

Mahragan El Keraza 2022



English Edition

Kindergarten



“ Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”

2 Corinthians 13:11



live in peace

Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.



H.H. Pope Tawadros II

Pope of Alexandria &
Patriarch of the See of St. Mark



H.G. Bishop David

Bishop of the Diocese of New York
and New England





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Through the prayers of our Holy Father, Pope Tawadros the Second...

My dearest friends, how are you? I would like to

introduce myself. My name is **Weego** and these are my friends, the playful clouds, **Kiko** and **Soti**! I also want you to meet the mischievous **Windy** along with our other friends: **Sunny the Sun**, the beautiful tree **Dorzy** and **Sherri** the lovely dove.

We are so excited for you to join us on our adventure this year. Together, we will learn so many amazing new things! This year's theme is: **"Live in Peace"** (2 Corinthians 13:11)





1 - Calming the Storm

Through this story we learn the meaning of peace which is to feel the presence of God with us at all times.

"My Peace is a Divine Gift"

2- The Story of Constantine the Great and the Cross

Through this story we learn that the Lord redeemed us through His Cross and by It, returned peace to us once more, giving us victory.

"My Peace is From My Lord, My Redeemer"

3- The Sacrament of Baptism and the Holy Myron.

Through this story we learn about our beautiful, Church and her sacraments, which is the source of our peace.

"My Peace is in My Beautiful Church"

4- The Miracle of Moving the Mokkalam Mountain

Through this story we learn that prayers give us everlasting peace.

"I Keep My Peace Through Everything"

5- Miriam: The Sister of Aaron

ON

Through this we learn that helping others gives us joy and peace.

"I am at Peace with Everyone"





My Peace is a Gift From the Lord

Windy: I am in such a good mood today! I have no plans to cause any problems.

Sunny: Good job, Windy. Let's say our morning chant!



Everyone: (Singing)
Every morning we awake
Flying by as we make
The sky for everyone to enjoy!

Look up little children,
We'll make shapes in the sky,
Guess the shapes as we fly.

Weego: Kiko, Soti, Let's make a shape. Windy, can you please blow some wind to help us?

Soti: Yes, please if you don't mind Windy! But please don't be mischievous and blow too hard. It'll mess up the shape if your wind is too strong.

Kiko: Hmm, what shape do you think we should make?

Windy: You're right, I may be mischievous, but in fact, I am a hero. A hero in obedience. My story was written in the greatest Book on Earth.

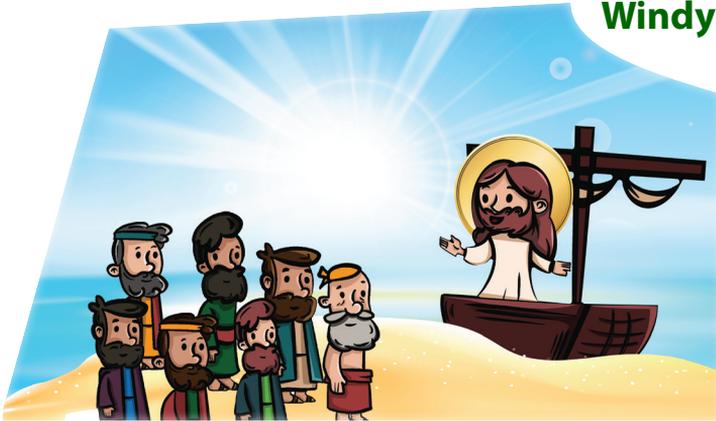
Weego: Tell us your story, please!

Kiko: And what is the greatest Book on Earth anyways?





Calming the Storm: Mark 4



Windy: The greatest book is the Holy Bible. Let me tell you about one of my heroic stories that's written in the Bible.

Our Lord Jesus Christ began to teach by the sea. And a lot of people had gathered to listen to Him,

so that He got into a boat and sat in it on the sea. And the whole multitude was on the land facing the sea of Galilee. The people loved listening to Jesus Christ speak, so they were listening to Him all day until Sunny was ready to set.

On the same day, when evening had come, He said to his disciples, "Let us cross over to the other side." Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was.

Weego: The disciples are lucky because they were always with Jesus even when He was done teaching. In fact, they got to be with Him all the time. They must have felt very joyful and safe!

Kiko: What happened then, Windy? What happened when they were in the boat?

Windy: As they entered the boat, Christ went to the back of the boat, called the stern,





and slept on a pillow. And that, my friends, is when the whole thing started. **Everyone:** What thing? What started?

Windy: As you all know, I can be mischievous sometimes. I started running around “Vroom, Vroom”, so much so that I started a storm! It is written about me, “A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling with water.”



Kiko: Wow Windy!! The boat could’ve sunk.

Weego: Don’t worry, Kiko. Christ would never leave them.

Windy: You are right, Weego. But the Disciples were still very scared. They ran to the Lord Jesus, “and they awoke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?”



Soti: What did Jesus do?





Windy: Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm." As soon as I heard the Lord's commandment to stop, I stopped my mischief. I obeyed the Word of God immediately. God's Word is powerful you know, every creature obeys Him.



Everyone: Good job Windy! Your great obedience truly makes you a hero.

Soti: But Windy, what hap-

pened after the storm?

Windy: Christ looked at His disciples and said, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"

Weego: That's right! How can they be fearful while Christ is in the boat with them? Even if they were to face something scary, they should've not gotten so scared. As long as Christ is there, they should feel safe and peaceful. Jesus promised,

Memory
Verse

"My peace I give to you"

John
14:27





Soti: You're totally right, Weego.

Weego: You are a real hero, Windy.

Kiko: A hero of obedience! If you don't mind Windy, can you please blow a gentle breeze so we can fly around and see our friends.

Windy: Sure! Here we go!





My Peace Is From My Lord My Redeemer

Soti: (While flying over the forest): It looks like Dorzy the Tree is having a party with her friends.



All the trees: (singing)
Celebrate, Celebrate

Joyful decorations, peaceful
celebrations.

Sing praises all you boys and girls,
Sing praises all you trees and woods!

Collecting the best wood,
Only the best for the best!

Kiko: What's the occasion, Dorzy the Tree?
What's all the singing about?

Dorzy: Let me tell you! Today is a special day. Every tree uses its best wood to make crosses for the church. The cross is very precious and special because Jesus was crucified on the Cross. So, this is a special day for us trees. We get to pick the best wood to make crosses.



Sunny: Why of course!! Everyone knows the value of the cross! It's the symbol of victory and conquest. Once I saw a Cross in the sky next to me. It was brighter than me. Let me tell you the story!





Emperor Constantine the Great & the Cross

Synaxarium: 28th of Baramhat

Sunny: Many years ago, there lived a righteous king named King Constantine the Great, and everyone loved him because he was a fair ruler. As he was going to war to protect his kingdom, a marvelous Sign appeared in the sky.



Dorzy: What sign? In the sky?

Sunny: Yes, in the sky! The King saw

a bright Cross in the sky! The Cross was way brighter than the sun, too. The Cross appeared while the phrase "With this Sign, you shall conquer" was heard.

The King and his army were puzzled because the King was not a believer in Christ.

Constantine asked one of his soldiers about the Sign in the sky. The soldier explained to the King that this is the sign of the Cross, and that Christ was crucified on it. He told the King how Christ is the Lord and how through His victorious Resurrection, He defeated death and redeemed all humans. Everyone who believes in God and follows His Word can be victorious and overcome evil by the power of the Cross.





Constantine was confused and did not know what to do. At night, an Angel of the Lord appeared to the King and told him to make a Cross like the one he saw in the sky. The angel told him, "When you go to war, you will defeat your enemies with this Sign."

Kiko: Did Constantine do what the Angel said?



Sunny: He sure did, Kiko. The next morning. The King put a large cross on a huge flag and drew crosses on all the armor that the soldiers wore on the battlefield.

Weego: Did the signs actually help him? Did he win the war?

Sunny: Why of course, Weego! King Constantine won the war and every-

one rejoiced and knew the power of the Cross. Even King Constantine was baptized and became Christian!

Weego: Truly, the sign of the Cross is a sign of victory and power.

Sunny: Did you know that the Cross is very powerful for the children of God? His children feel this power where ever they are! The children of God with Saint Paul:

Memory
Verse

**"But God forbid that I should boast
except in the cross of our Lord Jesus
Christ." (Galatians 6:14)**



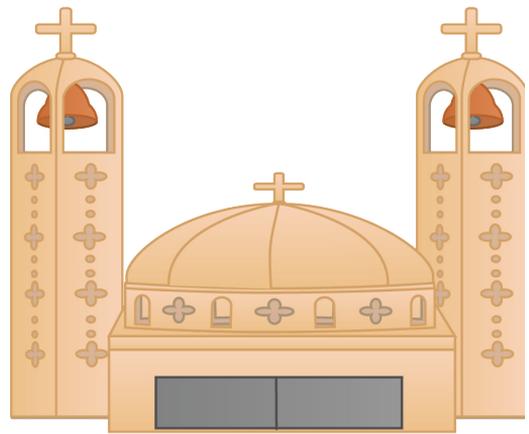


Dorzy: Now you understand why we care so much about choosing the best wood for the crosses! We want to give the church our very best wood.

Kiko: But where in the church do we see the Cross?

Dorzy: You can see the Cross everywhere, but usually in 4 special places:

1. On top of the Church building: this sign tells people that the church believes and follows the Word of the Lord Jesus who was crucified on the cross.



2. On top of the iconostasis at the



entrance to the altar: to remind the people that through the cross, Heaven was opened and the saints are there.

3. In the Hands of our fathers the priests: The priest holds the cross in his





hands while praying all the time. The priest also blesses the people with the cross. When we see the priest, we run to him and kiss his cross.



4. The deacons hold the cross as they circle around the church during the feasts and other special occasions. They hold crosses to celebrate the victory of our Redeemer through His cross. The cross is also used in many other areas in the church.

Kiko: Now we know why the cross is so important. Dorzy and Sunny, we love your stories!



My Peace Is In My Beautiful Church.

Sherri the Dove : (Joins the group excitedly) Good morning, friends! Sunny, did you already finish your story? I finished gathering my food and came as quickly as I could to join in your celebration!



Dorzy: Wait a minute everyone... Where is Soti? She always comes with you.

Weego: You're right Dorzy, that's true! Soti, Soti!

Kiko: (Calling out loud) Soti! Where are you?

Sherri: Windy, please blow your wind a little harder so we can fly back to look for Soti.

Kiko: Here she is! Why are you covered in dust? Soti, what happened to you?



Soti: I was following you to go see the trees, but then on the way, I saw some smoke coming out of the factory. I was curious to see if we could make any new friends, so



I went to say hello to the factory! But sadly, he wasn't a good friend like you guys are. As you can see, he made my color change and now I look all dirty and it won't come off, I don't know what to do!



Weego: Soti, you know very well that we don't randomly become friends with strangers. Please don't cry. We will help you bring your

real color back.

Kiko: Windy, do you think you can blow the smoke and dust away from Soti without blowing her away too?

Windy: I'm afraid if I blow, then she will go along with the wind and be taken far away. Soti, I have an idea! What if you jump up and down, maybe all that dark dirt and smoke will just fall off?

Sherri: Unfortunately, I don't think this idea will work, Windy. The only





way to clean Soti is to have her turn into rain and dive into water! This way she will be clean as if she has just been born again!

Sunny: Born again? How is this possible, Sherri? No one gets born twice.

Sherri: You know Sunny, it is actually possible through the church! When a person gets baptized, he/she becomes born all over again! Let me tell you more about the sacrament of Baptism.



The Sacrament of Baptism and Holy Myron.

Sherri: Baptism is a Holy Sacrament through which we are born again by being immersed in water three times in the Name of the Holy Trinity- in the **Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.** Through Baptism, the child's sins are forgiven and they become a Christian. Which is to say, they are now a **child of God!** After the baptism, the child receives the Holy Myron through the sacrament of Confirmation.





Immediately after being baptized, the priest anoints the baby with Holy Myron so that they become a temple of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps the new Christian to grow in their spiritual life. Although it is received directly after Baptism, it is considered as its own sacrament and the priests have to be very careful to grant it accurately to the baptized-anointing them with exactly 36 crosses.

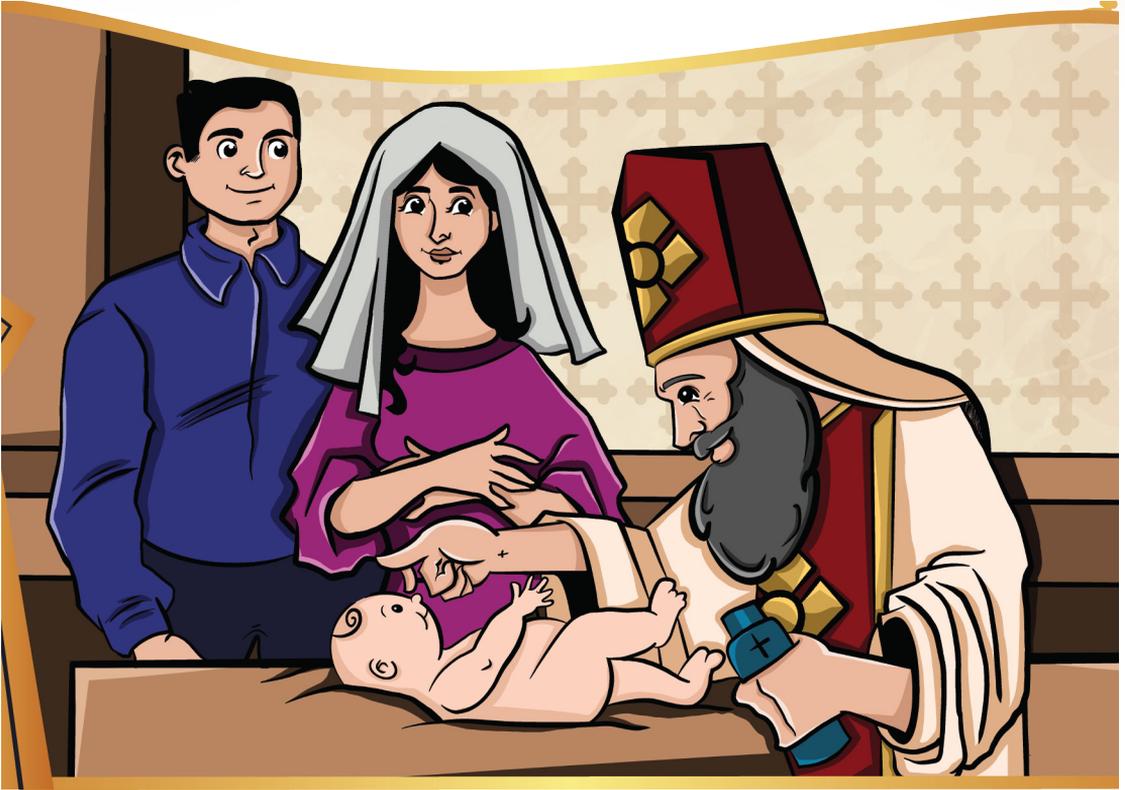
Kiko: Wow!! 36 crosses! Why so many?

Sherri: The priest anoints the child on every part of their body including their head, eyes, ears, nose, mouth, chest, back, hands, and feet.

Weego: Why does he anoint the whole the body?

Sherri: Because when you anoint every part of the body, you consecrate





it and it becomes dedicated to God. Every part of the body acts to please the Lord. This means:

The eyes look above and pray.

The ears listen to the Word of God written in the Holy Bible.

The mouth praises with hymns and songs for the Lord.

The hands do good works to please God.

The feet run fast to go to church the house of God.



**The eyes look
above and pray.**



**The ears listen to
the Word of God
written in the
Holy Bible.**



**The mouth prais-
es with hymns and
songs for the Lord.**



**The hands do good
works to please God.**



**The feet run fast
to go to church the
house of God.**



Everyone who pleases God will live joyfully, filled with peace as the Bible says,



Soti: That sounds so wonderful, Sherri. To be born again, to be immersed in the water and come out as a new beautiful cloud, pleasing God with our lives. But how can I even do this?





I Keep my Peace Through Everything

Windy: I think I can wrap my wind around Soti and lift her up above that lake. That way she will start to rain right into the lake!

Everyone: Okay! Let's go quickly!

Sunny: But wait! Be careful, if you go this way, you will pass the factory again. Then you will all turn dark like Soti.



Sherri: I know what we can do! Windy can blow his wind really hard so that the factory's smoke will be pushed far away. Soti, Weego and Kiko can then fly to the lake. But be careful, make sure you don't move too fast so you don't all bump into each other and start a rain storm.

Windy: That's a great idea! I'll count 3,2,1 then blow the wind to start our awesome plan.





Weego: Wait, what do you think, Sunny. Why are you so quiet? Do you not agree with our plan?

Sunny: No, I do! Honestly, I am very happy to see you all working together to help Soti. I am sure Soti will be just fine! I know that when people work together lovingly, they can solve big problems. Many years ago, a mountain was moved because the people worked together. Can you believe it? Let me tell you the story:



The Miracle of Moving the Mokatam Mountain. Synaxrium: 18th of Hatour

Sunny: Many years ago, the ruler of Egypt asked Pope Abraam the Syrian, the 62nd Pope of Alexandria about a verse in the Bible. The verse said that if you have faith as big as a mustard seed you can move mountains. The ruler didn't believe that anything like this





could be possible so he threatened the Pope. The ruler told the Pope that if the believers could not move the mountain, then he will hurt the believers in the land because their faith was based on lies.

Weego: What? This must have been a huge problem for the Church! I wonder, what did Pope Abraham do when he heard the ruler's threats?

Sunny: You're right Weego, it was a huge problem, but the Pope trusted the Lord. His heart was full of peace. He was confident that no matter how big the problem was, God will take care of it.

Everyone: So, what did the Pope do to save the people?

Sunny: Pope Abraam asked all the people in all the churches to fast for 3 days so that God can solve this problem and fill their hearts with His peace. The Pope wanted the ruler to know that the words of the Bible are true and that the faith of the Church is strong. Everyone worked together to preserve the church by fasting and prayers. On the third day something miraculous happened.

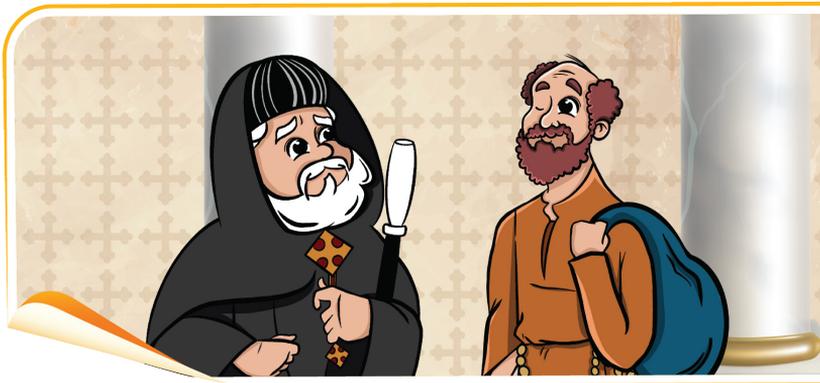


Everyone: What happened?





Sunny: Our Mother, the Virgin Mary appeared to Pope Abraam and told him, “Do not worry. God has heard your prayers. Go through the iron gate to the market and you will meet a simple man, with only one eye, carrying a pitcher of water. This is the man who will help you move the mountain.”



The Pope obeyed St. Mary. He went through the iron gate and there he met Simon the Tanner and he was indeed holding a pitcher of water, just as St. Mary had said. (A tanner is a person who makes leather from animal skin- St. Simon was a shoemaker!) He was carrying the pitcher to bring water to the sick and old who were unable to get water for themselves. He would bring water for them every morning before work! The Pope approached Simon and together they made a plan on how they will move the mountain!

Soti: What was the plan?

Sunny: The Pope and Simon led a large group of faithful believers and marched to the Mokkalam Mountain. Standing across from them was



the ruler, along with his ministers. After the liturgy, Pope Abraam lead the multitude in chanting “Kyrie Eleison”, which means “Lord Have Mercy” 400 times pleading for God’s mercy. They knelt down as the Pope made the sign of the cross with a sweeping gesture extending from one end of the mountain to the other end.

The mountain shook violently as if a strong earthquake had hit the land. Then it began moving upwards! Every time the worshippers rose from their prayers, the mountain lifted itself upwards. When the believers knelt down, it also came down with a big bang. This happened three times! Every time the mountain moved upwards, the rays of the sun, which was originally hidden behind the mountain, was seen through the space between the base of the mountain and the earth! It was clearly visible to all who were there.

And just like that, the miracle happened and the mountain moved! As a result of witnessing this magnificent miracle, the ruler of Egypt said, “This is enough to prove that your faith is true.” Later the mountain was called “El Mokkalat”, which means “cut off” or “broken” in Arabic.

Soti: Wow. This is a very powerful miracle, Sunny. When the people faithfully fasted and prayed together, God solved their problem, saved the church, and kept her in peace!





Memory
Verse

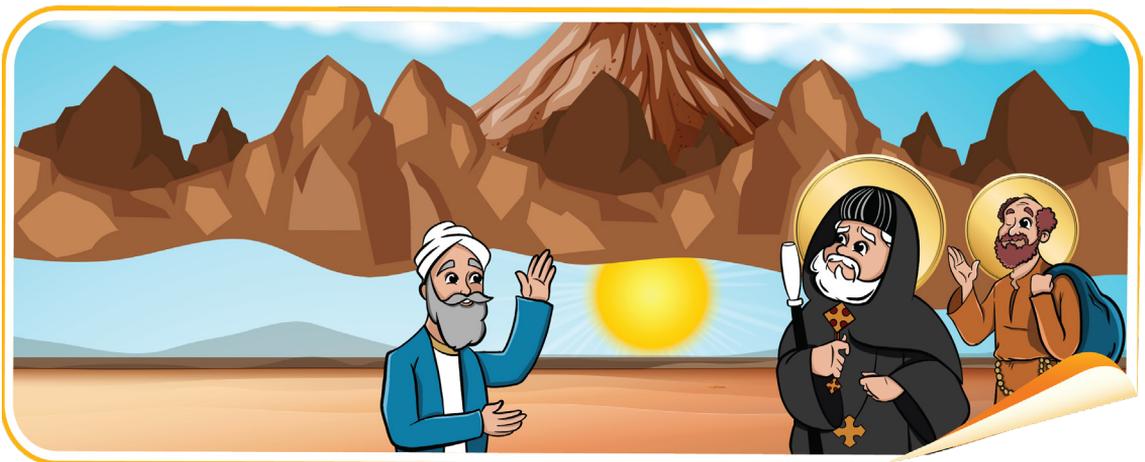
“Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.” Jeremiah 29:12



Sunny: Just like the Pope, Saint Simon and the people worked together to solve the problem, I can see that you are all working together to solve Soti’s problem!

Soti: Thank you, Sunny. The story you told us encouraged me and helped me find peace. I’m not worried anymore!

Sunny: You are a beautiful cloud, Soti. I’m sure you will be able to get rid of this dirty soot and get your bright colors back!





I am at Peace with Everyone

Windy: Okay everyone, please stand back! I'm going to start blowing my wind around Soti so she can rise up and start raining into the lake. I don't want anyone to get hurt. After it rains, Sunny will warm the lake water so Soti can start to evaporate and form a cloud again.

Sunny: I think everyone else should go wait for Soti next to Dorzy the Tree.

Weego: But we always move together as a unit- we never leave each other!



Kiko: Even in cloud school they taught us that we should always fly together. I remember our teacher had told us a story about an older sister who took care of her baby brother to show us just how important it is to take care of each other. She kept watching him and she never left him. Let me tell you the story!





Miriam: The Sister of Aaron

Exodus 2:1-10



Weego: Miriam was a 10-year-old Israelite girl who lived in Egypt. She lived happily with her parents. Her mother's name was Jochebed and her brother's name was Aaron. During that time, Pharaoh did not like the Israelites, God's people, because they were increasing in number

in his land and becoming strong. Pharaoh was worried that they would try to take power over Egypt, so he enslaved them.



Pharaoh commanded all the people, saying, "Every son who is born from the children of Israel you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive."

Sherri: Wow! That's horrible! I am sure all the mothers and families were so scared. What happened next, Weego?



Weego: Jochebed, the mother of Miriam and Aaron had another baby boy at this time. She saw that he was a beautiful child so she hid him for three months to protect him. But when she could no longer hide him, she made a basket out of reeds and set the basket with the little baby in it on the Nile River.

Sherri: Did Miriam and her mom leave the baby alone in the river?

Kiko: No, Miriam, his sister, stood afar off, just to make sure that the baby was okay. The basket traveled down the Nile until it reached the royal palace! Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe at the river and she saw a basket

among the reeds! So, she sent her maid to get the basket to see what was inside. When Pharaoh's daughter opened the basket, she was surprised to find a little baby boy! The baby began to cry so she had compassion on him, and



said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."

Weego: When Miriam saw that, she asked Pharaoh's daughter if she would like a Hebrew woman to help her take care of the child.

Sherri: What a great idea! Did Pharaoh's daughter agree?



Weego: Why, yes, she did Sherri! Pharaoh's daughter told Miriam to get one of the Hebrew women to help her take care of the little baby! So, Miriam went and called her mother! So Jochebed took the baby, nursed him, and taught him God's law until he grew older. Once the baby was older, his mother, Jochebed, brought him back to Pharaoh's daughter so

that she may raise him as her own and he became her son.

Pharaoh's daughter called his name Moses, saying, "Because I drew him out of the water."



Sherri: This is a beautiful story. It explains God's care for His children. God cared for Moses and his sister Miriam cared for him too by watching him while he was put in the river and arranging for their mother to raise him.

Memory
Verse

**"The Lord thinks upon me.
You are my help and my deliverer!"
Psalm 40:17**





Windy: Okay then, that's fine Weego and Kiko, just wait for Soti here!

Kiko: (After a little while) Look, look! I can see Soti forming into a beautiful cloud again.

Sherri: Wow, she looks beautiful! Dorzy will be very happy to see Soti all cleaned up.

Windy: Good to have you back, Soti. Thank God you are all well now!

Soti: Thank you, Windy for helping me. And a big thank you all my beautiful friends. I love you!

Everyone: We love you too, Soti. Let's go back and see Dorzy.

Weego: Hi, Dorzy, we're back! Let's get back to our game. Let's form shapes in the sky so the children can guess what shapes we're forming. We now know what it means to **Live in Peace.**





Memorization

Χε Πενιωτ ετ ζεν νιφνοῖ

Χε Πενιωτ ετ ζεν νιφνοῖ:

μαρεϋτοῦβο ἵχε πεκραν.

Μαρеси ἵχε τεκμετοῦρο.

Πετεζνακ μαρεϋωπι:

ἄφρητ ζεν τφε νευ ζιχεν πικαζι.

Πενωικ ἵτε ραστ μηιϋ ναν ἄφοοῦ.

Οῦοζ χα νηέτερον ναν έβολ:

ἄφρητ ζων ἵτενχω έβολ ἵνηέτε

οῦον ἵταν έρωοῦ.

Οῦοζ ἄπερεντεν έζοῦν έπιρασμοσ:

αλλα ναζμεν έβολ ζα πιπετζωοῦ.

Ζεν Πιχριστοσ Ιησοῦσ Πενβοισ:

χε θωκ τε τμετοῦρο νευ τχομ νευ

πιῶοῦ ψα ενεζ. Δυην.





Memorization

Our Father Who Art in Heaven

Our Father Who art in heaven;
hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, in Christ Jesus
our Lord. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.





Memorization

BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Gospels

1. Matthew
2. Mark
3. Luke
4. John

Acts

5. Acts

St. Paul's Epistles:

6. Romans
7. 1 Corinthians
8. 2 Corinthians
9. Galatians
10. Ephesians
11. Philippians
12. Colossians
13. 1 Thessalonians
14. 2 Thessalonians

15. 1 Timothy

16. 2 Timothy

17. Titus

18. Philemon

19. Hebrews

Catholic Epistles

20. James

21. 1 Peter

22. 2 Peter

23. 1 John

24. 2 John

25. 3 John

26. Jude

Revelation

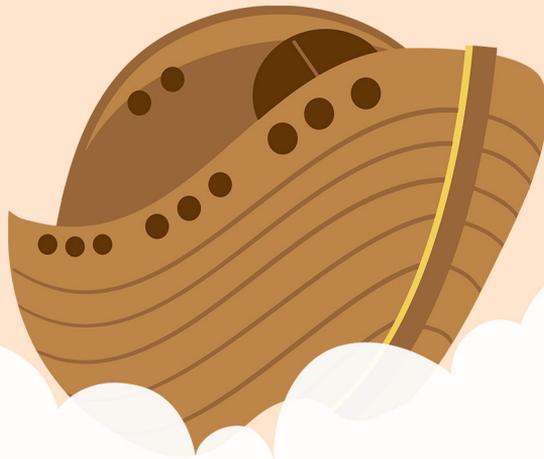
27. Revelation





Through the grace of God and under the auspices of His Grace Bishop David, Bishop of the Diocese of New York and New England and the current Papal Exarch of the Archdiocese of North America for H.H. Pope Tawadros II, this Mahragan book was translated and formatted by the blessed servants of the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of New York and New England. All material was translated from the Arabic Language to the English Language.





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