



LESSON 1 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Hears and Sees His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 3

WORD OF WONDER: Psalm 77:12

When Moses glanced up and saw a burning bush, he likely didn't give it a second thought.

Why should he? Fires happened all the time. A lightning strike, embers drifting from a campfire, a couple tinder-dry branches scraping together in the hot wind until something sparked.

But a bush blazing away that wasn't consumed by the flames? *That's* something that deserved a closer look.

So Moses hiked over to investigate ... and his life changed forever.

God never explains why He chose to speak to Moses through a burning bush. But that bush—on fire yet not consumed—is a perfect picture of what becomes of anything or anyone fully yielded to God. Take a few minutes to read Exodus 3:1–15. Notice how it's not just shrubbery that starts to ignite and shine bright for God.

It's Moses too.

We're praying that, as you lead this week, you shine just as brightly. That the Holy Spirit empowers you to connect with your kids, pointing them toward the God who hears them and sees them. The God who loves them and invites them into an eternal friendship.

Kids are used to adults telling them stuff—it's the soundtrack of their lives. But an adult who's clearly on fire with love for them and God? Who's sharing from the heart?

That's something they don't see every day. That's something that deserves a closer look ... so they'll be looking.

Shine brightly, friend. Be on fire.

—**Mikal Keefer**

Children's Ministry Volunteer and Author

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Moses grew up in Pharaoh's household after his mother placed him in a basket on the Nile River to save him from Pharaoh's decree that all Hebrew male infants be killed. Pharaoh's daughter found him.

WHAT?

While Moses was shepherding his flock at Mount Horeb, God spoke to him from the burning bush. God told Moses to go to Egypt to bring His people out of slavery because God had seen their suffering. God also revealed His name to Moses.

WHERE?

Mount Horeb, also called Mount Sinai in the book of Exodus, is thought to be in the southern part of the Sinai Peninsula, which is east of Egypt and west of Midian.

WHEN?

By the end of Genesis, Jacob's family, including Joseph and all his brothers, had come to dwell in the land of Egypt. Moses was born after that generation died out, approximately 300 years later. By the time of the exodus, Moses was 80 years old.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

God promised to bless all nations through Abraham's family, which He eventually did through the work of Jesus, a descendant of Abraham. This story shows that God is faithful to His promises and has the power to rescue His people no matter the circumstances.



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 1 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Sights and Sounds

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Sights and Sounds Sheet

Ahead of time, print a copy of the Sights and Sounds Sheet.

In God's big story today, we'll learn how God sees and hears His people. Let's play a game to see and hear some things. When I hold up a picture, say what you see or make the sound it makes.

Hold up the pictures and ask the kids what each thing is and what sound it makes. For young toddlers, make the sound and encourage them to mimic you.

The kids will see ...

- train ("choo choo")
- bird ("tweet")
- race car ("vroom")
- cow ("moo")
- dog ("woof")

You did a great job of paying attention to the sights and sounds! Now here's one more ...

Then show them a picture of a bush. Bushes don't make a sound. But in our story today, we'll hear about a voice that talked from a bush! And we'll learn about how God helped His people.

Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD HEARS AND SEES HIS PEOPLE.**

Tell 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.*

HEARS—*Cup your ears.*

AND SEES—*Make pretend binoculars with your hands around your eyes.*

HIS PEOPLE.—*Point to yourself.*





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LESSON 1 EARLY CHILDHOOD

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 invite You to teach us through Your Word and help us understand by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Thank You that You hear and see us and care for us so well, and thank You for sending Jesus! We love You and pray in Jesus' name, Amen.**

God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this called? The Bible

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

Tell the Bible Story

The Beginner's Bible pages 98-103

The Burning Bush

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

**I will spend time thinking about everything you
have done.**

—Psalm 77:12