

Miriam and MOSES

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 1:8–2:10

LIFE VERSE

Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Ephesians 4:32 (KJV)

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

Ephesians 4:32 (HCSB)

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

Psalms 107:8

Need a large-group worship option? Find out more at www.lifeway.com/worshipforlife.

Print a One Conversation™ Placemat for each child (www.biblestudiesforlife.com/extra).

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

"Congratulations! Say hello to your new son," the nurse said as she placed the infant into the waiting arms of his teary-eyed, adoptive mother. It was love at first sight. Many adoptive parents have had the opportunity to experience the joy of holding their newborn babies. Though they did not physically birth the child, the adoptive parents' love and gratitude equals that of birth parents. Christian adoptive parents recognize the providence of God in the adoption process, knowing this is the special child He has for them. One of the Bible's most important men was an adopted child.

To give you a little backstory, fearful the Israelites might rebel, Egypt's Pharaoh ordered two Hebrew midwives to kill any boys born to Hebrew mothers. Because these midwives feared God, they did not follow through.

One clever Hebrew woman named Jochebed placed her baby in a basket and placed it in the reeds by the bank of the Nile River. Pharaoh's daughter spotted the basket and sent one of her servants to get it. When she discovered the baby inside, she felt sorry for him.

Moses' sister, Miriam, followed the basket and witnessed the rescue. She offered to find a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby boy. Miriam reunited the baby's biological mother with her son. Jochebed nurtured her son until he was old enough to live as the adopted son of Pharaoh's daughter. When the boy came to live with Pharaoh's daughter, she named him Moses.

How does the Bible story of baby Moses demonstrate the providence of God? _____

In what ways does the Bible story show that God cares for all people? _____

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Each person is unique and of value to God.

Additional training for Bible Studies for Life: Kids is available at ministrygrid.com/web/biblestudiesforlife.

BIBLE STORY

MIRIAM AND MOSES



Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, was worried. "There are too many Hebrew slaves. One day they will attack us!" he said. Pharaoh gave a horrible command. When the Israelite women had babies, he ordered his people to kill the boy babies!

During this time, Amram and Jochebed became the father and mother of a baby boy. Jochebed saw how beautiful and precious her baby was, and she hid him for three months.

When the baby became too big for her to hide, Jochebed got a basket and waterproofed it with slime and pitch. She placed her baby boy in the basket and put the basket in the Nile River among the tall grass so that it would not float away. Miriam, the baby's sister, watched to see what would happen to her little brother.

When Pharaoh's daughter came to the river to bathe, she saw the basket. One of the servant girls brought it to her. When Pharaoh's daughter opened it, she found a baby inside. He was crying. "This is a Hebrew baby!" she said and felt sorry for him.

Miriam stepped forward. "Shall I go call a woman to help you take care of the baby?"

"Yes. Go," answered Pharaoh's daughter.

So Miriam called Jochebed, her mother. Jochebed was able to care for her own baby. When the baby was older, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him. She called the child Moses because the name meant "drawn from the water."

Review Questions

- ▶ Why did Pharaoh want to destroy the Hebrew slaves? (*There were too many of them. Pharaoh was afraid they would try to overthrow him.*)
- ▶ How long was Jochebed able to hide her baby boy? (*three months*)
- ▶ Where did Jochebed leave her baby? (*in a basket among the tall grass of the Nile River*)
- ▶ What offer did Miriam make to Pharaoh's daughter? (*to find a woman to help take care of the baby*)
- ▶ Whom did Miriam get to take care of the baby? (*Jochebed, the baby's mother*)
- ▶ How do you know God thinks everyone is important? (*Answers will vary.*)

— BASED ON EXODUS 1:8–2:10

PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS



► Pack Items 3a-b: "Old Testament Cards"

► **Option:** "Miriam and Moses" coloring page (CD)

- Lay the first five "Old Testament Cards" in order on the table as you explain that Old Testament books tell about things that happened before Jesus was born.
- Guide kids to locate the book names in their Bibles' tables of contents. Encourage older kids to locate the books themselves.
- Direct kids to stand in a circle.
- Begin a stomp-stomp, clap-clap rhythm pattern, then prompt a child to name the first Old Testament book. (*Stomp-stomp, clap-clap, Genesis!*)
- Continue the stomp-stomp, clap-clap rhythm pattern, guiding the next child to name *Exodus*; the third, *Leviticus*; and so on through the first five books.
- Add the next book card to the table and begin again.
- Continue adding Old Testament Bible books as time permits.

► DVD

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY



- Read each statement. Guide kids who fit the description to do the action.
- Statements:
 - * If you are left handed, wave your left hand and hop on your right foot.
 - * If you like to sing, stand and sing la-la-la.
 - * If you have brown eyes, clap your hands five times.
 - * If you are a fast runner, stand and run in place.
 - * If you have a bruise or a bug bite, say: "Ow!"
- Add similar statements of your own as time permits.
- Thank kids for revealing some of their special and unique characteristics.
- Show "Miriam and Moses: Introduction" video.

► DVD

► "International Missions" (CD)–Print the photos and missionary stories. Set aside the Parra family information for use in sessions 3-6.

MISSIONS EMPHASIS



- Show "A New Life for Abraham" video or tell the story.
- Recap: "Each person is important to God. God connects His followers so that others will hear the good news of Jesus. Because Abraham heard and believed, others now are hearing the good news!"
- Pray for Abraham and the Connexion Ministry in Seville, Spain.

PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

Grades 4-6

- Assign partners.
- Lead kids to draw grids on construction paper, three lines down and three across.
- Announce the object of the game: to connect four sticky notes in any configuration on the grid. Connecting lines may be L-shaped or a zig-zag pattern.
- Players claim a square by initialing a sticky note and placing it on the grid.
- Players earn their turns by correctly performing these skills:
 - * Round 1—Opponent names a Bible book. Player identifies it as an Old Testament or New Testament book. Refer to Bibles as needed.
 - * Round 2—Same as Round 1; kids may not refer to Bibles or table of contents.
 - * Round 3—Opponent names an Old Testament book. Player identifies the next book.

- ▶ small sticky notes
- ▶ **Option:** “Miriam and Moses” coloring page (CD)

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INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

- Form two teams.
- Relate that the object of the game is to draw as many complete stick people as possible in one minute.
- Assign each child a role: one player may draw only heads; one may draw stick bodies, one may draw only arms, and so on. Adapt as needed so that everyone has a role.
- Start the game, keep time, and count the number of completed figures.
- Comment that assembly-line stick drawings are all similar. In contrast, each person in the room is unique, important, and deeply loved by God.
- Show “Miriam and Moses: Introduction” video.

- ▶ DVD
- ▶ 2 poster boards

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MISSIONS EMPHASIS

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- Pray for Abraham and the Connexion Ministry in Seville, Spain.

- ▶ DVD
- ▶ “International Missions” (CD)—Print the photos and missionary stories. Set aside the Parra family information for use in sessions 3-6.



Notes

▶ Pack Items 1, 2: "Making Connections Banner," "Ephesians 4:32 Life Verse"—**Note:** *Display the Unit 1 banner carefully. The banner for Unit 2 is on the reverse side.*

▶ Teaching Picture 1

▶ DVD

▶ CD

▶ 4-by-6-inch index cards (1 per child)

▶ gift bag

"Sharing the Gospel with Kids" is located at the end of this leader guide and provides helps for talking to kids about God's plan of salvation.

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Weekly Bible Verse
Psalm 107:8

▶ 1. BIBLE STORY

- Lead kids to sing "United" (track 1 or 3).
- Display today's Teaching Picture.
- Guide kids to rock an imaginary baby. Instruct them to do the action each time they hear *baby* in the story.
- Open your Bible to Exodus 1 and tell the Bible story in your own words.
- Ask: "Was Moses important to his family? How do you know?"
- Explain that Moses grew up and was an important part of God's plan for the Israelites. Later, God showed how much He loves people by sending Jesus to die on the cross for their sin.
- Pray. Thank God for His plan of salvation through His Son, Jesus.

▶ 2. LIFE VERSE

- Display "Ephesians 4:32 Life Verse" and help kids find it in their Bibles.
- Define *compassionate* as "feeling or showing concern for others."
- Lead kids to read aloud the verse with you, substituting a hand clap for *compassionate*.
- Allow a child to choose another word. Read the verse again, substituting hand claps for both words.
- Continue replacing words until everyone has a turn. Lead kids to sing "One Another" (track 4).

• **Option:** Teach the weekly Bible verse, Psalm 107:8.

▶ 3. LIFE ACTION

- Give each child a blank card and a marker.
- Prompt kids to quickly draw head-and-shoulder self-portraits.
- Drop the self-portraits into a gift bag.
- Let kids take turns drawing a picture from the bag. The picture's owner should stand, tell something about himself, and say: "... and God thinks I am important!"
- Remind kids that each person is unique and of value to God.
- Show "Miriam and Moses: Life Action" video.

▶ 4. REVIEW

- Place the self-portraits in the bag.
- Call on a volunteer to draw a card.
- Ask a review question (back of Teaching Picture) to the person whose self-portrait card was drawn.
- Repeat until everyone answers a question.

▶ 1. BIBLE STORY

- Guide kids to sit in chairs in a circle.
- Lead kids to sing “United” (track 1 or 3).
- Direct kids to listen carefully and move one chair to the right each time they hear a word that begins with the letter *M*.
- Open your Bible to Exodus 1 and tell the Bible story in your own words.
- Display the Teaching Picture.
- Challenge kids to present evidence that Moses was important to God and to his family.
- Explain that Moses grew up and was an important part of God’s plan for the Israelites. Later, God showed how much He loves people by sending Jesus to die on the cross for their sin.
- Pray. Thank God for His plan of salvation through His Son, Jesus.

▶ 2. LIFE VERSE

- Conceal one word of the “Ephesians 4:32 Life Verse” with a sticky note.
- Ask volunteers to define *compassionate*. (*feeling or showing concern for others*)
- Guide boys and girls to find the verse in their Bibles.
- Lead kids to say aloud the verse.
- Continue to cover words until kids can say the entire verse unassisted.
- Lead kids to sing “One Another” (track 4).

- **Option:** Teach the weekly Bible verse, Psalm 107:8.

▶ 3. REVIEW

- Form two teams.
- Give the numbered cubes to a player from Team A.
- Ask a review question (back of Teaching Picture).
- If the player answers correctly, she may toss one numbered cube for points. If she can locate the answer in her Bible, she may toss both cubes for extra points.
- Alternate between Team A and Team B as time permits.

▶ 4. LIFE ACTION

- Show “Miriam and Moses: Life Action” video.
- Use the backs of the posters from the Introductory Activity.
- Form two groups.
- Remind kids that each person is unique and of value to God.
- Guide the first group to list ways they can help friends and family remember they are important to God.
- Lead the second group to list ways they can help total strangers know they are important to God.

Notes

- ▶ Pack Items 1, 2: “Making Connections Banner,” “Ephesians 4:32 Life Verse” – **Note:** *Display the Unit 1 banner carefully. The banner for Unit 2 is on the reverse side.*

- ▶ Teaching Picture 1

- ▶ DVD

- ▶ CD

- ▶ 2 numbered cubes

- ▶ self-stick notes

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Be sensitive to kids who have questions about God’s plan of salvation. For help in talking to kids, check out “*Sharing the Gospel with Kids*,” located at the end of this leader guide.

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Weekly Bible Verse
Psalm 107:8

Notes

Choice 1

- ▶ Pack Item 5: "Paper Globe Pattern"
- ▶ Kids Activity Page
- ▶ DVD
- ▶ star-shaped stickers
- ▶ markers or colored pencils
- ▶ hole punch

Choice 2

- ▶ Kids Activity Pages
- ▶ DVD
- ▶ "All About Me Game Cards" (CD)–Print a set of game cards for each child.
- ▶ star stickers
- ▶ colored pencils
- ▶ envelopes

▶ CHOICE 1: PAPER GLOBES

- Give each child an Kids Activity Page and star stickers.
- Lead kids to complete "Star Treatment" and share their responses.
- Open your Bible to Psalm 103.
- Invite kids to hold their hands up and wiggle their fingers when they hear words that describe how much God loves people.
- Read aloud Psalm 103:1-5,8-13.
- Distribute "Paper Globe Patterns."
- Guide girls and boys to color and cut out each circle.
- As they work, ask kids: "How much does God love people? How do you know?"
- Help children glue the folded paper globes together. (See illustration on the pack item.)
- After the glue dries, lay globes flat. Punch a hole in the top of each globe.
- Insert bent paper clips to create hangers.
- Encourage boys and girls to display their globes at home.
- Suggest that when kids see the globes displayed at home, they pause to thank God for creating and loving all people.

▶ CHOICE 2: ALL ABOUT ME MEMORY GAME

- Give each child a Kids Activity Page and star stickers.
- Lead kids to complete "Star Treatment" and share their responses.
- Distribute "All About Me Game Cards."
- Guide each child to complete each pair of cards with a matching answer.
- Guide kids to cut apart the cards.
- To play, place the cards facedown. Kids can flip two cards at a time in order to find a matched set. The first player to match all of his cards wins the game. (Older kids can combine their cards with other players' sets to create a more complex game.)
- Provide envelopes so that kids can carry their games home.
- Emphasize that God deeply loves the kids He created!

▶ WRAP UP

- Show "Miriam and Moses: Wrap Up" video.
- Remind kids to give their One Conversation™ pages to their parents.

▶ CHOICE 1: PUZZLING GIFTS

- Distribute Kids Activity Pages.
- Lead kids to solve the “Moon Decoders” statements.
- Ask: “When might a kid feel uncertain that he is important to God? How does knowing God loves you affect your attitude? How does it affect the way you treat others?”
- Allow kids to select their favorite piece of scrapbook paper.
- Guide them to choose a Bible verse from the Kids Activity Page and write it neatly on the paper.
- Guide kids to cut the pages into puzzle pieces (no more than 15 pieces).
- If time permits, let kids swap and solve puzzles.
- Provide envelopes for kids to carry puzzles home.
- Suggest that kids share the puzzles with a friend or family member who needs a reminder that God loves him or her.

▶ CHOICE 2: SOCK COMETS

- Distribute Kids Activity Pages.
- Lead kids to solve the “Moon Decoders” code.
- Discuss why the information contained in the Bible verses is valuable and how it can affect a person’s attitude and actions.
- Use the laundry baskets as targets—one close and one farther away.
- Play individually or in teams, indoors or outdoors.
- Each player earns the opportunity to throw by presenting one piece of evidence that everyone is important to God. Evidence may be a Bible verse (such as Psalm 103:1-5,8-13), a thought from the Bible story, or from personal experience.
- Players throw the sock comets by swinging them overhead, then releasing them.
- Score 100 points if the sock comet lands in the first basket; 500 points if it lands in the second basket.
- Encourage kids to act and think like people who are important to God.

▶ WRAP UP

- Show “Miriam and Moses: Wrap Up” video.
- Remind kids to give their One Conversation™ pages to their parents.

Notes

Choice 1

- ▶ Kids Activity Pages
- ▶ DVD
- ▶ heavyweight 12-by-12-inch scrapbook paper
- ▶ envelopes

Choice 2

- ▶ Kids Activity Pages
- ▶ DVD
- ▶ 2 laundry baskets or wastebaskets
- ▶ rubber bands
- ▶ tennis balls (optional)
- ▶ old socks—Make sock comets by stuffing the toes of the socks with tightly wadded newspaper or other socks. (Stuff tennis balls for outdoor use only.) Secure with rubber bands.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING:
Each person is unique and of value to God.

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: Parents, help your child understand that Moses was a valuable part of God's plan. Each person matters to God. Ask some questions: Who helped Moses? How did God show He was with Moses? How can you know that God is with you?

KIDS



MIRIAM AND MOSES

Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, was worried. "There are too many Hebrew slaves. One day they will attack us!" he said. Pharaoh gave a horrible command. When the Israelite women had babies, he ordered his people to kill the boy babies!

During this time, Amram and Jochebed became the father and mother of a baby boy. Jochebed saw how beautiful and precious her baby was, and she hid him for three months.

When the baby became too big for her to hide, Jochebed got a basket and waterproofed it with slime and pitch. She placed her baby boy in the basket and put the basket in the Nile River among the tall grass so that it would not float away. Miriam, the baby's sister, watched to see what would happen to her little brother.

When Pharaoh's daughter came to the river to bathe, she saw the basket. One of the servant girls brought it to her. When Pharaoh's daughter opened it, she found a baby inside. He was crying. "This is a Hebrew baby!" she said and felt sorry for him.

Miriam stepped forward. "Shall I go call a woman to help you take care of the baby?"

"Yes. Go," answered Pharaoh's daughter.

So Miriam called Jochebed, her mother. Jochebed was able to care for her own baby. When the baby was older, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him. She called the child Moses because the name meant "drawn from the water."

—based on Exodus 1:8–2:10

LIVE IT OUT: Around the edge of a paper heart, print the names of family and friends. In the center of the heart print, "God Loves All People." Place the heart where it can remind you of this promise.

DAILY BIBLE READING:

- Sunday: Exodus 20:7
- Monday: Psalm 25:5
- Tuesday: John 4:42
- Wednesday: Exodus 20:8
- Thursday: Psalm 37:31
- Friday: John 6:40
- Saturday: Exodus 20:12

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

Psalm 107:8

TAKE IT FURTHER:

Check out the "Miriam and Moses" section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.

