

**LESSON 3**

**BABY MOSES**

**LESSON AT A GLANCE**

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Sends Help to His People

**SCRIPTURE:** [Exodus 1–2](#)

**GOD’S BIG STORY:** Pharaoh’s decree to kill all male Hebrew babies threatens the life of newborn Moses. God sends help to rescue Moses, who would one day lead God’s people out of slavery in Egypt.

**MEMORY VERSE:** Know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. —from [Deuteronomy 7:9](#)

**CURIOSITY**

Four options for interactive hands-on activities to help kids begin thinking about the wonder of God.

- Free Play
- Declaring God’s Wonder
- Curiosity Activity: Will It Float?



**BELIEF**

A deep and interactive dive into Scripture that guides kids into knowing God more deeply, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

- Prayer of Invitation and Worship
- God’s Big Story
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Memory Verse: [Deuteronomy 7:9](#)

**FAITH**

An intentional interactive discussion that helps kids discover the wonder of God’s story and how it connects to their own.

- Circle Time: Discussion
- Prayer and Blessing

**EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY**

An interactive activity to keep kids engaged during pick-up and to reinforce the lesson.

- Closing Game: Baby Moses

**INVITATION**

*We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...*

The book of Exodus is my favorite in the whole Bible. It's a fascinating story; it introduces us to what God's salvation looks like, and it teaches us so much about the character of God. And yet, you can also look at the book of Exodus and wonder why God allowed His people to suffer for so long. Did they really have to be slaves?

Sometimes I look at the world around us or situations in my own life, and I wonder why. Why do people suffer? Why doesn't God step in and fix what I'm going through?

As you prepare to lead kids through this lesson, some of them may wonder the same thing. You might know some of their life situations and wonder along with them—why has God allowed this?

I don't know that we'll get the answers we want from God. But what I do know is that God is always faithful to send His help. [Exodus 2](#) says that God heard the groaning of His people "and was concerned about them" ([Exodus 2:25](#), NIV). He knew it was time to act.

God is always on time. He is faithful to help His people when we call to Him. Pray for the kids you'll be leading through this lesson—that they would see His faithfulness as He sends help to His people.

**DID YOU KNOW?****FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS****WHO?**

Moses' older sister was named Miriam. Along with their brother, Aaron, she played a large role in helping Moses lead Israel out of slavery in Egypt. After crossing the Red Sea, Miriam led worship and was called a prophet ([Exodus 15:20–21](#)).

**WHAT?**

Joseph and his family had all died, and many generations had passed. Pharaoh was afraid of the growing Hebrew population. He ordered that all Hebrews be put under slave drivers and all male Hebrew babies be murdered. Baby Moses was saved by God through an Egyptian princess.

**WHERE?**

This passage mainly takes place in Egypt within the land of Goshen. Goshen is a fertile land in the northeastern part of the country where the Nile runs into the Nile Delta, then out to the Mediterranean Sea. The Red Sea is just to the southeast.

**WHEN?**

Moses was born many years after Joseph and his brothers had died in Egypt, perhaps several centuries. After his birth in [Exodus 2](#), Moses grew up and fled to Midian after killing an Egyptian. In [Exodus 3](#), Moses encountered God at the burning bush and was sent to deliver the Israelites from Egyptian slavery.

**CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY**

God worked through Moses to deliver Israel from slavery in Egypt. Years later, Jesus, the Messiah, accomplished an even greater deliverance, saving people from sin and death. This salvation reaches to the ends of the earth, available to all who call on Jesus' name.

*Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.*

#### Free Play

##### As kids arrive...

Greet kids warmly as they arrive and invite them to play at any of the play stations.

**Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations.**

#### Worship Playlist

##### During free play...

Play a spotify playlist as background music while kids play.

#### Clean Up

##### At the end of free play...

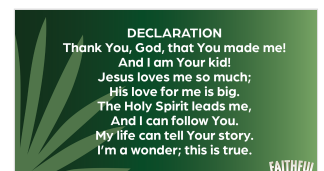
Play the Clean Up video to signify time to clean up toys and activities. Gather kids on sit spots, chairs, or benches to begin the lesson.

#### Declaring God's Wonder

**SUPPLIES:** Early Childhood Declaration [Slide](#)

Display the Declaration [Slide](#) and encourage the kids to say the statements and do the motions with you.

**Hello, friends! I am so glad to be here with all of you. Let's start by reminding ourselves of what God says is TRUE about me and you. Repeat after me:**



**Thank You, God, that You made me!** *(Kids repeat.)*

Make prayer hands, then point up to God and to yourself.

**And I am Your kid!** *(Kids repeat.)*

Put your hands on your hips.

**Jesus loves me so much;** *(Kids repeat.)*

Spread your arms out wide to your side one at a time, then pull them in for a hug around your chest.

**His love for me is big.** *(Kids repeat.)*

Hold your arms up high and wide above your head.

**The Holy Spirit leads me,** *(Kids repeat.)*

Bring your arms down from the sky, making a path in front of you.

**And I can follow You.** *(Kids repeat.)*

March like you're following the leader.

**My life can tell Your story,** *(Kids repeat.)*

Hold your hands in front of you like an open book.

**I'm a wonder; this is true.** *(Kids repeat.)*

Put your hands up, shaking your fingers, celebrating ("praise hands").

## Curiosity Activity: Will It Float?

**SUPPLIES:** translucent bin, water, oranges (2), various small items that can float (such as pom-poms, plastic straw, etc.), various sinking items (rocks, heavy toys, etc.)

**Leader Tip:** Save the two oranges for the end of the activity.

Before kids arrive, fill the clear bowl or bin with water and peel one of the oranges. Gather various items that will float or sink in the water.

Invite kids to gather around the bowl or bin.

**You get to help determine which items float and which ones will sink! I'll hold one up at a time, and you will guess whether it will float or sink. Then I'll drop it into our water, and we'll see if we were right! Ready? Great!**

One by one, hold up the various items, asking the kids each time whether they think the item will sink or float. Then drop it into the water carefully to see whether the kids guessed correctly. Make sure to save the oranges for last. Intersperse items that float with items that sink. After you've tested each of the items, hold up the peeled and unpeeled oranges.

**It was fun guessing whether something would float or sink! Now we're going to test our last two items.** Hold up the peeled and unpeeled oranges. **What are these?** Allow kids to answer. **Let's test the peeled orange first! What do you think it will do?** Allow kids to answer. Then drop the peeled orange into the water. It will sink to the bottom. **Cool! Now what about the orange with its peel?** Allow kids to answer. Then drop the orange into the water. It will float. **Woah! So the peeled orange sunk and the orange with the peel floated.**

**The unpeeled orange floats because the peel holds little pockets of air. That air keeps the orange from sinking! The orange without the peel doesn't have that protection and sinks to the bottom.**

**This reminds me of how God helps His people. The orange peel is like God's help. With God's help, we know we will "float" in any situation that happens to us. Like the peel helps the orange, God helps His people just when they need it most! We'll learn today about a time when God helped someone in a unique way!**



## Belief

### LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

*Guide kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.*

#### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Sends Help to His People

**SCRIPTURE:** Exodus 1–2

**MEMORY VERSE:** From Deuteronomy 7:9

#### Worship

**SUPPLIES:** Worship Music videos

**Today we'll learn about how God sends help to His people. Let's sing about God's help together!**

Play songs and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

#### Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, we believe that You help Your people. We trust in Your timing. Help us listen and hear from You today. We love and trust You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

#### God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible

Hold up a Bible and show the kids. Tell them today's story comes from the book of Exodus in the Bible. Open a Bible and show them where the story is found.

**God's Big STORY SCRIPT:  
BABY MOSES**

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, blue sheet or tape, baby doll, basket, Bible costumes (optional), [God's Big Story Video](#)

Ahead of time, lay a blue sheet or use blue tape on the ground in a winding pattern, as if it were the Nile River, on one side of the room. Before you begin, select four kids (or volunteers) to act in the scenes along the Nile: Pharaoh ruling Egypt, Moses' mother putting the baby doll and basket in the water, Miriam watching the basket, and Pharaoh's daughter finding the basket. Station the characters at four places along the "river" in this order: Pharaoh, Moses' mother, Miriam, Pharaoh's daughter. Encourage them to act out the scene as you describe it in the God's Big Story Script. You can use Bible costumes to set the scene of floating down the Nile.

**Today, to learn about God's big story, we're going to take a trip down the Nile! Let's all climb in our boats to begin.** Show kids how to make a "boat" with their hands by holding their fingertips together in front of them to form the bow of a boat. **Great! Now that we're all in a boat, let's begin our trip down the Nile.** Walk the kids in their "boats" to the "river" on the floor.

As you're walking, say: **God promised a man named Abraham that He would bless his family, and God kept His promise. That family grew and grew and became known as the Israelites or the Hebrew people. They lived in Egypt for a long time.**

Pause the group in front of the first person, Pharaoh. **After some time, Egypt had a new pharaoh, or king, who was afraid of the Hebrews because there were so many of them. He feared they might take over Egypt. So Pharaoh told the Egyptians to be mean to them and make them work hard. The Hebrews had a lot of bad things happen to them, but then things got even worse. Pharaoh gave an order to get rid of every little Hebrew boy.**

Have the group "float" down the river (by moving slowly on it) and pause in front of Moses' mother. **At this time, a Hebrew woman gave birth to a baby boy. She hid him from Pharaoh for three months. When she couldn't hide him anymore, the boy's mother made a basket that would float in the water and placed her son in it. She set the basket in the Nile River.**

"Float" down the river and pause in front of Miriam. **While the baby's mother was doing this, his older sister Miriam watched from a safe distance to see what would happen to her brother.**

"Float" down the river and pause in front of Pharaoh's daughter. **Just then, Pharaoh's daughter came to the river. She saw the floating basket, picked it up, opened it, and saw the baby. She felt sorry for him and knew right away that he was a Hebrew baby.**

Have "Miriam" and "Moses' mother" join the scene. **The baby's older sister came to Pharaoh's daughter. She offered to get someone to feed the baby. Pharaoh's daughter agreed. The baby's sister ran home and brought back her mother. Pharaoh's daughter asked the woman to feed the baby and even offered to pay her; she didn't realize that the woman was the baby's own mother. God sent help to the baby and his family just when they needed it most.**

"Float" down the rest of the river and say: **When the baby grew older, his mother brought him back to Pharaoh's daughter to stay. Pharaoh's daughter took him as her son and named him Moses, meaning "pulled out," because she pulled him out of the water.**

**Years later, the Hebrew people would cry out to God for help, and God would call Moses to lead them out of Egypt. God cares about His people and rescued Moses as a baby because He knew who Moses would grow up to become. God cares for His people. When they need it, God sends help to His people.**

[Watch God's Big Story](#)



Watch the [Baby Moses God's Big Story!](#)



## Connecting the Wonder Truth

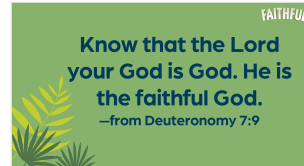
Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD SENDS HELP TO HIS PEOPLE.**

When Moses grew up, God worked through him to save the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Years later, Jesus saved all people from being captive to sin and death. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, our sins—the wrong things we do—are forgiven, and we can live with God forever! Salvation through Jesus is available to all who trust in Jesus.

## Memory Verse

**SUPPLIES:** Memory Verse Slide

We're going to practice giving help and receiving help from each other while we say our Memory Verse this week. As you're helping your friends, remember how God loves to help us, His people!



First, let's all say the verse together. One, two three: "Know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. From [Deuteronomy 7:9](#)." Excellent! Let's practice helping each other learn the Memory Verse. I'm going to whisper the first word into someone's ear, and then that person will help the next person by whispering the first word and the next word into her ear, and this will continue until we all say the memory verse!

**Leader Tip:** If you have a large group, have the kids get into groups of five.

Invite the kids to sit in a circle. Whisper the first word of the verse into one kid's ear. Ask him to help his neighbor by whispering that word and the next word into her ear. Continue until everyone has helped the next person by sharing the memory verse.

**Thank you for your help, everyone! I hope this activity will help you remember how much God helps us. Let's practice our verse with our motions next.**

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **KNOW THAT**—Point to your head.
- **THE LORD YOUR GOD IS GOD.**—Point up and then bring that hand to your heart.
- **HE IS THE FAITHFUL GOD.**—Give two thumbs-up.

- **FROM DEUTERONOMY 7:9**—*Hold your hands together in front, palms together, as if opening a book.*

*Help kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own story.*

*Divide kids into smaller groups for discussion and prayer.*

### Circle Time: Who Has Moses?

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **To protect him from Pharaoh, what did Moses' mother do?** (*put him in a basket in the river*)
- **How did God help Baby Moses and his family when Pharaoh's daughter pulled him out of the Nile?** (*God used Moses' sister to bring his mother to Pharaoh's daughter.*)
- **What would Moses do later in his life?** (*lead the people out of Egypt*)
- **How did God show His faithfulness to Moses?**
- **Where have you seen God's help in your life?**
- **How can we remember that God is faithful when we experience tough times?**

**God shows His people that He is faithful by sending help at just the right moment. Just like God helped one family and a whole nation, God helps us in little things as well as big things! Let's talk to God now in prayer and thank Him for His help!**

Invite kids to share prayer requests and praises and to pray for each other. Some kids may not be comfortable praying out loud. That's OK! Encourage them to pray silently and to thank God for sending us His help.

#### Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their discussion, pray with them, thanking God for how He helps us.

**God, we trust in Your faithfulness. We believe You will send Your help at just the right time. Give us eyes to see where You are at work in our lives. We give these prayer requests to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**Blessing: May you see God's faithfulness in your life. May you trust that God will help you because He loves you. Amen.**

*Use the following activity to keep kids engaged during pick-up time and to reinforce the lesson.*

#### Game: Baby in a Basket

**SUPPLIES:** baby doll (2), basket (2), rope or string(2)

**In our story today, we're learning about how God helped Baby Moses when Moses was in a basket in a river. To help us remember the story and how God helps us, we're going to pretend to pull Baby Moses in a basket across a pretend river too!**

Divide the group into two equal teams. Put a baby doll in a laundry basket for each team and tie a rope to the basket. Set the teams' baskets on one side of the room and encourage the kids to line up opposite their baskets.

The kids will take turns running to their team's basket, grabbing the rope, and pulling the pretend Baby Moses in a basket across a pretend river back to where the team is lined up. Then that kid (or a leader) will pull the basket back to the other side of the room so the next kid can run down and repeat the process. Let the kids keep playing until all the kids have pulled the baby in a basket across the room.