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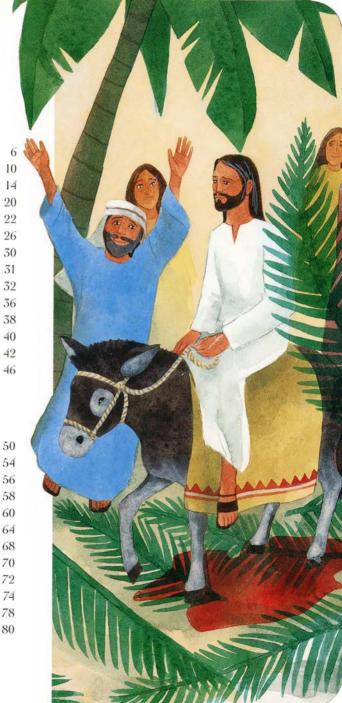
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In the very beginning there was nothing at all—nothing to see, nothing to hear, nothing to touch. It was black, and cold, and empty.

And God said: "Let there be Light."

And a dazzling light filled the darkness.

Then God created the land, and the seas, and the sky above.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. GENESIS 1:1 (NCV) But at last the rain stopped, the waves grew smaller, and the sun peeked out from behind a cloud.

Unsure if anything else had survived, Noah released a raven to search for dry land, but it flew back empty-beaked.

Then Noah sent out a dove, which came swooping back with an olive branch in its beak. It had found land.



## David and Goliath

Saul, the first king of Israel, was in trouble.

The Philistines had a new champion—
a fearsome giant named Goliath.

There was no one brave enough to fight him. Then David, a young shepherd boy, spoke up. "Why are you all so afraid, when we have God on our side?" he asked. "I will fight the giant."

He picked up some stones and took out his shepherd's sling.

When Goliath saw his opponent, he roared with laughter.

David spun the sling above his head and sent a stone whizzing towards the giant.



<sup>&</sup>quot;The LORD who has delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me out of the hands of this Philistine."

I SAMUEL 17:37 (NCV)