

Gem Seeking

LITTLE GEMS STORY

Parent/Teacher Preparation:

Please see the [Instructions for the Little Gems Story](#) on the YMTOI website. This will help you to understand how to prepare for the story.

Marching Orders

Shalom children! Today, we will hear a story about a cloud and some trumpets. I like looking up at the clouds in the sky, and I like hearing trumpets, don't you? This cloud in our story wasn't just any old cloud, though, and these weren't just any old trumpets.

This cloud was a special cloud, because this was Yahweh's way of showing the Yisra'elites where He wanted them to camp. **(Place Yisra'elites on board.)** The Yisra'elites were in the Wilderness of Sinai, and this cloud was covering the Dwelling Place. **(Place Dwelling Place and pillar of cloud over the Dwelling Place on board.)** It stayed over the Dwelling Place all the time.

When it was night time, from evening until morning, it looked like fire. **(Remove cloud and place pillar of fire on board.)** And in the daytime, it went back to looking like a cloud. **(Remove fire and place cloud back on board.)** Whenever the cloud would move, the Yisra'elites would follow it to the new location, where they would set up camp again. **(Move cloud, Yisra'elites, and Dwelling Place to the other side of the board.)** And that is where they would stay until the next time the cloud moved. Sometimes the cloud would not move for a while. It would stay there above the Dwelling Place for a few days, or a month, or even a whole year! Until the cloud moved again, they would just stay put and be careful to guard the responsibilities that Yahweh had given them.

Now Yahweh directed Mosheh to make 2 silver trumpets to be used for gathering everyone together, and also for letting them know when it was time to take down the camp. **(Place Mosheh and 2 silver trumpets on board, not near the Dwelling Place.)** He told Mosheh that when both trumpets were blown together, everyone in the congregation was to meet at the door of the Tent of Meeting. But if only one trumpet was blown, then just the leaders would gather together. When they blew a shout, it would be time for the camps on the east side to leave. When they blew a shout the second time, the camps on the south side would leave. But if they wanted everyone to gather together, they would blow, but would not make it a shout. The special job of blowing the trumpets was given by Yahweh to the priests. **(Place sons of Aharon blowing trumpets on board.)**

The trumpets weren't just for gathering people together, though. When they were going to a battle, they could blow a shout on the trumpets, and Yahweh would save them from foreign people who didn't like them. The priests were also to blow them during the appointed times, during the new moon, and over their offerings to Yahweh. **(Place appointed times scene and offerings scene on board.)**

(Remove all items from board.)

Well, soon after Yahweh had told them all this, the cloud lifted from above the Dwelling Place and moved to the Wilderness of Paran. **(Place pillar of cloud on the right side of the board to make enough room for the line-up.)** This happened in the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year. So the Yisra'elites followed the cloud, according to all the instructions they had been given. They left in the order they were told to leave. The camp of Yehudah, Yissaskar and Zebulun took their banner and departed first. **(Place Group 1 behind the cloud.)** Next, the sons of Gershon and Merari departed with the Dwelling Place which was their job. **(Place Group 2 next in the procession carrying board and curtain.)** After they got on their way, it was time for the camp of Re'uben along with Shim'on and Gad to leave. So they took their banner and started walking. **(Place Group 3 on board next in line.)** The Qehathites departed after them, carrying the set-apart objects that went in the Dwelling Place. **(Place Group 4 next in line carrying set-apart objects.)** The camp of Ephrayim then took their banner and departed next along with Menashsheh and Binyamin. **(Place Group 5 next in the procession.)** And finally, the camp of Dan took their banner and departed last along with the camps of Asher and Naphtali. They were the ones who guarded the back of the procession. **(Place Group 6 at the end of the line.)** Each tribe had someone who was in charge of their army, so they were very organized and knew exactly who was supposed to be going with whom.

Mosheh encouraged Hobab, the son of his father-in-law, to come with them to the land of Kena'an. **(Place Hobab and Mosheh on board.)** Hobab wanted to return to his own land to be with his relatives, but Mosheh talked him into coming, and convinced him to serve as their scout. So they all set out to search for their new campsite. They followed the cloud for 3 days. Whenever the ark would set out, Mosheh would say, "Rise up, Oh Yahweh! And let Your enemies be scattered and let those who hate You flee before You." And whenever the ark rested, Mosheh would say, "Return, Oh Yahweh, to the countless thousands of Yisra'el."

Well children, we have come to the end of our story for today. We will see you next week for another exciting Little Gems story!