



LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Rescues His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 13–15

WORD OF WONDER: Psalm 77:12

Maybe this has been one of those weeks for you.

You know, a week that showed up carrying a conflict with your spouse or friend. An unexpected budget-busting bill. A nagging cough, sputtering car engine, maybe a misplaced pair of glasses.

Or perhaps you hit the jackpot and absolutely everything that could go wrong did go wrong ... twice.

However tough your week, it probably pales compared to what Moses found in his week: the Red Sea at his back and an Egyptian army thundering at him from the front. Worse, he was surrounded by people screaming for him to do something.

Read Exodus 14.

The good news for Moses is the same good news we have for you: God rescues His people. Maybe not on their timeline, and maybe not in the way they expect, but He never fails to come through.

That broken tooth (thank you, peanut brittle) doesn't lessen His love for you. The exploding microwave? You won't be warming up leftover lasagna anytime soon, but there's still a spot for you in heaven.

In all the most important ways, you can stand with Moses, who looked at oncoming chariots and said this to his people: "Don't be afraid. Stand firm. You will see how the Lord will save you today" (Exodus 14:13).

As you prepare this lesson for your kids, remember to ask the Holy Spirit to let its truth sink deeply into your heart too.

The Lord rescues those who stand with Him.

Including you.

—Mikal Keefer

Children's Ministry Volunteer and Author

Contributor to Wonder Ink

LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS

CROSSING THE RED SEA

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

God worked through Moses to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. Soon after, Moses received the law from God on Mount Sinai, along with instructions for the construction of the tabernacle. Moses led the Israelites in the wilderness for 40 years.

WHAT?

God led the Israelites out of Egypt, through the desert to the Red Sea. Then Pharaoh chased after God's people with his army, but God parted the sea so the Israelites could escape on dry ground. Then the waters came back and swept away Pharaoh's army.

WHERE?

The exact location of the Red Sea crossing is unknown, but many scholars favor the Bitter Lakes region north of the Gulf of Suez, the northwestern branch of the Red Sea. The Bitter Lakes may have been connected to the Red Sea at the time.

WHEN?

The exodus happened approximately 400 years after Jacob's family came to Egypt. Following the exodus, the Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert after failing to trust God before taking possession of the Promised Land.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

The Red Sea crossing demonstrates God's power to deliver His people and foreshadows the even greater deliverance made possible at the cross. In the exodus, God brought His people from slavery to freedom. At the cross, Jesus brings us from death to life.



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Play Stations

SUPPLIES: kinetic sand (blue, if available) or shredded paper (blue), toy person figure, coloring utensils

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Crossing the Red Sea Coloring Sheet (1 per kid)

Greet kids warmly as they arrive and briefly explain the play stations. Invite them to play at any of the play stations.

Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help get ready for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas of what we'll be learning about today?

Play Station: Rescue Mission

Set-up: Set out a pile of kinetic sand (blue, if available) or shredded blue paper in the middle of a table. If using kinetic sand, a towel or tarp underneath can help contain spills. Set out a toy person figure on one side of the table.

Play: Let the kids "rescue" the person figure by getting him from one side of the table to the other, parting the pretend sea (the kinetic sand or shredded paper), then leading the toy person figure through the opening to the other side.

Play Station: Crossing the Red Sea Coloring Sheet

Set-up: Print one copy per kid of the Crossing the Red Sea Coloring Sheet. Set out the Coloring Sheets and coloring utensils.

Play: Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw a picture of their favorite sea animal.

LESSON 2 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 thank You for this chance to be together today and discover more from Your Word. Help us to trust in You and Your great love for us. You are our rescuer—help us learn what You want us to know about how You want to rescue us. 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 111-115

The Red Sea

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

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

—Psalm 77:12

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What were God's people called? (*Israelites*)
- Where were the Israelites held captive and treated badly? (*Egypt*)
- How did God lead His people to the Red Sea? (*a pillar of cloud during the day and pillar of fire at night*)
- What amazing miracle happened when Moses held up his walking stick? (*God sent a strong wind to part the waters of the Red Sea so the Israelites could walk through.*)
- How did the Israelites respond after God saved them? (*They sang songs of praise to God.*)
- What would you sing a song of praise about to thank God for?
- Do you believe God still rescues His people? How has He rescued us?
- What does this story show us about God?

In today's story, God rescued His people from slavery and brought them to freedom. Through Jesus, we can be rescued and freed from sin, and we can have a relationship with God! We can praise God like the Israelites did after He rescued them.



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Game: Rescue Race

SUPPLIES: masking or painter's tape, long rope, large plastic hoop

Make It Inclusive! Kids can pull the ropes from a standing or seated position. If some kids have limited mobility, encourage them to be the full-time rope puller who pulls the rope (from a seated position) to bring the hoop back to the start line each time. Their teammates will then take turns running the hoop back to the finish line each time.

Ahead of time, use masking or painter's tape to create start and finish lines on the floor, or use cones to mark the start and finish lines.

Tie the end of a long rope around a large plastic hoop. Set the hoop at one end of the room by the finish line. Stretch the rope across the room and place the other end of the rope at the start line. In this game, kids will race to complete the rescue race mission.

Gather kids and tell them: **In God's big story, we read about God's rescuing His people by providing a way through the Red Sea. We're going to do a fun rescue race of our own! When I say, "Go!" the first person will pull the rope until the hoop reaches the start line.**

Then she will grab the hoop, race across the room, place the hoop behind the finish line, and then run back to tag the next person in line. (The rope should still extend back to the start line.) Let's see how long it takes us to complete the rescue mission!

Once all the kids have had a turn, affirm all the kids for being excellent rescuers. Then gather kids and continue: **Today we practiced our rescue skills, but God's ability to rescue is much greater. God rescued His people from Egypt and made the way for the people of Israel to escape through the Red Sea on dry ground! God is the best rescuer!**



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Responding in Worship: Walls of Water Worship

SUPPLIES: scissors (prep only), blue crepe paper streamers or thick blue ribbons (2'–3' per kid)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Connected Easter Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, cut 2'–3' of blue crepe paper streamers or blue ribbon for each kid. Give the kids the streamers.

After God rescued His people from Egypt and from Pharaoh's army, the people sang a song of praise to God. They worshiped to thank Him for His love, His power, and His great rescue. God rescued His people by making a strong wind blow the waters of the sea apart so there were walls of water on both sides. Then the people walked through the sea on dry land! Isn't that amazing? God rescues us from sin through Jesus. We can sing songs of praise to God too.

We're going to use our own pretend walls of water to praise God as we listen to a worship song. You can wave your streamer in the air to make a pretend wall of water. Demonstrate waving a streamer and let the kids practice. As you're doing this, think of some things in your mind that you want to pray and thank God for: some things about God, such as His power or His forgiveness; some things God has done for you, such as helping you with a problem; and some things God has given you. We'll listen to worship music, and you can sing and wave your streamer as you pray and praise God.

Play worship music from the [Connected Easter Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and worship God as they wave their streamers to create "walls of water" and thank God. You will need blue crepe paper streamers or blue ribbons again for the Closing Game, so you may want to keep them nearby.

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them and thank God that Jesus rescues us from sin!

Let's pray and thank God for His help. God, thank You so much that You care for Your people. You rescue us when we need it. We love 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 the Lord God, who rescues His people, remind you this week that He knows