



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 Is Powerful

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 6–12

WORD OF WONDER: From Jeremiah 32:17

I love this Bible story. God accomplished one of the greatest rescues known to humankind by working through a broken, imperfect man. Moses didn't think he was the right guy. He didn't think he had the skills God needed for the task. In fact, he seemed to have every excuse in the book as to why he couldn't do it.

This gives me so much hope. It reminds me that I don't need to have everything together to be effective for the Lord. God is powerful, and He doesn't need us to carry out His plan. But He chooses to work through us anyway.

God tells Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh" (Exodus 6:1). Did you catch that? It's not what Moses would do; it's what *God* would do.

Set aside time this week to read Exodus 6–12. As you do, notice all that God does. Keep a list or underline in your Bible. Rather than skim past the familiar parts of the story, pause to wonder at the incredible power of our God.

And guess what? God is still powerful. That same God who turned the Nile to blood and caused total darkness in Egypt is your God who loves you and wants you to depend on Him in every aspect of your life.

—**Kristi McElheney**

Children's and Parenting Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Moses was the great-grandson of Levi, one of Jacob's 12 sons. He was the youngest of three children. God worked through Pharaoh's daughter to raise Moses, so he would be protected from genocide. God had already planned to work through Moses to free the Israelites from slavery.

WHAT?

God used a series of 10 plagues to convince Pharaoh to let the Israelites leave, so they could worship God. God chose specific plagues that directly targeted the gods of Egypt to show that He was more powerful than their gods.

WHERE?

The Israelites lived in Goshen, in the northeastern portion of Egypt. God targeted the plagues to affect all the places the Egyptians lived while bringing no harm to the Israelites in the land of Goshen, further distinguishing His people as His.

WHEN?

God promised Abraham that his descendants would possess the land of Canaan and told them they would be slaves for 400 years. Freedom came for the Israelites after 400 years, just as God had said.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

God had a plan for redemption as soon as Adam and Eve sinned. He chose to show His power and carry out His plan just as He said He would through His chosen people, Israel—the people through whom our Savior, Jesus, would be born.



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Play Stations

SUPPLIES: bin, plastic bugs (several), small pebbles, small sticks, leaves, coloring utensils

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: The Exodus 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 you prepare for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas about what we'll be learning today?

Play Station: Bug Sensory Bin

Set up: Set out a bin with plastic bugs and small pebbles, small sticks, and leaves.

Play: Invite the kids to take turns playing in the bin with the bugs. Explain that in our story today, we're going to hear about how God used bugs and grasshoppers to help save His people!

Play Station: The Exodus Coloring Sheet

Set up: Ahead of time, print one copy per kid of the coloring sheets and set out coloring utensils.

Play: Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw a picture of someone or something that they think is powerful.



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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, thank You for being here with us today. We love You and want to hear from You today. Holy Spirit, help us listen to and understand God's big story. Help us remember that You're always powerful. 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 104-110

Ten Plagues

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **What was one of the plagues (or bad things) God sent the Egyptians?** (*turned the Nile river to blood, frogs, gnats, flies, sickness for animals, sores, hail, locusts, darkness, death of the oldest son*)
- **What did Moses say to Pharaoh when he went to talk to Pharaoh?** (*He asked Pharaoh to let God's people go free.*)
- **What did Pharaoh tell Moses when Moses asked him to let the Israelites go after each of the first nine plagues?** (*Pharaoh said, "No."*)
- **What did Pharaoh say after the last plague?** (*Pharaoh told the Israelites to GO!*)
- **Why do you think Pharaoh didn't want to let the Israelites go at first?** (*If the kids need help, offer ideas such as: Because the Egyptians needed them as workers; Pharaoh was stubborn.*)
- **What do you think is the most powerful thing on earth? Is God more powerful than that?**
- **Which of the plagues showed God's power the most?**

When you're having a hard time, you can ask God to help you. We saw in our story today that God takes care of His people. He still takes care of us. We can thank God for helping us. Let's talk to God now in prayer.

WORD OF WONDER

Nothing is too hard for God.

—from Jeremiah 32:17



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Craft: Plague Pictures

SUPPLIES: construction paper (1 sheet per kid), coloring utensils, kid-safe scissors, glue sticks

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Plagues Picture Sheet (1 per kid)

Ahead of time, print one copy of the Plagues Picture Sheet for each kid. Give each kid a piece of construction paper and coloring utensils. Set out kid-safe scissors and glue sticks.

In our story, we learned about how God rescued His people from Egypt. God showed His power through the plagues. He is powerful! Let's make a picture to remind us of all the ways God showed His power.

Encourage the kids to color and cut out each plague picture (younger kids may need help with cutting) and then glue the pictures to their construction paper (in the order in which each plague occurred, if they can!). When they finish, encourage them to share their creation with someone and use the pictures to tell the story of how God set the Israelites free.

You could also cut out the pictures of each plague and hold them up as flash cards, asking the kids to name each plague as you hold it up.

God used these plagues (bad things) to save His people from Egypt. The things showed God's power and caused the Egyptian king, Pharaoh, to tell the Israelites to leave Egypt. Take your picture home as a reminder that God is more powerful than anything!





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Game: Powerful Challenges

Today we learned from God's big story that God is powerful. God was powerful enough to set the Israelites free from Egypt. God can do anything! Let's do some powerful things to remind us that God is powerful! He is more powerful than any of us or any of our problems. I'll call out some things to do, and you do them as powerfully as you can.

Call out the following actions, and encourage the kids to do them:

- Jump down onto the ground as powerfully as you do.
- Lift the heaviest thing you can lift in the room (not another child!).
- Do as many jumping jacks as you can.
- Jump the highest that you can and touch the wall.
- Run as fast as you can.
- Hold out an "Ahhhh" as long as you can, with one breath.
- Stomp as loud as you can.
- Jump as far out as you can.

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish the activity, pray with them and thank God for how powerful He is.

God, we praise You for how powerful You are. Thank You that You use your power to help us and save us. Nothing is more powerful than You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: God sees you, loves you, and is more powerful than any situation you will ever face! May you always trust Him, and may you see Him do powerful things in your life!