

TORAH FAMILY STORY READERS



MY WEEK IN A BOOTH

Read about Naomi's adventure in a Sukkah in "My Week in a Booth." What's a sukkah? Find out about sukkahs, Feast of tabernacles, shofars, and more.

Each family celebrates Feast of Tabernacles a little differently. Our sukkah won't look like the next family's sukkah. But that's okay. YHVH is pleased when we each try to please Him, each with our own unique personality and style. We are united as we all obey.

Enjoy the story!

About the Author

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Heidi Cooper is the home schooling mother of six. She raises sheep and goats on their small family farm. She can often be found knitting, blogging, baking, or making cheese. She and her family do their best to follow the teachings found in the Torah, the first five books of the Bible. This includes keeping the feast days, following the seventh day Sabbath, and learning to love YHVH the best they can.

Her mission at Torah Family Living is to help parents fully follow Deuteronomy 6:4-9, which reads, “Hear, O Israel: YHVH our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love YHVH thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.”

The materials she provides include readers for young children in fiction and nonfiction, copy work, Bible based unit studies, and feast day materials. She also publishes “Torah Family e-magazine” and provides free Torah teaching materials at her website, www.torahfamilyliving.com.



Assembly Instructions

Print pages 4-15. Print page 4 on cardstock if you would like a sturdier cover. Fold each of the pages in half with the words and pictures on the outside. Cut the cover in half to give you a front and a back. Stack the cover and pages in order. Use a hole punch to punch at least two holes along the spine edge. Secure with bright colored yarn or ribbons. Brad paper fasteners also work well. Staples might not make it through all the layers. Then your child will have a special storybook just their size.

Bibliography

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My Week in a Booth

By Heidi Cooper



Join Naomi, an eight year old girl, as she celebrates Feast of Tabernacles with her family.

We hope you enjoyed this story.

For more great stories that you can read yourself, check out Torah Family Living. They have stories, Bible based unit studies, and other great things. For free Torah teaching resources, visit www.torahfamilyliving.com



I can't wait until fall every year. That's when my family spends a week in a booth. We celebrate Feast of Tabernacles, or Sukkot. Many Jews celebrate Sukkot, but recently many believers in the Messiah, like us, have been celebrating Sukkot, too.



For eight days, we live in a temporary dwelling, or booth, called a sukkah. It reminds us of when the Hebrews came out of Egypt from slavery. Mom told us the story from the Bible. The Hebrews spent 40 years in the desert living in tents. I think that was a long time, but God gave them food and water and protected them the whole time.



Let me tell you about our sukkah!

Where we live, it's cold and rainy in the fall, so our sukkah protects us from the weather. In the country of Israel, where it's warm, they build sukkahs with palm branches. My Dad builds our sukkah with rough boards and plastic on the roof to keep the rain out.



We like to peek through the cracks between the boards on the walls. We decorate our sukkah with strings of pinecones, drawings, and Bible verses. We also hang pine branches on the outside, so it looks like the sukkahs in Israel. Then we hang a banner on the wall that says, “Feast of Tabernacles.” We painted our names on it with paint.



Last year we slept in a tent by the sukkah, but this year I get to sleep right in the sukkah with Dad. We have cots to sleep on, and every morning we wake up and put our winter coats on. When it's really cold, I can see my breath like a cloud.



I love eating oatmeal and sizzling beef breakfast sausage cooked right over the fire. My little sister, Holly, likes to put sticks on the fire. Sometimes Mom makes waffles and pancakes in a big cast iron frying pan.



During the day, I like to play with my toy horses in the sukkah, but I have to keep my baby brother from eating the dirt. Gramma and Gramps and Marme (grandparents) stay with us in the sukkah, too. They read scripture to us every day. We learn about trusting in God. He protects us very well, even though our sukkah doesn't.



For dinner, we eat burgers, and sometimes stew made in a big pot. I like to eat meat like Dad. Since I'm eight, I'm big enough to help Mom wash the dishes in a plastic tub. My little sister, Sadie, sometimes drops her cup in the mud, and we have to wash it again.



At night, we get to play outside in the dark. The campfire crackles while we play tag. Dad calls us back in by blowing his shofar. He made it himself out of a ram's horn so he can blow it like a trumpet. Mom wraps us up in warm blankets and tucks us in with a kiss. We try to be quiet and go to sleep, but sleeping outside is too exciting. So we sneak over by the warm campfire to snuggle for a little bit longer.



We listen to the grownups talk
about scripture and the smoke from the
fire. Mom knits a sock while she
decides what to fix for lunch tomorrow.
Another happy day in the sukkah is over,
but we'll still be here in the morning.



Sukkot is my favorite week of the whole year! If you're in the neighborhood, stop by and visit our sukkah. We'll throw some extra beans in the stew and grill an extra burger just for you.

Do you celebrate Feast of Tabernacles?

What is your favorite part?

Draw your own picture of a sukkah here.

