

Miriam and MOSES

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 1:8–2:10

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

I chose you before I
formed you in the womb;
I set you apart before you
were born.

Jeremiah 1:5

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? _____

LEVELS 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.

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

DATE OF USE _____

STUDY THE BIBLE

Notes

- ▶ Pack Item 1
- ▶ Teaching Picture 1
- ▶ Kids Activity Pages
- ▶ CD
- ▶ DVD
- ▶ masking tape—Make a giant tic-tac-toe gameboard on the floor.
- ▶ 8 frisbees—Use tape to make an X on 4 frisbees and an O on 4 frisbees.

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GROUP ACTIVITY

- Call attention to the “Making Connections Title Banner.”
- Call on a volunteer to read the definition of *Exodus* from the Kids Activity Page.
- Invite another child to read the definition of *Israelite*.

PREPARE TO TELL THE BIBLE STORY

▶ Introduce the Bible Story

- Invite children to share if they have brothers or sisters.
- Define *protection* as “to cover or shield from something that would injure.”
- For those with siblings, ask if they have ever needed to protect a younger sibling or if anyone has been protected by an older sibling.
- While children listen to today’s Bible story, challenge them to decide whether they would be as obedient and dedicated to protecting their brothers and sisters as the people in today’s story.

▶ Teaching Picture 1

- Display the teaching picture.
- Help kids find Exodus 1:8–2:10 as you tell the story.

MIRIAM AND MOSES

A new king was placed in power over Egypt. The new pharaoh feared that the Israelites, God’s people, were growing in number too quickly. Pharaoh feared if the Israelite population grew too fast and became greater in number than the Egyptians, then in time of war, the Israelites would fight against them and leave Egypt.

In an effort to keep this from happening, Pharaoh ordered that the Israelites work harder. The Egyptians began to hate the Israelites and make their lives horrible. They even forced the midwives (women trained to help other women have babies) to kill all newborn baby boys! However, because the midwives would not kill the babies, God allowed the Israelites to spread more rapidly throughout Egypt.

One baby boy born during this time was very beautiful. When the baby became too old to hide, his mother Jochebed and his sister Miriam became afraid that Pharaoh’s servants would try to kill him. So Jochebed used tar and pitch to waterproof a basket made of reeds (or plants). Jochebed put the baby in the basket and set the basket within the reeds in the bank of the Nile River. Miriam was given the task of watching to make sure her brother was safe.

LIVE IT OUT

Notes

CHOICE 1

- ▶ Kids Activity Pages
- ▶ index cards, markers, large sheet of paper

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CHOICE 2

- ▶ Pack Item 5—Separate cards and place in a small bag.
- ▶ Kids Activity Pages
- ▶ stopwatch or timer

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CHOICE 1

▶ “I Can Help” (Kids Activity Page)

1. Discuss ways Miriam helped Jochebed in their home.
2. Instruct kids to complete “I Can Help” on their Kids Activity Pages.
3. Encourage kids to share how they think Miriam might have felt watching her baby brother float in a basket.
 - * Was she scared?
 - * What might have been in her thoughts when Pharaoh’s daughter came to the river?
4. Invite kids to share ways they help their parents at home.
5. In addition to the things listed on the Kids Activity Page, challenge the kids to name other ways they can help at home. Make a list of these on a large sheet of paper.
6. Distribute cards and markers. Direct kids to make coupons for their parents with extra jobs they can do around the house this week. If time permits, allow them to make a coupon for each day of the week.

CHOICE 2

▶ “I Can Help” (Kids Activity Page), “Helping Charades” (Pack Item 5)

1. Instruct kids to complete “I Can Help” on their Kids Activity Pages.
2. Encourage kids to share how they think Miriam might have felt watching her baby brother float in a basket.
 - * Was she scared?
 - * What might have been in her thoughts when Pharaoh’s daughter came to the river?
3. Invite kids to share ways they help their parents at home.
4. Form two teams for a game of “Helping Charades.” Invite the team wearing the most blue to begin the game. Instruct one member of the team to draw a card from the bag and act out the activity listed on it. That player’s teammates will have 30 seconds to guess what helpful action is being performed.
5. If the team is unable to guess the action, the opposing team gets one opportunity to guess. The team that answers correctly gets 10 points.
6. Continue play as time allows, rotating between teams.
7. After each action is correctly guessed, lead a short discussion about how that

Miriam was a great help to her mother, Jochebed. How did she help her mother?

LIFE VERSE

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

— EPHESIANS 4:32

How can you help your family?

Write at least one way you can help each day:

I CAN HELP



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

ISRAELITE: People who were citizens of Israel, even when in exile.

EXODUS: Israel's escape from slavery in Egypt and journey toward the promised land with Moses leading the way.

IMAGE CREDIT: THINKSTOCK

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

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: Parents, help your kid 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

EXODUS 1:8-2:10

BIBLE VERSE: Jeremiah 1:5

LIFE POINT: God loves all people and thinks they are important.

A new king was in power over Egypt. The new pharaoh feared that the Israelites, God's people, were growing in number too quickly. Pharaoh feared the Israelite population would become greater in number than the Egyptians, and the Israelites would rise up against them and leave Egypt.

So Pharaoh ordered that the Israelites work harder. The Egyptians began to make their lives miserable. They even forced the midwives (women trained to help other women have babies) to kill all newborn baby boys! However, because the midwives would not kill the babies, God allowed the Israelites to spread more rapidly throughout Egypt.

One baby boy born during this time was very beautiful. When the baby became too old to hide, his mother and his sister became afraid that Pharaoh's servants would try to kill him. So the mother used tar and pitch to waterproof a basket. She put the baby in the basket and set the basket within the reeds in the bank of the Nile River. The baby's sister was given the task of watching to make sure the baby was safe.

Later, Pharaoh's daughter was bathing in the river when she heard a baby cry. She asked her servant girls to find the baby and bring him to her. When Pharaoh's daughter saw the baby boy, she knew he was an Israelite and felt sorry for him. As the baby's sister saw this, she ran to the Pharaoh's daughter and offered to find a nurse to care for the baby. Of course, she got her mother. Pharaoh's daughter took him in and named him *Moses* because she "drew him out of the water."

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 for 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

TAKE IT FURTHER

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

