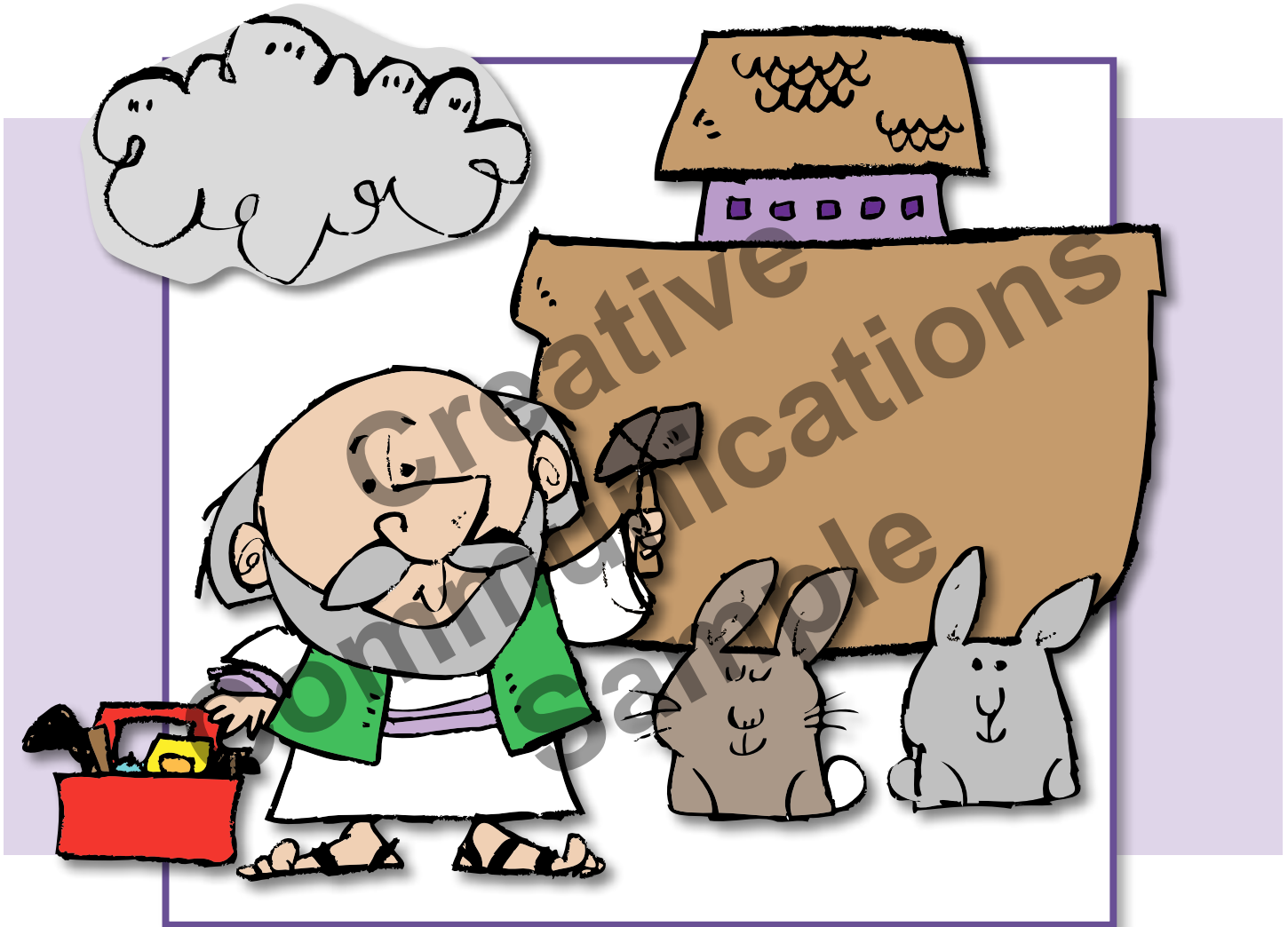


# 40 Days & 40 Nights

CHILDREN'S SERMONS FOR THE SIX SUNDAYS IN LENT AND EASTER



- Noah's Ark • The Ten Commandments •
- 40 Wandering Years • David & Goliath •
- Jonah • Jesus is Tempted •
- Three Glorious Days •

# 40 Days & 40 Nights

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## Noah's Ark

### *A Children's Sermon for the First Week of Lent - Genesis 6-8*

Good morning, girls and boys. As you may know, the season of Lent has begun. This special time of year, we focus our thoughts on Jesus' journey to the cross. Why did Jesus make that journey? Jesus went to the cross to pay the price for our sins. Although Jesus is God's Son and had never sinned, he took the punishment we deserve for our sin. He went to the cross so that we may be forgiven. Jesus rose on Easter morning so that we all may know the gift of eternal life.

Throughout the 40 days of this Lenten season, we remember Jesus' journey and sacrifice. We ask Jesus to help us turn away from our sinful ways. We thank Jesus for the forgiveness he offers us. And at the end of those 40 days, we celebrate a great victory! On Easter, we cheer and praise Jesus for the gift of everlasting life he has promised to give us.

But why does the Lent season last for 40 days? There are many stories in the Bible in which the number 40 is mentioned. After he was baptized, Jesus spent 40 days praying in the wilderness. God's people wandered for 40 years in the desert after they left the land of Egypt. We'll learn those stories and others during the next 40 days of Lent, but today I want to share with you the first forty-day story from the Bible, and it is one that you may already know.

There was a man named Noah. Noah's friends made fun of him in Bible times. As more people lived on the earth, many of them forgot about God's love. They began sinning all the time without being sorry. Only Noah and his family loved God. God told Noah he would have to destroy the sinful people in a big flood. He told Noah how to build an ark. While Noah built the ark, he warned the people to tell God they were sorry. But they laughed at him. Finally God had to send the rain.

When the ark was done God told Noah, "I will send rain for 40 days and 40 nights. Every living creature outside will die because of man's sin." Noah and his wife and their three sons and their wives went into the ark. God sent two—a male and female—of every kind of animal that moved on the earth and every kind of bird marching and flying into the ark. When Noah's family and the animals were safe inside, God shut the door. On that same day it began to rain.

Throughout those 40 days, Noah's family stayed inside the ark as water covered the whole earth. Then God sent a drying wind. The ark came to rest on the top of Mount Ararat. Soon, Noah saw that the ground was dry once more. Now the happy family marched down the ramp out of the ark. Noah built an altar to celebrate God's love and to thank God for saving them. God promised to never destroy the whole earth with a flood again. He set a rainbow in the sky as a sign that he would always keep his promise.

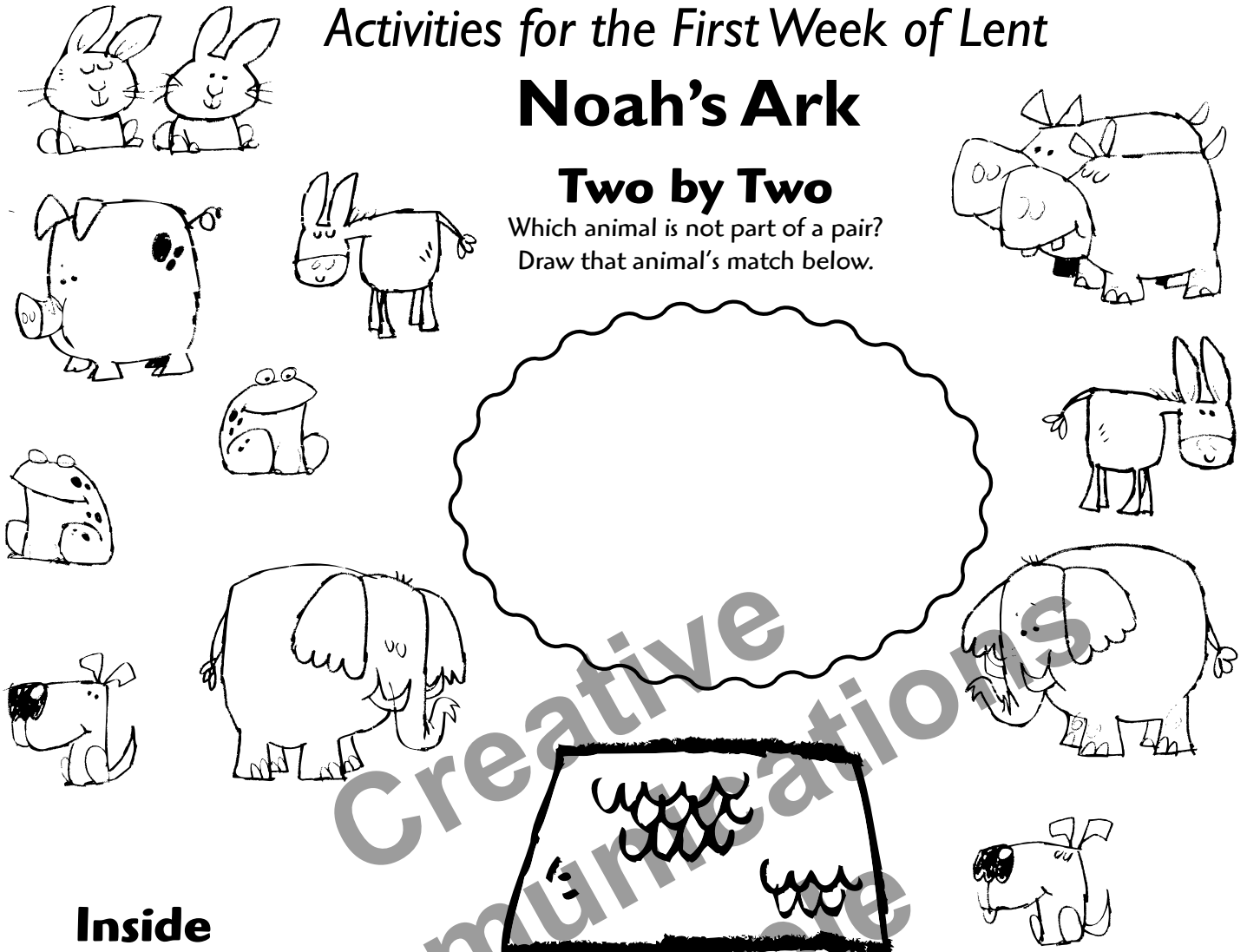
Boys and girls, Noah's forty-day and forty-night journey reminds us that God will keep the promise to save his people, and that means you and me.

# Activities for the First Week of Lent

## Noah's Ark

### Two by Two

Which animal is not part of a pair?  
Draw that animal's match below.



### Inside the Ark!

Find the words from Noah's story hidden inside this image of the ark.

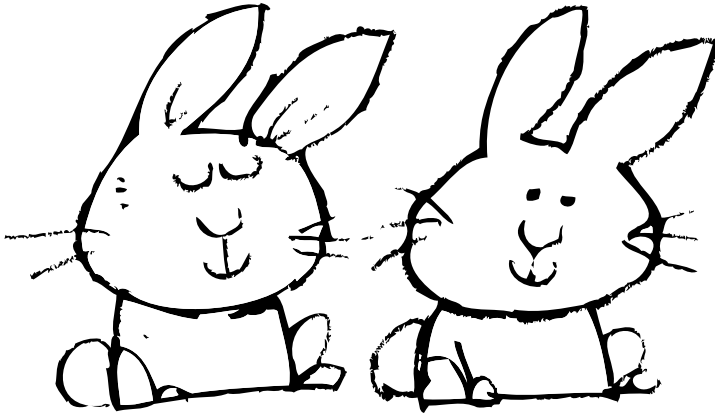
NOAH  
RAIN  
FLOAT  
EARTH · ARK  
ANIMALS  
FORTY



# Coloring Sheet for the First Week of Lent

## Noah's Ark

A Lesson from  
Genesis 7-8



**God told Noah what to do.  
"Gather creatures two by two;  
Place them in a floating zoo.  
I'll wash up this world I made.  
Rain will fall for 40 days."**



# 40 Days & 40 Nights

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## The Ten Commandments

### *A Children's Sermon for the Second Week of Lent - Exodus 24:12-18*

Hello, girls and boys. I'm happy to see you today, and I'm happy to remind you that we are journeying together these next few weeks. During the forty-day season of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus' cross and remember his journey to Jerusalem. We thank him for his sacrifice and for paying the price for our sin. We ask his forgiveness for the times we fail to follow God's commands. We praise him for the victory he won on Easter morning, the end of our forty-day Lenten journey, but the beginning of our eternal life with Jesus!

During these 40 days of Lent, I want to share with you some of the "40 stories" from the Bible. These are stories that each tell of a journey, sometimes sad, sometimes difficult and long, sometimes prayerful, sometimes lonely. But these stories, like our forty-day journey through Lent, each end in a great victory celebration!

God called a man named Moses to lead God's people. Moses faithfully brought God's people out of Egypt, where they had been held captive and forced to work as slaves. Now God's people were wandering. They needed God's guidance. And God wanted them to show them what it means to live as God's special people.

Moses left the people for 40 days and climbed to top of a high mountain. There, Moses spoke with God and prayerfully listened to God's commands. While he was on the mountain, God gave Moses the ten commandments. The first of the commandments show us how to act towards God. The others show us how to treat one another. These ten commandments were written on two tablets of stone.

Moses came down from the mountain after 40 days, but he saw an awful sight. While he had been gone, the people had built a golden statue of a calf. They had begun to worship the statue instead of worshipping God! God was angry that the people broke the commandments he had just given them. "I'm going to punish them," God said. But Moses prayed, "Remember your promise to give them a new land." God let the people live. When Moses saw what the people had done he threw the tablets on the ground and burned the golden calf in fire.

After the people broke God's laws, God told Moses to make new tablets and bring them to him. Moses fell on the ground and asked God to forgive the people. He told Moses the words of the commandments again and Moses wrote them on the stones. He stayed with God on Mt. Sinai another forty days and nights. God said he was making a promise with his people. He loved them and would do wonderful things for them. Moses shared this good news with the people, and together they celebrated God's forgiveness and his continued promise.

Boys and girls, Moses' forty-day and forty-night journey reminds us that God gives his people his loving commandments, and God offers us forgiveness for the times when we do not obey his commands.

## Activities for the Second Week in Lent

# The Ten Commandments



One day, Jesus shared 2 great commandments. Read about it in Matthew 22:36-40.

## God's Good Law

COMMAND  
MOSES  
TABLET  
TEN · DAY  
LOVE  
NEIGHBOR  
LORD

E C O M M A N D E  
D U S O P O E R D  
A T G S B C A D A  
Y A T E N N B E Y  
U B O S T P E E G  
B L A T R K V S S  
N E I G H B O R I  
G T Y D R O L S D

Coloring Sheet for Easter Sunday

# Three Glorious Days

A Lesson from  
Matthew 28

**On the third day, big surprises!  
Tomb is empty! Jesus rises!  
Jesus opens heaven's door  
For us all forevermore!**

