GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Aaron's Staff Blossoms

Numbers 17:1-13



YOUR BIBLE READING

The blossoming staff identified Aaron's appointed role in Israel's worship.

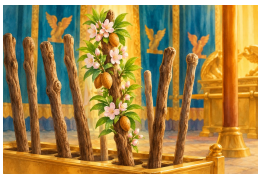
Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Named Staffs Before God

Numbers 17:1-13



The Israelites had been complaining against Moses and Aaron. God gave Moses an instruction meant to show his choice for priestly service and bring an end to the rebellion. Each leader of an ancestral house was to provide a staff. There would be twelve staffs, with a leader's name written on each. The signs would identify whose staff was whose when Moses later brought them out for the people to see.

Aaron's name was to be written on the staff for Levi. That detail connected the person with the house he represented. The question would not be settled by guessing which staff looked most impressive or by letting a leader choose the result for himself. God said that the staff of the man he chose would bud. The named staffs would be placed together before him in the tent of meeting.

The tent was the place where God met with Moses. The staffs were to lie before the covenant there. A staff does not ordinarily blossom after being collected and laid down, so the promised sign would be remarkable. The passage does not tell us anyone planted, watered, or secretly changed one of them. Its attention stays on God's instruction, the leaders' named staffs, and the place where Moses was told to leave them.

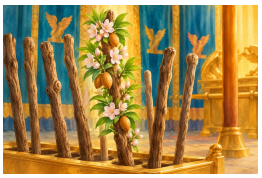
Moses explained the instructions to Israel, and the leaders brought their staffs. Aaron's was among the twelve. Moses laid them before God in the tent of the testimony. At this point the staffs had been collected and placed as commanded, but the result had not yet been described. The next day's visit would show what happened. The account asks its readers to follow a clear sequence: instruction, collection, placement, and then the revealed sign.

Remember: A responsibility can be a calling to serve with care.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Buds, Blossoms, and Almonds

Numbers 17:1-13



The next day Moses entered the tent. Aaron's staff, the one representing Levi, had sprouted. It had buds and blossoms and even ripe almonds. These stages of growth appeared together on the staff that had been left before God. The account presents this as the sign God had promised, identifying his choice. The difference was not another name written on the wood; it was life and growth where the people had not placed a growing tree.

Moses brought all the staffs out before the Israelites. They looked at them, and each leader took his own. The names had made the staffs identifiable, and the result could be seen. Aaron's was not described only in a private report that nobody else could examine. The passage includes the people's looking, followed by the return of the other staffs to the leaders who had provided them for the sign.

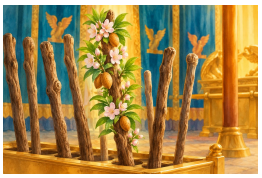
God then told Moses to put Aaron's staff back before the covenant. It was to be kept as a sign against rebellion, so that the complaining would stop and the people would not die. Moses did what he was commanded. The staff's place in the account changed: first it was one of the collected staffs, and now it was kept as a reminder of the choice God had shown.

The people spoke fearfully about approaching the holy tent and about death. Their alarm is part of the ending, and it should not be hidden behind a pretty picture of flowers alone. The sign concerned serious priestly responsibility in ancient Israel. It does not mean that children today must never ask questions about leaders. We can understand the account's warning while also remembering that people in authority remain responsible for how they treat others.

Pause and think: How can a reminder help people take a responsibility seriously without preventing honest questions?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Look for the Sequence in a Sign



Draw the staff at three moments: labeled with Aaron's name, showing buds and blossoms, and kept as a reminder. Use arrows to keep those moments in order. Which details come from the passage? If you add a decorative border, you can explain that it is your design rather than a detail the Bible supplies. Careful art can be imaginative and still distinguish between the account and its illustration.

Think of a responsibility that requires trust, such as caring for borrowed classroom equipment. A title or a badge can identify the person doing a job, but that person still needs to act carefully. What would good care look like? This is a present-day example about responsibility, not a way of claiming that every leader receives a miraculous sign like Aaron's staff.

If a story about death or sacred boundaries frightens you, tell a trusted adult what part concerns you. Asking for explanation is allowed. Children may also report harm or unfair treatment by a leader. Reading an ancient sign of priestly service should never become a reason to silence someone who needs protection, help, or an honest answer to a serious question.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Aaron’s blossoming staff identifies God’s choice and remains as a serious reminder for Israel.

How can a reminder help people take a responsibility seriously without preventing honest questions?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What appeared on Aaron's staff?

2. Why was the staff kept?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Aaron's staff sprouted and bore blossoms and almonds.
- ☐ The staff was kept as a lasting sign.
- ☐ The leaders' named staffs were placed in the tent.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw the staff with buds, flowers, and almonds growing on it.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

A responsibility can be a calling to serve with care.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Numbers 17:5-10

A thoughtful conversation

This sign addresses an ancient dispute over priestly service. It does not put today's leaders beyond questions, accountability, or reports of harm. Explain the people's fear gently.

Activity answers

1. Buds, blossoms, and ripe almonds.
2. As a sign of God's choice and a warning against rebellion.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, help me handle responsibilities with humility and care.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Numbers 17:1-13. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original DigiPick artwork made with AI assistance; an artistic interpretation.
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