

Genesis 4:1-16, 25-26

Adam and Eve no longer lived in the Garden in Eden., but they had made a home for themselves in the country. Adam planted crops and tended sheep and cattle. As time went on, Adam and Eve had two sons, one was named Cain and the other son was named Abel. Later on Adam and Eve had many more children. God had told Adam and Eve how to pick out a certain place to build an altar where they could come and pray to him.



Do you know what an "altar" is? This is like a table built out of stones or earth. On the altar Adam would put sticks of wood to make a fire and then he would offer something of his that was very special...the first grain or fruit that grew in the spring, or a special lamb or calf - it was hard to give up the first crops or the first lamb of the season, but that's why it was called a sacrifice.

If we give God something that we especially like ... we are sacrificing it, and this makes God happy, for it shows him we think he is very special. If God was pleased with the sacrifice, he would send fire to the altar. When the people went to make a sacrifice, this would be a happy time and there would be prayers and singing and then they would eat of the food that had been cooked on the altar.

When Cain grew up, he became a farmer. He grew lots of different plants, probably some wheat and maybe some carrots and potatoes. Can you think of some crops that Cain may have grown? Abel his brother liked animals and when he grew up he became a shepherd and took care of the sheep.

On the day it was time to go make a sacrifice, Cain and Abel each took something to offer to God. Cain took some of his crops and Abel took a lamb from his flock. However, Cain was not a happy man, he didn't really want to make the sacrifice. He was angry and grumbled and didn't have the right kind of thoughts about God. Abel believed in God and he wanted to give the right kind of sacrifice that would please God. Abel knew that offering a lamb pointed to a time when Jesus would offer his life as a sacrifice, and while doing the offerings, Abel's mind was on the right kinds of things...but Cain's thoughts were not right. God's fire lit on Abel's offering but there was no fire on Cain's offering. All his brothers and sisters saw that God hadn't been pleased with Cain's offering and this made him very, very angry, indeed.

What do you do when you get very mad at a friend or brother or sister? Do you sometimes want to bop them on the head? Or do you want to try and get even with them? This is what we often feel like doing ... but it's wrong to want to hurt people because you are mad, isn't it? God tells us to forgive those who do wrong to us, to try and be kind to everyone, even if you're mad at them. That's hard to do, but it's what pleases God.

God told Cain, "why are you angry, don't you know if you do what's right, you'll be accepted?" But if you don't do what's right, you'll be tempted to sin ... you must be strong, don't do what's wrong!"

Do you think Cain listened to God? No, instead of trying to have the right thoughts and actions, Cain kept thinking and thinking about how God liked Abel best, and how everyone saw God didn't accept his offering. The more Cain thought about it, the more angry Cain became. He couldn't get even with God, but he sure could get even with that "goody,goody Abel!" Was this the right way for Cain to think? What do you think Cain should have done instead of thinking how mad he was? If Cain had forgotten about it, tried to do better and got busy with his work, he would have done the right thing, wouldn't he?



Cain should have thought, "it was my fault, not Abel's, I'll ask God to forgive me and I'll try to make a better offering when I come to the sacrifice. But Cain didn't do this ... instead he got mad and more mad, and even MORE MAD! Cain wanted to get rid of Abel, how could he do this, he thought? Then he had an idea, he would get rid of Abel...but he had to be away from everyone so no one would know what he did.

The next morning Cain said to Abel, "let's go out to the field together." Abel was glad to go, Cain hadn't been very nice to him lately, maybe now they could work together and get a chance to talk over Cain's anger. However, when they got out to the field, Cain attacked Abel and killed him. What a terrible thing to do!



Cain quickly ran home and pretended nothing had happened. When dinner time came, Abel wasn't there. The family searched and searched but they couldn't find Abel anywhere. Cain thought no one would ever know that he had killed his brother...but

God knows everything that we do and he sees and hears everything that happens in all the world. God knew what Cain had done, so that night in a dream God spoke to Cain. "Cain, where is your brother Abel?" Cain was frightened, and angry. He said, "How should I know where Abel is...am I my brother's keeper? Is it up to ME to keep track of my brother?"

God said, "I know what you did to your brother, you brought yourself much trouble. From now on the land won't grow good crops for you. You won't be satisfied living in one place but you will wander from country to country."

Now Cain was afraid that someone would kill him and he cried to God... not because he was sorry for killing Abel, but because he was afraid for himself. God doesn't want people to kill each other, so God told Cain that he would put a mark on him to keep him safe. Anyone who saw the mark would know to leave Cain alone.

When we do wrong and aren't sorry for it, we only bring troubles on ourselves. We don't feel happy, nothing seems to work for us. God told us what we should do to make ourselves happy

**"Do what is right and good in the Lord's sight, so that it may go well with you.."**  
**Deut.6:18**

This is your memory verse for this lesson. Say it over several times until you know it. Do you remember your memory verses from Lesson #1 and #2? When you have learned this verse have your mom or dad put a check mark in this box.



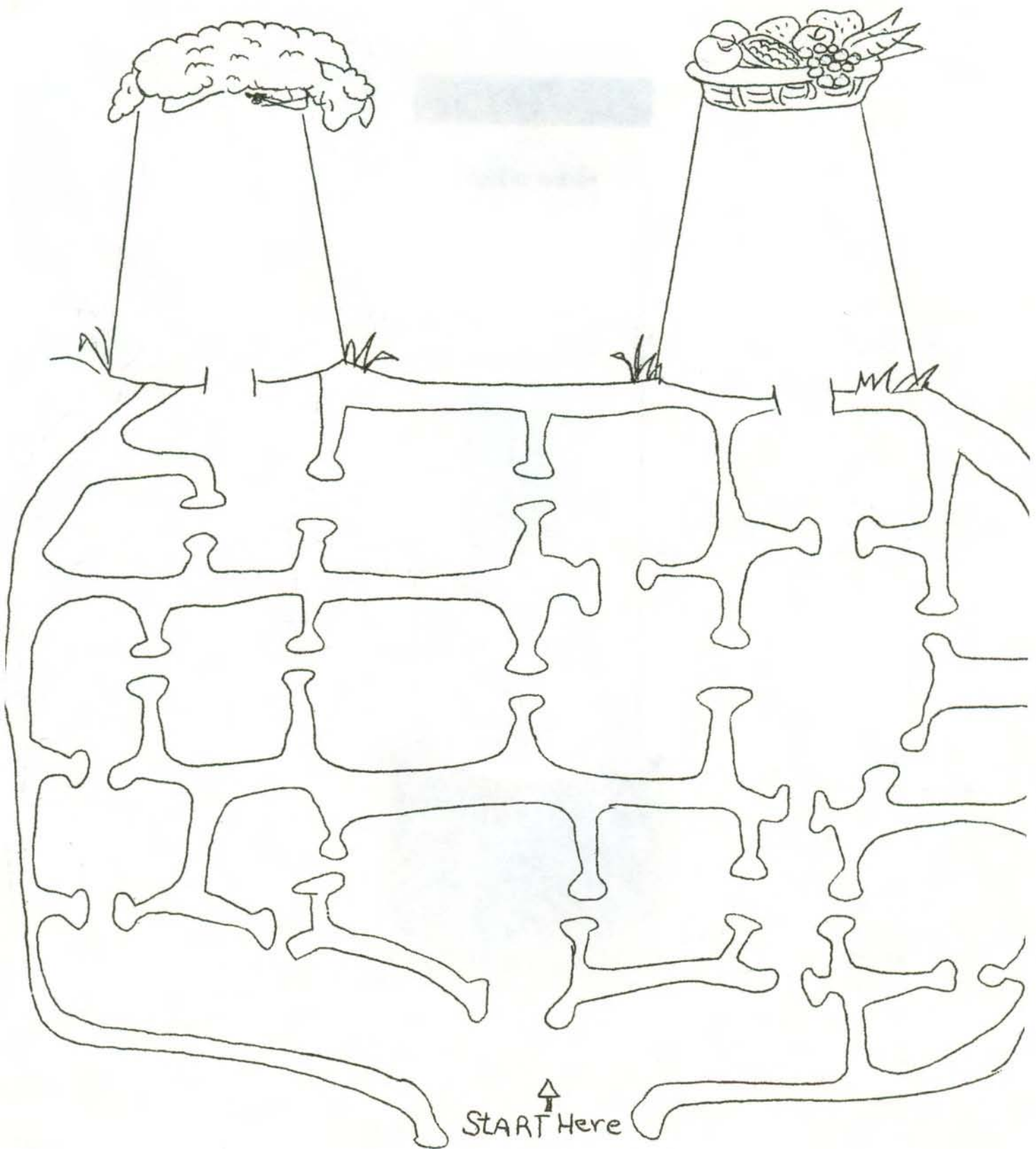
The Bible tells us that Cain went away from God. He no longer went to the sacrifices, he no longer had anything to do with his family or with God. What an unhappy man he was...all because he let his anger grow and grow.

God gave Adam and Eve a special son to take the place of Abel. They had a little baby boy named "Seth." Little Seth was a great comfort to Adam and Eve. When Seth grew up he was a man who loved God. When Seth got married and had children, he raised them to also love God - from then on Seth's children and grandchildren were called



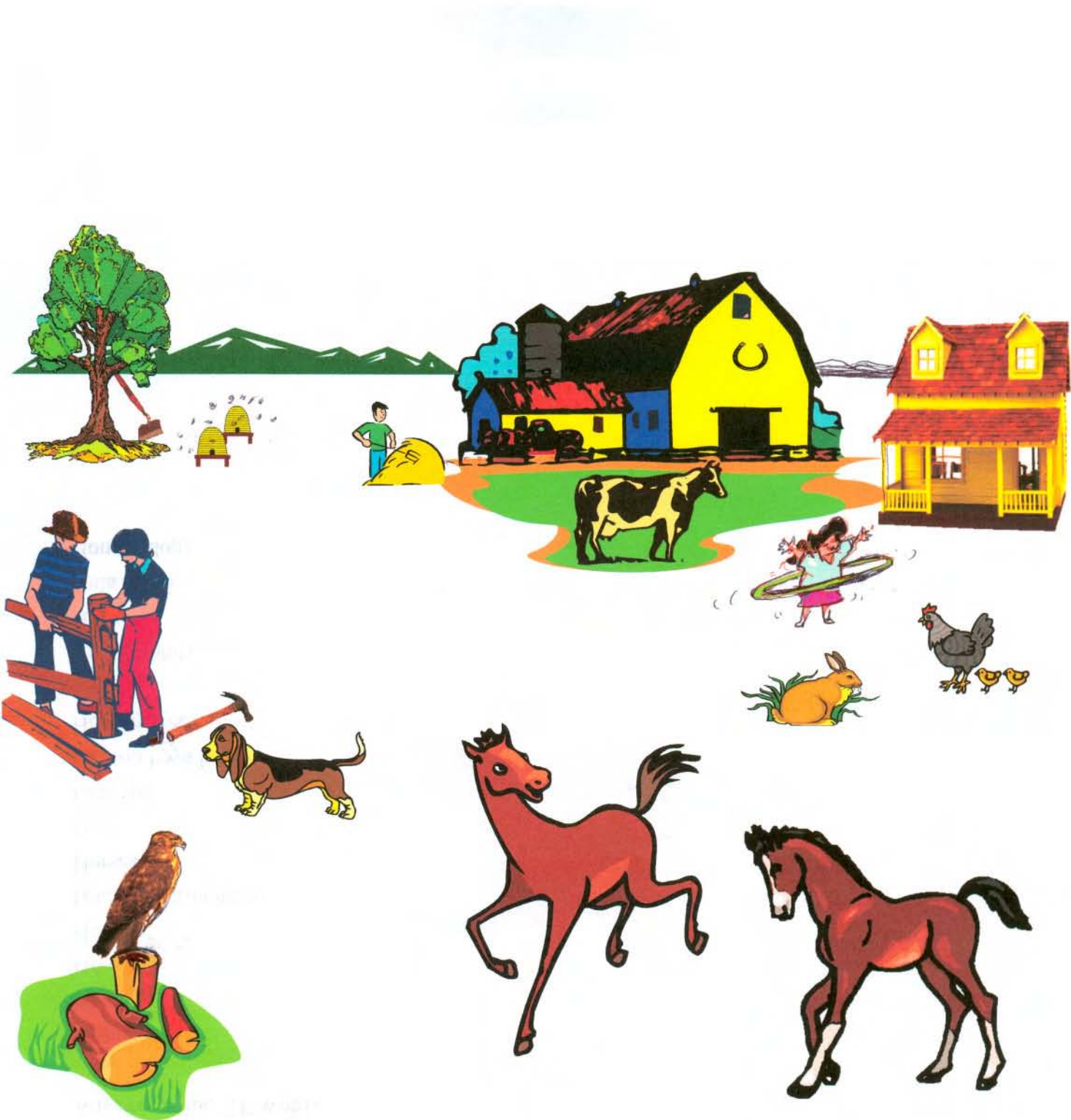
## QUESTION PAGE

1. What were the names of Adam and Eve's first two sons?
2. What was Cain's job when he grew up?
3. What was Abel's job when he grew up?
4. What's a sacrifice?
  - (a) Cooking some meat to eat, and having a party?
  - or (b) Giving up something special of ours to show God how much we love him?
5. Did the lamb remind Abel of Jesus who would one day offer his life as a sacrifice to save others? (yes or no)?
6. Did God accept Abel's sacrifice or did he accept Cain's sacrifice?
7. What was wrong with Cain's sacrifice? (a) It wasn't the kind of veggies God liked?  
or (b) Cain's thoughts weren't right, he didn't believe and was angry.
8. Who did Cain blame when his sacrifice wasn't accepted?
9. Cain thought and thought and the more he thought, the more angry he became....what should he have done?
  - (a) Ask God to forgive him, then get busy with his work and try to do better next time?.
  - or (b) Keep thinking and thinking about it and plan some way to get rid of Abel?
10. What did Cain do when he and Abel went out in the field together?
11. Who saw what Cain had done?
12. What was the name of the new baby that Adam and Eve had to take the place of Abel?
13. What were the children and grandchildren of Seth called? "The sons of \_\_\_\_\_"



## FIND THE "H" WORDS

There are at least 15 things in this picture that start with the letter "H" can you find them?  
(example - "Hands" would be an "H" word)



Answers to the "H" words

Heads

Hawk

Hive

House

Horseshoe (on barn)

Horses

Hay

Hammer

Hat (on boys head)

Hoe (by tree)

Hills

Hare (rabbit)

Hen

Hula Hoop

Hound (dog)



Connect the dots to see what kind of animal we are NOT to be like. Psalms 32:8-9

He has to be led and has no understanding....we are to be taught by God which way we are to go.

