

*Lessons 8, 9*

**Number in order 1-4.**

10. 3 Farmers planted grain.  
1 The late rains came.  
4 Winter began.  
2 Farmers plowed their fields.



**We Remember**

**Circle T for true or F for false.**

11. T  F The rabbi read the Scriptures from a slab of stone.  
12.  T F Mother made tunics and cloaks from some of her cloth.  
13. T  F Jewish girls saw their friends at school during the week.  
14.  T F Women and girls carried water in jugs on their shoulders.



**Frisky Disappears Again**

One chilly day at the end of the twelfth month, the boys again hiked to the far rocky ridge where Simon's flock had spent the winter. They scrambled up the back of the hill, then quietly eased

down the other side to the huge rock.

Looking down from the top of the cliff into the fold, they saw a few sheep nosing the bare ground inside the stone wall. But they saw no sign of

the main flock or its shepherds.

“They are in the cave where it’s warm,” whispered Joktan.

The boys stood beside the rock and Ethan began playing Frisky’s song.

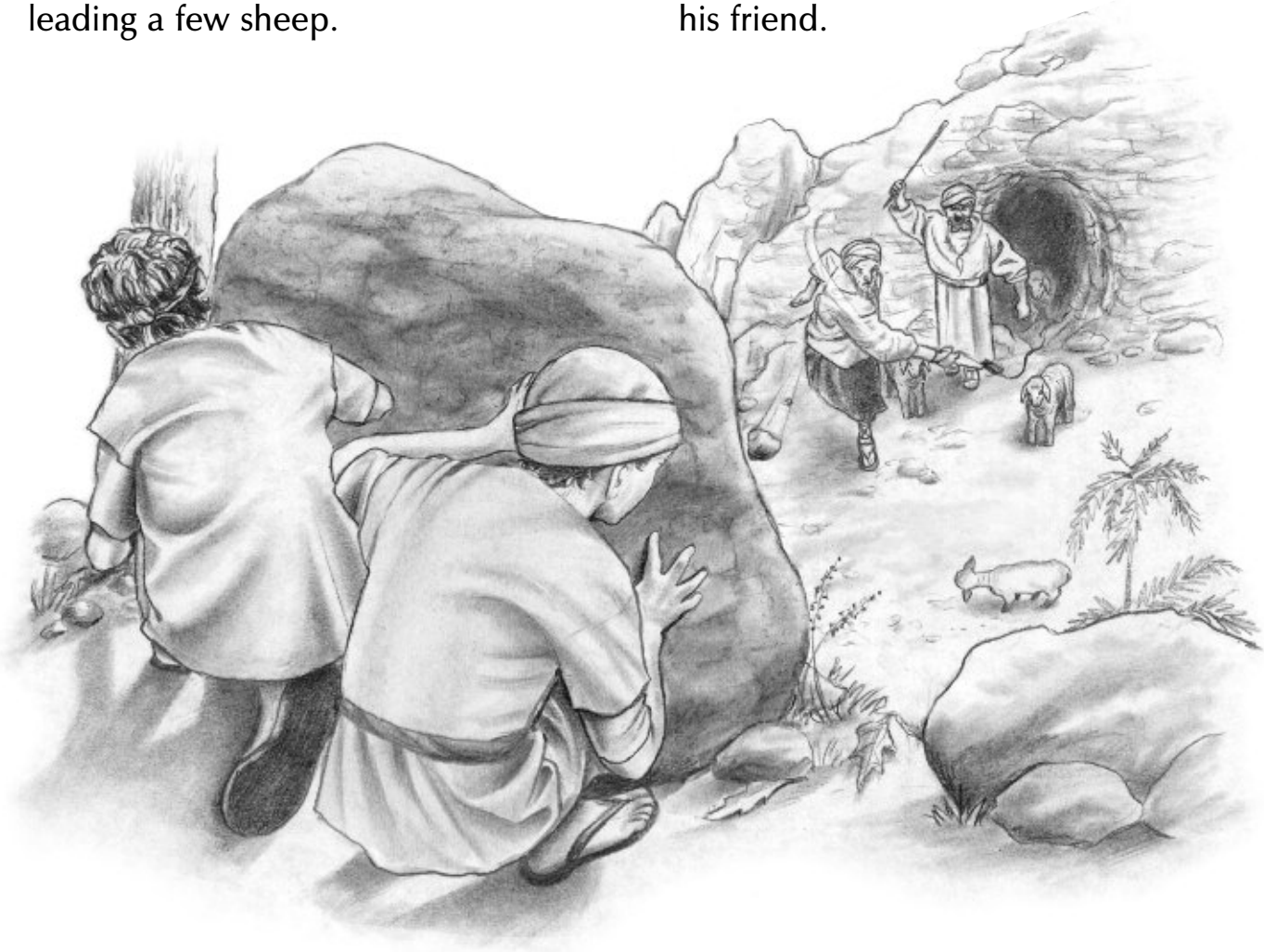
“Bleh-eh-eh, bleh-eh-eh, bleh-eh-eh.” A patter of hoofs, and Frisky charged out of the cave and stood looking around. Other sheep came out with him.

At the same time, the boys heard an angry shout. There, winding among the rocks toward the fold, came Er leading a few sheep.

The boys dived behind the rock just in time. A stone from Er’s sling hummed through the air where they had just been standing. Er’s shout brought Tola from the cave. Then stones began cracking against the big rock and whizzing over and around it.

“So it’s you, Joktan, and your rascally friend who have been stirring up the sheep. Just wait till Simon hears about this!” shouted Er.

Safe behind the big rock, Joktan turned worried eyes to his friend.



## Lesson 9

“Don’t worry,” said Ethan. “They won’t say a word to your father. They’d be afraid of getting into trouble.”

After a while Er and Tola stopped raining stones on the rock. They stopped shouting what they would do to the boys when they caught them. They couldn’t climb the cliff. The boys were safe from their weapons as long as they stayed hidden. So at last the two angry shepherds went back into the cave.

Then the boys left the rock and raced down the other side of the hill toward home. The sun had disappeared before they reached Bethany. A clear, pale sky arched above the dark hills. As they came into the village, they saw the figure of a man on a housetop. He raised a ram’s horn trumpet and blew a long loud blast.

“He has seen the new moon,” remarked Ethan.

The boys stopped and scanned the western sky until they, too, spotted it. A thin curved sliver of brightness almost touched the rim of the black earth.

“The first day of the new year.”

“Yes, and the fourteenth is Passover. Just two weeks to get Frisky back,” said

Ethan as the friends parted.

“Father,” said Abigail the next morning, “today is the beginning of the first month. Is it too soon to ask Simon to eat the Passover feast with us?”

“No, daughter. It is not too soon,” answered Father. “Today I will walk over to Simon’s shop and invite him. He and Joktan and Grandmother Rachel, along with our family, will be just enough for one lamb.”

\* \* \*

“We still haven’t thought of a way to get Frisky back,” said Ethan at supper one evening the next week. “Simon told Er and Tola he would not need any lamb from his flock for Passover—that his family was sharing the meal with another family. Now they won’t care if Frisky disappears. But they won’t care how they treat him either.

“Joktan said as soon as Frisky is safely home, he is going to tell his father what he did. He won’t feel right until he does that. But we have to get Frisky first. How can we do it?”

None of the family had any good ideas. Mother just said, “Whatever you do, be careful. It is not wrong for you

to get Frisky back. He belongs to us and we need him for Passover. But Er and Tola cannot be trusted. They are mean men.”

“Father, please won’t you choose a different lamb?” begged Abigail.

“I may have to,” said Father, “if the boys can’t soon think of a way to get Frisky.”

As it turned out, the boys stopped

trying to think of a way to get Frisky out of Simon’s flock. That afternoon when Ethan played his flute from behind the big rock, no lamb came running from the cave. Only Er and Tola rushed out. They stood looking up at the rock. They laughed and shouted and hooted. They shook their fists. The dogs barked. The sheep milled around. But Frisky was not there.

## From the Story

**Fill in the blanks.** Use words from the box.

housetop	ram’s horn	sling	feast
new moon	trusted	cave	

1. The beginning of a month was marked by a new moon.
2. They saw the figure of man on a housetop.
3. He blew a ram’s horn trumpet.
4. Father invited Simon’s family for the Passover feast.
5. Er and Tola used a cave to keep the sheep warm.
6. Er and Tola could not be trusted because they were mean men.
7. Er used a sling to throw a stone.

How many days are there until Passover?

**Fill in the puzzle on the next page with these answers.**

Lesson 9

8.

1. <u>n</u> <u>e</u> <u>w</u> <u>m</u> <u>o</u>	<b>F</b>	<u>a</u> <u>m</u> <u>i</u> <u>l</u> <u>y</u>
	<b>O</b>	<u>n</u>
2. <u>h</u> <u>o</u>	<b>U</b>	<u>s</u> <u>e</u> <u>t</u> <u>o</u> <u>p</u>
3.	<b>R</b>	<u>a</u> <u>m</u> ' <u>s</u> <u>h</u> <u>o</u> <u>r</u> <u>n</u>
4. <u>f</u> <u>e</u> <u>a</u> <u>s</u>	<b>T</b>	
5. <u>c</u> <u>a</u> <u>v</u>	<b>E</b>	
6. <u>t</u> <u>r</u> <u>u</u> <u>s</u> <u>t</u>	<b>E</b>	<u>d</u>
7. <u>s</u> <u>l</u> <u>i</u>	<b>N</b>	<u>g</u>

## We Remember

Match by writing the letter.

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 9. <u>e</u> <u>i</u> purple dye | a. must be perfect          |
| 10. <u>h</u> Jewish boys        | b. drew water from the well |
| 11. <u>g</u> ram's horn         | c. held wool and dye        |
| 12. <u>b</u> leather buckets    | d. helps a sore heal        |
| 13. <u>c</u> vats               | e. expensive                |
| 14. <u>d</u> oil                | f. Ethan played for Frisky  |
| 15. <u>a</u> Passover lamb      | g. announced the Sabbath    |
| 16. <u>f</u> flute              | h. learned Hebrew at school |
|                                 | i. made from seashells      |

Use these words to complete the sentences.

cold          rains          winter          winds          plant

17. After the late rains fell on Bethany, the farmers would plow their fields and then plant the grain. Winter came next, but it didn't get very cold.