

Let's Start

ASK: When I say a word, I want you to shout out the first thing that comes into your head: "Ice cream... School... Computer."

SAY: Sometimes, when we see or hear something, it reminds us of something else. Today's Bible passage is full of pictures that are designed to remind us of other things.

Our passage today happens to a group of people a long, long time after Adam and Eve. God has rescued the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt and looked after them and made some amazing promises to them. We are going to look at one amazing promise that he had made...

Let's Listen to God

READ: Exodus 25:8

8 Have them make a sacred tent for me. I will live among them.

ASK: Think back to what we saw about Eden in Genesis 2. What thing in the garden does this lampstand remind you of?

READ: Exodus 26:31 & 33

31 "Make a curtain out of blue, purple and bright red yarn and finely twisted linen. Have a skilled worker sew cherubim into the pattern.

33 Hang the curtain from the hooks. Place the ark of the covenant law behind the curtain. The curtain will separate the Holy Room from the Most Holy Room.

ASK: What picture did God tell them to sew into the curtain? Where else in the Bible have we heard about angels at a barrier, stopping people from going where God lived?

Let's Learn

SAY: The tent was an amazing place. It was the place where God was—a place a bit like Eden! But then God told people to put a BIG CURTAIN around this wonderful place. God used the whole tent as a picture to remind Israel that it's wonderful to live with him, but because of their sin, they couldn't go in his presence.

Years later, when the Israelites no longer lived in tents, but in a city God had given them, God gave them a new place to build, where he would live. It was called a temple. And even in that temple was a curtain with pictures of warrior angels on it—a big "Keep Out" sign. The lampstand was there to remind them of how perfect Eden was, and the curtain reminded them of their problem with sin.

It's amazing that all of the Bible is telling the same story—even all those descriptions of tents and lampstands!

Let's Pray

Say: Lord God, we praise you that you gave us the Bible to show us what you are like and what you do. As we continue reading your story, from the garden to the curtain to the cross, please help us to understand what youa re telling us about your amazing plan to solve the problem of sin. Amen.