



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.

WORD OF WONDER: Know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. —from Deuteronomy 7:9

CURIOSITY

BELIEF

FAITH

- Play Stations:
 - Making Dough Baskets
 - Take Care of Baby Moses
 - Baby Moses Coloring Sheet
- Curiosity Activity: Will It Float?
- Prayer of Invitation and Worship
- God's Big Story
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Prayer and Blessing





LESSON 3 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sends Help to His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 1–2

WORD OF WONDER: From Deuteronomy 7:9

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 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

Contributor to Wonder Ink

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.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sends Help to His People

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WORD OF WONDER: From Deuteronomy 7:9

Welcome

Slide: Series Welcome Loop

As kids arrive...

Walk around the room and welcome as many kids as possible by showing excitement that they have joined you. Give high-fives, fist bumps, encourage them to sit on the floor in their spots, and ask questions about their week.

Video: Countdown

Welcome kids to worship time. Introduce yourself by name.

Puppet Intro and Curiosity Questions

SUPPLIES: heavy block or object

Introduce the kids to Tac, the Curious Cat. Keep Tac out of sight until prompted.

Leader: I hope you remember our friend Tac the Cat! He always has some good questions for us. Hey, Tac! How are you doing?

(Tac appears and is struggling with something heavy, such as a piece of furniture in your room.)

Leader: Oh! Tac! What are you doing?

Tac the Cat: *(Punctuate every word with a grunt and show Tac struggling to move the object.)* I'm *(grunt)* trying—ugh—to—ergh—move *(grunt)* this—ugh—thing!

(Tac gives up and starts panting.)

Leader: Wow, that looks very heavy! Do you need some help?

Tac the Cat: *(Still panting.)* Help?

Leader: Yeah! It looks like you could use some help moving this from here to there.

Tac the Cat: Oh! I didn't even think to ask for help! Is it OK if I ask you for help?

Leader: Absolutely! We can always ask for help when we can't do something on our own! Here, let me help. *(Move the object to the desired spot.)* Here you go!

Tac the Cat: *(Punctuate every word with a grunt and show Tac struggling to move the object.)* I'm (grunt) trying—ugh—to—ergh—move (grunt) this—ugh—thing!

(Tac gives up and starts panting.)

Leader: Wow, that looks very heavy! Do you need some help?

Tac the Cat: *(Still panting.)* Help?

Leader: Yeah! It looks like you could use some help moving this from here to there.

Tac the Cat: Oh! I didn't even think to ask for help! Is it OK if I ask you for help?

Leader: Absolutely! We can always ask for help when we can't do something on our own! Here, let me help. *(Move the object to the desired spot.)* Here you go!

Tac the Cat: Thank you so much! Why did you help me?

Leader: I want to help others because God always helps me whenever I need it most.

Tac the Cat: God helps you? Whoa! Why does He do that?

Leader: God helps us because He loves and cares for us. He always sends help at just the right time. God can help you too!

Tac the Cat: Wow, God is so faithful! Well, the next time I've got to do something hard, I'll start by asking God to help me first! I wonder how He'll help me next time! Thanks! Bye!

Leader: Bye, Tac!

"Have you ever been curious about something? Let's take a moment and think: When was a time you saw God help you or your family? Allow the kids to respond. What or whom did God use to help you? Allow the kids to respond. We all see and hear things that make us curious. Did you ever stop to think about how God helped His people in the Bible and how God helps us?"

SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

Today's Wonder Truth is **GOD SENDS HELP TO HIS PEOPLE**. Today we'll discover how God sends help to His people!"

Declaring God's Wonder

SLIDE: DECLARATION

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

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.)

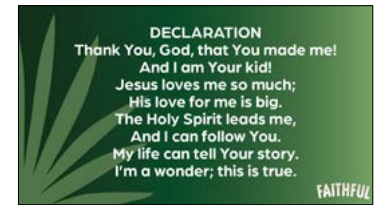
March in place like you're following the leader.

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").



Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use your own words, using this prayer as an example if needed: **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.**

Worship

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

WORSHIP VIDEOS: You Are With Me, House of the Lord

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.

Bible Time Rhyme

Say the Bible time rhyme (with motions) each week before the Bible story to remind kids that what they're about to hear is part of God's big story.

I open my Bible and what do I see? (Hands together then opening palms up, like opening a book.)

God's big story, waiting for me! (Point to yourself.)

Let's hear part of God's big story, which comes from the book of Exodus in the Bible.

VIDEO: GODS BIG STORY

GOD'S BIG STORY SCRIPT

SUPPLIES: Bible, blue sheet or butcher paper, baby doll, basket, plants (optional), Bible costumes (optional)

RESOURCES: River Sound Effect ([***search on Spotify](#))

Ahead of time, lay a blue sheet or butcher paper 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, potted plants, and river sounds 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.”

Connecting the Wonder Truth

Ask the following question to kids to help them connect the Wonder Truth to God’s big story:

SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

“Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD SENDS HELP TO HIS PEOPLE**. Where did you see our Wonder Truth happen in the story? Allow kids to answer freely.

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.”

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, 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. Use your own words, with this blessing as an example if needed.

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

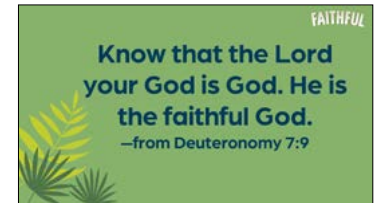
SUPPLIES: Bible

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Faithful Word of Wonder Slide (optional)

WORD OF WONDER

Know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God.

—from Deuteronomy 7:9



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

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

First, let's all say the Word of Wonder 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 Word of Wonder. I'm going to whisper the first word into someone's ear, and then that person will help the next person by whispering it into her ear, and this will continue until we all say the Word of Wonder!

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

Thank you for your help, everyone! I hope this activity will help you remember how much God helps us. Let's practice our Word of Wonder 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.

