

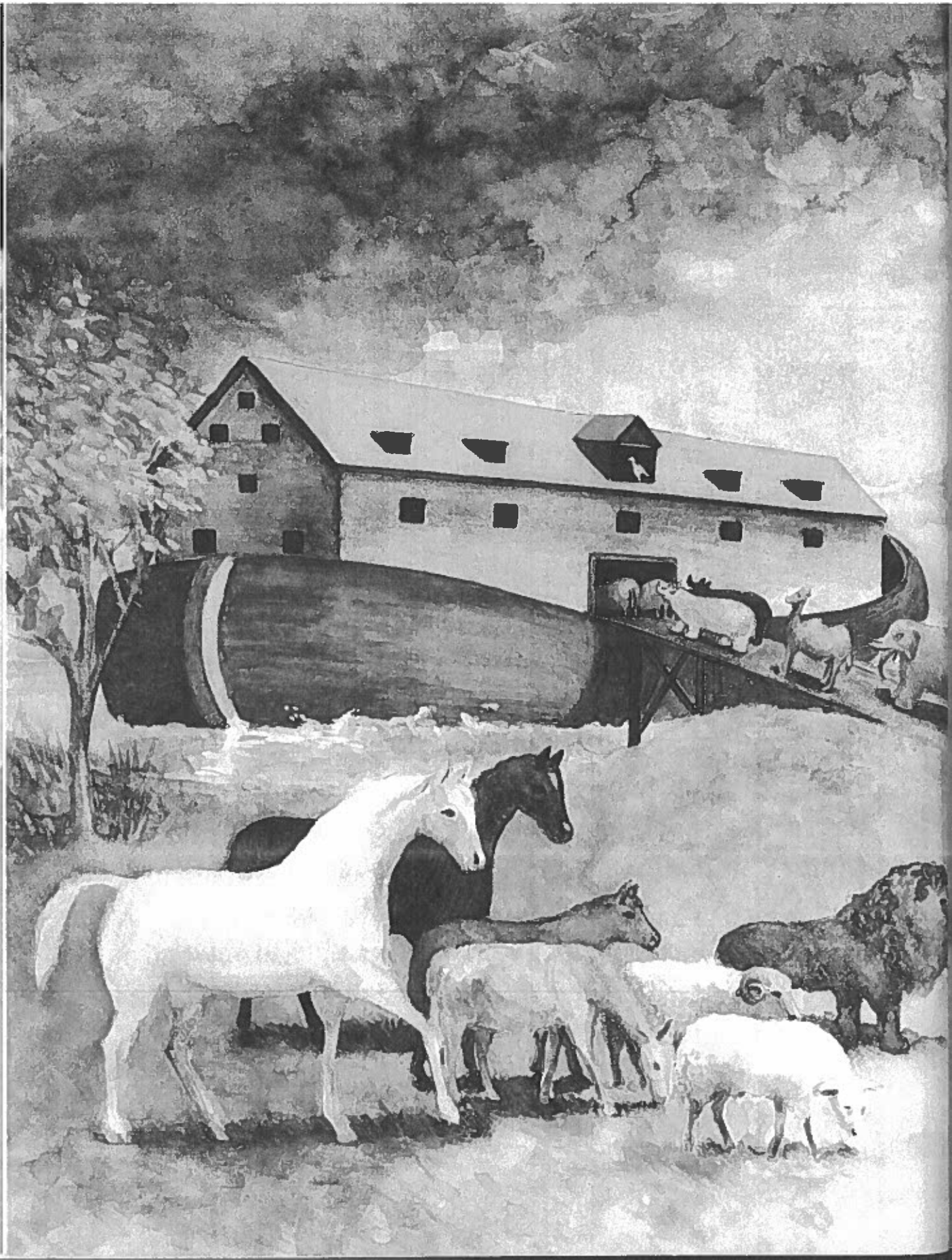
## 7 Obeying God Our Father


“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,  
whose trust is the LORD.”

Jeremiah 17:7

God still loved Adam and Eve, even after they disobeyed Him. He promised to send a Savior to make up for their sin so that Adam, Eve, and all people would have the chance to go to Heaven.

But God did not say when the Savior would come. The people had to wait many years before Jesus came. Many people became tired of being good. They forgot about God. Soon there was only one family that still loved God. It was the family of **Noah**. Do you know the story about Noah and the ark? God asked Noah to build an ark and put every kind of animal, male and female, inside of it. Noah and his family also entered the ark. Because of Noah's trust and obedience, God was able to save the goodness of creation. God washed away all that was bad and sinful from the earth in a flood.





Years later there was a man named **Abraham** who loved God very much. But Abraham was sad because he didn't have any children. One day, God spoke to Abraham: "Your wife will have a baby soon. And someday you will have grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Then the family of Abraham will be one of the biggest families of all!" God promised that the family of Abraham would always be very special to Him.

Soon Abraham's wife had a baby. She named him **Isaac**. Abraham loved his little boy very much.

One day, God tested Abraham. He told Abraham to give up his son. This probably made Abraham afraid and sad, but he wanted to obey God. Abraham trusted God. When he was all ready to do what God had asked, an angel came and said, "Stop! You can keep Isaac with you. God just wanted to see how much you loved Him. God will bless you for being so obedient."

As God promised, the family of Abraham grew very large, and God took care of them all. Many of Abraham's descendants are living today. They are the Jewish people.

Many years after Abraham, but still long before Jesus came, there was a boy named David. David took care of his father's sheep all day. He was strong and good. He loved to sing and play a harp. He made up songs about God and the beautiful world God made.

One day, something happened that made all of the people very afraid. A giant named Goliath came and said he wanted to fight! "If you can find someone to beat me," he said, "my people will be your servants. But if I beat you, you must all be our servants."

Everyone was afraid to fight Goliath. But not David. "I may be small, but God will help me to beat Goliath."

David took some small stones and put them in a slingshot. When he met Goliath in the field, the giant made fun of David. But David was not afraid because of his trust in God. He put a stone in the sling and shot Goliath right between the eyes. Goliath fell dead. David had saved God's people.

Later, David became king of the Chosen People. It was from his descendants that Mary and Joseph, the parents of Jesus, would come.

## 8 God Gives Us His Laws

“And if you obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments which I command you this day, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.”

Deuteronomy 28:1

As God promised, the Chosen People grew to be very many. Years after Abraham died, a bad thing happened to them. They all became slaves in the land of Egypt.

Then God gave them a leader. His name was Moses. With God’s help Moses set the people free. For many years God led the people so they could find a new land to live in. God wanted His Chosen People really to know that they were special to Him. He took care of them and showed His love for them by giving them all they needed. God also wanted them to love Him in return. He gave His Chosen People rules and told them that if they loved Him they would obey those rules and they would be happy.

We call these rules the **Ten Commandments**. They are God's **Law** of love for all His people. Because we become God's children when we are baptized, these Laws are for us, too. Knowing God's Laws helps us to do what is right.

**Q. 21** *What are the Ten Commandments?*

The Ten Commandments are God's Laws of love for all His people (CCC 1962).

**Q. 22** *Why did God give Moses and His people the Ten Commandments?*

God gave Moses and His people the Ten Commandments so they would know God and serve Him faithfully while they waited for the Savior (CCC 62, 1961).

**Words to Know:**

Ten Commandments    Law

### **Here are the Ten Commandments:**

1. You shall not have other gods besides Me.
2. You shall not use God's name in vain.
3. Remember to keep God's day holy.
4. Honor your father and mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not lie.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

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The first three Commandments tell us how to love and respect God. The others tell us how to love and respect other people. Sometimes we obey God's Law by doing what is good, other times we obey by not doing what is bad.