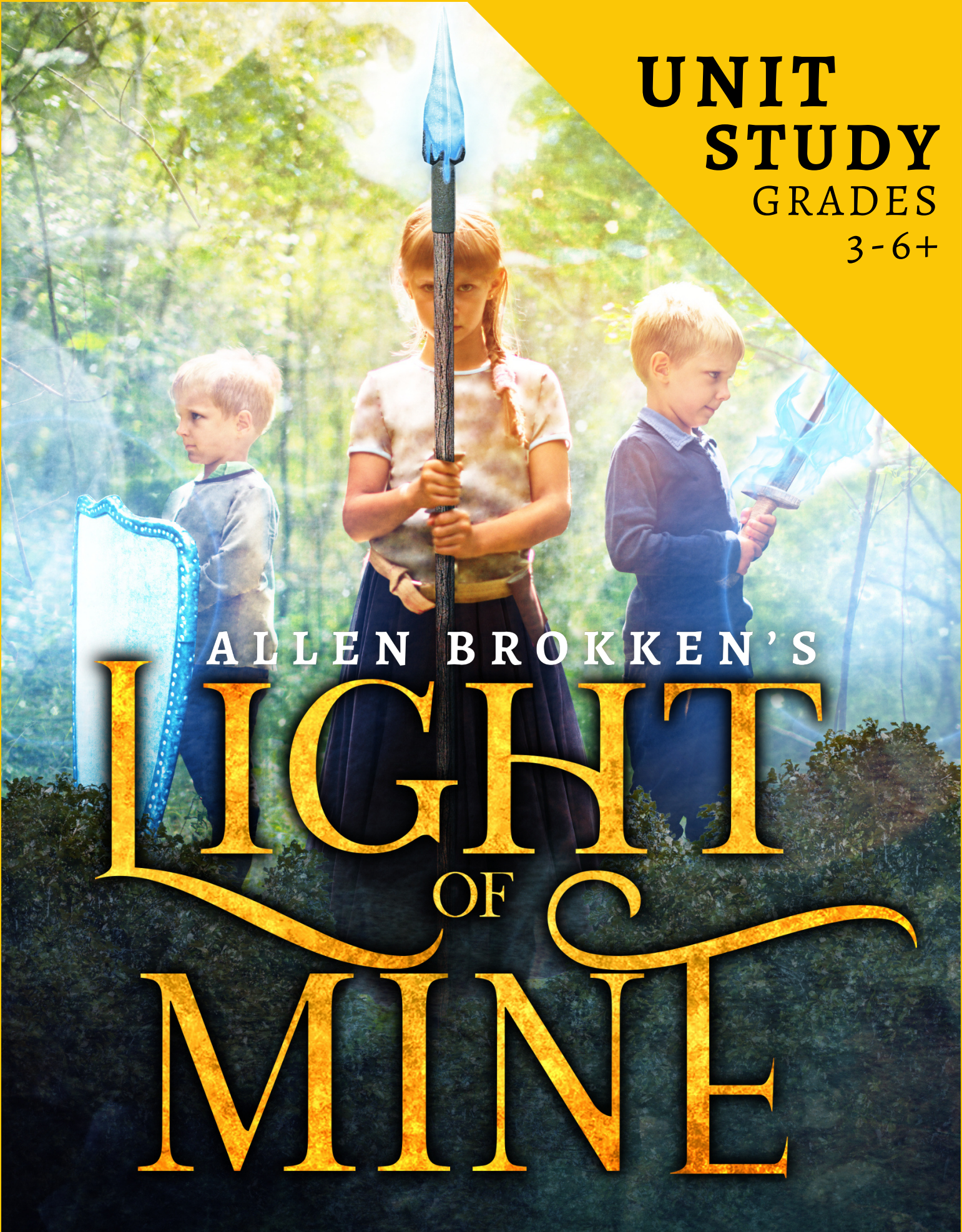


**UNIT
STUDY**
GRADES
3-6+

ALLEN BROKKEN'S

**LIGHT
OF
MINE**



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for printing purposes.

ALLEN BROKKEN'S

LIGHT
OF
MINE

Unit Study

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Print edition ISBN 978-1-7378515-3-0

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ALLEN BROKKEN

Allen Brokken is a teacher at heart, a husband and father most of all. He's a joyful writer by the abundant grace of God. He began writing the Towers of Light series for his own children to help him illustrate the deep truths of the Bible in an engaging and age-appropriate way. He's dedicated fifteen years of his life to volunteer roles in children's ministry and youth development.

Now that his own children are off to college, he's sharing his life experiences on social media @towersoflight, @twodadsandajoke, and through his blog <https://www.towersoflight.net>.

INTRODUCTION

Dear Reader,

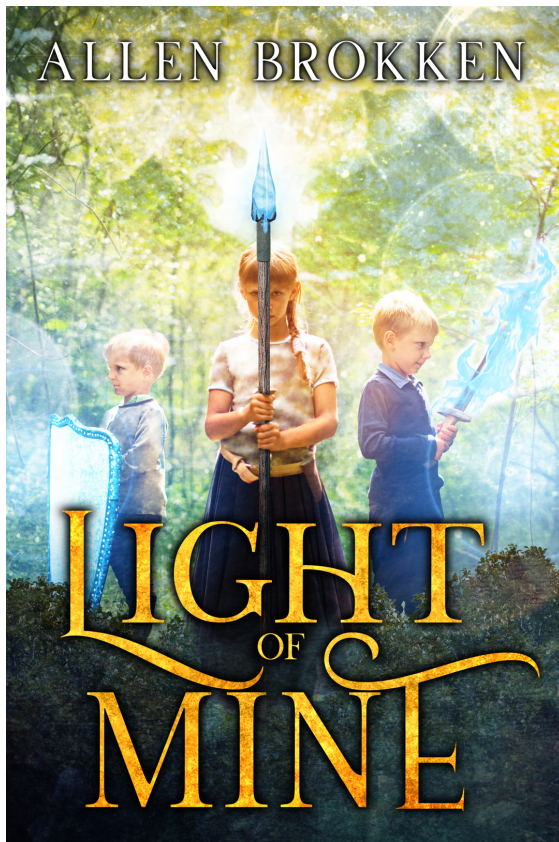
When my children were middle-grade readers, I had a tough time finding adventure stories they could enjoy that also emphasized Biblical truths. So I began telling them a story about life on the frontier, weaving in points of the faith that I felt they should learn. As the story developed, a unique world of pets with fantastic powers and holy weapons emerged to help the young characters hold back the forces of darkness.

The *Light of Mine: A Unit Study for Homeschoolers* is a supplement to those tales of adventure. It digs deeper into the spiritual aspects of the story from a Christian perspective. Over the next four weeks, your students will study passages from the story to highlight lessons from scripture and their real life application. There are also activity pages and memory verses to help them internalize the key messages in *Light of Mine*.

I hope you enjoy the story as much as my own children did.

May God bless you richly,

Allen Brokken



LIGHT OF MINE

Darkness is spreading through Zoura. Beyond the borders of the heathlands, innocent animals are being turned into monsters, and good men into pawns of the Dark One. Father has vanished after joining the Mighty Mercenaries and mother has gone missing in search of him.

Alone on the farm, twelve-year-old Lauren and her brave little brothers, Aiden and Ethan, must guard the Tower of Light that will guide both parents home. But when a hooded stranger is caught trespassing on the farm, and a new bishop claims the church, confusion pervades their close-knit community.

Will the children be able to recognize who is a threat to the Tower and who is there to help them protect it?

With little else but the aid of a trio of blessed pets, three holy weapons, and their growing faith, Lauren, Aiden, and Ethan find it is up to them to stop the agents of The Dark One from putting out the Light and dooming the heathlands to Darkness.

Fans of *Little House on the Prairie* will feel at home in the series' classic farmstead setting, and the sincerity of the children's love for one another—nurtured by the example of their parents—will bring a smile to readers and listeners of all ages.

TEACHER GUIDE

EDUCATIONAL GOALS

The *Light of Mine Unit Study* was developed for the first book in the Towers of Light series, a Christian fantasy adventure for middle-grade readers. It combines Biblical values and educational activities in four weeks of supplemental curriculum.

Story passages, chapter assignments, activities, and thoughtful questions foster Biblical discussion while exercising reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. Vocabulary exercises and puzzles expand student's vocabulary and provide an opportunity for students to use their references skills while also exercising their critical thinking skills. Memory verse copy work helps students learn scripture as they practice their handwriting. And coloring sheets offer a fun opportunity for creative expression.

SUGGESTED PACING

This unit study is designed to be completed within four weeks. Each week includes fifty to sixty pages of content, which can be read aloud or independently. Students are encouraged to keep a reading journal for their memory verse copy work, vocabulary exercises, and to record their answers to the reading questions.

DAYS ONE THROUGH FOUR

- In their reading journal, have students copy the MEMORY VERSE and complete the VOCABULARY EXERCISE.
- Read the STORY PASSAGE aloud and discuss the passage question as a group.
- Complete the DAILY READING assignment, aloud or independently.
- After reading, students should record their answers to the READING QUESTIONS in their journal. Answers may also be discussed as a group.

DAY FIVE

- Complete the DAILY READING assignment, aloud or independently.
- Have students recite the MEMORY VERSE.
- Use the COLORING PAGE, PUZZLE, and ACTIVITY as a fun way to wrap up the week.





WEEK ONE SHINING LIGHT

Memory Verse:

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

—Matthew 5:16



VOCABULARY

WORD LIST

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and a thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

CADRE

CERAMIC

CONTEMPLATE

LOFT

MERCENARY

MUTE

SECRET MESSAGE

This week's vocabulary words have been used to form the message below, but it's been encrypted to keep it a secret. Determine which letter in the alphabet corresponds to each number to decode the message.

5

6 5 9 18 2

21 16

26 2 18 6 2 4 5 18 19 2 10

26 7 20 2 9

20 1 2

26 7 10 19 6

11 1 19 25 2

20 1 2 17

6 21 4 20 2 26 14 25 5 20 2 9

20 1 2

6 2 18 5 26 19 6

6 5 20

25 17 19 4 15

19 4

20 1 2

25 21 16 20

DAY ONE

MEMORY VERSE & VOCABULARY

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and vocabulary definitions.

STORY PASSAGE

After a delicious meal of Mother's fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, and biscuits, the Parson wiped his mouth and said, "Children, your father tells me you are more diligent than the ants of the field. You have built a solid tower in record time."

"Thank you, Sir!" exclaimed the children.

The Parson rose from the table. "There is just one thing missing."

"What?" asked Ethan, echoing what Lauren was thinking. Father's plans were so detailed. She couldn't imagine what they'd missed.

The Parson bent over and picked up his sack, then he removed a metal lantern and set it on the table. "The Light, of course."

The lantern was a dull bronze color that reminded Lauren of the brass knockers on the church door. It looked about five hands high and one hand wide. The glass faces had a golden stained-glass cross in the center of each face. She really loved that because it reminded her of the stained-glass window in her grandma's great room. The lantern held no candle, but a small spike protruded from its center.

Aiden set his elbows on the table and leaned closer. "Mama, will you get a candle, so we can light it?"

The Parson patted Aiden on the head. "Son, not for this lantern."

WHERE DO YOU THINK THE LANTERN'S LIGHT COMES FROM?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter one and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why does Father build the tower?
2. What special animals visit the farm?
3. What does Father do for work?
4. Are the Mighty Mercenaries trustworthy? Why or why not?
5. Where does the light for the tower come from?

DAY TWO

MEMORY VERSE & VOCABULARY

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and list three synonyms for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

"Aiden thinks it was the Dark One. 'Cause he says Daddy put the lightning rods up, and the lightning hit where it wasn't supposed to." Ethan's chin lifted as he showed pride in his brother. Ethan fisted his right hand and shook it toward the window. "I'm gonna conk the Dark One on his wonkus for making us carry all that water and for taking my Daddy away."

Lauren's lips tightened. "Ethan, I don't think you'll be going after the Dark One anytime soon."

"In the Good Book, a little boy, who had God on his side, beat a giant that scared a whole army." Ethan declared. "If God wants us to go save Daddy, we will."

"Young Ethan, you are exactly right. The Good Book is full of examples where the Spirit of the Lord helps an unlikely person defeat evil." The Parson pointed toward the great room, where Father's copy of the Good Book was visible. "If you read carefully, you will discover more miracles like this in its pages. You will see them in your own life only if the Lord calls you to them." He clasped his hands together. "So, young Ethan, I hope you ask God to go with you before you go conking any wonkuses. OK?"

"Yes sir," Ethan said as he looked down at his plate with a pout on his lips.

WHAT BIBLE STORY IS ETHAN REFERRING TO?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter two and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What does Mother do during the storm?
2. What makes Aiden think lightning stuck the windmill?
3. Why did Aiden think the Dark One was responsible for the broken windmill?
4. What does Mother realize may have led to Father's disappearance?
5. Who does Mother say will help the children?

DAY THREE

MEMORY VERSE & VOCABULARY

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and list three antonyms for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

Just then, Lauren came inside carrying a slab of ham and said excitedly, "I found the last bit of ham!"

This distracted Aiden. As he pushed the pot further into the fireplace, a foot spike caught on a gap in the bricks, and it tipped toward the fire; water cascaded out. Before Aiden could correct his movement, the spider pot tipped further, and the lid slid off, crashing into the flames and scattering the wood inside the fireplace.

The fire hissed and snapped as liquid engulfed it. Before Aiden's eyes, the water extinguished his beautiful fire.

Lauren rushed up to try to help Aiden, ham in hand. Then the whole thing backwashed ashy water and partially burnt sticks out of the fireplace and all down Aiden's shirt.

The floor was already wet from Ethan's spill, and the ashy sludge added to the slippery mess. Lauren's leather-bottomed shoes slid, and she prevented herself from falling by dropping the slab of meat and catching the side of the oven. The ham landed with a plop in the middle of the ashy slime.

At the same time, more smoke and steam than could be handled by the flue billowed out of the oven, cloaking the kitchen into momentary darkness as it obscured the light from the window.

**WHAT ACTIONS OR CHOICES AFFECT THE LIGHT WITHIN US
LIKE THE FIRE'S FLAME?**

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter three and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What did Lauren use to organize the work?
2. Who is Ethan's special friend?
3. What little accomplishment made Ethan very proud?
4. How did Lauren react to the fire begin put out?

DAY FOUR

MEMORY VERSE & VOCABULARY

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and draw a picture definition for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

Finally, Lauren said, "Let me try." She reached for the rod, and as her fingers wrapped around it, she felt a sensation like warm water running over her arms. The weapon handle reduced in width to more comfortably fit her hand. Then one end formed a spear tip made of an aquamarine glow around the metal tip. Indeed, the whole spear glowed with a light that flowed like water. As Lauren gripped the weapon with both hands, the radiance ran over her fingers, as did the watery aura.

"Whoa!" Aiden took a step back from Lauren. "That's amazing."

"Aiden, I'll bet that's for you." Lauren set the base of the spear on the floor and pointed to the sword with her other hand. "I never touched that, and it didn't move when E tripped over it. I'll bet it's yours."

Aiden reached for the sword hilt. The instant he touched it, he said, "I feel a fire in my chest." The sword shrank from a two-handed longsword for a grown up to the size of a short sword that Aiden could wield in a two-handed grip.

A blue-white flame burst out along the sword handle, startling Aiden, who dropped it. The Fire disappeared, and the sword returned to its full size as it clattered to the floor.

"Oops," he said, red-faced. Then he picked it up more carefully, and the fire returned. He could feel the heat from the flame, but it didn't hurt him.

WHAT POWERS THE CHILDREN'S WEAPONS?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter four and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Who is Aiden's special friend?
2. Who comes to visit the children?
3. Who was supposed to visit the children?
4. What tool does Aiden use to fix the windmill?
5. What is the theme of the stories Lauren reads in the Good Book?

DAY FIVE

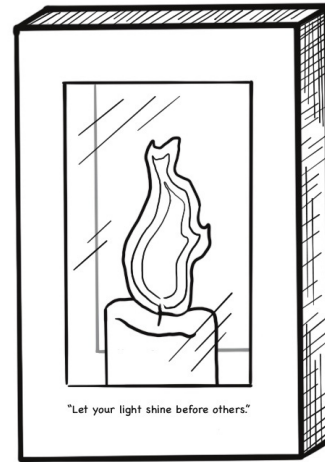
READING & MEMORY VERSE

Read chapter five in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activities.

ACTIVITY: LANTERN

MATERIALS

- An empty cereal box (or similar box)
- Wax paper & plastic wrap
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Markers



INSTRUCTIONS

Carefully open the flaps on both ends of the cereal box and cut along the edge of one corner to open the box fully. (The box will be refolded and taped back together with the inside facing out.) Cut openings in the front and back panels of the cereal box.

Next, cut sheets of wax paper and plastic wrap to be a little larger than the openings cut into the front and back of the cereal box. (These will be the "glass panes" of the lantern.) Use construction paper to cut out two identical candles and flames (one for each opening). Tape one flame to the top of each candle and draw a black line from the flame to the candle for the wick.

Then, flip the box over so the printed side is up and the cardboard side is down. Tape a sheet of plastic wrap over each opening. Then, tape a candle on top of the plastic in each opening (make sure the candle can be seen from the other side of the box). Tape the wax paper on top of the candle and the plastic wrap so that it can be seen behind the candle from the cardboard side of the box.

Last, flip the box over to write this week's memory verse on the cardboard side and decorate the box. Tape the box back together with the cardboard side facing out.



WEEK TWO FACING TRIALS

Memory Verse:

“But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.”

—Matthew 10:19-20



VOCABULARY

WORD LIST

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and a thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

CONGREGANT
HERETIC

REGAL
RITUAL

SACRAMENT
SANCTUARY

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange each group of letters below to unscramble the words.

AREONTGGNC

ACRASYNUT

CREHTIE

CNATRSEMA

LERGA

AIUTLR

DAY ONE

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and vocabulary definitions.

STORY PASSAGE

The old man slammed his staff on the ground three times and yelled at the Bishop, "Heretic! This message you spew, 'tolerate others' beliefs, no matter how they behave or what they do,' is not the message of the Good Book!"

Lauren's limbs stiffened. What on earth had just happened? Never in the middle of a sermon had someone stood to disagree about what was or was not in the Good Book. Who was telling the truth, this finely dressed bishop or this raggedy old man, seemingly a knight protector?

The old man stepped toward the front of the church and turned to look at the congregation. "Have you been to Loggerton?" He punctuated each word with a pound of his staff against the floor. The thud, thud, echoed in Lauren's ears, making her wince. "Have you seen how the Darkness has gripped that community?"

Silence reigned in the chapel. Lauren could not take her eyes off the old man. Something deep inside her confirmed his words, his tone, his anger. Plus, he wore the colors of Father's cadre. Her throat tightened. If only Father were here to confirm who spoke the truth.

The battered knight protector threw his arms in the air and raised his face, as if toward the heavens. "The Good Book's message is to love God with all your heart and then love others! You cannot love God and tolerate evil!"

WHAT DOES LOVING OTHERS WITHOUT TOLERATING EVIL LOOK LIKE?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter six and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why are the kids excited to see the Parson?
2. What stands out about the countryside on the way to the church?
3. Why was Ethan acting strange when he returned to the church service?
4. Who storms out of the church service and why?

DAY TWO

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and list three synonyms for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

"Silence, child!" the Bishop barked. As he turned back to Lauren and Aiden, his fearsome expression melted into calm, as if the incident with Ethan had not occurred. "Despite their best efforts to keep your mother from running headlong into danger, the Mighty Mercenaries have lost contact with her. The Bishop stood up and motioned out the window as if pointing toward the tower. "With both parents missing, there is a great concern for the Tower of Light." While its power naturally keeps the Darkness at bay, it's vulnerable to vandalism without someone to guard and protect it."

Aiden perked up. "We can guard it! We have magic weapons. Mine is a fiery sword."

"I'm sure you have all kinds of magic," the Bishop assured in a patronizing tone. "What is needed now is more than good intentions and your active imagination. Did I not already have to reprimand your brother about asking permission properly before speaking?" The Bishop stood and pointed to another corner in the room. "In fact, you go there now, and contemplate the ways to show proper respect for your elders."

Lauren could no longer sit still and watch her brothers being punished for speaking truth. She again clasped her hands and faced the Bishop. "Good Bishop, may I speak, Your Holiness, sir?" She spoke formally while looking down at her hands, and only sneaking peeks at her elder.

WHY DO YOU THINK LAUREN REACTED THE WAY SHE DID?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter seven and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What does Sparkle Frog do that's so amazing?
2. How are the children treated after church?
3. What item is sent with the children?
4. What document is shown to the children?
5. Who returns home with the children?

DAY THREE

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and list three antonyms for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

As the children walked home, Aiden was really confused about what had just transpired. He got that Lauren was just trying to get them out of a sticky situation, but this didn't feel right to him. He turned back toward the church. "Sissy, look behind us! The sky still isn't right. Why hasn't it lightened up?"

The Violet Acolyte swelled with pride. "The Bishop says the Darkness is spreading. Soon, the twilight will bathe all of Zoura. That's why the Bishop's here. If you notice, the haze fades just outside the church. This concerns the Bishop greatly."

"Let me see if I understand." Aiden took the lead as the acolyte didn't know where to turn toward their home. "The Bishop thinks the Darkness has spread to the church and he's trying to figure out how that could have happened?"

Aiden began walking backward to continue the conversation. He knew this road like the back of his hand, and there was something shifty about this guy. He wanted to get the whole story.

The acolyte nodded at Aiden's assertion, his expression earnest. "Something like that."

DO YOU THINK THE ACOLYTE IS BEING TRUTHFUL OR DECEPTIVE?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter eight and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What does the sky look like on the way home? What does it mean?
2. What does the acolyte think of the Parson?
3. How does the acolyte react to meeting Daddy Duck?
4. What happened to the tower while the children were gone?

DAY FOUR

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and draw a picture definition for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

Lauren stepped forward. "Since you're not from here, I can understand you not knowing our song, but how can you not know about keeping the Sabbath?"

"Oh, that." The acolyte shook his head dismissively. "Child, when you have studied the Good Book as I have, under the tutelage of the best scholars, you begin to understand what it really means." He put his hand to his chest and sighed. "The strict rules of the Old Book do not apply to us believers of the New Book. We are unbound from the rules of the first followers of God." The acolyte pointed to the Good Book next to Father's chair in the great room. "If you knew your Good Book well, you'd know that even the Savior 'worked' on the Sabbath by healing a man." He made a showing motion with his hands. "Go! Do what I asked so we can have a proper meal."

"Daddy wouldn't like this." Ethan squared his shoulders and made fists. "I don't know about all the things you're talking about, but I'm not going to do something Daddy wouldn't like."

"Me, neither," Aiden declared, stepping between Ethan and the acolyte. Ethan was proud of his big brother stepping up to defend him.

"I'm with my brothers," Lauren said as she stepped next to Aiden and put a hand on his shoulder in support.

WHAT DOES "KEEPING THE SABBATH" MEAN?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter nine and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What did the acolyte not know about the Light?
2. What did the acolyte eat for lunch and why did it surprise the children?
3. What does Meow Meow decide to play with?
4. Why did the acolyte apologize?

DAY FIVE

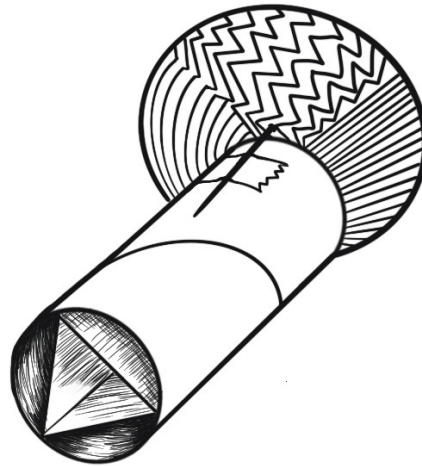
READING & MEMORY VERSE

Read chapter ten in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activities.

ACTIVITY: KALEIDOSCOPE

MATERIALS

- An empty toilet paper tube
- A 3x5 index card
- Aluminum foil
- 4 inch white paper circle
- Markers
- Toothpick
- Tape



INSTRUCTIONS

Fold the index card into a three-sided triangle that fits snugly into the toilet paper tube (adjust as needed). Then, unfold the index card and wrap it in aluminum foil. Make sure the smooth, shiny side is on the inside of the triangle. Refold, securing the aluminum foil and triangle with tape. Insert the triangle into the toilet paper tube.

Using markers, decorate the outside of the tube and color 3-4 patterns on the white paper circle. Next, place a small piece of tape in the middle on the backside of the white paper circle. Then, poke the toothpick through the center of the white paper circle—going through the tape on the backside. (The paper circle should rotate freely around the toothpick.) Tape the other end of the toothpick to one end of the toilet paper tube.

Holding the kaleidoscope up to the light, look through the open end of the toilet paper tube while turning the white paper circle on the opposite end.

**WHAT HAPPENS TO THE VIEW WHEN YOU TURN THE KALEIDOSCOPE?
HOW CAN WE CHANGE OUR VIEW WHEN FACING TRAILS?**

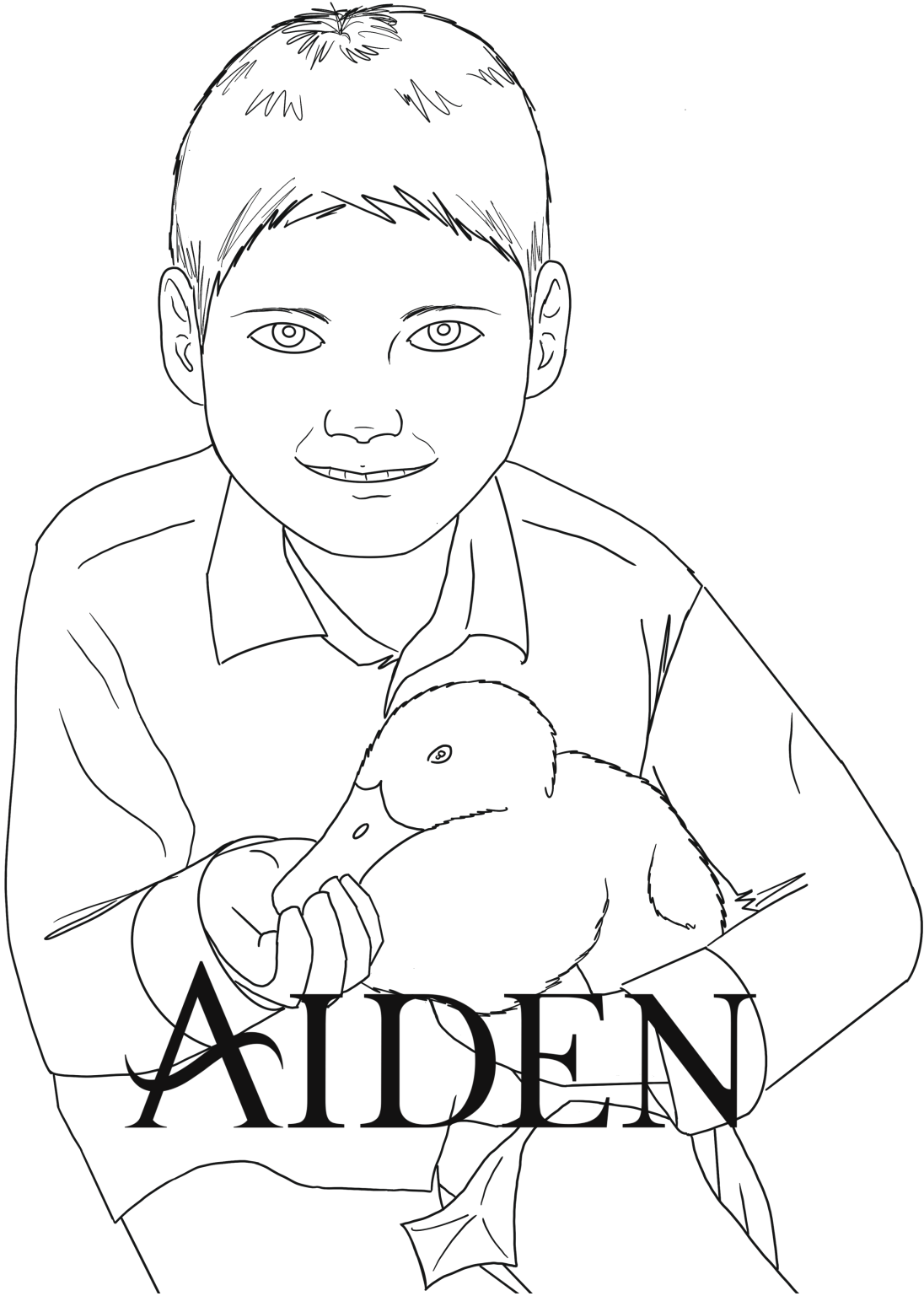


WEEK THREE ARMOR OF GOD

Memory Verse:

“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:”

—Ephesians 6:16-17 KJV



VOCABULARY

WORD LIST

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and a thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

ACOLYTE

FIDDLE

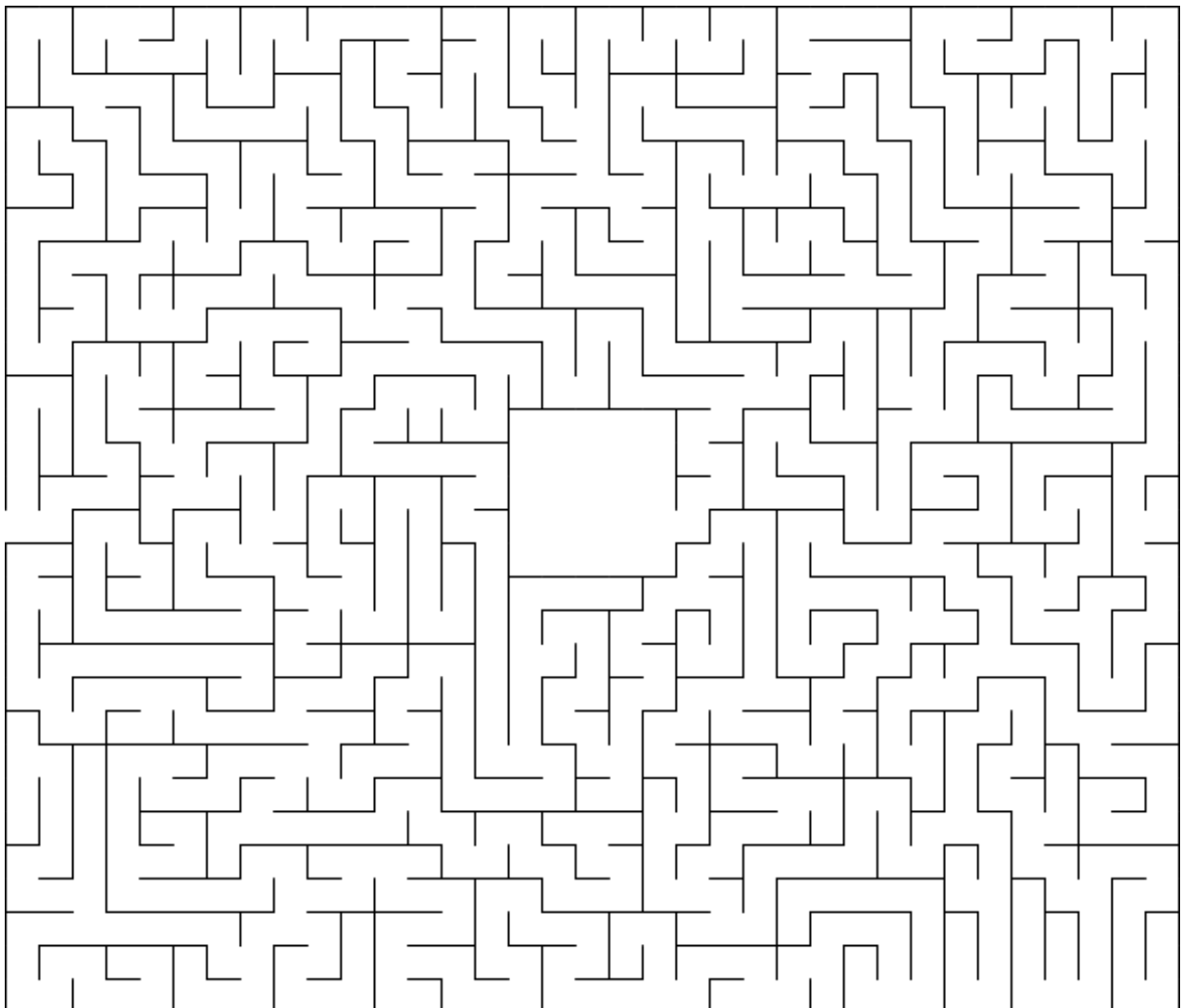
PROTECTOR

ETCH

ILLUMINATE

MAZE

Help the kids escape! Trace a path from the center of the maze to the outside.



DAY ONE

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and vocabulary definitions.

STORY PASSAGE

In the kitchen, Aiden started a fire, and Ethan got the slate and some chalk so Lauren could write a note:

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US.
WE WENT TO PICK BERRIES AS A SPECIAL TREAT FOR YOU. PLEASE WATER AND
FEED THE ANIMALS WHILE WE ARE GONE. WE WILL BE BACK SOON.

As she dotted the period, she could sense the light from the tower dimming. They “were” going to get berries, so it wasn’t a lie, was it? Should they really be doing this?

“C’mon, Sissy, we need to make sure Sparkle Frog can’t be hurt by the dark water.” Ethan said as he tugged on her dress.

Lauren looked down on her brother. His earnest look convinced her to stay the course. But would God really help them when they needed it if they were lying?

Lauren wiped the slate clean and the light grew slightly brighter.

“Sissy? Why did you do that?” Aiden asked.

Lauren took a deep breath and slowly let it out. “We can’t start a mission for the Light under the cloud of a lie.”

WHY DOES THE LIGHT DIM WHEN LAUREN WRITES THE NOTE?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter eleven and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What wakes the children up?
2. Where does the quest for the source of the dark water take the children?
3. What do the children find there?
4. What amazing things happen to destroy the darkness?
5. Who do the children see as they flee?

DAY TWO

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and list three synonyms for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

Finally, Lauren turned to Ethan, "Whatever it is, it can wait until later. We have chores to do."

Ethan was very frustrated by this. *We need to tell to make the Light bright.*

"But Sissy!" Ethan demanded

"We'll finish the chores!" Lauren commanded sternly. She picked up the silver bowl in her right hand while she held the broom in her left. "Aiden, now that we are home, you should put the knife Father gave you away with the other special things like this silver bowl."

"Put my knife away?" Aiden asked with a raised eyebrow.

"Yes, in the trunk, upstairs." Lauren waved the bowl in Aiden's direction, so a reflection showed a light spot on his face. "We shouldn't leave this out."

"Oh yeah, the trunk," Aiden said as he hustled to follow Lauren into the great room. "E, can you help Brother Flower with the eggs?"

Ethan was very concerned about them not being fully honest with Brother Flower, but he could tell by the way his siblings were emphasizing certain words that they must be trying to talk in code. They did that sometimes, and he could never really follow them.

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO AVOID REVEALING SOMETHING THAT SHOULDN'T BE REVEALED WITHOUT LYING?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter twelve and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What do the children bring to the acolyte?
2. Who visited the house and why?
3. What got added to the tower?

DAY THREE

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and list three antonyms for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

She stood at the window, begging God to give her wisdom. Then she felt drawn to pick up the broom that had been her spear. As her hand wrapped around the middle of its shaft, an aqua-colored light flowed over her hand and up and down the shaft—as it had done when she'd picked up the spear for the first time. The radiance reached the top of the shaft, extended almost a forearm's length beyond the end of the it, and culminated in a sharp spear point. Simultaneously, the straw making it a broom disappeared. Spear in hand, she glanced out the window once again.

The Knight Protector had gained an advantage on the Violet Acolyte and backed him into a corner. As Lauren watched in horror, he knocked the hammer from the acolyte's hand.

The acolyte cried out, then reached for his horn.

Lauren's lips tightened. She prayed, pulled back her arm, and froze. Could she really throw the spear hard enough to hurt a man wearing armor? Then she remembered Aiden's sword. If it could cut through hinges and locks, her spear should be able to stop the Knight Protector.

She hurled the spear with all her might and watched it fly through the air. Just as it reached the window of the tower, the Knight Protector stepped aside, which put the acolyte's head in the direct path of the spear.

HOW WILL BEING STRUCK BY THE SPEAR AFFECT THE ACOLYTE?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter thirteen and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What happens when Lauren uses her spear?
2. What happens to the Knight Protector?
3. Who do the kids find in the tower?
4. What does Ethan find along the way?

DAY FOUR

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and draw a picture definition for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

Then Aiden unwound the loop of rope, while Ethan went back to the barn. *I sure hope he'll actually get the sacks of grain and not just fool around in the mud. There's no telling when the storm will break, and I wouldn't want the Knight Protector to catch us while we're doing this.*

The top of the Tower of Light had a square-shaped hole about the width of two grain sacks that allowed light to pass all the way down to the floor. A wooden railing that came to Aiden's waist surrounded the hole, with a pole at each corner and another pole halfway in between. From the top, it was a straight shot to ground level. The light illuminated everything inside, including the stairs, so there was no need for torches.

Aiden took the rope off his shoulder and tied one end to the railing at the top of the tower. Then he dropped the rest of the coil of rope down the hole. As he walked down the stairs, he saw the old torches on either side of the door. They had used them when building the tower. Since they never used them anymore, the torches were covered with dust and cobwebs.

Ethan returned to the tower as Aiden took a torch from the wall. Aiden hated the way the cobwebs felt when they stuck to his hand. He swapped hands and wiped the dirty one on his wet pants. Then Aiden patted Ethan on the head as he passed, saying, "Good job. Keep it up."

**HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN TO FILTER YOUR THOUGHTS,
AND WHEN TO SAY SOMETHING ALOUD?**

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter fourteen and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What do the children decide to do about the Knight Protector?
2. Describe the trap the children set up.

DAY FIVE

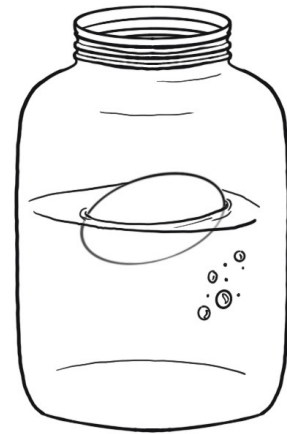
READING & MEMORY VERSE

Read chapter fifteen in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activities.

ACTIVITY: EGGS-PERIMENT

MATERIALS

- An egg
- Vinegar
- A jar or container large enough to place the egg inside



INSTRUCTIONS

Place the egg inside the container. Fill the container with enough vinegar to cover the egg. Let it sit overnight.

The next day, you will notice the egg's hard outer shell is gone. Only the thin inner membrane is keeping the egg intact. This change is known as a chemical change. The acetic acid in the vinegar interacted with the calcium carbonate in the egg's shell to create a carbonic acid and calcium acetate. Then, the carbonic acid broke down to become carbon dioxide and water.

HOW IS SIN IN OUR LIVES LIKE WHAT HAPPENED TO THE EGG?



WEEK FOUR HOLY SPIRIT

Memory Verse:

“Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.”

1 Samuel 16:13 KJV



VOCABULARY

WORD LIST

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and a thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

DISARM

MESMERIZE

TASSEL

INTRUDER

SORCERY

WORD SEARCH

Find and circle the hidden vocabulary words in the puzzle below. Words may appear up, down, forwards, backwards, or diagonally.

ACOLYTE

ETCH

MERCENARY

SACRAMENT

CADRE

FIDDLE

MESMERIZE

SANCTUARY

CERAMIC

HERETIC

MUTED

SORCERY

CONGREGANT

ILLUMINATE

PROTECTOR

TASSEL

CONTEMPLATE

INTRUDER

REGAL

DISARM

LOFT

RITUAL

C S A C R A M E N T H P F L M P H F B K G C W C L
I P Z C S S P R B K R M J A I E R E L E O W L O O
M A A O Y K O O A O L M Z G K U R E S N F A W N C
A G D V E F P R T C Y M I E A R S C G M U S I T S
R D I S A R M E C V O H N R L S O R E T A M F E E
E M T R R V C W Y E P L B Q A D E S I N B T I M Z
C Y R A U T C N A S R D Y T H G D R R L A F G P I
W I H D O Q C F T W E Y A T A O I I P Q W R G L R
U F T R H A T F B S V K L N E N N U F G Q B Y A E
G A A E I T O E Z F T Y T M A Y T F A X V P L T M
T U B O R L J X R Q P V X U Q G R E M U T E D E S
R B I X R E T A N I M U L L I F U W R D V T C Y E
X Y U A B B H X K K R Z M Q X O D V X D C C E U M
X Y B A R Z Y S G N C Z R X J P E I I I A H D Q A
U G F N R S S G D X F B G D O V R T J K I C O X W

DAY ONE

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and vocabulary definitions.

STORY PASSAGE

"No!" Aiden cried as the deadly blade came down. From the corner of his eye, he saw Ethan curl up in a ball under his shield as Lauren reached to pick up her spear from where she'd set it against the wall.

Time seemed to slow as Aiden gripped his sword and the fire welled up in his chest and down his arm. He finished his draw, and the blue-white flames engulfed the blade as the acolyte's sword descended point first toward the knight's chest.

Aiden hit the flat of the acolyte's blade with the flat of his own and swept up and to the left. Aiden's blade slid up the side of the acolyte's weapon until the flames on Aiden's sword began to burn the acolyte, and he dropped the sword.

"What sorcery is this?" the acolyte yelled as he blew on his burnt fingers. Blue-green liquid energy surrounded Lauren's staff, which she used to sweep the acolyte's legs out from under him.

He fell to his knees. "Why would you prevent me from destroying a minion of darkness. . . unless you are the Darkness yourselves?" the acolyte spat.

Ethan popped his head out from beneath his shield. "Killing is a trait of the Darkness. The Good Book says, 'Thou shalt not kill.'" The little boy got up and dusted himself off and stood with his hands balled in fists on his hips.

WHAT ARE THE OTHER TRAITS OF DARKNESS (OR THE FLESH)?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter sixteen and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Did the children's trap work? Who got caught in it?
2. What does the acolyte want to do about the knight?
3. What heroic act does Ethan do?
4. How does the knight explain his behavior?
5. What happens when the acolyte blows his horn?

DAY TWO

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and list three synonyms for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

The narrow beam of light coming from the house allowed him to notice the engraving of the Lantern of Light on his shield. It began to glow ever so softly. A memory of Father rose from the present chaos. . .

They'd gathered around the kitchen table, on which had been set the lantern from the Tower of Light.

Father pointed at Ethan's chest. "The light for this lantern is inside of each of us."

Ethan looked down at his chest, then threw his hands in the air. "I don't see the light, Daddy."

"When you love the Lord with all your heart, mind, and soul, the Good Book says you reflect the Savior's Light on the world." Father patted Ethan's head. "Would you like to learn a song about how we can shine that light?"

Ethan stood up and stepped forward, away from the kitchen door. His memory echoed the same words the old Knight Protector had just yelled. With the Light, he could stand on his own. He could fight the Darkness. He had the Light. Of course! He'd had it all the time! The hounds crept closer, closer.

"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine."

WHAT IS THE LIGHT ETHAN HAS AND WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter seventeen and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What advice does the knight give Ethan?
2. What happens when the acolyte attempts to help the kids?
3. What does the Holy Spirit's power allow their weapons to do?
4. Is the censer more powerful than the lantern?
5. What happens to the Bishop?

DAY THREE

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and list three antonyms for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

Aiden wished the Knight Protector would hurry. Brother Flower needed their help.

"Brother," Lauren started, as she stroked his hair. "Your wounds are grave. I don't think there's anything we can do except pray."

"I feel such pain." A cough tore through a faint whisper, making him hard to understand. "Call. . . call me Nicholas. That's my given name. I. . . I no longer serve what I now know was the Darkness."

The Knight Protector, still supported by Aiden, came near and visibly winced at the scene as he managed to kneel on one knee and put his arm around Ethan, whose sobs had not diminished. "Son, the acolyte is not long for this world."

"His name is Nicholas," Lauren said solemnly.

"The only hope for Nicholas now is God's mercy," said the Knight Protector.

"OK." Ethan wiped away tears and sat straighter. "Let's pray." He bowed his head; the others did the same. "Dear God, please help Nicholas." As he prayed, sniffles punctuated his words. "Please, please fix him, God. He is a good friend, and he saved Sissy and Aiden. He saved Sparkle Frog. He saved me, too." Please, God!" Ethan's voice rang out with the depth and confidence of the young child of faith that he was. "Please save Nicholas."

The Lantern of Light grew brighter, and a light haloed Nicholas's head.

"I have been saved. . . from the Darkness. You children have shown me the Light."

WHAT DOES NICOLAS MEAN WHEN HE SAYS, "I HAVE BEEN SAVED"?

WHAT DOES SALVATION MEAN TO YOU?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter eighteen and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What did the children do to help the acolyte? Did it work, why or why not?

DAY FOUR

MEMORY VERSE

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and draw a picture definition for each vocabulary word.

STORY PASSAGE

"Ethan, your light is so very bright." Tears rolled down her lovely face, and she began to cry. "I saw it last night! It was so glorious, and undoubtedly cause for celebration, but you must not tarry at home. You must take your light to the far corners of the land and light the other towers.

"The forces of Darkness are after you!" Mother continued. "Their lord, the Dark One, comes again for you. Seek help from the Knight Protector. Father shared his plans to shine the Light from Blooming Glen with him." Her eyes glistened like they held diamonds, so brilliant were her tears. "You must shine your light over the whole wide world! Let it shine."

A shadow passed over the beam of light: Mother was gone. Ethan now saw an image of a man in a cage wearing an iron mask. He was bound to the bars with iron restraints. Ethan began to shake. Despite the cover, Ethan knew precisely who he was: their father.

"Daddy! I'll shine my light and save you!" Ethan pleaded with the darkness, "Sissy, Aiden and me will shine our light over the whole, wide world."

HOW CAN YOU SHINE YOUR LIGHT BEFORE OTHERS?

CHAPTER READING QUESTIONS

Read chapter nineteen and then answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Where was Mother?

DAY FIVE

READING & MEMORY VERSE

Read chapter twenty in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activities.

ACTIVITY: PLANTING

MATERIALS

- An empty plastic water bottle with cap
- 4 inches of yarn
- One cup of potting soil
- Seeds (Tip: beans, peas, or sunflowers work best)
- Scissors



INSTRUCTIONS

Cut the plastic bottle in half. Make sure there is about an inch of space between the cap and the bottom of the bottle when the top half of the bottle is inserted upside down into the bottom half.

Next, remove the cap and poke a hole in the center of it. Tie a knot in one end of the yarn and thread it through the hole in the cap (with the knot on the inside). Screw the cap on.

Then, pour water into the bottom half of the bottle (at least an inch or so deep). Place the top half of the bottle upside down into the bottom half. (The string should be touching the bottom of the bottle and the bottle cap should be submerged.) Fill the top half of the bottle with soil, leaving at least an inch of space between the soil and the rim of the bottle.

Last, gently plant the seed into the soil and place it where the plant will get plenty of sunlight. Be sure to refill the water in the bottom of the bottle as necessary.

HOW IS THE PLANT LIKE OUR FAITH?

ANSWER KEY

WEEK ONE: SHINING LIGHT

DAY ONE

1. Father builds the tower to light the area where he works to keep him safe.
2. Frogs and ducks visit the farm.
3. Father builds defenses.
4. Not necessarily. They love money, but they don't all love the Lord.
5. The light is a reflection of the Savior's Light. It comes from God.

DAY TWO

1. Mother closes the shutters on the tower during the storm.
2. Aiden thought lightning struck the windmill because part of it melted.
3. Aiden thought the Dark One was responsible for the windmill because the Dark One likes to grumble to lessen the light.
4. Mother realizes the tower is closed up.
5. Mother tells the kids they can trust the Parson.

DAY THREE

1. Lauren used a slate and check list to organize the work.
2. Ethan's special friend is Sparkle Frog.
3. Ethan was proud that he retrieved half a bucket of water and filled up the pot.
4. Lauren uses Mother's tactics to help make sure it doesn't happen again.

DAY FOUR

1. Aiden's special friend is Daddy Duck.
2. The Parson comes to visit the children.
3. The carpenters were supposed to visit the children.
4. Aiden uses a harrow to fix the windmill.
5. The stories Lauren reads from the Good Book all describe the Holy Spirit coming upon people.

SECRET MESSAGE

A cadre of mercenaries muted the music while they contemplated the ceramic cat lying in the loft.

WEEK TWO: FACING TRAILS

DAY ONE

1. The kids are excited to see the Parson, because he will give them guidance.
2. There is darkness in the direction of the church.
3. Ethan returned with Sparkle Frog.
4. The Knight Protector storms out of the church after he called the Bishop's sermon heresy.

DAY TWO

1. Sparkle Frog heals bruises and contusions.
2. The children are treated harshly and dismissed.
3. A horn is sent with the children. It's a horn that even the hounds of hell respect.
4. A writ with Father's instructions is shown to the children.
5. The Violet Acolyte returns home with the children.

DAY THREE

1. The sky is clear and bright as they travel home.
2. The acolyte questions whether the Parson has something to do with the Darkness.
3. The acolyte freaks out when he meets Daddy Duck.
4. The Tower had been boarded up in the children's absence.

DAY FOUR

1. He didn't know anything about the Light or the song "This Little Light of Mine."
2. He ate pork and potatoes for lunch, which is not proper for the Sabbath.
3. Meow Meow plays with the tassels on the bottom of the acolyte's robe.
4. The acolyte apologized for not respecting the children's conscience.

WORD SCRAMBLE

1. AREONTGGNC: Congregant
2. ACRASYNUT: Sanctuary
3. CREHTIE: Heretic
4. CNATRSEMA: Sacrament
5. LERGA: Regal
6. AIUTLR: Ritual

WEEK THREE: ARMOR OF GOD

DAY ONE

1. Meow Meow's power wakes up the children.
2. Their quest leads them to the Parson's house.
3. The children find a darkness machine.
4. Aiden's sword blazes with fire, and he uses it to destroy the locks. Then, Daddy Duck directs the Light.
5. The children see the Knight Protector.

DAY TWO

1. The children bring the acolyte berries.
2. The Dandelion Acolyte shows up with the proclamation that the kids are to leave home.
3. Locks and hinges are added to the tower.

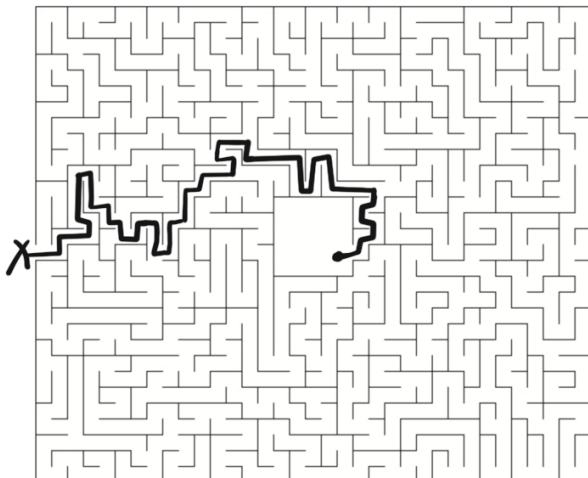
DAY THREE

1. Lauren knocks out the acolyte when she uses her spear.
2. The Knight Protector gets away.
3. The kids find the Knight Protector. He is knocked out and looks a bit different.
4. Ethan finds a dark bag that loses things inside it.

DAY FOUR

1. Aiden suggests they lay a trap for the Knight Protector.
2. They attached a heavy bag of grain to a rope and rig it to drop on the Knight Protector.

MAZE



WEEK FOUR: HOLY SPIRIT

DAY ONE

1. Yes, the Knight Protector was knocked out.
2. The acolyte wants to kill the Knight Protector.
3. Ethan jumps on the knight to protect him from the acolyte.
4. The Knight Protector says he was sent to watch over the children and to find out the plot of the Darkness.
5. Hell Hounds and Yoinu Censer appear when the Acolyte blows his horn.

DAY TWO

1. He tells Ethan to let his light shine.
2. Hell Hounds attack the acolyte when he tries to help the children.
3. The Holy Spirit powers Lauren's spear to knock the Darkness out of people, Aiden's sword to cut through magical objects, and Ethan's shield to destroy darkness monsters with the Light.
4. No. The censer is destroyed by the Light.
5. The Bishop runs off.

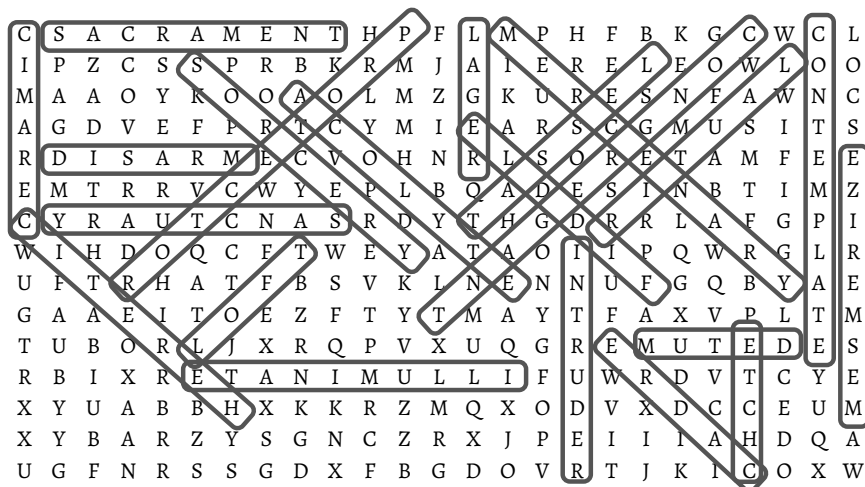
DAY THREE

1. The children prayed for him, but they didn't get the answer they hoped for. However, God's plans are higher than our own and He is always faithful.

DAY FOUR

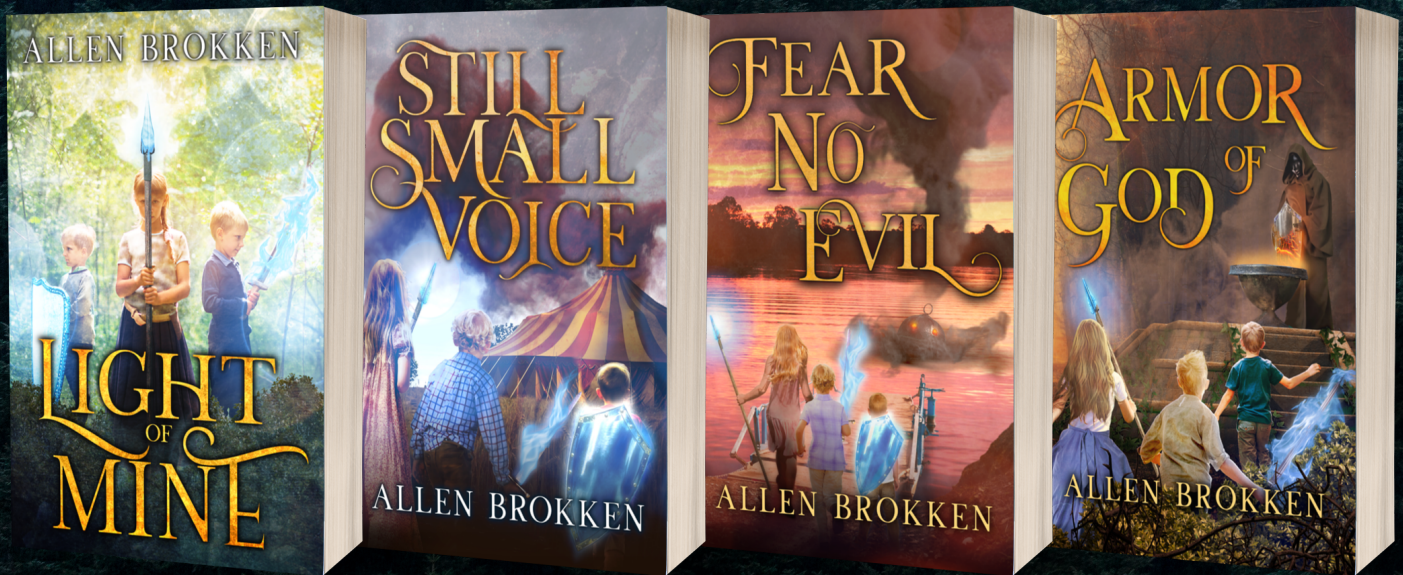
1. Mother was in a dark room.

WORD SEARCH





STAND AGAINST THE DARKNESS



As defenders of the light, three siblings embark on a journey to stop the dark forces invading their land. An epic Christian fantasy series for middle-grade readers.

"My kids are loving these books! They arrive and are devoured quickly and passed on to the next child to read. I like to use them as read-aloud books with everyone around mealtimes."

—ERIN SLOCUM HOMESCHOOL MOM, FOR HIM AND MY FAMILY"

TowersofLight.net

BE BRAVE AND ADVENTUROUS



A twelve-year-old girl discovers a link between the father she's never known and a mysterious shop where the snow globes open portals to other worlds. An adventurous science fantasy for readers who like to explore.

"Snow Globe Travelers: Samuel's Legacy will appeal to science fantasy lovers of all ages and it's most highly recommended."

—READERS' FAVORITE, A FIVE-STAR REVIEW

EleonoraPress.com