

My Haggadah

Pesach 2020





LIGHTING THE CANDLES

We light and bless the candles to welcome the holiday:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק
נֵר שֶׁל יוֹם טוֹב.

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav
v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Yom Tov.*

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחֲיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהַגִּיעָנוּ לְזְמַן הַזֶּה.
*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam shehecheyanu v'kiyemanu
v'higianu lazman hazeh.*

Thank You, God, for the festival lights, and for bringing our family and friends together to celebrate Pesach.



RECITING THE KIDDUSH

The seder begins with the kiddush, the blessing over a cup of wine. Wine stands for the sweetness and joy of a holiday celebration.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגָּפֶן.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, borei p'ri hagafen.

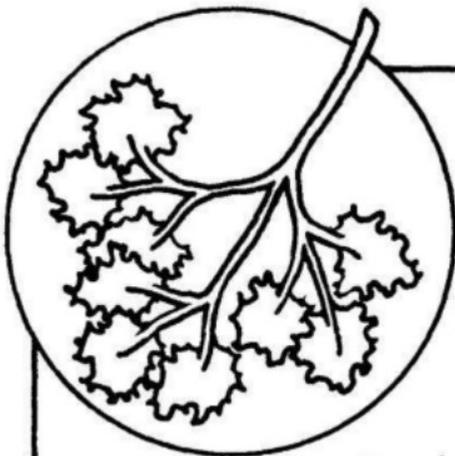
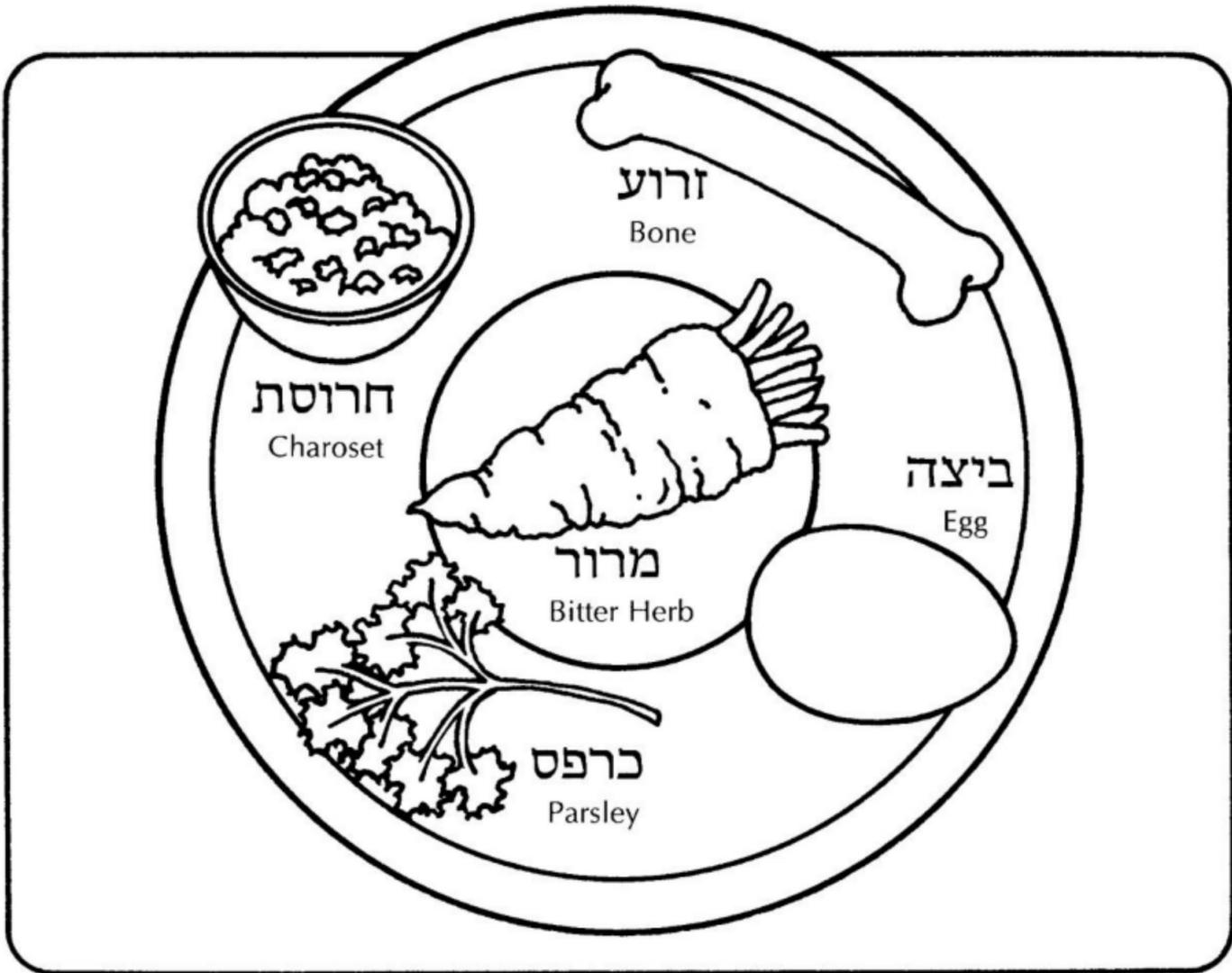
Thank You, God, for the grapes that grow to make wine for our holiday celebration.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיִּנוּ וְקִיְמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמַּן הַזֶּה.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam shehecheyanu v'kiyemanu v'higianu lazman hazeh.

Thank You, God, for bringing us together to celebrate Pesach.

THE SEDER PLATE



Parsley

Give each person a piece of parsley.

Parsley recalls the spring when God brought the Jewish slaves out of Egypt. We dip the parsley into salt water and say a blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְרֵי הָאֲדָמָה.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, borei p'ri ha'adamah.

Thank You, God, for the vegetables that grow in the ground.

Eat the parsley.

THE FOUR QUESTIONS

מה נִשְׁתַּנָּה הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל-הַלַּיְלוֹת!
Mah nishtanah halailah hazeh mikol haleilot.

Why is this night different from all other nights of the year?

1



שְׁבָכֵל-הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ
אוֹכְלִין חֶמֶץ וּמֶצֶה.
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלוּ מֶצֶה.

Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin chametz u'matzah. Halailah hazeh kulo matzah.

On all other nights we eat all kinds of bread and crackers. Why do we eat only matzah on Pesach?

2



שְׁבָכֵל-הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ
אוֹכְלִין שְׂאֵר יְרָקוֹת.
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מְרוֹר.

Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin she'or yerakot. Halailah hazeh maror.

On all other nights we eat all kinds of vegetables and herbs. Why do we eat bitter herbs, maror, at our seder?

3



שְׁבָכֵל-הַלַּיְלוֹת אֵין
אָנוּ מְטַבִּילִין אֶפְלוֹ
פַּעַם אַחַת. הַלַּיְלָה
הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פַעַמִּים.

Sheb'chol haleilot ein anu matbilin afilu pa'am echat. Halailah hazeh sh'tay famim.

On all other nights we don't usually dip foods. Tonight we dip parsley in salt water and bitter herbs in charoset. Why do we dip twice?

4



שְׁבָכֵל-הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ
אוֹכְלִין בֵּין יוֹשְׁבִין
וּבֵין מְסֻבִּין. הַלַּיְלָה
הַזֶּה כָּלָנוּ מְסֻבִּין.

Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin bein yoshvin u'vein m'subin. Halailah hazeh kulanu m'subin.

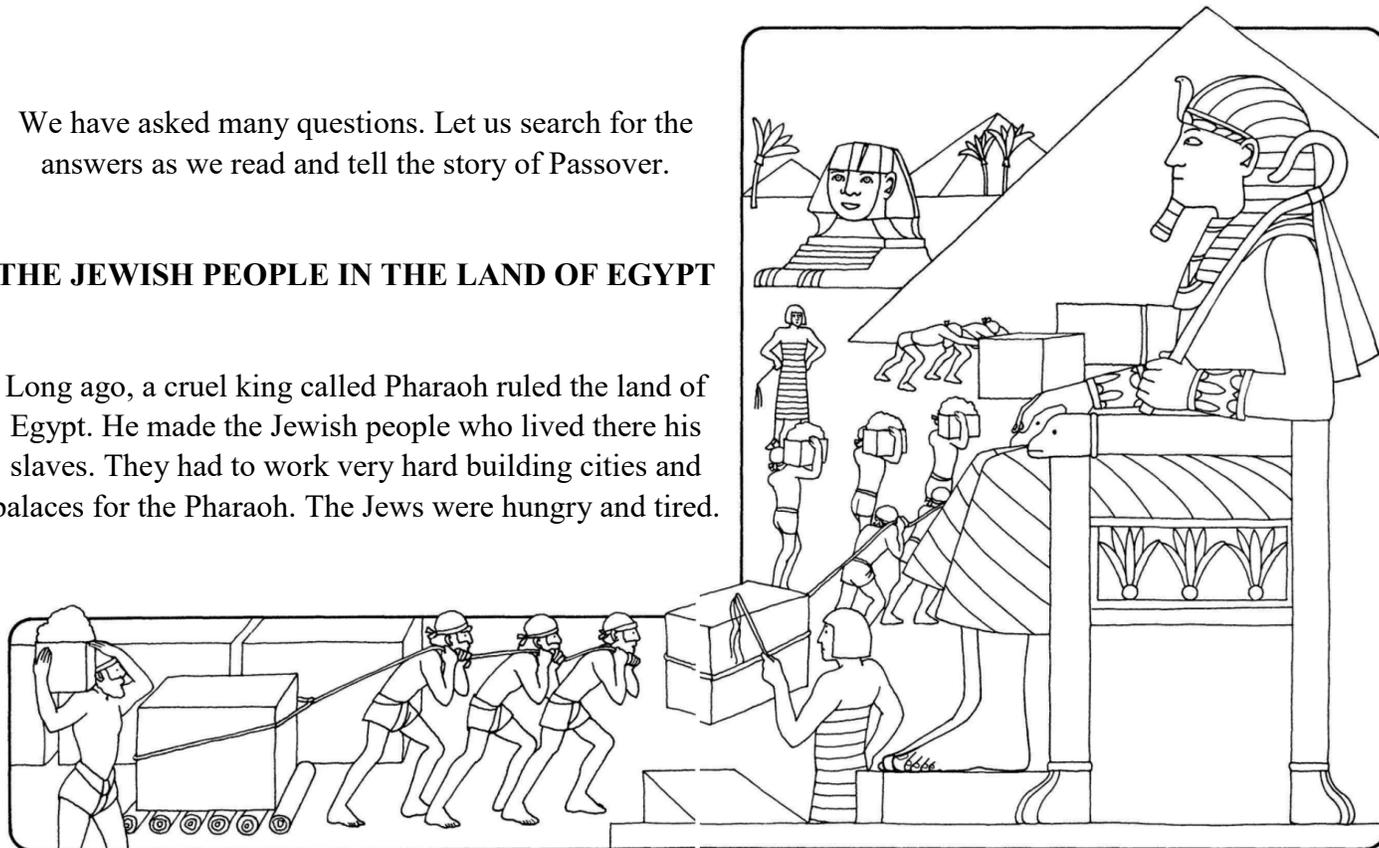
On all other nights we eat sitting up straight. Why do we lean on a pillow tonight?



We have asked many questions. Let us search for the answers as we read and tell the story of Passover.

THE JEWISH PEOPLE IN THE LAND OF EGYPT

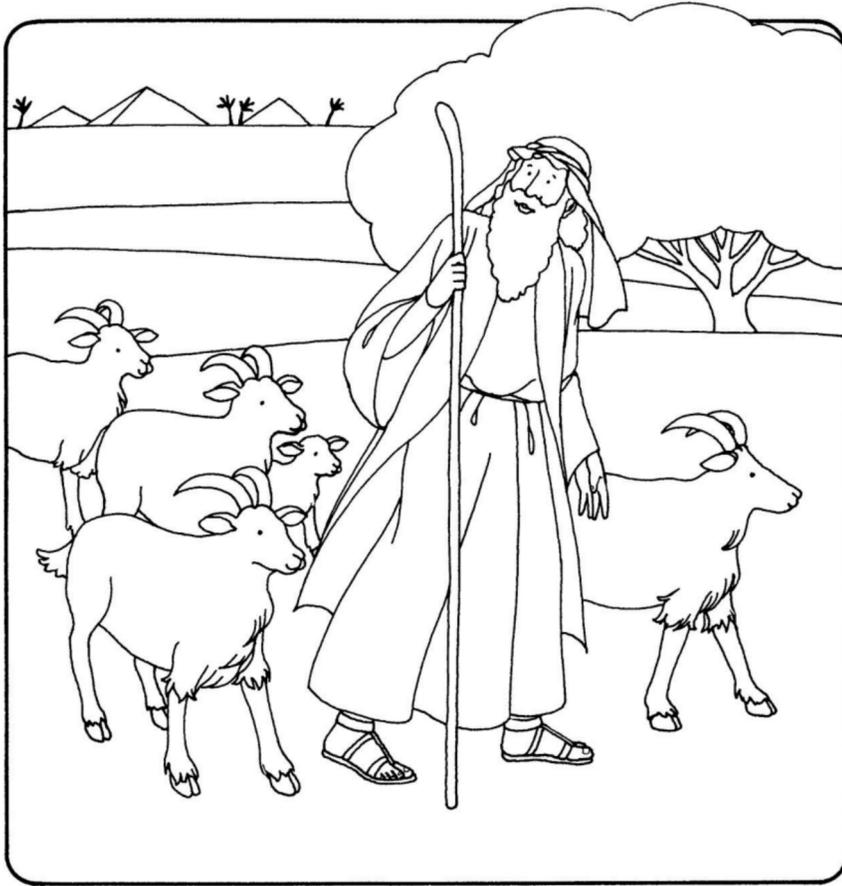
Long ago, a cruel king called Pharaoh ruled the land of Egypt. He made the Jewish people who lived there his slaves. They had to work very hard building cities and palaces for the Pharaoh. The Jews were hungry and tired.



MOSES (MOSHE)

Pharaoh was especially cruel to Jewish children. One mother, Yocheved, hid her baby in a basket on the riverbank, so Pharaoh wouldn't find him. When Pharaoh's daughter, the princess, came down to the river to bathe, she found the baby and decided to take him home to the palace. Miriam, the baby's sister, saw the princess rescue her brother and asked if she needed a baby nurse. The princess said yes. Miriam told her mother, and so it happened that Yocheved was able to care for her son and teach him about his people.





MOSHE GROWS UP

The princess named the baby Moses. In Hebrew his name was Moshe.

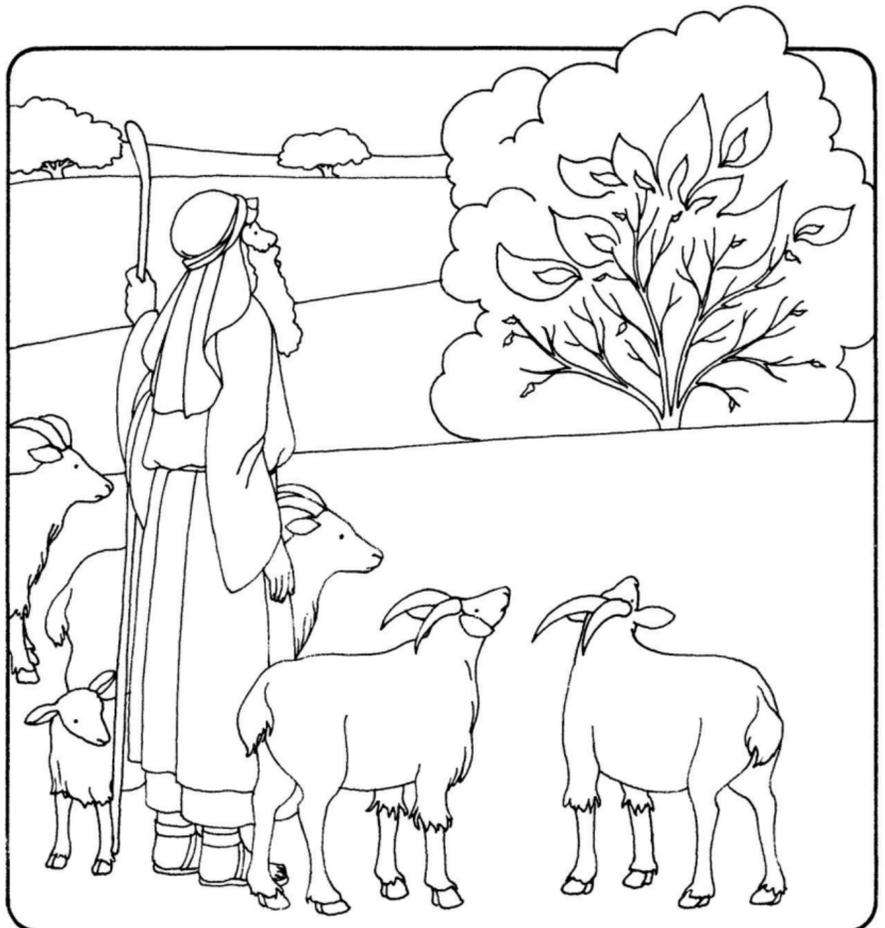
Moshe could have lived at the Pharaoh's palace forever, but he could not bear to watch the suffering of the Jewish slaves.

One day, he saw an Egyptian hurting a Jewish slave. Moshe defended the Jewish slave by killing the Egyptian who was hurting him.

After that, Moshe left Egypt and became a shepherd in a faraway land.

THE BURNING BUSH

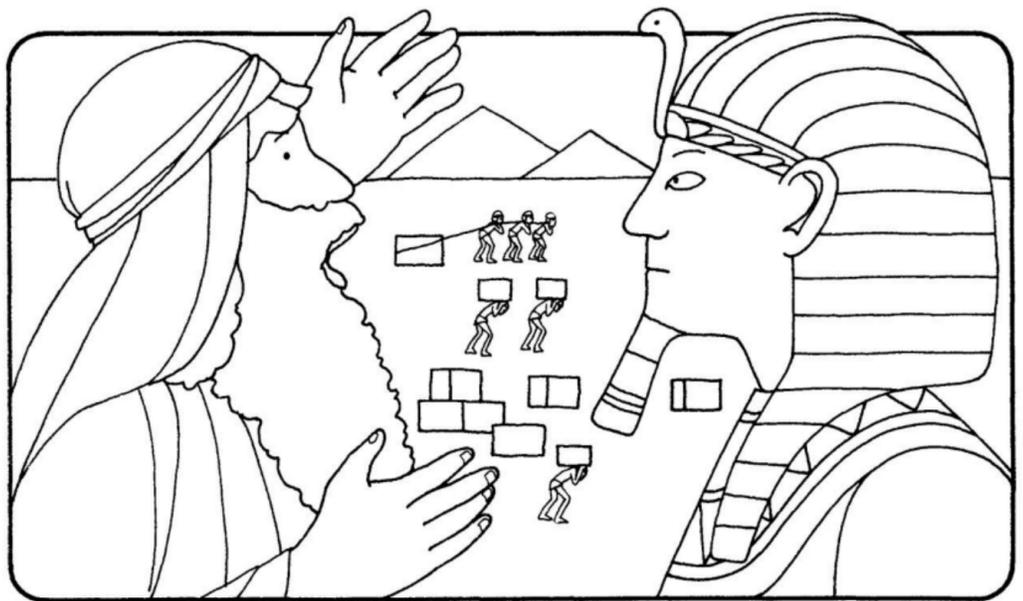
One day, when Moshe was taking care of his sheep, he saw a bush on fire but it wasn't burning to the ground. Then he heard God's voice coming from the bush. God told Moshe to take off his shoes because he was standing in a holy place. Then God told Moshe to go back to Egypt to free the Jewish slaves and take them away from cruel Pharaoh. Moshe was nervous that he couldn't do it, but he listened to God's command.



Moshe returned to Egypt. He went to see Pharaoh and told him,

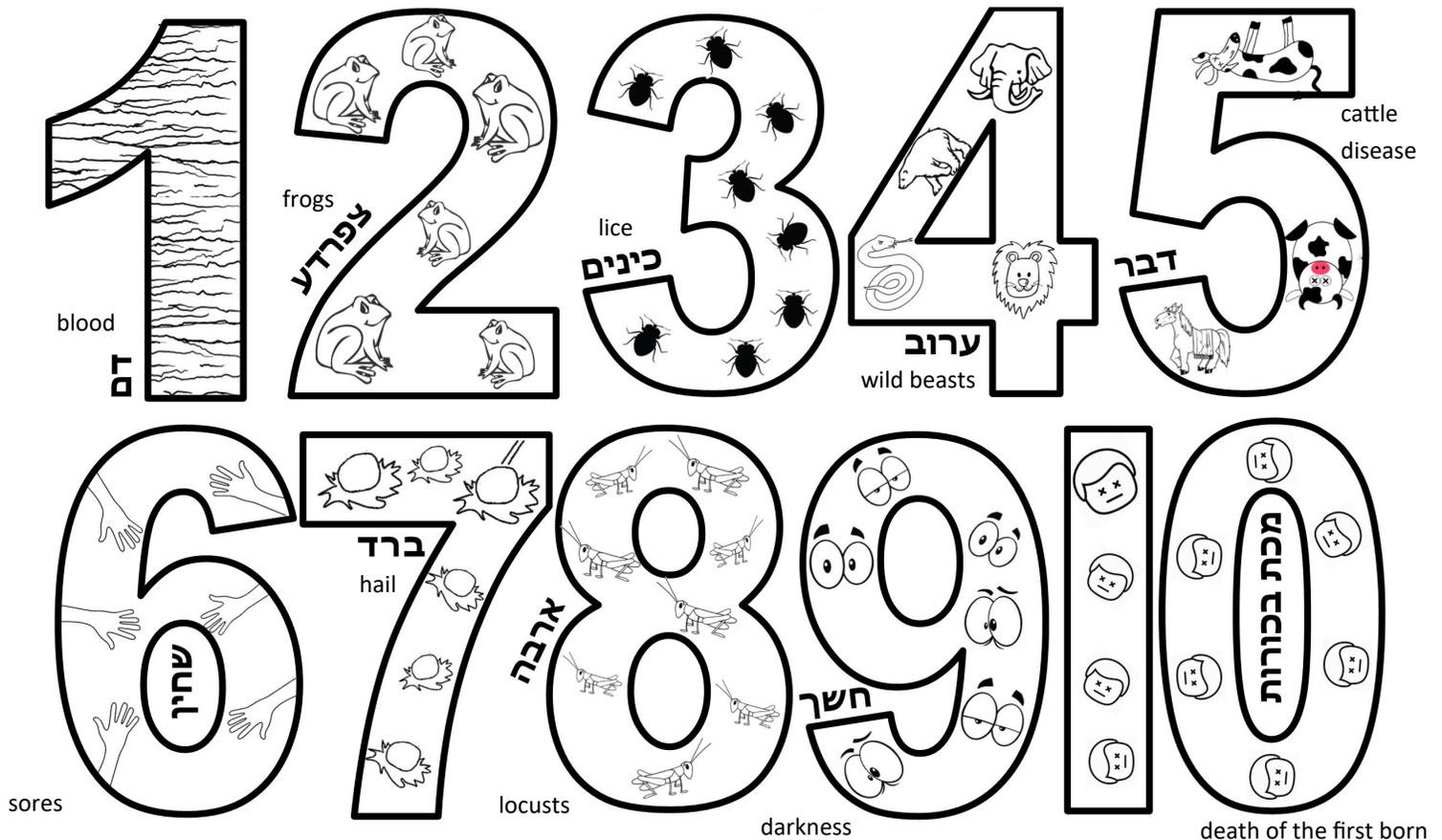
“Let My People Go”

But Pharaoh refused to listen to him.



THE TEN PLAGUES

God sent 10 plagues to Egypt to convince Pharaoh to let His people go. We are grateful for the extraordinary things that happened to help us go free. But we're also sad that other people suffered while we were saved. When we remember the Ten Plagues, we dip a pinky finger into our cup of grape juice and take one drop out for each plague. We're still joyful, but our cup is not quite as full.



FREEDOM

Each plague frightened Pharaoh, and each time he promised to free the slaves. But then his heart would harden and he would change his mind. Before the last plague, God instructed the Jewish people to put the blood of a lamb on the doorposts of their homes to show that there were Jewish people living there. When the plague was coming that night, it would *pass over* the homes of the Jewish people. The final plague was so harsh that Pharaoh agreed to let the Jewish people go.

They people got ready very quickly. They didn't have time to bake bread for their journey. Instead, they put raw dough on their backs. The sun baked it into hard crackers called matzah.

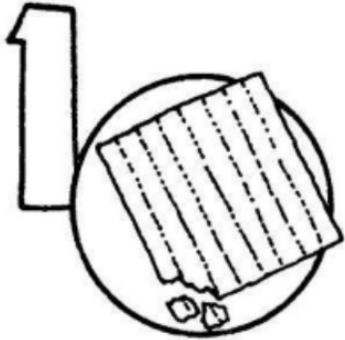
The Jewish people followed Moshe. When they got to the Red Sea, God told Moshe to hold up his walking stick. When he did, a strong wind parted the sea, and the Jewish people walked across on dry land. But, Pharaoh had once again changed his mind and chased after the Jewish people. When the Egyptians got to the Red Sea and tried to cross it too, God closed the waters over them and drowned them all.

When the Jewish people were safely on the other side, Miriam let them all in songs of thanks to God.



ANSWERING THE FOUR QUESTIONS

Now that we have told the story of Pesach, let's see if we can answer the four questions we asked at the beginning of our seder.



Why do we eat matzah on Pesach?

Matzah reminds us that when Jews left Egypt, they had no time to bake bread for their journey. They put raw dough on their backs, and the sun baked it into hard crackers called matzah.



Why do we eat bitter herbs, maror, at the seder?

Maror reminds us of the bitter and cruel way Pharaoh treated the Jewish people by forcing them to be slaves in Egypt.



Why do we dip foods twice at the seder?

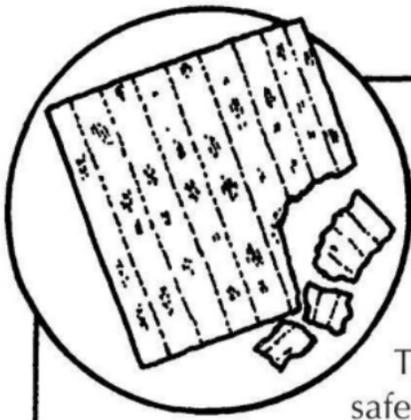
We dip bitter herbs into charoset (chopped apples mixed with wine and nuts) to remind us how hard the Jewish slaves worked in Egypt. Charoset looks like the clay used to make bricks to build Pharaoh's palaces.

We also dip parsley into salt water. Parsley reminds us that it is spring and new life will grow. Salt water reminds us of the tears of the Jewish slaves.



Why do we lean on a pillow at the seder?

We lean on a pillow to be comfortable and to remind us that once we were slaves, but now we are free.



Matzah

Matzah reminds us of the Jewish people's hurried flight from slavery in Egypt. We uncover the matzah and break the middle piece, putting half of it away for our dessert. This piece is called the afikomen. We hide it in a safe place so we can find it after the meal.

Give each person two small pieces of matzah.

We say two blessings over the matzah:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ.

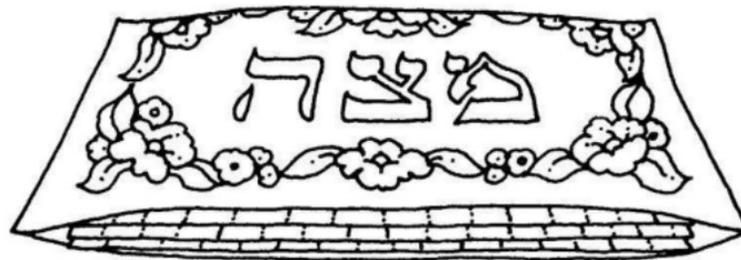
Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, hamotzi lechem min ha'aretz.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ עַל אֲכִילַת מַצָּה

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al achilat matzah.

Thank You, God, for the blessing of bread, and for the special matzah we eat on Pesach.

Eat the matzah.



Maror

Give each person a piece of maror.

Maror reminds us of the bitterness of slavery. We dip maror into the charoset and recite a blessing:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ עַל אֲכִילַת מָרוֹר.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al achilat maror.

Thank You, God, for maror.

Eat the maror.





AFTER DINNER

Whoever finds the afikomen is rewarded for bringing it back to the table. We break it into pieces and share it for dessert. We finish our seder meal with a blessing.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הוֹן אֶת-הַכֹּל.

Baruch Atah Adonai hazan et hakol.

Thank You, God, for the food we have eaten.

