



# God Provides Water

Exodus 17:1-7

Children develop different feelings about water. Some love bath time but hate to have their faces washed. Some children don't mind the sensation of having their hands wiped but don't enjoy having them submerged. Sprinkles of water delight some babies and irritate others. Use this lesson to help children explore the gift of water and how it can remind us that God always loves us. Thank you for nurturing the faith of the young children entrusted to your care.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Bubbles of Love</b> Get hugs and watch bubbles.	bottle of bubbles	
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>God Loves You!</b> Hear a fun rhyme.		
	<b>Washed With God's Love</b> Be gently washed as a reminder of the love of God.	washcloths or soft paper towels, warm water, small basin	Set a small basin of warm water and washcloths within reach of the changing area.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



### ► Bible Point

God always loves us.

### Key Verse

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want" (Psalm 23:1).


### Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will begin to learn that God always loves them.





## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player, rhythm instruments like drums or tambourines (baby rattles would work as well), several stuffed animals and dolls <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Knock on the Rock!</b> Hear about Moses and the thirsty Israelites.	Bible <b>Teacher Pack:</b> “God Provides” teaching picture 	Fold the teaching picture in half between the 2 pictures, forming a tent.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Splashes of Love</b> Play with water to learn about God’s love.	shallow container of water	
	<b>Fill My Cup</b> Sing a song, and play a game with a cup half-filled with water.	water, cup	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.


The “Growing With Jesus” page at the end of each lesson includes an in-class craft or activity on one side and a take-home page for parents on the other side. We want to ensure all the information on the parent pages is retained, so we’ve made some adjustments to activities that require cutting. These pages may require a little assembly for parents to use at home, and we’ve included envelopes in the supply lists to keep each child’s pieces together.





**2-YEAR-OLD**



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Where's the Water?</b> Discover how God showed his love by giving water to the Israelites.	Bible, plastic milk jug, water, paper grocery bag, 1 cup and straw per child <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "God Provides" teaching picture 	Fold the teaching picture in half between the 2 pictures, forming a tent. Partially fill a clean, plastic milk jug with water. Set the milk jug inside a large paper grocery bag. Crumple the bag around the jug to look like a rock. Leave the top of the milk jug uncovered.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Bubble Prints</b> Print bubbles on the take-home papers.	dishwashing liquid, tempera paint, straw, 1 shallow container per child, water, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Water From the Rock" handout (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Set out a shallow container filled with about an inch of water for each child.
	<b>I'm Thirsty</b> Play a game with cups and water.	1 cup per child, pitcher of water	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*

The "Growing With Jesus" page at the end of each lesson includes an in-class craft or activity on one side and a take-home page for parents on the other side. We want to ensure all the information on the parent pages is retained, so we've made some adjustments to activities that require cutting. These pages may require a little assembly for parents to use at home, and we've included envelopes in the supply lists to keep each child's pieces together.



# God Provides Water

Exodus 17:1-7

## Food and Whine

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As we begin today’s lesson, we find the Israelites continuing their journey toward the Promised Land. They’re still getting manna every morning and quail every evening, but they can’t find water at their latest campsite. It’s important to take a moment to recall that the Israelites were just beginning to know God. This is the first time God had interacted with the Israelite community as a whole. Though this doesn’t excuse their actions, it might give some context for us to see ourselves in more clearly.

Again, instead of calling in faith upon the God who had secured their freedom, turned bitter water sweet, and provided manna and quail, the people complained to Moses. Again, instead of trusting God, they lamented that they were going to die in the desert for lack of water. As you can see from Exodus 17:4, Moses was exasperated. God, however, proves his patience and love in this passage, giving the Hebrews the water they needed in spite of their complaining and their lack of faith.

## Acting on Faith

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God had a plan. His instructions to Moses must have seemed ludicrous! Moses was to take with him the leaders of the people—likely representatives from each tribe—so that they could see firsthand what God was going to do. In front of these leaders, Moses was to hit with his staff a rock that God would point out to him. And enough water would come out of the rock to take care of the needs of 2 million people. As unlikely as God’s plan seemed, Moses didn’t question God. He did what God told him to do, and God did what he said he would do. Moses and God gave a convincing demonstration of what acting on faith in God can do. And God was glorified when the leaders brought back their report.



BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## Be Encouraged

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The names Moses gave to the place where all this happened mean “temptation” and “murmuring.” No doubt Moses’ intent was to make this place a reminder of the people’s unbelief but also an encouragement toward faith in the God who had provided for them.

## The Jesus Connection

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Think of someone who has frustrated you recently. What needs to happen to resolve the situation? A relationship with Jesus brings us forgiveness, not perfection. Pray for clarity and the opportunity to recognize when you need to extend the same type of grace and understanding that Jesus has given you. On the lines below, write a prayer for the person who has recently frustrated you.

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**INFANT**

**1 GETTING  
STARTED**

# Sing and Celebrate

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Sing or listen to “He Cares for You” (1 Peter 5:7) (track 4 on the CD) anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with infants. Gently sway with them as you sing.

 **What are you worried about now?**

**Trying to figure it out now—  
God knows right where you are now.  
You know it’s all in his hands now.  
You know he cares for you;  
He always cares for you.  
You know he’ll see you through;  
He’ll always see you through.**

**Cast all your anxiety  
On him  
Because he cares for you.  
He cares for you.  
Cast all your anxiety  
On him  
Because he cares for you.  
He cares for you.  
Jesus cares for you.**

*(Repeat from beginning.)*

**What are you worried about now?  
Trying to figure it out now—  
God knows right where you are now.  
You know it’s all in his hands now.**

“He Cares for You” (1 Peter 5:7) by Jay Stocker. © 2004 Group Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Afterward, say: ► **GOD ALWAYS LOVES US.**

Sing “God Always Loves Us” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Skip to My Lou” anytime during the lesson. Use it as a soothing song to calm tired or fussy babies. Rock babies in your arms while singing calmly.



## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**


CD: “He Cares for You”  
(1 Peter 5:7) (track 4)





### Bubbles of Love Supplies

bottle of bubbles

 God always loves us, yes, he does.  
God always loves us, yes, he does.  
God always loves us, yes, he does.  
He loves us, little children.

Afterward, say: ► **GOD ALWAYS LOVES US.**

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Bubbles of Love

#### What You'll Do

Hold an infant in your arms, and look into the baby's eyes.

Say: **Do you know who loves you? I love you, and God loves you.** Give baby a hug.

Set baby on your lap, and blow bubbles for the baby to see.

Say: **Moses saw how God loved him when God gave him and his people some water from a rock. The water came bubbling up from the rock, like these bubbles. God always loved Moses.** ► **GOD ALWAYS LOVES US, too.**

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### God Loves You!

#### What You'll Do

Use this fun rhyme with an active, alert baby.

Say: **Baby, baby, turn around.** (*roll baby's hands around each other*)  
**Baby, baby, touch the ground.** (*help baby touch his or her toes*)  
**Baby, baby, God loves you,** (*pull baby's arms across each other to hug self*)  
**Wherever you go, whatever you do.** (*sway baby to the right; then left*)  
**Baby, jump! You know it's true!** (*raise baby high in the air*)  
**God will always love precious you.** (*hug baby*)

Afterward, say: ► **GOD ALWAYS LOVES US.**



## Washed With God’s Love

### What You’ll Do

Do this activity during changing time. Dip a washcloth or soft paper towel in warm water. Gently wash baby’s face, arms, and legs.

Say: **God loves us when we’re dirty. God loves us when we’re clean. ► GOD ALWAYS LOVES US. God loves your little arms. God loves your little face. God’s love washed over the Israelites when he gave them fresh water. God’s love washes over you as I clean you up.**

When changing time is over, hold the infant in your arms. Say: **► GOD ALWAYS LOVES US.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



### Washed With God’s Love Supplies

.....  
washcloths or soft paper towels  
warm water  
small basin

### Washed With God’s Love Easy Prep

.....  
Set a small basin of warm water and washcloths within reach of the changing area.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

.....  
My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

.....  
Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.





### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
rhythm instruments like  
drums or tambourines  
(baby rattles would  
work as well)  
several stuffed animals  
and dolls

#### Teacher Pack

CD: “He Cares for You”  
(1 Peter 5:7) (track 4)

## TODDLER

# 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Sing or listen to “He Cares for You” (1 Peter 5:7) (track 4 on the CD) anytime during the lesson. Help children choose rhythm instruments—such as drums or tambourines—before playing the CD. As they listen, allow them to experiment with rhythms and sounds using the instruments.

#### What are you worried about now?

**Trying to figure it out now—  
God knows right where you are now.  
You know it’s all in his hands now.  
You know he cares for you;  
He always cares for you.  
You know he’ll see you through;  
He’ll always see you through.**

**Cast all your anxiety  
On him  
Because he cares for you.  
He cares for you.  
Cast all your anxiety  
On him  
Because he cares for you.  
He cares for you.  
Jesus cares for you.**

*(Repeat from beginning.)*

**What are you worried about now?  
Trying to figure it out now—  
God knows right where you are now.  
You know it’s all in his hands now.**


“He Cares for You” (1 Peter 5:7) by Jay Stocker. © 2004 Group Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Afterward, say: ► **GOD ALWAYS LOVES US.**

Sing “God Always Loves Us” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Skip to My Lou” anytime during the lesson. Sing with toddlers while they hold and rock stuffed animals and baby dolls.





 God always loves us, yes, he does.  
 God always loves us, yes, he does.  
 God always loves us, yes, he does.  
 He love us, little children.

Afterward, say: ► **GOD ALWAYS LOVES US**, and he wants us to show love to others.

**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Knock on the Rock!

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Have one or two toddlers sit with you on the floor. Set the folded "God Provides" teaching picture so toddlers can see the side depicting the thirsty people. Open your Bible to Exodus 17:1-7. Show toddlers the words, and tell them the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **The Bible tells about Moses and the Israelites. Look at the Israelites' sad faces.** Point to the picture. **They had no water to drink. They cried to Moses. Let's make crying noises.** Pause. **Moses cried to God.** Lead children in making crying noises. **God said, "Hit this rock with your stick." So Moses did.** Have toddlers make a fist with one hand and hit the fist with the pointer finger of their other hand.

Turn the teaching picture over to show toddlers the people getting water. Hold the picture so toddlers can touch it.

Say: **Where's the water?** Pause. **Can you touch the water?** Pause while each toddler touches the water in the picture. **God sent water to his people. ► GOD ALWAYS LOVES US and takes care of us.**

**3** WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## Splashes of Love

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Sit on the floor with one or two toddlers. Set a shallow container of water near you. Say: **Moses and his people were thirsty. God gave them water to drink.** Encourage toddlers to touch the water.



**Knock on the Rock!  
Supplies**

Bible  
**Teacher Pack**  
 "God Provides" teaching picture

**Knock on the Rock!  
Easy Prep**

Fold the teaching picture in half between the 2 pictures, forming a tent.

**Splashes of Love  
Supplies**

shallow container of water





### Fill My Cup Supplies

water  
cup

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
“Growing With Jesus”  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 3  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

Say: **The water feels wet. ► GOD ALWAYS LOVES US, just as water always makes us wet.**


Empty the container and set it out of children's reach when done.

## Fill My Cup

### What You'll Do

Fill a cup about half full of water. Hand it to a toddler. Then encourage him or her to hand it back to you very carefully, without spilling. Encourage two or three toddlers to join you in this passing game.

Sing “Moses Hit the Rock” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat” as you pass the cup.

 **Moses hit the rock,  
Tap, tap, tap, tap, tap.  
Drip, drop, drop, drip!  
Water! Look at that!**

Say: **God showed his love to the grumpy Israelites with water from the rock. I'm so glad that even when we're grumpy, ► GOD ALWAYS LOVES US, too.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



**2-YEAR-OLD**

**1 GETTING  
STARTED**

# Sing and Celebrate

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Sing or listen to "He Cares for You" (1 Peter 5:7) (track 4 on the CD) anytime during the lesson. As you sing, lead children around the room, bouncing gently and rhythmically to the music.

**What are you worried about now?**

**Trying to figure it out now—  
God knows right where you are now.  
You know it's all in his hands now.  
You know he cares for you;  
He always cares for you.  
You know he'll see you through;  
He'll always see you through.**

**Cast all your anxiety  
On him  
Because he cares for you.  
He cares for you.  
Cast all your anxiety  
On him  
Because he cares for you.  
He cares for you.  
Jesus cares for you.**

*(Repeat from beginning.)*

**What are you worried about now?  
Trying to figure it out now—  
God knows right where you are now.  
You know it's all in his hands now.**

"He Cares for You" (1 Peter 5:7) by Jay Stocker. © 2004 Group Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Afterward, say: ► **GOD ALWAYS LOVES US.**

Sing "God Always Loves Us" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Skip to My Lou" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, have everyone give hugs to each other.



## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

- CD player
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: "He Cares for You" (1 Peter 5:7) (track 4)





### Where's the Water? Supplies

#### Bible


plastic milk jug  
water  
paper grocery bag  
1 cup and straw per  
child

#### Teacher Pack

"God Provides" teaching  
picture

### Where's the Water? Easy Prep

Fold the teaching  
picture in half between  
the 2 pictures, forming  
a tent. Partially fill a  
clean, plastic milk jug  
with water. Set the milk  
jug inside a large paper  
grocery bag. Crumple  
the bag around the  
jug to look like a rock.  
Leave the top of the  
milk jug uncovered.

 **God always loves us, yes, he does.**  
**God always loves us, yes, he does.**  
**God always loves us, yes, he does.**  
**He loves us, little children.**

Afterward, say: ► **GOD ALWAYS LOVES US.**

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Where's the Water?

#### What You'll Do

Gather the 2-year-olds together. Set the folded "God Provides" teaching picture so twos can see the side depicting the thirsty people. Open your Bible to Exodus 17:1-7, and show kids the words.

Say: **The Bible tells about Moses and the Israelites. Look at the Israelites' sad faces. Point to the picture. These people have been traveling in the desert with Moses. They can't find any water. They're grumbling or complaining. Show me how you grumble. Pause. Moses asked, "What am I supposed to do with these people?" God said, "I'll always love these people." God told Moses to hit a rock with his stick.** Give each child a straw and a cup. Take the bag-covered jug to each child. Ask each child to hit the bag with his or her straw. As each child hits the bag, pour some water into his or her cup.

Say: **That's what happened when Moses hit the rock with his stick. Enough water came out for all the Israelites to drink.**

Turn the teaching picture over to show twos the people getting water. Say: **Now the people are happy. Point to the picture. ► GOD ALWAYS LOVES US, even when we grumble. He takes care of our needs. Put your straws in your cups, and drink the water. Thank you, God, for giving the Israelites water and reminding us that you always love us.**



### 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Bubble Prints

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Let's make something to remind us that God showed love to the Israelites by giving them water from a rock.**

Help each child squeeze some dishwashing liquid and some tempera paint into the water. Point out the changes happening in the water. Then use a straw to blow bubbles in each child's container. Be sure to put the straw out of children's reach when you're done. Show twos how to lay their "Water From the Rock" handouts on top of the bubbles to make prints on the picture of the rock.

When each child is finished, set his or her print aside to dry, and say: **God gave the Israelites water from the rock to show them he always loved them. ► GOD ALWAYS LOVES US, too.**

## I'm Thirsty

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **The Israelites became very thirsty and had no water to drink. Let's play a game to see what that was like. In our game, you're going to carry water, but you can't drink it.**

Help children get in two groups, one on each side of the room. Give each child in one group a cup. Pour a small amount of water into the cups. Say: **When I say "go," walk toward each other. If you have a cup, give it to someone who doesn't have one. Then return to the side of the room where you started. Ready? Go!** Let the children trade back and forth a few times. Then ask if anyone is thirsty. Have all the children be seated. Give each child a drink of water.

Say: **Moses and his people must've been very thirsty. They complained and grumbled. But when they asked God for water, God gave it to them—just as I gave you water when you asked. God always loved the Israelites. ► GOD ALWAYS LOVES US, too.**



### Bubble Prints Supplies

- dishwashing liquid
- tempera paint
- straw
- 1 shallow container per child
- water
- My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Water From the Rock" handout (at the end of the lesson)

### Bubble Prints Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Set out a shallow container filled with about an inch of water for each child.

### I'm Thirsty Supplies

- 1 cup per child
- pitcher of water





### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

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My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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# Growing With Jesus



## Loving All the Time

Your child will learn about God's constant and unending love from your example. An adage reminds us that children need love the most when they deserve it the least. That includes the colicky baby and the cross 2-year-old.

Some parents worry that they'll spoil the infant who requires a great deal of comfort. Instead, studies show quick responses to early needs help a baby develop trust and self-reliance. In the long run, your early loving kindness will help develop a child who's less demanding than one who's unsure that his or her needs matter.

**OK  
TO COPY**

Your child learned God always loves us (from Exodus 17:1-7). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

### INFANT

#### God Loves You!

Do this fun rhyme with your baby.

Say: **Baby, baby, turn around.** (*roll your baby's hands around each other*)

**Baby, baby, touch the ground.** (*help your baby touch his or her toes*)

**Baby, baby, God loves you,** (*pull your baby's arms across each other to hug self*)

**Wherever you go, whatever you do.** (*sway your baby to the right and then left*)

**Baby, jump! You know it's true!** (*raise your baby high in the air*)

**God will always love precious you.** (*hug your baby*)

Afterward, say: **God always loves us.**

### TODDLER

#### Fill My Cup

Fill a cup about half full of water. Hand it to your child. Then encourage him or her to hand it back to you very carefully, without spilling.

Sing "Moses Hit the Rock" to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" as you pass the cup.

**Moses hit the rock,  
Tap, tap, tap, tap, tap.  
Drip, drop, drop, drip!  
Water! Look at that!**

Say: **God showed his love to the grumpy Israelites with water from the rock. I'm so glad God always loves us, even when we're grumpy.**

### 2-YEAR-OLD

#### I'm Thirsty

Give your child a cup with a small amount of water. Have him or her stand against the wall on the opposite side of the room from you. Explain that when you say "go," your child should walk toward you and hand you the cup when you ask for it. Then each of you return to where you started. Trade back and forth a few times. Then give your child a drink of water.

Say: **Moses and his people complained and grumbled. But when they asked God for water, God gave it to them—just as I gave you water when you asked. God always loved Moses and his people. God always loves us, too.**

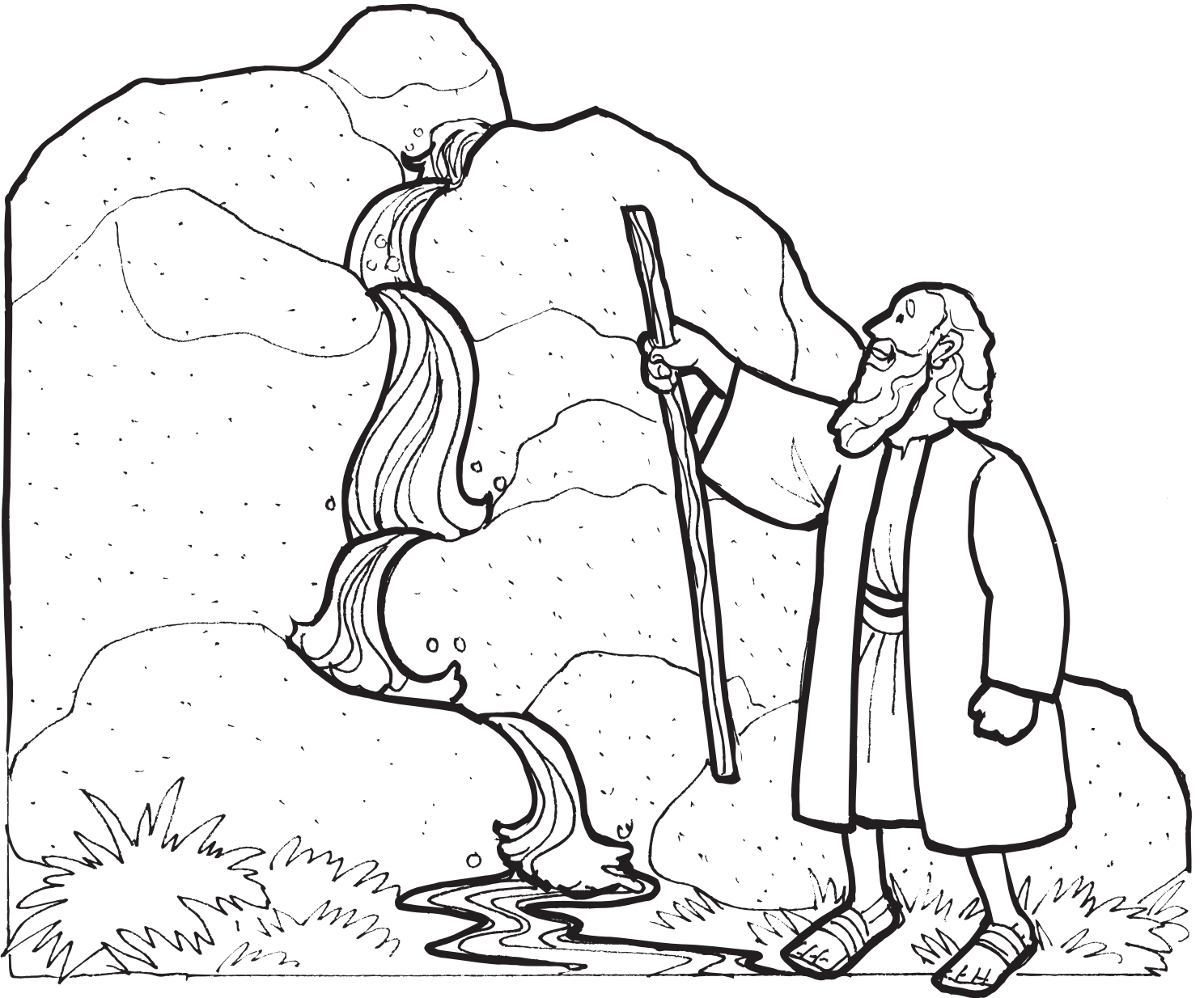


#### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

- Take time at the dinner table to tell each other reasons you love each other. Finish by thanking God for each other's love and for his love, too.
- Set a timer for 15 to 30 minutes. Pretend to be the Israelites, going without anything to drink during that time. Then enjoy a drink together, thanking God for giving us water and loving us always.



# Water From the Rock



Illustrated by Nancy Munger.

