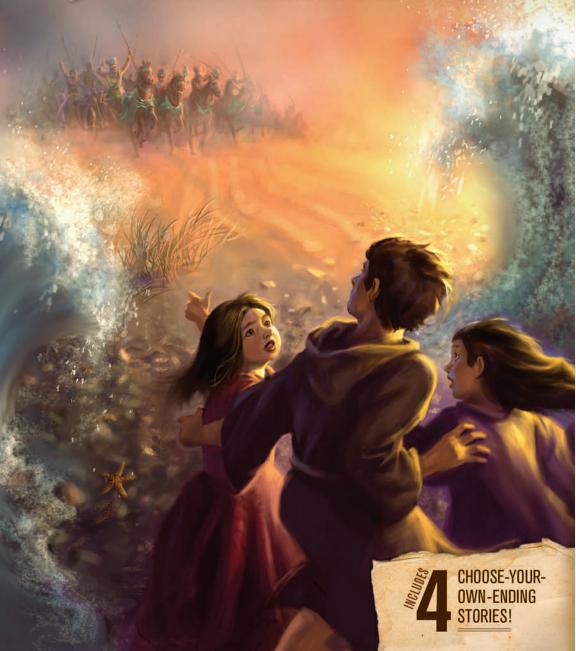
BIBLE INTURES

STORIES OF DANGER AND COURAGE





Deadly Exhibition

Trapped!

Attack!

Escape!

Jeanne Gowen Dennis and Sheila Seifert



Bible KidVentures: Stories of Danger and Courage

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THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

Have you ever wanted to witness the Red Sea opening or the walls of Jericho falling? This collection of stories takes you into the middle of the action of exciting Bible events.

In each story, you are the main character. What happens is up to you! Through your choices, you can receive great rewards, get into big trouble, or even lose your life.

Your goal is to choose well and survive.

Start at the beginning of each story. Each time you are faced with a choice, make a decision. Then follow the instructions, and turn to the correct page to see what happens next. You'll be flipping pages, but that's part of the fun!

When you're done with one story, you can always start over again at the beginning. There are lots of possibilities packed into each adventure and many different endings.

Remember, you make the decisions. See if you can survive the dangers, and have courage no matter what happens!

Your adventure begins now.



Deadly Expedition

"The Egyptians are coming! Help us! Moses, help us!"
Everyone around you is screaming. You stand up on a cart to see over the heads of thousands of people around you—about six hundred thousand men and lots more women and children. In the distance you see a cloud of dust. Could it be Pharaoh's army? Only a couple of days ago, Pharaoh let you and all the other Israelite slaves go free. Why would he have changed his mind?

Your younger sisters, Mary and Mariah, are screaming. They are identical twins with identical high-pitched shrills. They sound a lot younger than their ten years.

"That's enough," your father says.

They cover their mouths with their hands, but their eyes remain large. You know that their hearts are probably beating as rapidly as yours. You strain your eyes to see in the distance as your mother tries to quiet your baby brother, Kilion. He is screaming, not from fear, but because he loves to yell.

You look back at the cloud of dust on the distant horizon, then in the opposite direction at the Red Sea. Your hands feel clammy. There is nowhere to go! Your escape route is blocked by water!

"Now what?" you ask.

"Moses must have a plan," your mother says. "He wouldn't bring us here to die." You hear uncertainty in her voice. She hands you a crust of bread, the last of the bread that she baked at your home in Egypt. It is stale, almost without taste, but you gnaw on it as the others in your family struggle to eat their pieces of bread.

A man shouts to Moses, "Why did you bring us all the way into the desert to die? Didn't Egypt have enough graves?"

A woman adds, "It would have been better to remain slaves in Egypt than to die out here."

Mary and Mariah begin to scream again in their high-pitched voices, "We're going to die! We're going to die!"

CHOICE ONE: If you agree with your sisters and begin yelling, turn to page 83.

CHOICE TWO: If you tell your sisters to be quiet so you can hear what Moses is saying, turn to page 5.

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Your father leans forward toward a friend. "Can you tell what Moses is saying?"

"I sent Esau to the front," the friend says. "He'll tell us."

You watch Moses until he has finished talking. Then you spot Esau in the crowd, weaving his way back to his family at a run. He has been your best friend since you were little.

When he gets close, his father yells, "Well? What did he say? How are we supposed to escape?"

Esau holds up a hand and tries to catch his breath. The cloud of dust behind you from the approaching chariots is enormous, darkening the entire horizon.

"He told us to stand firm and watch to see how God delivers us," Esau answers. "He said that the Lord would fight for us, and we need only to be still."

Your mother shakes her head. "Then that's that." She does not stop Kilion from yelling. Your father looks away. Mary and Mariah scream.

Esau's father scoffs. "I've seen how God provides." He points to the welts on his back. "I've seen it my whole life."

You have welts, too, from being beaten. Your muscles still ache from bending over to make Egyptian bricks these last several years. Why did you believe Moses? When he talked about taking everyone to the Promised Land, you had such high hopes. You dreamed of being free and having plenty to eat. You wonder how you ever thought you could get to the "land flowing with milk and honey."

"Is all hope lost?" you ask to no one in particular as you step down from the cart.

Your father puts his arm around your shoulders and says, "I don't know. God did send plagues of frogs, locusts, and blood-filled water to our enemies."

Your mother adds, "And He punished the Egyptians by killing their firstborn sons." They look at each other as if trying to believe. You turn away from your family and look at the pillar-like cloud that shows God is with you. The screams around you are increasing. Pharaoh's army is drawing nearer.

CHOICE ONE: If you wait to see how God provides, go to page 7.

CHOICE TWO: If you take matters in your own hands, go to page 10.

*** * ***

"Ithink we should listen to Moses," you tell your mother and give her what you hope is an encouraging smile. "It's going to be okay." Your mother nods but then bites her top lip and looks down.

"Rhoda, we'll be fine," your father repeats. Your parents' eyes meet. You turn away from them and hear a sound as if a strong wind is blowing. Your eyes settle on the pillar of cloud again. Is it moving?

"Look!" you say, pointing to it. "The pillar of cloud!" That cloud has led you every day and then turned into a pillar of fire at night to guide you. Moses says that the pillar is God leading His people, and that you are one of His people. Every time the cloud has moved, you have moved. Every time it has stopped, you have camped and eaten gritty food—food coated with desert sand. Again, you are amazed at the cloud's enormous size. It looks like a desert windstorm piled up in a column.

"The cloud!" another voice yells. Soon everyone is watching God's pillar. Slowly it moves around the entire Israelite camp. You can smell the muddy water near the shore of the Red Sea. When the cloud reaches the desert sand behind you, it spreads out like a wall.

"The Egyptians will never be able to get through that," Esau says. You agree. With the pillar of cloud between you and the Egyptians, you cannot even see the dust cloud that the Egyptians were making. You are glad. If you cannot see them, then they cannot see you.

A cheer goes up from the crowd.

Esau laughs. "That was cool."

Esau's father sneers. "Moses will probably say that the cloud is God protecting us. He tries to use everything to his advantage."



"You don't think God is protecting us?" you ask. Esau's father rolls his eyes.

Esau says, "Let's not worry about who did what. The cloud is between us and the Egyptians. That will give us some time to figure out what to do next."

The night grows dark behind the cloud, but on your side, the pillar of fire lights the whole camp. You do not like sitting still.

CHOICE ONE: If you continue waiting to see what God will do, go to page 68.

CHOICE TWO: If you begin figuring out what your family needs to do next, go to page 39.