

Miriam and MOSES

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 1:8–2:10.

LIFE VERSE

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

Ephesians 4:32

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will help you. *Isaiah 41:10a*

DATE OF USE _____

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 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, had followed the basket and saw the rescue. She suggested that a Hebrew woman be found to nurse him. So it was the baby’s biological mother who nurtured him until he was old enough to live as the adopted son of Pharaoh’s daughter. She named him Moses.

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

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

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING:

People are God’s most important creation.

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

LIFE VERSE

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

EPHESIANS 4:32

PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

Notes

▶ E IS FOR ...

1. Direct kids to the Table of Contents in their Bibles. Ask them to locate names of Bible books that begin with the letter *E*. (*Exodus, Ezra, Esther, Ecclesiastes, Ezekiel, Ephesians*) Help the kids find and bookmark Exodus and Ephesians. Mention that today's Bible story and Life Verse are from these two Bible books.
2. **Option:** Challenge second graders to work in pairs, taking turns naming and racing to find Bible books that start with the letter *E*.
3. **Option:** "Miriam and Moses" Coloring Page (CD).
4. **Option:** Bible Skills App (*Bible Studies For Life: Kids Family App* found in the Apple® and Google Play™ stores).

▶ Paper strips or bookmarks

▶ CD

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INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

▶ BASKET PASS

1. Form a circle. Divide the index cards and place half in each basket. Play "United Remix" (track 1).
2. Instruct the kids to pass the baskets as the music plays. When the music stops, the two kids holding the baskets will each say, "God loves..." and name someone God loves. If a child cannot think of someone to name, he may take a card from his basket and use the name printed there. Play several times.
3. Tell the group that today's Bible study will help the kids know that people are God's most important creation. God loves all people. Explain that a basket plays an important part in today's Bible story.

▶ CD

▶ DVD

▶ 2 baskets

▶ Print each name on an index card: *boys, girls, moms, dads, grandparents, teachers, soccer players, gymnasts, singers, doctors, first graders, second graders, babysitters, babies, senior adults, people who are rich, people who are poor, people who are sick.* (CD)

▶ Show the "Miriam and Moses: Introduction" video.

STUDY THE BIBLE

Notes

- ▶ Pack Items 1-3, 5, and 27: "Unit 1 Title Banner," "Unit 1 Song Lyrics," "Ephesians 4:32," "Unit 1 Review Questions," and "One Another"

▶ Teaching Picture 1

▶ CD

▶ DVD

- ▶ Tape each of the review questions for this session along a length of yarn. Space the questions at least a foot apart. Carefully place the questions in a basket, leaving the beginning end of the yarn hanging out.

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TELL THE BIBLE STORY

▶ Show the Teaching Picture.

- Encourage the kids to guess who the Bible story is about.

▶ Use Bibles.

- Guide the kids to locate Exodus 2:10 in their Bibles and to find the name *Moses*.
- Open your Bible to Exodus 1 and tell the story in your own words.

MIRIAM AND MOSES

Pharaoh, the king, 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, his people were ordered to kill the boy babies!

One mother hid her baby boy until she could not keep him hidden any longer. She took a basket and covered it with tar so that it would float. Then she placed her baby boy in the basket and put the basket in the river among the reeds so that it would not float away. Miriam, the baby's sister, watched nearby.

When Pharaoh's daughter came to the river, she saw the basket and sent a servant to take it from the water. She opened the basket and found a baby inside. He was crying. "This is a Hebrew baby," she said.

Miriam quickly ran up from her hiding place. "Should I get someone to take care of the baby for you?" she asked.

"Yes," answered Pharaoh's daughter. Miriam left but quickly came back with her and the baby's own mother! Pharaoh's daughter told the mother to care for the baby. When the baby was older, he came to live with Pharaoh's daughter. She named him Moses because the name meant she had taken him from the water.

— BASED ON EXODUS 1:8–2:10

REVIEW

- Ask a volunteer to pull the yarn from the basket until a question card is revealed. Remind the kids that Moses' family had to be quiet when they were trying to hide him. Read the card and tell the kids to tiptoe to two or three people and whisper the answer or whisper and ask what the answer is. Continue until all the questions have been used.

- Ask the kids to recall the people named during the Introductory Activity.
- After each one is named, ask: "Does God love ____?" filling in the blank with the named person or group.
- Explain that God made each person and because He made them, He loves them.

Notes

► Show the "Miriam and Moses: Life Action" video.

- Ask who wanted to feel important in the video. Ask what they were doing to try to feel important. Ask who Governor Miguel said was important to God.
- Ask if kids ever try to show that they are better than someone else. Ask if kids ever try to put someone else down. Ask if God loves them more if they are better at something than their friends. Ask who God loves.

SING

- Lead the kids to sing "United" (track 1).

PRACTICE A LIFE VERSE

- Read Ephesians 4:32 from the display. Read the verse again, a few words at a time, and ask the kids to echo each phrase.
- Lead the group to sing "One Another" (track 5).
- **Option:** Learn the weekly memory verse, Isaiah 41:10a.

MISSIONS EMPHASIS

- Show the missions video "A New Life for Abraham." Ask how Abraham connects with people and tells them about Jesus.

PRAY

- Remind the kids that God loved people so much that He sent Jesus to be the Savior. This is just one of the ways kids can know God loves all people and thinks they are important.
- Lead the kids to pray sentence prayers. Suggest that each child say, "Thank you God for loving me." Conclude the prayer time by thanking God for making the girls and boys, for loving them, and for providing for them. Thank Him for loving all people.

Form "Live It Out" groups. Describe each activity. Guide the kids to choose activities, or direct the kids to the groups you have chosen.

LIVE IT OUT

Notes

CHOICE 1

- ▶ Kids Activity Page
 - ▶ Large sheets of construction or drawing paper (some paper in flesh tones is ideal but not essential), markers, scissors, and glue sticks
 - ▶ Print *I Matter to God* on a sheet of paper.
 - ▶ **Option:** Print the “I Matter to God” information sheets from the CD.
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CHOICE 2

- ▶ Kids Activity Page
 - ▶ Newspapers, white copy paper, white crayons, watercolors, and paint brushes
 - ▶ Cover the table with newspaper.
 - ▶ At the bottom of several papers, print with white crayon *Matters to God*.
 - ▶ **Option:** Provide paint shirts.
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CHOICE 1

▶ **I Matter to God (Giant Portraits)**

1. Kids Activity Page: Complete “God Made Me!” and “True or False?”
2. Ask the kids how they know that they matter to God. After they answer, suggest that God shows that people matter to Him by the way He cares for them. Ask the kids to name things God has provided for them. Emphasize that God sent Jesus to be the Savior because each and every person is important to Him.
3. Guide each child to draw a large oval that fills most of a sheet of paper. Explain that the kids can draw giant self-portraits, using the ovals as their faces. Help the kids to cut out the finished portraits and glue them to a paper that is a bright color.
4. Show the sign you made and direct each child to print *I Matter to God* above her portrait. Ask the kids to print their names below their portraits.
5. Display the giant portraits on a wall. Place a blank paper in the center of the portraits. Ask the kids to name again things God has provided and ways that God shows His care for them. Print each idea on the paper in the center of the portraits. **Option:** Help the kids complete and attach the “I Matter to God” information sheets from the Enhanced CD.

CHOICE 2

▶ **Secret Messages**

1. Kids Activity Page: Complete “God Made Me!” and “True or False?”
2. As the kids arrive at your table, secretly print with a white crayon each child’s name at the top of white paper on which you have printed the message.
3. Ask the kids how they know that they matter to God. After they answer, suggest that God shows that people matter to Him by the way He cares for them. Ask the kids to name things God has provided for them. Emphasize that God sent Jesus to be the Savior because each and every person is important to Him.
4. (**Option:** Help the kids to put on paint shirts.) Direct the kids to paint designs over the prepared papers. As the hidden letters emerge on each paper, read the statement and the name to the group. Direct the kids to finish their designs and then give each paper to the child named on it.
5. Distribute additional paper and encourage the kids to paint pictures of things God has done that shows they matter to Him.

