

3.4 Large Group Lesson | Elementary



Mad Props

Moses: Passover

BIG IDEA: God is our rescuer, so I can choose to follow Him.

BIBLE BASIS: Exodus 11-13

KEY VERSE: “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23 (NIV)

UNIT DESCRIPTION

“Mad Props” is an off-the-wall prop filled adventure through the story of the Israelites exodus from Egypt. There’s just one problem. The story props have gone totally, completely, 100% mad! They’re all mixed up and hidden in one of 4 different prop boxes. Throughout the story, kids will get to vote for one of the boxes. Whatever silly prop is inside will then be used to help tell the story. Through it all, kids will see how God did some of the most out-of-this-world, amazing things you could ever imagine through a man named Moses.

SET-UP INSTRUCTIONS

- Print out the 4 numbered “Prop Box Signs” and tape one to each of the 4 cardboard boxes. Place the boxes in order on a table in the teaching area.
- Put one of the 4 story props in each of the boxes. You can use the suggested story props, or you can use whatever other props you would like. Today’s suggested story props are:
 - Pillow case
 - Kleenex box
 - Plunger
 - Rubber chicken
- Place a separate props box in the teaching area with the following props inside: crown, bag of dirt, sheep stuffed animal, and cross.



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★ LARGE GROUP LESSON

CG: “Mad Props” title graphic
Sound: PLAY upbeat music as kids move to large group area

MAD PROPS INTRO

Large Group Leader: Hey everybody and welcome to another week of “Mad Props.” During “Mad Props,” our props have gone totally, completely, 100% mad! (*Stand behind the 4 prop boxes.*) They’re all mixed up and hidden in these boxes. We’ll find out what today’s props are in a little bit, but first, let’s think back to where our story left off last week.

In last week’s story, Moses demanded that Pharaoh let the Israelites go to worship and follow God, but Pharaoh said, “Uh-uh, no way, ain’t gonna happen!” So what did God do to help change Pharaoh’s mind? (*Take answer from kid.*) That’s right—He unleashed 9 terrible plagues! Can any of you remember some of the plagues that God unleashed on the Egyptians? (*Take answers. When finished, show the 9 Plagues graphic and point out any plagues that were missed.*)

CG: “9 Plagues” graphic

Even though these 9 plagues nearly destroyed all of Egypt, the Pharaoh still wouldn’t let God’s people go. So God prepared one last plague. Are you ready to find out what it was? (*Kids respond.*) Awesome! Let’s find out with another round of “Mad Props.”

Ahead of time, place each random prop inside of one of the 4 prop boxes. This week’s suggested props are: a pillow case, a Kleenex box, a plunger, and a rubber chicken. When indicated below, have the kids vote for one of the boxes, then reveal the prop inside. Use that prop as if it were the items in that part of the story. The lesson below gives suggestions for how to use the props, but feel free to get creative.

CG: “The Big Bible Story” graphic

BIG BIBLE STORY—MOSES AND THE PASSOVER

Prop Box #1: (*Have the kids vote for one of the prop boxes, then reveal the prop.*) The land of Egypt was still suffering from God’s last plague. For three days the entire land was covered in total darkness. Not a single light shone in the sky—not the sun, not the moon, not even a star. (*Hold prop overhead like the sun or moon and look up at it.*) But God was planning His big rescue. God told Moses that He would send a plague so terrible that Pharaoh would have no choice but to let the Israelites go. (*Release prop from your grip.*)

Moses then told Pharaoh, “This is what the Lord says, ‘At about midnight, I will go throughout Egypt. When I do, the oldest son of every Egyptian house will die. Even your own son will die, but not one of the Israelites will be touched.’” But Pharaoh still refused to let the Israelites go.

Prop Box #2: (*Have the kids vote for one of the remaining prop boxes, then reveal the prop.*) God then told Moses that every Israelite family should choose one perfect lamb and kill it. (*Pet prop like a lamb.*)



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The people were supposed to paint the lamb's blood around the door of their house. *(Use prop like a paintbrush.)* God said that when He was striking down the Egyptians, He would see the lamb's blood on their doorpost, know they were His people, and pass over their house. *(Move the prop in an arcing motion overhead.)* The Israelites would be safe!

The Israelites did as God had told them. Each household searched carefully through their sheep to find the perfect one. Once they had picked out the lamb that was just right, they killed it and painted its blood on the doorpost of their house. *(Use prop to paint around an imaginary door.)*

Prop Box #3: *(Have the kids vote for one of the remaining prop boxes, then reveal the prop.)* When the Israelites finished eating, they went inside their houses, closed the door tight and didn't come out again until morning. *(Fly the prop through the air like the Angel of Death.)* That night, the Angel of Death moved throughout the land of Egypt and every first-born boy in all of Egypt died. But when the Angel saw the lamb's blood on the doorpost of the Israelite's houses, He passed over it. *(Fly the prop in an arcing motion over pretend house.)* Not one Israelite would be harmed that night.

Pharaoh and his leaders woke up in the middle of the night to the sounds of crying. They knew something wasn't right and went to see what was happening. Every single Egyptian household had someone die that night. Even Pharaoh lost his oldest son.

Prop Box #4: *(Reveal the prop from the final box.)* While the sounds of crying still filled the air, Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron one last time and ordered them and all the Israelites to leave quickly. Moses and Aaron hurried to tell the people the great news. The Israelites jumped from their beds and gathered as many of their belongings as they could carry. *(Gather the prop into your arms and carry it away.)*

The Israelites left quickly with all of their belongings and livestock. Not only had God rescued His people from slavery, He would also be with them during their journey. During the day God appeared ahead of them in a pillar of cloud *(twirl prop through the air like a swirling pillar of cloud or fire.)* and at night He appeared in a pillar of fire to give them light and show them the way to their new home.

CG: "Big Bible Story Questions" graphic

BIG BIBLE STORY QUESTIONS

When finished, have the kids turn briefly to their small groups and discuss the following questions: **What do you think this story teaches us about God? In what ways do you see similarities between the Passover lamb and Jesus?** After a few minutes, draw their attention back to the teaching area.

CG: "Mad Props" title graphic

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THE LAMB OF GOD

The best part of today's story is that it gives us the perfect picture of what Jesus did for us. Let me explain. *(Pull out crown)* In the story of Moses who were the Israelites a slave to? *(Call on kid for answer.)* That's right—they were slaves to Pharaoh—the king of Egypt. The Bible says that we're slaves to something too. *(Hold up a handful of dirt.)* What do you think this dirt represents? *(Call on kid.)* We're slaves to sin. Sin is dark and dirty. It can stick all over you. *(Begin dropping the dirt back into its container, showing how it sticks to your hands.)* Take a look at this verse from the book of John:

CG: "Jesus replied, 'What I'm about to tell you is true. Everyone who sins is a slave of sin.'" John 8:34

But God didn't want His people to be slaves to Pharaoh and He doesn't want us to be slaves to sin either. So God came up with a plan. *(Hold up stuffed sheep or lamb.)* In the story we heard today, what did God's people have to do to escape from the angel of death? *(Take answer from a kid.)* You got it—God's people had to kill a perfect lamb and paint its blood on the doorpost of their home. The blood of the perfect lamb saved God's people from death. And it's the same thing for us too. Look at what Romans 6:23 says:

CG: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23 (NIV)

(Hold up cross.) The Bible says that the punishment for our sin is death, or forever separation from God, but when we choose to follow Jesus and ask Him to be our savior, we get to have the free gift of eternal life with God in heaven. You see—Jesus gave His blood for us. He's *our* perfect lamb!

ASKING JESUS TO BE YOUR PERFECT LAMB

I want you to think about something for a second—have you ever asked Jesus to be your savior and to live in your heart? If you haven't, then maybe today could be your first time! Asking Jesus to be your savior and becoming a Christian is as easy as ABC. Let me explain what I mean. The "A" stands for "Admit." **CG: Admit.** If you want to become a Christian, you have to admit that you sin and ask God for forgiveness. The only way to get rid of sin is to confess your sins to God and tell Him you're sorry. God loves you so much He'll forgive you no matter how much you've sinned.

The "B" stands for "Believe." **CG: Believe.** Believe in Jesus and that He died for your sins. Jesus, who was the perfect Lamb, died to take the punishment for the sin in your life which separates you from God. When we believe Jesus died for our sins, we can be forgiven.

And finally, the "C" stands for "Choose." **CG: Choose.** Choose to follow Jesus for the rest of your life. Choose to live your life the way He wants you to instead of how you want to.

Consider telling the kids how you became a Christian. Try to keep it around a couple minutes and use age-appropriate details. When finished, allow kids time to respond to God by praying for kids in the room to truly understand God's love for them. Let kids know that they can also pray silently to God while you close out large group in prayer. Encourage kids to talk with their small group leader if they have any follow up questions



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after large group. Remember to let kids have an opportunity to give back to God in worshiping with their tithes and offerings.

CG: "Mad Props" title graphic

