Learn by Doing

Choice Push-up Pillar of Fire & Cloud



The pillar of fire and cloud settled right over the ark in which the Ten Commandments were kept. When the pillar lifted, the people followed it on their journey. When it settled, they stayed in one place. Create a "pillar" of fire and cloud to protect the Ten Commandments and lead the children of Israel.

1. Have you ever watched the flames of a fire leap up into the sky? How big do you think the pillar of cloud and fire over the tabernacle might have been? We do not know how big it was, but all of the children of Israel needed to see it, so it probably went way up into the sky.
2. We are going to make a special pillar that can either show us the cloud that led the children of Israel during the day, or the fire that led them by night. It will be much smaller than the pillar that led the children of Israel, but we can imagine what it might have been like to see a huge pillar in the sky.
3. Give each child a piece of wax paper, a piece of tissue, a piece of stiff paper approximately 8½"x 5½" (21cm x 14cm), and tape.
4. Start by scrunching the wax paper into a pillar of cloud and the tissue paper into a pillar of fire. Put the shapes next to each other and overlap the ends. Tape them together securely.
5. Roll the stiff paper up into a tube. Secure it with tape in 2 or 3 places.
6. Insert the pillar of tissue and wax paper into the tube so that either the fire or cloud show. Practice pulling the fire and cloud through the tube, showing one side or the other. Pretend that it is day. What would the children of Israel see? What if it is night?

Materials Needed for Each Child

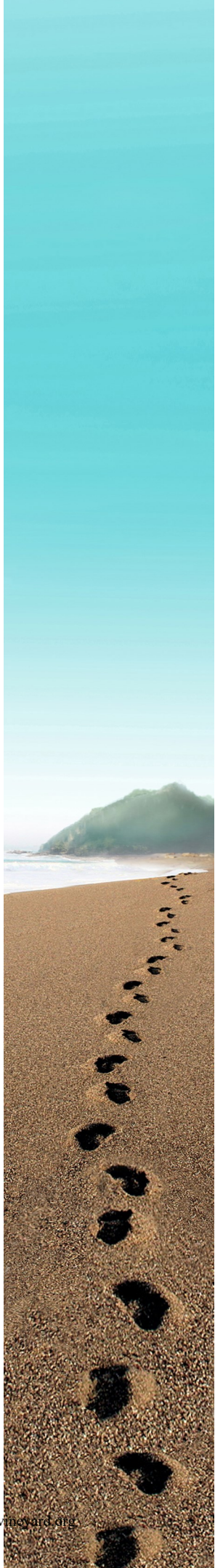
one piece of stiff white or neutral-colored paper approx. 8½" x 5½" (21cm x 14cm); one or more pieces of flame-colored tissue approx. 8" (20cm) square; one piece of wax paper approx. 8" (20cm) square; tape

Prepare in Advance

Cut stiff paper, tissue and wax paper to size. *Optional*: cut tape into pieces that are ready to use.

New Church Concept
Fire and Cloud

The cloud appearing by day, and the fire by night, represented the Lord's protection of heaven and the church. For the day when there was the cloud signifies Divine truth in light, and the night signifies Divine truth in shade. Lest they might be hurt by too much light they were guarded by a cloud, and from being hurt by too much shade they were guarded by a shining fire. *Apocalypse Explained* 504.10



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