

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.

Activity: What's under the Basket?

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Can You Help Me?

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.

—Denise Morris Snyder

Spiritual Formation Pastor

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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.

Activity: What's under the Basket?

SUPPLIES: baskets (at least 4, various sizes), variety of toys or toddler-safe objects

Before kids arrive, place toys and objects underneath the baskets throughout the room.

In our story today, we'll learn about a basket that held something very unusual. I have several baskets in the room right now. Let's go see what's under them!

Allow kids to explore what's underneath the baskets. Encourage them to lift the baskets and examine the objects underneath.

We'll learn more about that today and find out from the Bible how God used a basket to help people.

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

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

- **GOD**—*Point up.*
- **SENDS**—*Point out.*
- **HELP**—*Bring one fist into the palm of your other hand.*
- **TO HIS PEOPLE**—*Spread your hands wide in front of you to signify all.*

Clean Up

At the end of free play...

Play the Clean Up video and encourage kids to help put away toys to get ready for snack and story.

Snack

SUPPLIES: Small paper cups, cheerios, pitcher of water

Gather kids at chairs around snack tables and pass out snacks and water. While kids are busy eating, begin the Bible story.

God's Big Story

Today to learn about God's Big Story, we're going to take a trip down the Nile! Show the kids how to be a "boat" floating down the river by making a V with hands in front of them and pretend to float.

God had promised His people a home. God's people, the Hebrews ended up living in a country called Egypt for a long time. Then, the king of Egypt became afraid of the Hebrews because there were so many of them. So he decided to get rid of every Hebrew baby boy.

Have the group "float" down the river and pause. **One mother wanted to save her baby boy, so she 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. **While the baby's mother was doing this, his older sister watched to see what would happen to her brother.** Pretend to "float" down the river and pause. **Just then, the king's daughter came to the river. She saw the basket floating and opened it to find the baby! She wanted to help.**

The king's daughter needed help taking care of the baby and guess who she chose to be her helper? The baby's own mother!

"Float" down the rest of the river and say: **This little baby in the river was Moses! God saved him and had a great plan for his life. God would use him later to save God's people! God cares for His people. When they need it, God sends help to His people.**

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God. God, thank You so much for sending Your help just when we need it most. When we have to do hard things, we trust that You will help us. 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.

Worship

SUPPLIES: Worship music videos

Today we're learning how God sends help to His people. Let's praise God for being our helper now!

Play songs and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

Activity: Can You Help Me?

SUPPLIES: various objects and toys (about 10)

God sent help for Moses, and God helps us too! Sometimes God uses other people to send His help to us. Let's play a game where we practice helping each other!

Disperse an assortment of toys and objects around the room. Stand in the middle with the basket and ask, "Can you help me find ____?" and say one of the objects/toys. Invite the kids to help by bringing you the item and putting it in the basket.