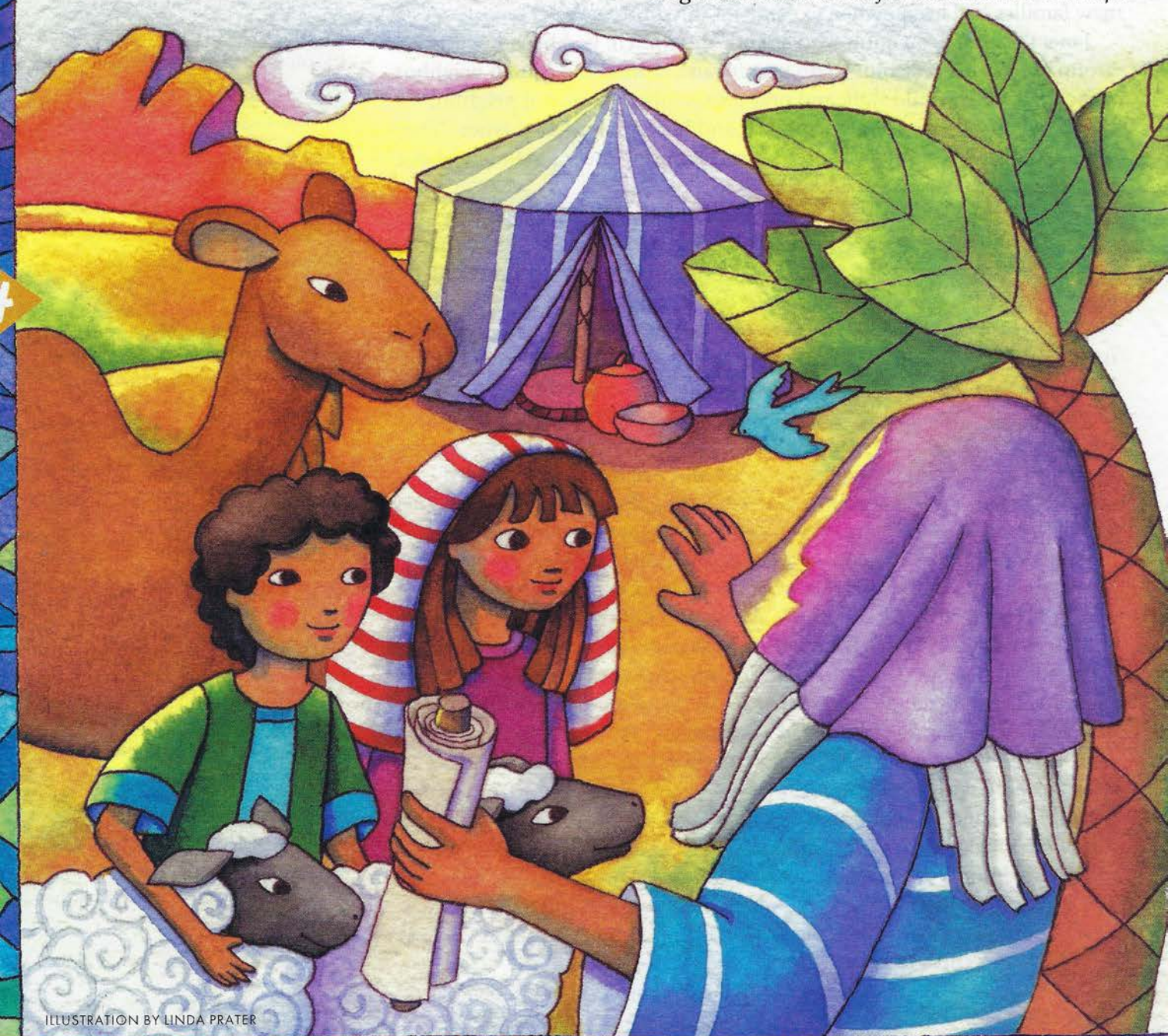


A fictional story based on Exodus 33:11,12-17; 34:30-35

Grandpa Moses and His MYSTERIOUS

By Joyce K. Ellis

Imagine being Moses' grandchildren: a boy we'll call Jeph, and his sister, Naarah (rhymes with Sarah). Think about what it might have been like for them when Grandpa



VEIL

*Moses came down from Mount Sinai after 40 days alone with God. His face glowed so brightly he had to cover it with a veil. Now, let's pretend we can overhear the conversation Moses might have had with his grandchildren outside his tent after he **spent time with God**.*

Naarah tried not to stare at her grandfather. She knew he could see her, even though she couldn't see his face. But the veil made her curious. "You said God let you see Him? What did He look like?" she asked.

Moses shook his head. "Words fail me."

"Oh, please try, Grandfather," Jeph begged.

Grandpa Moses scratched his head. "This morning I tried to write about it for Israel's history records, but . . . Here, let me show you."

Ducking inside his tent, Moses returned with a scroll and said to the children, "I don't mind telling you that leading all of Israel has been a difficult job. If I could not go to God and ask Him for His help, I couldn't do it." Then he began reading from his scroll: "I said to Jehovah, 'Lead these people . . . if you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with You.'"

Naarah and Jeph listened with excitement as their grandfather continued. "Jehovah said to me, 'My Presence will go with you and I will give you rest . . . I will do the very thing you have asked because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.'"

"Can you imagine?" Moses whispered to the kids. "Jehovah saying such a thing to me!"

"Awesome!" Jeph exclaimed.

"He speaks to me face to face, as a man talks with his friend!" Moses continued in wonder.

Jeph and Naarah sat silently as the words sank in.

Jeph glanced at his sister. "Naarah and I want to **spend time with God** just like you do Grandpa."

Naarah nodded. "Grandfather, what makes your face glow?"

"The more you **spend time with God**," Grandpa Moses said, "the more you become like Him. There is

so much to learn about Him! The Lord has shown Himself to me in clouds and fire and in lightning and trembling mountains. But mostly in quiet moments with Him."

Jeph cocked his head. "I think you're saying that if I want to become a man of God . . ."

". . . or woman of God . . ." Naarah added.

". . . we need to **spend time with Him**," Jeph continued. "We need to talk to Him."

"And listen?" Naarah asked.

Grandfather nodded. "Especially listen."

"And then obey what He says," Jeph added.

"Yes. The more time you spend with God, the better you know Him." Moses smiled. "And the better you know Him, the better you understand what pleases Him and how to obey Him."

Jeph picked up on the idea. "Yeah. It's like having a great best friend and wanting to do all the things that make him happy."

"Exactly," replied Grandpa Moses with twinkling eyes. "That's why my face shines, Naarah. I've just **spent time with God**, my best friend in the whole world. I've learned that He is pleased with me and wants to talk to me. I know that no matter how busy I get leading our people, nothing should ever keep me from **spending time with Him**. Now if you'll excuse me, I want to go talk to Him again." ★

—Joyce K. Ellis is the creator of *One-Minute Bible Devotions for Kids*.

See for YOURSELF

Look up these Scriptures to learn about some of the times Moses **spent time with God**.

- ✓ Exodus 3:2: "The LORD _____ to him in flames of fire from within a bush."
- ✓ Exodus 19:3: "Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD _____ to him from the mountain."
- ✓ Exodus 24:12: "The LORD said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain and _____.'"
- ✓ Exodus 24:18: "He [Moses] stayed on the mountain for _____ days and _____ nights."
- ✓ Exodus 33:11: "The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his _____." ★

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