



The Bible

IN TEN EASY LESSONS

by Phil and Louise Campbel l

**A Mixed-Age
Sunday School Syllabus
with Craft Project
and songs!**

To The Teacher

Welcome to "The Bible In Ten Easy Lessons" on CD-ROM. We hope you enjoy teaching the course.

Please remember, our major goal in preparing this material was to give children a "broad brush" overview of the whole bible. For most of us, the fact that the Bible has a storyline that spans from Genesis to Revelation wasn't something we picked up in Sunday School! In fact, the average Christian will be hard pressed to remember if Abraham comes before David, or Noah and his famous Ark came before or after Samson and Solomon. The bits and pieces of bible stories are all there - but how do they fit together?

In "The Bible in Ten Easy Lessons", we've tried to tie together a framework that all your future Sunday School lessons can slot into. The important thing about a framework, though, is what you leave out as much as what you put in. Please try not to be tempted to fill in too many gaps at this stage! We've worked hard to keep the essential pillars that hold the story of the Bible together, and leave out everything else. Don't give in to the urge to add extra stories and details - if you do, the benefit of the "overview" will be lost in a sea of detail.

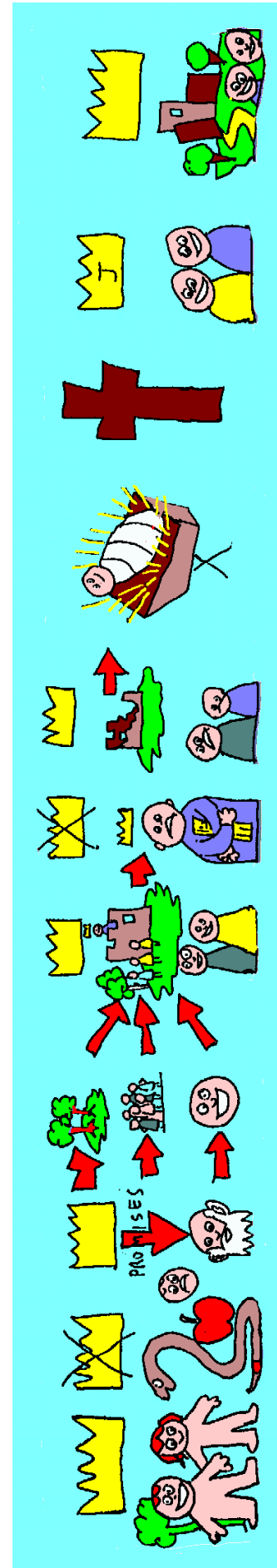
Also, don't be concerned if you feel some lessons lack a nice "moral" or an instant application. There is SOME application material in most lessons, but the overall thrust of the lesson structure is to relentlessly head towards the New Testament, and the coming of Jesus. It's at this point that children will be challenged to become members of God's Kingdom by following King Jesus.

Finally, **please don't be tempted to neglect making the BANNER.** The whole of the course is designed to be "pictorial", and the banner is both a fun craft exercise that kids of all ages can take part in, and a great learning tool. **Use CALICO, 3.5m by .5m, and allow around 33cm for each lesson; characters are cut from coloured felt and stuck to the banner with white craft glue.** In the CD version of the course, we've only included sketches of each part to work from - if you want more detailed cutting patterns, you'll need to order the print version of the course, which includes full size patterns, and class worksheets as well.

But with a little imagination, you should be able to do without them. By the end of the course in our church, even the four-year-olds could explain what each picture represented, and follow the full sequence of the banner.

The banner is a lot of work - but it's worth it!

Phil and Louise Campbell
Maclean Presbyterian Church



REFERENCE AND FURTHER READING

For further reading and background to this course, read Graeme Goldsworthy's excellent book **GOSPEL & KINGDOM**. Learning a bible overview is just the start - when you've grasped the big picture, you'll find it constantly informs your interpretation of every biblical passage you encounter. Though sometimes a little technical, this book is thoroughly recommended.

For a briefer introduction, **FULL OF PROMISE** (from Matthias Media) offers a bible overview in "interactive Bible Study" format. It's great for study in small groups.

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PRINT VERSION ORDER DETAILS

The full print version of The Bible in Ten Easy Lessons can be ordered from

Christian Education Department

Presbyterian Church of Australia in NSW

GPO Box 100, Sydney 2001

Please include a cheque for \$35.00



You can do it!

LESSON 1

God is Maker, God is King

Aim

The aim of this lesson is to teach that God made the world and rules over the world as King. He created a happy place for his people to live in as his friends. We should live with God as our King too.

Method

The concept of "creating" will be introduced as children create their own playdough animals. This is followed by discussion, and the account of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden from Genesis 2.

Equipment

- Baking Tray
- Play dough
- Wet face washer to wipe hands after play dough exercise
- 3.5 by 0.5 Calico sheet, Glue and felt cut-outs for the banner

Lesson Plan

For Mixed Age Classes:-

If you are running mixed age classes, MEET PRIVATELY with the older children before the lesson and remind them of their responsibility in HELPING YOUNGER CHILDREN. Give positive encouragement. Explain that we're going to help one another LEARN SOMETHING IMPORTANT, and later on to work together on an exciting craft project.

Introductory Activity (5 minutes only)

Challenge the children to make a model of their favourite animal within a five minute limit. Encourage the children to work fast - but help them create "recognisable" animals. Ask the children to give names to their animals.

When finished, place the animals in the baking tray for hardening. Tell the children you'll harden them and bring them back next week.

Discussion

As you put the animals into the tray, ask the children to describe how they feel about their "creations." Why did they make them one way and not another? Why did they decide on one animal in preference to another? MAKE THE POINT that as the maker of the animals, they had the power to make them just how they wanted to.

Story Time

Prepare to tell the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden from Genesis 2:4-25. If you like, use the following story outline. Points to emphasise are highlighted in CAPITAL LETTERS or **bold type**. Try to include these key points in your telling of the story.

INTRODUCTION

Introduce the story by explaining that God made **EVERYTHING** right back at the beginning. And he had the power to make everything just how he wanted it.

MAKING MAN: One day when God had made the stars and planets, and the earth and the water, he decided to make a man. He took some dirt from the ground and shaped a man out of it, and he breathed into it and the man began to live. (We can't do that with our playdough animals!) But God could make things that were alive!

And that's not all. God made a place for the man to live. It was the best sort of place you could think of! [Pause to ask the kids what sort of place they think would be **PERFECT** to live in. Allow a variety of answers.]

THE GARDEN: God made a **GARDEN** for the man to live in. There were all kinds of beautiful trees there with all sorts of fruit. There was a tree with fruit on it that made you live for ever. And the man could eat the fruit whenever he wanted. I guess there were apples and oranges and pears as well. And he could eat those too.

There was only **ONE TREE** that he wasn't allowed to eat from. We don't really know what the fruit looked like on the tree. But it looked really good. God said, if you eat from that tree **you'll want to decide what's right and wrong for yourself**. But that's my job. If you eat from that tree **you'll forget that I'm your King**. Because I made you, and I know what's best. It was called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The man's job was to look after the garden for God. The man was put in charge of the garden. It was his special place. The man even gave names to all the animals.

The only trouble was, the man was lonely. None of the animals could help him or be his friend. So God made a woman to be his helper and friend. And the man and the woman who were called Adam and Eve lived happily in the garden together.

CONCLUSION: God's people were happy in the beautiful place God made them. And that's the picture on the front of the work sheet.

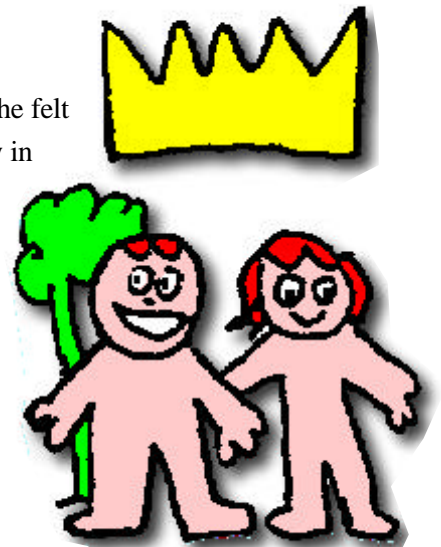
Song

The CREATION SONG traces through the seven days of Creation. Teach it to the class, or simply listen to the CD track and explain the words.

Banner

Gather the children around the banner, and explain what is going to happen. Have the older children help the younger children arrange the felt pieces to match the picture on the worksheet. Allow some flexibility in the layout, but make sure you keep well to the left of the banner. Remember, ten weeks of pictures must fit on the completed banner.

When the pieces are laid out, allow the children to glue them on neatly. **REVISE AGAIN what the picture represents. God is King. He is ruling over the people he made in the beautiful garden.**



Conclusion

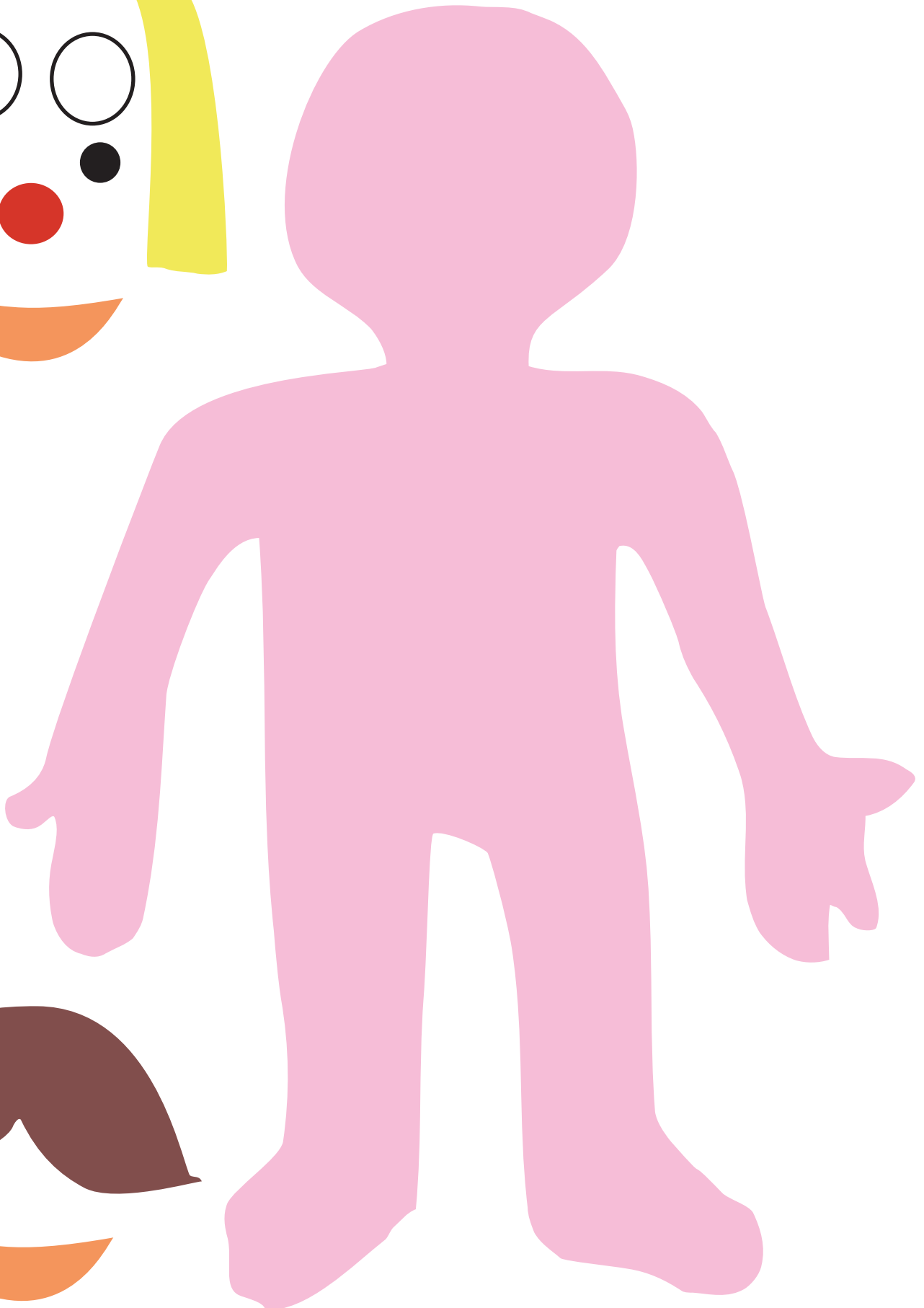
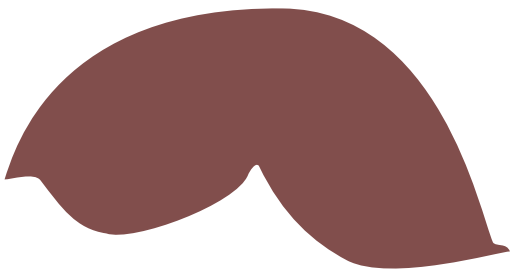
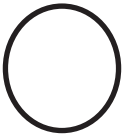
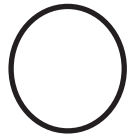
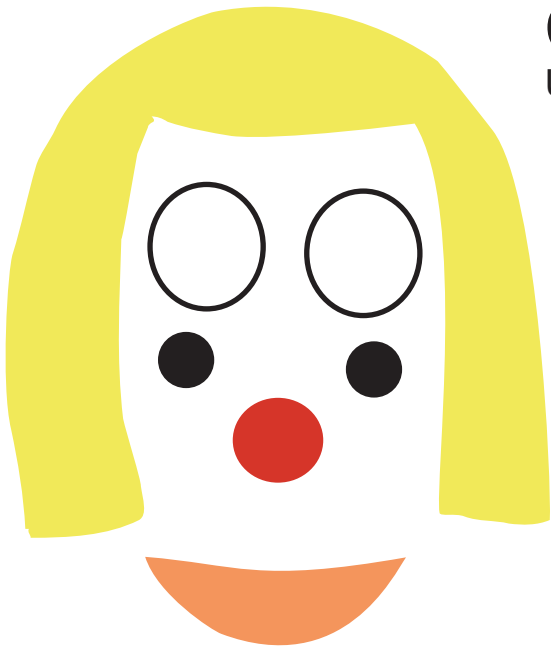
As work on the banner draws to a close, chat with the children about the fact that God is STILL King of the world. And he should be OUR King too.

Prayer

Encourage the children to THANK GOD for the world he made. Maybe each child could give thanks for one part of creation - perhaps the type of animal they made at the start.

Cutting Pattern - Adam & Eve

Use the same basic body shape for both Adam and Eve.

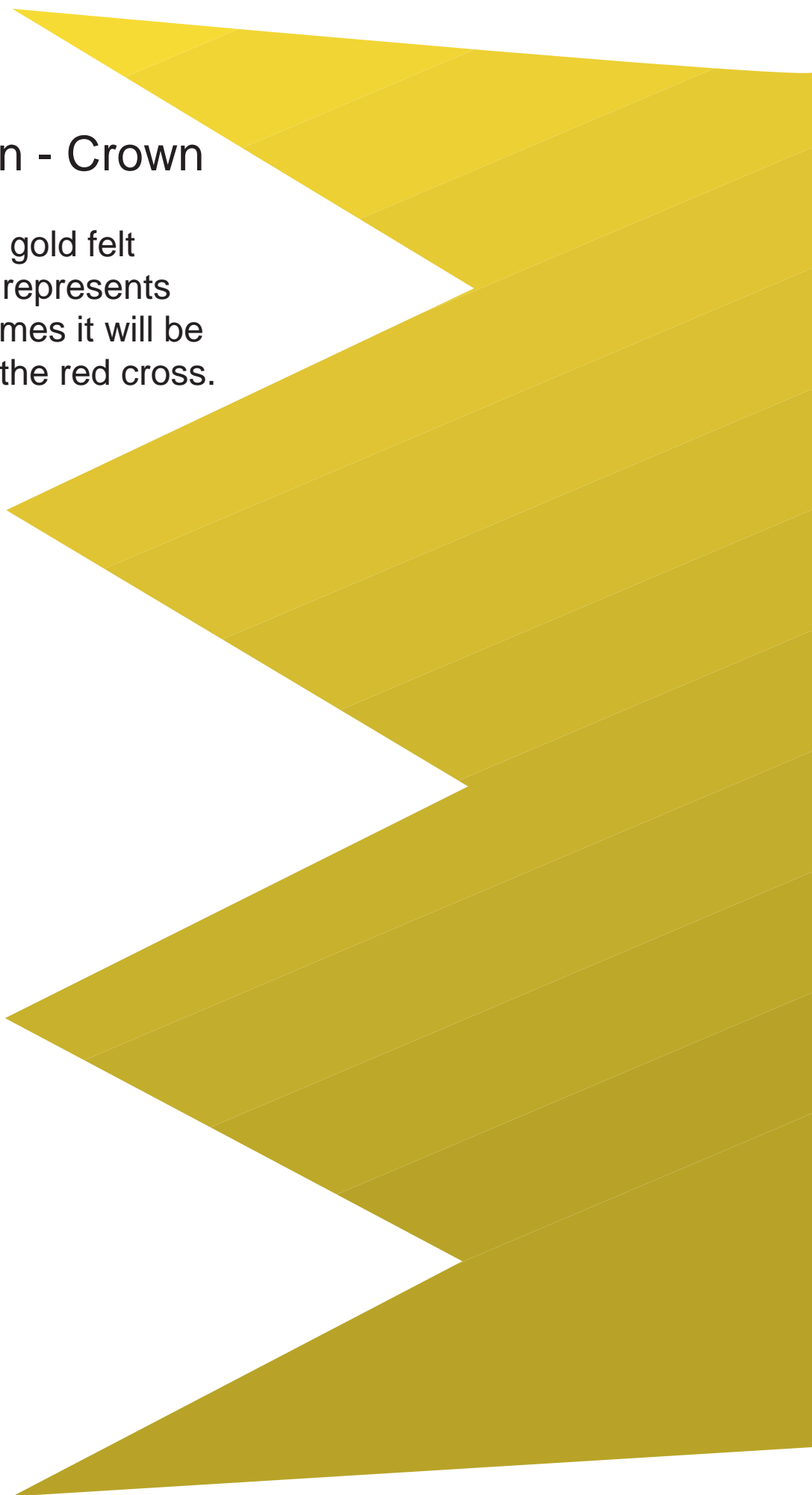


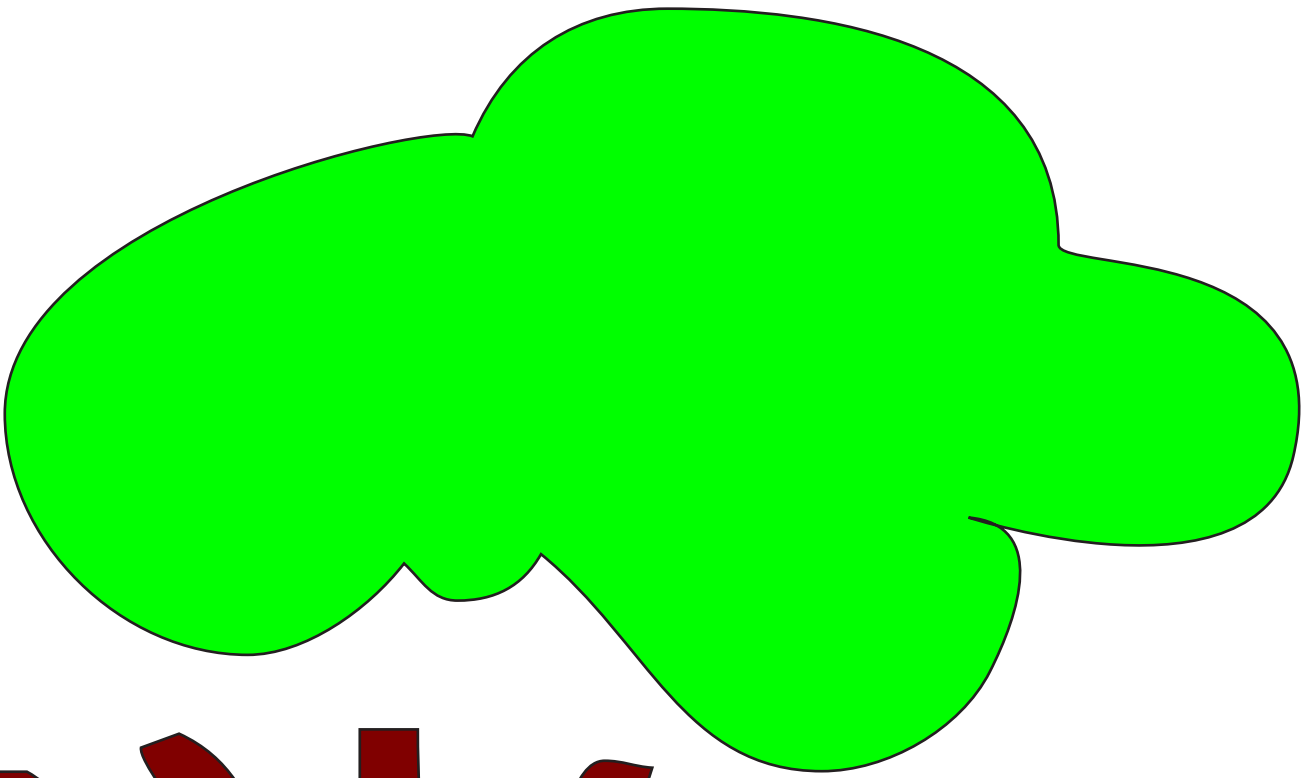
Cutting Pattern - Crown

No. Reqd: 8 large

Material: Yellow or gold felt

NOTE: The crown represents
God's rule. Sometimes it will be
"crossed out" with the red cross.



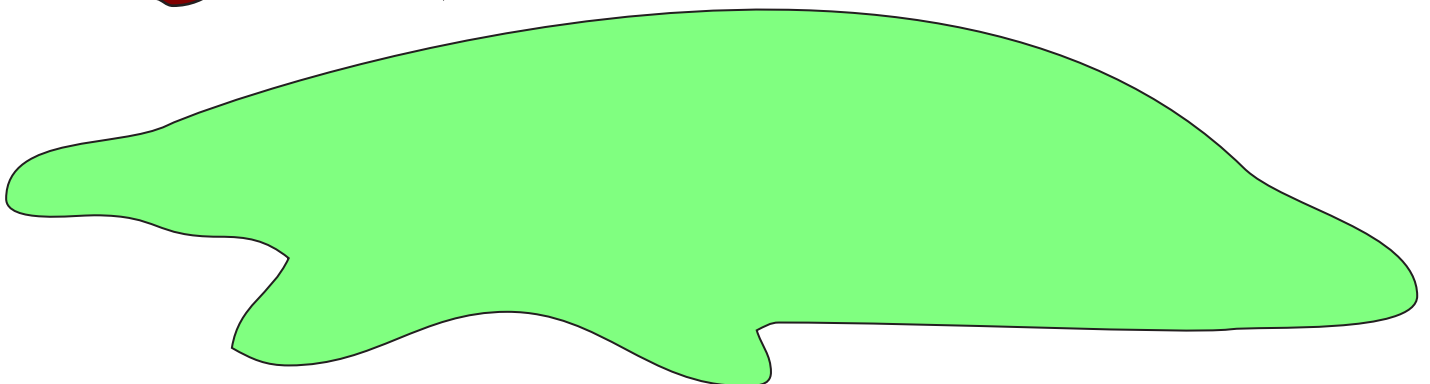


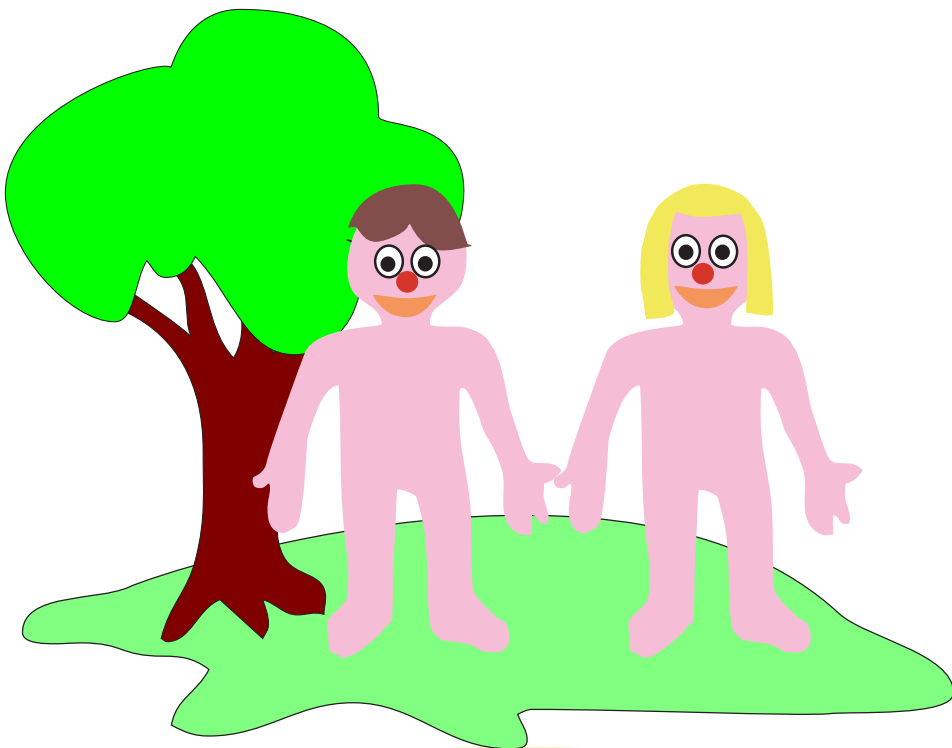
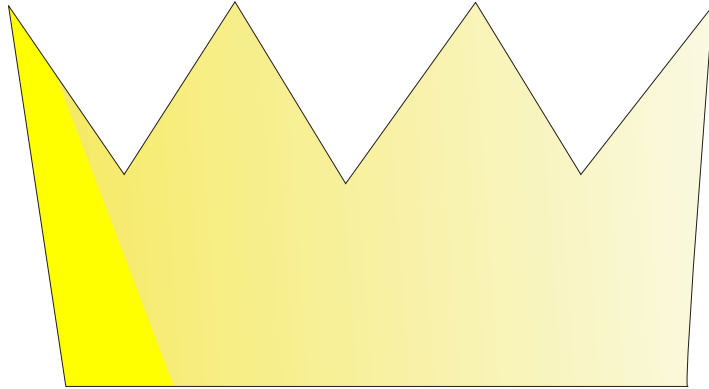
Cutting Pattern

Trees

No Req'd - 6 or more

Note: The trees represent
Eden, then the promised land
and finally heaven, the "new Eden"





Adam and Eve - Completed assembly