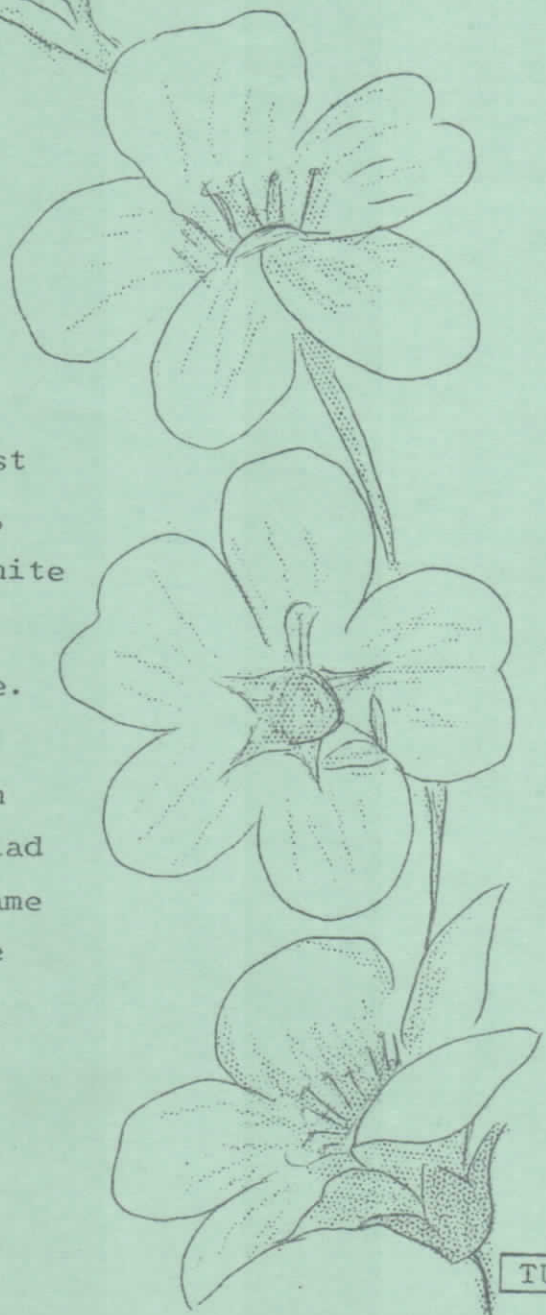


Nuts

Almond Flower

The almond is the first flower after the cold, wet, season in Israel. These white flowers come all along the branches of the almond tree. They are the first sign of spring. The tree may bloom in January. Everyone is glad to see this flower. The name means "watcher." These are the flowers that watch for warm, sunny days.



TURN CARD OVER

The almond flower is in the Bible.

God had chosen Aaron as a leader. Some men began to ask -

Is Aaron the best leader?
Has Aaron really done a good job?

God told all the men to lay a branch in the tabernacle. This was like laying the branch in front of God. Each man wrote his name on his branch. They called the branch a "Rod." God said,

One branch will blossom.
That man is the one I choose as leader.

The rods were laid before God. The next day Moses went to look at the rods. He found a wonderful thing. The rod of Aaron had put out buds. It even had the flowers of the almond tree on it. (Numbers 17:8).

The people were building a tent-house for God. They called this house a tabernacle. God gave the people the plan for this tabernacle. The people made a candlestick. This candlestick had 6 branches and one stem in the center. So it had 7 lights. It was made of pure gold. Each branch was decorated with a design of the almond flowers. It was very beautiful. (Exodus 25:32-36)

The almond tree did not only have flowers. It also had nuts. The nuts came after the flowers. Israel raises many almonds. Israel sends some of them to other lands. This tree also has an oil. This oil is used to flavor food.

If your class makes a Bible garden, make a tree covered with white flowers on every branch. Some flowers may be a delicate pink. The leaves come after the flowers. The tree is straight and may grow quite tall. (40 feet.)