

Read this story and think about what freedoms the children being given and what they being trusted to do. Also think about what they need to do, to be responsible with the freedom they have been given.

After school – a story about our freedoms and responsibilities

After School Daniel and Samantha had been secretly saving their pocket money for six weeks to buy their mum a birthday present. They had seen her admiring some earrings in the jeweler's shop in town, so they decided they would get off their bus in town and buy them. When they got to town they went to the shop, only to find it was closed, so they decided to find another shop. After a long search, they found another jeweler's where they had the same earrings. They bought them and went back to catch their bus. Meanwhile, at home, their mum was very worried. It was nearly 5.30 and Daniel and Samantha weren't home. She rang up the school and was told they had gone home. She rang a few friends, but the children weren't there. "I shall have to ring the police if they don't turn up soon," she said to herself.

- Has anything like that happened to you? What did you learn from the experience?
- What do you think happened when Daniel and Samantha got home? Why?
- What would the main issues be for Daniel and Samantha?
- What would the main issues be for their Mum?
- If the police were involved, what would the main issues be for them?
- What freedom does the Mother have a right to?
- What freedom do the children have a right to?
- What do you think is responsible and irresponsible behaviour and what are your reasons?

- What do you think Mum, Samantha and Daniel have learnt from the experience and what do you think they will do in future?

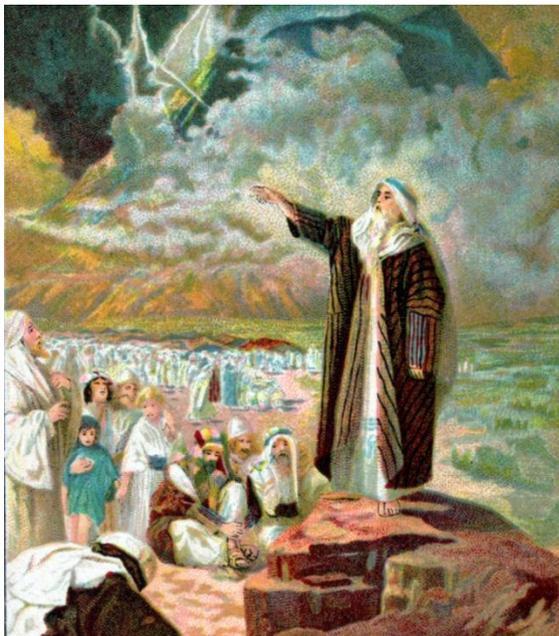
Journey to the Promised Land

After Moses led them from slavery in Egypt, the Israelites wandered in the desert for many years. Nearly always they rejoiced in their freedom. Sometimes they suffered hardships. Sometimes even hunger and thirst, but always God provided for them in spite of their grumbles. Water to drink (based on Exodus 15:22-25, 27) Moses led his people from their camp at the Sea of Reeds and through the desert into the wilderness of Shur. They travelled for three days without water. Eventually they found water at a place called Marah, meaning bitter, and indeed the water there was so bitter they could not drink it. The people grumbled at Moses. "What are we to drink?" they said. Moses prayed to God. God answered his prayer. Moses recognised a special kind of wood. When he placed it in the water it became sweet. After quenching their thirst the people were able to travel to Elim. There they found twelve water springs and seventy palm trees. Here they pitched their camp beside the waters. Food to eat (based on Exodus 16:13-16) The whole Israelite community set out from Elim and on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had left Egypt they came to the desert of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai. There in the desert they complained to Moses, "We wish that God had let us die in Egypt. There we could at least sit down and eat meat and as much food as we wanted. But you have brought us out into this desert to starve us all to death." The Lord answered saying to Moses: "Now I am going to make bread rain down from the sky for all of you. The people must go out every day and gather enough for that day." That evening, quails flew in and covered the camp. Next morning there was dew all over the camp and when the dew evaporated there was something thin and flaky on the surface of the desert. It was as delicate as frost. When the Israelites saw it they didn't know what it was and asked each other, "What is it?" Moses said to them, "This is the food that the Lord has given you to eat. The Lord has commanded that each of you is to gather as much of it as you need each day, two litres for each member of your household." Exodus 24:26 God's Commandments (based on Exodus 20:8-11) The

Israelites were already two hundred miles from Egypt when they reached Mount Sinai and camped there. Moses ordered the people not to climb the mountain's slopes because it was a holy mountain. He was going to climb the mountain and he asked them to pray that God would teach them the laws that would bind them together as a people. He was away for a long time, praying and talking with God. Then he returned to the people. Moses told them God's Laws, the Ten Commandments and they accepted them as God's gift and the rules for a new way of life.

Think about what Moses would have said to God when asking for his help to establish the rules by which they were to live.

Record your ideas as a speech / prayer or thought bubble.



Dear God,.....

