

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, *we want YOU to be the one to introduce* this part of The Big God Story to them.

HomeFront Magazine: A Spiritual Parenting Resource is a monthly resource that gives your family ideas for creating fun, spiritually forming times in your home—setting aside sacred space in the midst of your active, everyday lives. Visit www.HomeFrontMag.com to subscribe to the print or digital copy.

GOD IS WITH ME

Pillars of Fire and Cloud

Exodus 13:21–22; 14:19–24; 33:9–10; Numbers 14:14

God led the Israelites through the desert. A pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night guided them where to travel.

JUST FOR FUN

If weather permits, spend some time outside with your children. Grab a blanket, lie on your back, and gaze up at the clouds for a few minutes. If going outside isn't an option, get cozy with your child in front of the fireplace. Read the biblical account of the pillars of fire and cloud in **Exodus 14:19–24**. Ask your children to share thoughts and questions about what they just heard. Remind them that the same God who was in the pillars of fire and cloud is with them every day.

REMEMBER VERSE

No one is like you, LORD, you are great, and your name is mighty in power.
Jeremiah 10:6

DID YOU KNOW?

- *Theophany* is a term for the manifestation of God in a way that's tangible to the human senses.
- God made His presence known to the Israelites in a pillar of fire and a pillar of cloud. This pillar was a physical representation of the presence of God with the Israelites.
- When the pillar of cloud moved and stood between God's people and the pursuing Egyptians, it appeared as darkness to the Egyptians but as light to the Israelites (Exodus 14:20).

DEVELOPMENT

Exposing your child to a variety of experiences and activities will help him find what he loves to do and where God has uniquely gifted him.

TEACHABLE MOMENTS

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss the following together:

- **Who was in the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire?**
- **How did God protect the Israelites?**
- **How can you know that God is with you?**

BLESSING

A blessing can be a spoken prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words of encouragement and guidance over your child. For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** @ HomeFrontMag.com.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **may you know how great is God's love for you. May you know that He is with you always, and that He will never leave you.**