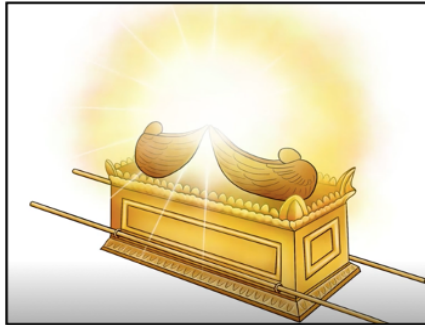
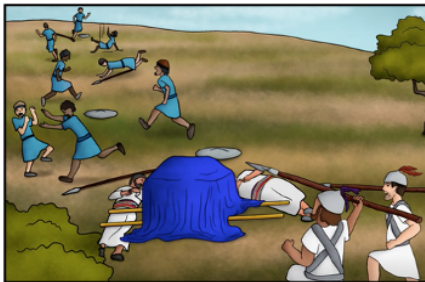


Video:
<https://youtu.be/A5Ce3n8YRxM?si=dJI5IJ3kf18ba6bq>
Uzzah's Bumbling by
Bible Stories for the Young



Lesson 8: DAVID MOVED THE ARK OF THE COVENANT (2nd Samuel 6, 1st Chronicles 15:11-24, 1st Chron 26)



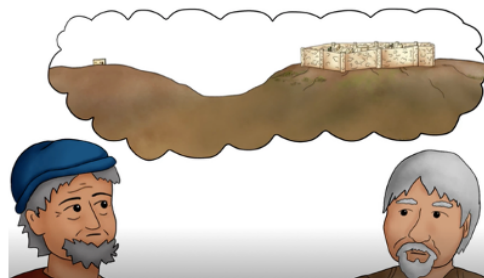
The Bible says that King David wanted the Ark of the Covenant to be brought to Jerusalem. Many years earlier the Ark had been captured by enemies of the Israelites, the Philistines.

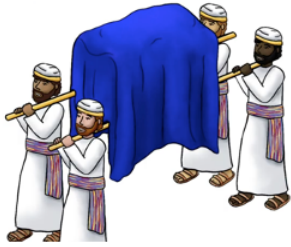
Bad things happened to the Philistine gods and their people. So, the Ark was sent back to the Israelites. It was sent on a cart pulled by oxen. The Ark had been at the house of a man named Abinadab ever since.



God's special box had been just sitting in a house with no special care. David wanted the Ark of the Covenant to be with him in Jerusalem. David gathered 30,000 men to go get the Ark from Abinadab's house.

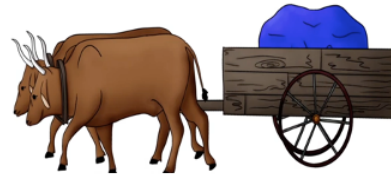
They had to walk up a high hill to get to the house. Abinadab's son Uzzah and his brother had been guarding the Ark all those years. They knew they needed to get the Ark down Abinadab's hill and then up Zion's hill. That would be a lot of work. They tried to figure out how to move the Ark.





Long ago Moses had written down instructions about how to move the Ark. It was to be covered with a blue cloth. It had poles on each side. The Levites were supposed to hold the poles and carry the Ark on their shoulders.

But this time when David's people came to move the Ark, they didn't look up God's instructions. The Ark was placed on an ox cart just as the Philistines had done.



Uzzah and his brother walked along beside the Ark to guide it. David and his people followed. They were celebrating by singing and playing tambourines.

Suddenly, one of the oxen stumbled and the Ark began to fall. Uzzah reached out to stop the Ark from falling. But when Uzzah's hand touched God's holy Ark, he died. The worshipping celebration stopped. Why did this happen? No one wanted the ark to fall. The whole disaster would've been avoided if they had just followed God's instructions. If the priests had been carrying it on poles, as it had been designed to be carried, the ark would've never tumbled in the first place.



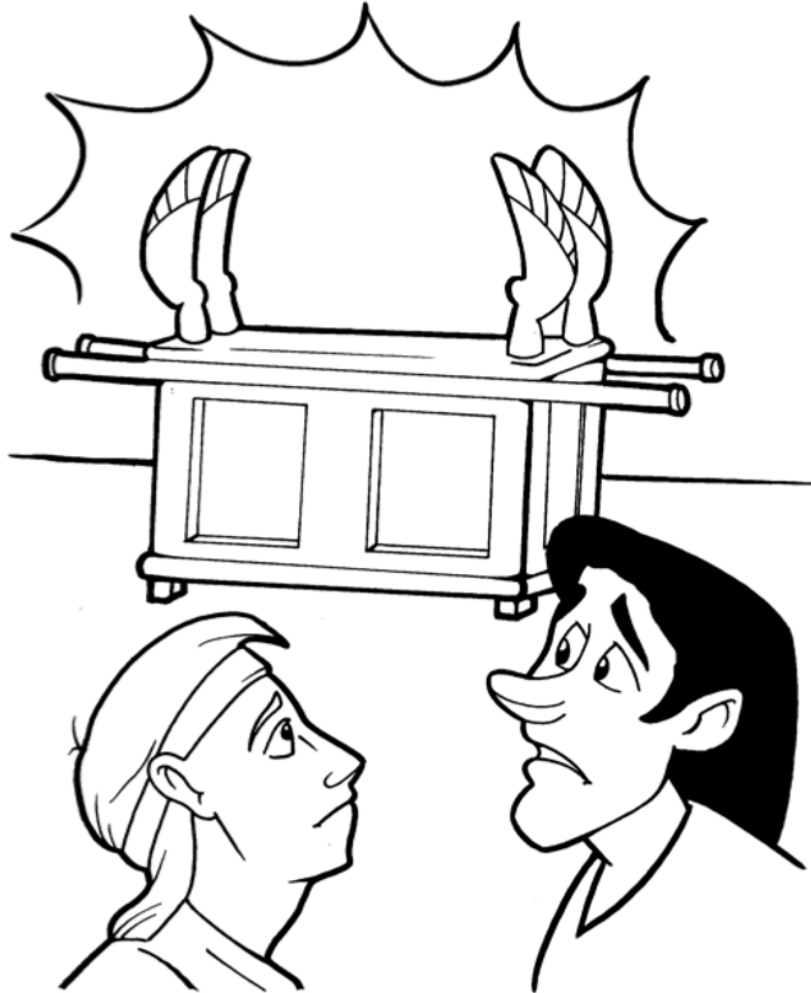
After Uzzah died, David was afraid to bring the Ark into Jerusalem. He cried, "How can the Ark of God's Glory ever come to be with me?" The Ark was parked at a nearby house. Everyone went home.

The mistake had brought terrible results! But 3 months later, they tried to move the Ark again. This time David looked into God's Word to learn what to do. Priests carried the Ark into Jerusalem.



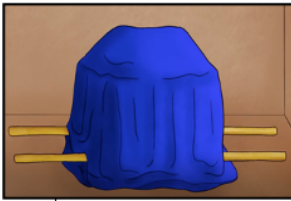
The people followed, singing and playing instruments! David danced to celebrate - God's Glory had returned to Jerusalem! They placed the Ark in a tent that David prepared for it. David had learned an important lesson: **You can't bring back the Glory of God without doing it God's way!**

PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY
Color the Picture



A R K O F T H E
C O V E N A N T

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY



THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

God gave very specific instructions about how to carry the Ark of the Covenant.

Read these verses.

"Put the poles through the rings on the sides of the Ark. **Use these poles to carry the Ark of the Covenant.**" (Exodus 25:14)

"...spread the solid **blue cloth over it**... (Numbers 4:6)

"...This way they won't touch the holy things and **die. It is the Kohathites' job to carry the things that are in the Meeting Tent.**" (Numbers 4: 15)

WRITE THE RULES FOR MOVING THE ARK:

1. Carry the Ark by the _____.
2. Cover the Ark with a _____ cloth.
3. If someone touches it, he will _____.
4. The family of _____ must carry the Ark. (Kohath was a Levite – a helper to the priests. Only his family could carry the Ark.)



Did David get mad at God?
Did David think God was unfair to punish Uzzah?

Read David's words:

"Then bring up the Ark of the Covenant... The last time we did not ask the Lord how to carry it. You Levites didn't carry it. So, the Lord our God punished us." (1st Chronicles 15:12-13)

WHAT DO YOU LEARN FROM THIS? _____
