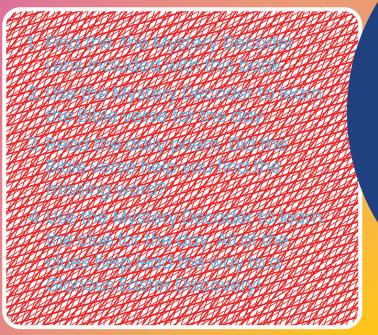


DEVOTIONS and Detective Work for LENT & EASTER

Discover How to Use this Book





Clue

When God created everything,
way back in the beginning,
The world was quite a perfect place:
no pain or death or sinning.
God made a garden paradise
where Eve and Adam played.
God walked with them and talked with them

about the world he made.

God only had one rule back then.

"Don't eat from this tall ____.

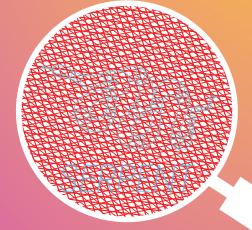
For if you do, I'm telling you, you'll die immediately."



There's something sneaking in the trees!
Do you see it hiding here?
The _____ says to eat the fruit.
"You'll be like God," it sneers.
Both Eve and Adam take a bite.
They know that they have sinned.

God sends them from their garden home.
They can't go back again.

But right away, God makes a plan to save the sinful world And make a home in paradise for every boy and girl.



Clue (3

The sin that started in the garden quickly spread around.

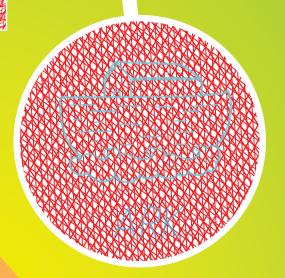
When God looked at the world, just one good family could be found.

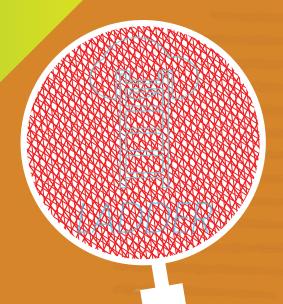
God sent a flood to scour the world, but Noah's life was spared.

He floated in the ___ he built with animals in pairs.

The water went back down again when God turned off the rain.

Although there still is sin, God won't destroy his world again.





Clue 4

A man named Jacob fell asleep
upon the cold, hard ground.

He dreamed of angels on a _____.
They were heaven bound.

And in his dream, he heard God's voice.
"Jacob, I've chosen you.

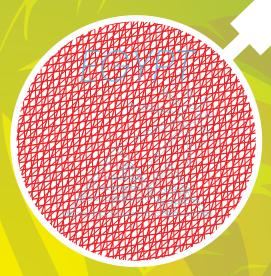
Your family will grow into
a nation, strong and true.

And one of your descendants will
bring blessings to the earth."

When Jacob woke, he thanked the Lord
for this gift of great worth.

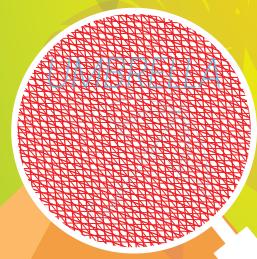
Clue 5

A quilt is made of many fabrics stitched closely to each other. And like a quilt, God's people grew, one family to another. Jacob was blessed with many sons, those sons had families, too. In ____ land, God's promise of a nation soon came true. Four hundred years passed in that place. God's people had to go And take the land God promised Jacob many years ago.



Clue 6





God's people were in Egypt. They were being held as slaves. God sent a man to lead them out so that they could be saved. The man was Moses, and he led God's people through the sea. God split the sea and made a path so they could all be free. Look for a bright _____ here. And here's the reason why: God's people passed right through the sea and stayed completely dry.

Clue / Additional Communication of the Communicatio

There was a little _____ boy.

He grew to be the king.

You might remember how
he fought a giant with a sling.

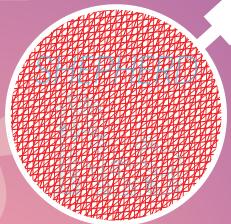
He led God's people faithfully
and followed God's commands.

And with God's blessings,

David's kingdom spread across the land.

I want to follow all of God's commandments faithfully.

So that the kingdom of the Lord will grow through little me.



Clue (8)

Le wrote psalms and poetry.

He wrote about another ____.

Who could this new ____ be?

He wrote a psalm that said

the ____ of glory would be here.

He wrote that we should wait and watch.

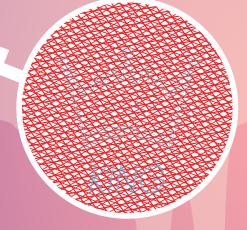
The ____ would soon appear.

Although ___ David was the best,

this new ___ would be better.

And I can write my love for him

in poems and songs and letters.



Clue (9)

The people stopped believing God.

They didn't seem to care

About the promised King at all.

They hardly sent a prayer.

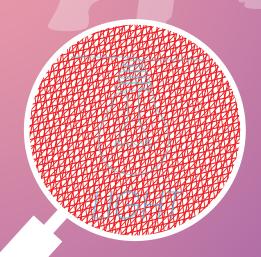
Isaiah wrote, "We're in the dark,
but soon new ____ will shine.

A child will soon be born.

He'll be the son of God, divine."

Sometimes I may forget to pray.
Sometimes I know I've sinned.

But Jesus' ____ shines in my heart.
He makes me bright again.



Clue ()

The ____ said to Mary,
 "You will give birth to a son.

He is the child of God.
 He is a gift for everyone!"

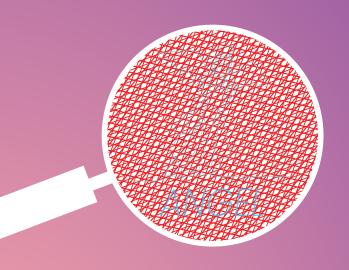
Mary believed the news she heard.
 Her heart was filled with joy.

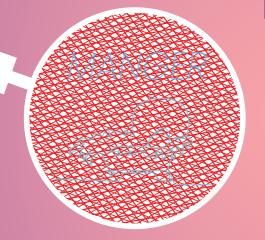
To think the world would be made new through Mary's baby boy.

This clue reveals God's messenger.
 Now you can share the news

to save the world, and me and you!

That Christ the Lord was born





Clue (

When Joseph came to Bethlehem,
there was no room at all.

To house his wife and baby,
Joseph found a humble stall.

Think how God's plan for salvation
starts so surprisingly—
A baby born inside a barn
is King of you and me.

The shepherds followed clues to find
this mystery in a ______,

And I can seek him every day.
He is my God and savior.

Clue (12)

They named the baby ____.

It is quite the perfect name.

It means God saves his people.

It's a clue to why he came!

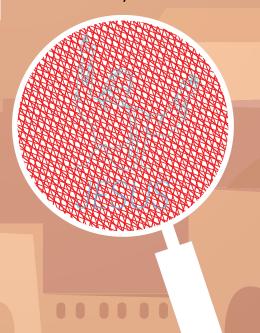
He's born to set God's people free.

He's come to pay the price.

He's here to take away our sin and be our sacrifice.

The promise made so long ago has finally come true.

Our faithful God is doing what God promised he would do.



At daybreak on the first day of the week they took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Je-

This Lent, seek out God's plan for salvation—a plan that God formed at the beginning of the world-a plan that promises forgiveness of sins and life everlasting for all those who believe.

Follow our savior, Jesus Christ, on his journey to the cross, the grave, and onward to his glorious resurrection on Easter morning.

Hidden clues guide the way along the Lenten trail. The images and messages you find will help unravel the mystery of God's great plan for our salvation. Read the Bible verse and devotion for the day. Then search for the daily clue mentioned in the devotional poem. You'll be able to find clues by using the Mystery Decoder included with this book. When Easter arrives, celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

God has blessed us with his grace, his love, his gift of forgiveness and everlasting life through Jesus! It's a glorious—and eternally wonderful—mystery!

