

Old Testament

Moses and the plagues Exodus 7—12:32

Younger Memory Verse Treat others just as you want to be treated. Luke 6:31 CEV

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Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament. Each lesson will have both Old Testament and New Testament passages.

PLEASE remember to always include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God’s ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Welcome Time

Have fun singing today. We have included a fun song about the pharaoh (king). The kids will love to sing it.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week we learned that God told Moses to go back and help His people get out of slavery. Let’s look in our Bibles and see what is happening this week. It takes 10 different plagues for the king to finally let God’s people go.

Moses and Aaron (Moses’ brother) went to the king pharaoh to ask him to let God’s people go. The king was very stubborn. Moses had a stick that became a snake when he threw it down. The king’s magicians did the same thing with their tricks.

God told Moses to meet the king at the river in the morning. He talked to the king again, but the king would not let God’s people go. So, God told Moses to dip his stick into the river. When he did, the water turned to **blood**. The king had the magicians do the same thing. So, the king would not listen to Moses.

Next, Moses met the king and asked him to let God’s people go. This time the land was flooded with **frogs**. There were frogs everywhere! But the magicians did the same thing, so the king would not let God’s people go. However, the king asked Moses to take the frogs away. With God’s help, the frogs died, but the king did not change his mind.

Next, God sent **gnats** because the king would not listen. They flew around everywhere. This time the magicians could not make gnats, but the king still would not let the people go.

The fourth plague was **flies**. They swarmed over all the Egyptian people, but were nowhere around God’s people. The king told Moses that they could go and worship God, if God would take the flies away. The flies left, but the king changed his mind and would not let the people go.

Then, Moses told the king that there would be a **disease** on the farm animals if he did not let them go. Sure enough, the disease killed all the animals but the king was still stubborn.

Lesson Goals

Name the plagues and tell why they happened
Learn to trust God—even when a situation looks hopeless
Believe that God protects us and saves us

God told Moses and Aaron to scoop up ashes from a furnace. He told them to throw them into the air in front of the king. When they did this, the Egyptian people broke out in sores called **boils**. Even the magicians had them!

Next, Moses told the king that a thunderous **hail storm** would come. It came and ruined the crops in the fields. The king told Moses that the people could go. But when the hail stopped, the king changed his mind again.

Moses and Aaron went to the king again. They asked to worship God or swarms of **locusts** would come. At first, the king agreed until he realized that even the children were going. Then, he told Moses, “No.” The locusts came. In fact, there were so many that the sky was black with them. They ate all the plants and made life miserable. When the king asked for mercy, the plague stopped, but then he told Moses, “No!”

For the next plague, God caused **darkness** in the Egyptian city for 3 days. However, where God’s people lived, it was both night and day as usual. The king still would not change his mind. He would not let God’s people go.

Finally for the tenth plague, Moses told the king that the last plague would change his heart. An angel was assigned to **kill all the first born sons** of all the families.

God had His people prepare for the last plague. All God’s people marked their doorposts with blood from a lamb. This was a sign for the angel that passed over that he would not kill the first son in that family.

All night long crying could be heard in Egypt. People were realizing that their first born sons were killed. Even the king’s son died. This caused the king to finally let God’s people go. He told them to take whatever they needed for their journey. Many Egyptians gave them things for their journey.

Two times during the ten plagues the king told Moses that he had sinned. He even asked for forgiveness. However, he returned to his old ways. He did not start doing right. Instead, he kept doing wrong.

We are sometimes like the king. We are stubborn and want to do things our way instead of God’s way. God desires for us to worship Him and follow Him. That means we may do things that are new to us. Moses was scared to speak to the king. However, God helped him and gave him confidence to speak.

Bring a donut and donut hole to help illustrate this.

God cared for His people and helped them get out of slavery. It was not as quick as the people thought it should be. God could have done it differently, but He chose to do things in His way for important reasons.

God cares for us just like He cared for the people long ago. In fact, He made a way for us to get out of our messes too. We have all done wrong and have sinned against God. That has made a big hole between us and God like in a donut. To fill the hole, God had to get rid of our sin. Jesus died for all the wrongs we have done. If we believe in Him and ask Him to come into our hearts, He fills our heart with His love and makes a way for us to go to Heaven (put a little donut hole into the donut so that it is not empty). If you would like to know how to fill the hole in your heart, talk to us today.

Learning Activities

Look at the activities and use the ones that will be fun and educational for the kids.

Memory Verse Activities

Write the verse on a piece of paper and hide it in the room. Let the kids try to find the verse. Talk about verses that they have learned. Share how God will help them do the right thing.

Prayer Time

Pray, pray, pray. Let some of the kids talk out loud and pray to God.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Enjoy snacks and talk about how God can help with our needs.

Planning for May 2
Through the Red Sea
Exodus chapter 13—14:32

Preschool Lesson
For
Moses and the plagues

Teachers: Be careful as you tell the story. Some kids may be scared of blood, bugs etc. Help them know that God took care of His people and they did not experience the plagues. Make pictures of the plagues to help the kids see what is happening.

If it seems like the kids will not be focused, tell the kids that 10 bad things happened to the king and his people. However, God's people were fine and did not experience any problems. Concentrate on how GOD loved His people and cared for them.

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Moses and Aaron went to the king again. They asked to worship God or swarms of **locusts** would come. Locusts are like grasshoppers. At first, the king agreed until he realized that even the children were going. Then, he told Moses, "No." The locusts came. In fact, there were so many that the sky was black with them. They ate all the plants and made life miserable. When the king asked for mercy, the plague stopped, but then he told Moses, "No!"

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God took care of His people. He helped them when the king was mean and hard on them. God promises to help us too. He will take care of us and be with us all the time.

Pray and thank God for how He loves us and cares for us.

Hands-On Activities
For
Moses and the plagues

Cut an empty egg carton so that there are 10 cups (instead of 12). Now, find little items to represent the 10 plagues and place in each of the 10 cups. For example, a red piece of paper for blood, plastic frog, fly, cow, Styrofoam ball for hail, etc. The kids may want to draw pictures to help them remember the plagues.

Put a drop of red food coloring on the end of a toothpick. Dip it in water and watch the water turn red. Talk about how the magicians did the same thing. Share how God did a miracle and how it was different. (Even the water in pots turned red etc.)

Make a booklet of the plagues or play a game about the plagues (see the attached sheet.)

One idea from Group Publishing is to bring a yo-yo. Share how God will help us during the up's and down's of our lives.

Bring silly string and pretend that the string is different plagues. This will be lots of fun!

Make bug snacks using crackers, peanut butter, pretzels for legs, and raisins for eyes.

As you are telling the story, open an umbrella to hide under to show the kids that God protected His people. They did not receive the plagues like the Egyptians did.

Make a "Pharaoh Fan" out of leaves, feathers or construction paper. (see attached sheet.)
