

LESSON 1

WATER FROM THE ROCK

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Cares about Our Needs

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 17

GOD'S BIG STORY: God has faithfully rescued His people, but they're now thirsty and complaining in the desert. God responds with kindness, providing water for them from a rock because He cares about our needs.

Activity: Pouring Station

Activity: Water and Rock Bowling

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Moses Says

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Activity: Pouring Station

SUPPLIES: large, shallow container (1); different sizes of containers, measuring cups, and measuring spoons (10); tarp (optional); rocks (optional)

Before kids arrive, if you're using a tarp, spread it on the designated play area to limit messes. Set out the large, shallow container. Place 10 different-sized containers (e.g., cups, pitchers, measuring cups, measuring spoons, small food storage containers) inside the large container. Fill up five of the containers with water. You can also place various sizes and shapes of rocks in the large container.

Welcome! I'm so happy you're here! Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Come see what we have today. You can play in the water with all these items! You can pour water from one item to another. Show kids how to pour water from one container to another.

Allow kids to practice pouring water from one container to another. Kids can pour back and forth into all the different containers. They can also put rocks in the water.

Today we'll learn in our story how God provided water for His people in a very unexpected way! It had to do with a rock.

Activity: Water and Rock Bowling

SUPPLIES: ball, disposable filled water bottles (6)

Before kids arrive, set up six water bottles like bowling pins in the middle of the room. Place three water bottles in the back row, two water bottles in the middle row, and one water bottle in the front row.

Gather the kids in a circle around the water bottles.

Today we'll talk about how God cares about our needs. We'll learn about a time when God gave the Israelites water from a rock when they were thirsty. Now let's play Water and Rock Bowling!

Let's take turns knocking down the water. Point to the water bottles. **We'll use this ball as our "rock."** Hold up the ball. **You'll roll the rock to hit the water.** Demonstrate rolling the ball toward the water bottles.

Call on the first kid to bowl. Go around in a circle and select a new kid to bowl. Kids can help reset the water bottles.

Good job bowling! God provided water for the Israelites when they were thirsty. We'll learn today about how God cares for us too!

Leader Tip: Divide the water bottles in half and grab an extra ball to create two bowling stations. This allows more kids to bowl at the same time.

Our Wonder Truth today is GOD CARES ABOUT OUR NEEDS.

Encourage 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.

CARES ABOUT—Give yourself a hug.

OUR NEEDS—Point to yourself.

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Unexpected Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today, we're learning that God cares about our needs. We'll learn in God's big story how God gave the Israelites water from a rock! Let's sing to thank God for caring for us!

Play songs from the [Unexpected Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Toddler Story Pictures, [God's Big Story Video](#)

Ahead of time, print the Toddler Story Pictures. **Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about a person named Moses.** Encourage the kids to say, "Moses." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Moses!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the script provided.

Let's sit down. Gather kids together. Make sure everyone can see the pictures you'll use to tell God's big story. **Today in God's big story, we'll learn how God showed care for the Israelites—God's people.**

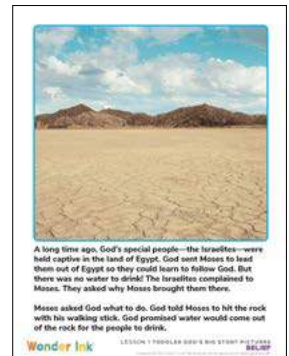
Hold up Story Picture 1 and read the corresponding text on the back. The God's Big Story Script is listed below as well.

Hold up Story Picture 1. **A long time ago, God's special people—the Israelites—were held captive in the land of Egypt. God sent Moses to lead them out of Egypt so they could learn to follow God. But there was no water to drink! The Israelites complained to Moses. They asked why Moses brought them there** (Exodus 17:3). Hold out hands, palms up.

Moses asked God what to do (Exodus 17:4). Make praying hands and look up to the ceiling. **God told Moses to hit the rock with his walking stick. God promised water would come out of the rock for the people to drink** (Exodus 17:5–6).

Hold up Story Picture 2. **Moses obeyed God. Moses hit the rock with his walking stick.** Hit the ground with your hand. **Water gushed from the rock—enough water for everyone to drink!** Have kids clap. **God loved the Israelites and took care of them in ways they thought were impossible.**

God loves us and always keeps His promises. Just like God cared about the Israelites and their needs, God also cares about our needs.



Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

God, thank You for always knowing what we need. You can provide for all our needs. Thank You for Your love. Help us trust You and to be thankful this week. 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 God draw near to you this week. May He remind you, through His Holy Spirit, that He is always with you and cares about all your needs.

Activity: Moses Says

“Moses Says” is like “Simon Says,” but simpler and no one will get out. Model any actions that you say.

Gather the kids together. **In God’s big story today, God used Moses to give water to the Israelites.**

We’re going to play a game called Moses Says. Whatever Moses says, we do! Ready? Moses says touch your nose. Touch your nose. Continue calling out and modeling directions.

- Stomp your feet.
- Touch your shoulders.
- Clap your hands.
- Sit down.
- Stand up and touch your toes.
- Pat your head.
- Give yourself a hug.

Leader Tip: Sing “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes” to kick off the Moses Says game and remind toddlers of the names for different body parts.