

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: 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 that 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

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LESSON 3 FOR LEADERS

BABY MOSES

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.



Curiosity

LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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Curiosity Activity: What's under the basket?

SUPPLIES: baskets (at least 4, various sizes), variety of toys or toddler-safe objects

Before kids arrive, place toys and objects underneath the baskets throughout the room.

In our story today, we'll learn about a basket that held something very unusual. I have several baskets in the room right now. Let's go see what's under them!

Allow kids to explore what's underneath the baskets. Encourage them to lift the baskets and examine the objects underneath.

We'll learn more about that today and find out from the Bible how God used a basket to help people. Our Wonder Truth today is GOD SENDS HELP TO HIS PEOPLE.

Encourage the 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.
- . SENDS—Point out.
- **HELP**—Bring one fist into the palm of your other hand. **TO HIS PEOPLE**—Spread your hands wide in front of you to signify all.



Belief

LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Guide kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

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Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: 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.

God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this? The Bible

Ask: Why is the Bible important? Because it is God's word. Everything in it is true. It really happened.

TELL THE BIBLE STORY

The Beginner's Bible, page 92-97

A Baby in a Basket

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him.

— Deuteronomy 7:9

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

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- · How has God shown us that He is faithful?
- · What helps you to know that God is faithful?



Identity

LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Create space for God to remind kids they are known, loved, led, and their lives can tell of God's wonder.

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Activity: Can you help me?

SUPPLIES: various objects and toys (about 10)

God sent help for Moses, and God helps us too! Sometimes God uses other people to send His help to us. Let's play a game where we practice helping each other!

Disperse an assortment of toys and objects around the room. Stand in the middle with the basket and ask, "Can you help me find _____?" and say one of the objects/toys. Invite the kids to help by bringing you the item and putting it in the basket.

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.

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