APPLICATION: What will I do differently because of what I've learned?

 PRAYERS:

DAY 5

God's People Set Apart

PRE-READ:

God had rescued the Israelites from the Egyptians. Now that God's people were no longer slaves, he asks them to be obedient to his law. He does this so that his people would shine as a light to the rest of the world.

HIGHLIGHT VERSE:

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." -Matthew 28:19-20

3 **Observation:**

It is God who once again calls Moses, not the other way around.

4 **Interpretation:**

"On eagles' wings," signifies the speed, strength, and particular care that the Lord took with the Israelite's deliverance.

Interpretation:

"brought you to myself." This statement is a common theme throughout all of the Bible. God acts so that mankind can be close to him.

5 **Interpretation:**

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we can be God's treasured possession just as the Israelites were in this passage.

Interpretation:

"My treasured possession" God created the earth and everything in it, but he values his people above everything else!

EXODUS 19:3-8

3 Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel:

4 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.

5 Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine,

6 **Interpretation:**

God set the nation of Israel apart so that the rest of the world would see them as different and worship God. How are we like the Israelites?

7 **Observation:**

The Israelites were choosing to obey the commandments of the Lord.

8 **Interpretation:**

Knowing what the Lord had done, how did the Israelites respond?

6 you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

7 So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the Lord had commanded him to speak.

8 The people all responded together, "We will do everything the Lord has said." So Moses brought their answer back to the Lord.

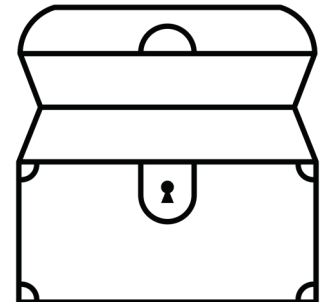
WRAP UP QUESTIONS:

How was Moses obedient to God throughout the story?

How can we obey God?

Write down a list of people you can share the love of God with!

Draw: "We are God's treasured possessions." Draw a bunch of treasure in the treasure chest!



 OBSERVE: Answer the 5 W's & 1 H for this passage:

 INTERPRET: What does this story show us about God? & men?

 APPLICATION: What will I do differently because of what I've learned?

 PRAYERS:



PRAY



READ



OBSERVE



INTERPRET



APPLY



PRAY

WHAT NOW?

Camp is over ... but your time in the Word isn't. There is no doubt you learned a whole lot this week as you gathered - campers and coaches – with Bibles open. And no doubt you can have the same thing at home. You are taking home amazing tools and practice on how to study the Bible. It is as easy as the steps you have practiced this week.

Pray. Read. Observe. Interpret. Apply. Pray.

It's crazy to think that at any given moment, Our God ... the Creator of YOU, the Creator of ALL ... is ready to tell you something. Something that matters, something that He wants you to know, something that gets you through the hard days and something that allows you to be glad in the good days.

Skipping Bible Study at Trail Guide time at camp would be CRAZY! So why skip it at home?

Set a time in your day when you can dig into God's Word and see what encouraging, challenging, exciting and sometimes interesting things He wants to tell you. If you miss a day or week or even month, don't worry

...the Truth in the Bible never grows old or disappears
...it is always ready for you.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE GOSPEL

1 GOD IS. AND GOD IS PERFECT.

(Heb 11:6) And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

(1 John 1:5) This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

2 MAN IS A SINNER IN NEED OF SAVING.

(Rom 3:23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

3 JESUS MADE A WAY FOR US TO BE SAVED BY THE SUBSTITUTIONARY DEATH OF HIS PERFECT LIFE THAT WAS SEALED BY HIS GLORIOUS RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD.

(1 Cor 15:3-4) For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

4 BY ACKNOWLEDGING OUR SIN AND TRUSTING IN JESUS (FAITH), OUR SIN IS REMOVED, AND WE RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE BY THE GRACE OF GOD ALONE.

(Eph 2:8-9) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

THE GOOD NEWS

1 GOD CREATES

God created the world, and He is still creating today. He is the author of life and all that is within this world. There was no one and nothing before Him. Our God is a mighty creator and all that He created He called good. Genesis 1:31 says, "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

2 MAN SINS

The serpent deceived Adam and Eve and sin entered the world. We are sinful. Romans 3:23 states, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." We are in need of help because alone, we will choose sin over and over again. Exodus 32:9 states, "And the Lord said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people.'" God does not tolerate sin. Romans 6:23a states, "For the wages of sin is death," therefore, we are completely separated from heaven and God because of our unbelief. That is the bad news!

3 JESUS SAVES

Where sin is great, God's grace is always greater. Born in a manger, Jesus came to live a perfect life, fully God and fully man, to restore our relationship with God. Jesus died and rose again from the dead (proof that He is God!) so that we may have Eternal Life. Romans 6:23b states, "but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 10:9 says, "because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." If we want to accept God's free gift of salvation, (it's a personal, individual decision), we must come to Him, admit that we are sinners, believe that Jesus died for you, ask Him to forgive you and be your Savior and Lord. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life and no one comes to the Father except through Him. "For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'" Romans 10:13.

4 SPIRIT LEADS

When we choose to trust Jesus as our Lord and Savior we are forever changed. The Holy Spirit indwells us and begins to lead us as we walk through life. When we walk surrendering our life to the Lord and walk-in prayer, the spirit will lead us. Colossians 3:12 says, "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." We rely on the Spirit to walk in the way of a new life.

5 WE HOPE

While we go through heartache and pain in life, we get to hold close to Jesus because there is hope now and to come! John 16:33 says "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." We get to hope because He has already overtaken and there will be a day where Jesus will return and restore this world. Revelations 21:2-5a says, "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death [b] or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." 5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

GOSPEL BEADS

Yellow - The Yellow bead reminds us of Heaven and its perfection. Jesus said, "In my father's house are many rooms... I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2

Black - The Black bead represents Sin and thus our separation from God. As all sin is a result of unbelief, the Bible says, "The wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23) Therefore, we are completely separated from heaven and God because of our unbelief. That's the bad news!

Red - God made a way for us to get to heaven. Continue reading Romans 6:23: "... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." God sent His Son, Jesus, who came to earth as a man, went to the Cross, shed His blood, and died (paying the penalty for our sin). He rose again from the dead (proof that He is God!) so that you and I can have Eternal Life. Red represents the Blood of Jesus. This is a free gift of salvation from God available to everyone who believes. That's the GOOD NEWS!
White - If I am to receive God's gift of salvation, (it's a personal, individual decision), I must come to Him, admit that I'm a sinner, believe that Jesus died for me, ask Him to forgive me and be my Savior and Lord. If I do that, I come to the White bead which represents purity and Forgiveness.

Green - And then, Green represents Spiritual Growth. We grow to know the Lord better through praying, reading the Bible, attending church where Christ is preached, and sharing the love of Jesus with our friends and neighbors.

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ISAIAH 40:28-31

