LESSON 2: MOSES

AIM: To show the children that a true hero is obedient and persistent. Moses learnt that he needed to obey God’s instructions and never give up – these two character qualities enabled him to lead the millions of Israelites out of Egypt and through the wilderness.

MEMORY VERSE: We will serve the Lord our God and obey Him. (Joshua 24v24)

PRESENTATION SUGGESTION: Write verse on burning bush shape

STORY: Exodus 7-12

As a lead-in to this story, have the children participate by answering questions about Moses’ early life, e.g.

1. A long, long time ago, a special baby boy was born to an Israelite family living in Egypt. This baby’s name started with M… who was he? (Moses)
2. The king of Egypt wanted to get rid of all baby boys so Moses’ parents hid the baby. How did they do this? (They put him in a waterproof basket on the river)
3. Moses had a sister who hid in the bullrushes to look out for baby Moses. What was her name? (Miriam)
4. Who found the baby and brought him up as her own? (The princess, Pharaoh’s daughter).

When Moses grew up …

God often talks to people in different ways. Last week we heard in the story of Joseph how God spoke through dreams. When God spoke to Moses he used a bush. Who has ever seen a tree or bush burning? What happens to it? (Take a box of matches to illustrate this point. Light one or more and show the results of burnt wood). Moses watches this bush for some time, fascinated by it, and then God spoke to him, and told him that He wanted Moses to do a very special job. Moses was to take all the millions of God’s people who were being treated like slaves out of Egypt and into their very own land. Moses felt very afraid, but eventually agreed to do what God asked.
God promises Moses that He would be with him all the way. So Moses went to the king (Pharaoh) and asked him to free God’s people from slavery, but the king refused and commanded that life be made even harder for the Israelites. So God told Moses to return to the king while he was at the riverbank and touch the water with his shepherd’s rod. As Moses did so, all the water in Egypt turned to blood, and it lasted for seven days.

God told Moses to go back to the king and ask him again to let the people go. When he refused, Moses’ brother, Aaron, was told by God to stretch out his rod over the river, and God sent a plague of frogs that covered everything and everybody. The king could not stand the slippery slimy frogs in his bed, his bath, his soup, his shoes, etc., and he promised to let the Israelites go free if Moses could get rid of the frogs. Moses prayed to God, and God destroyed the frogs. But the king broke his promise and would not let the slaves go free.

So God sent a plague of lice (fleas), and then flies, and then all the Egyptians’ cattle, sheep and goats, etc., died. But still the king broke his promises, and would not let the people go. Then God sent huge hail stones that destroyed everything, and after that, a plague of locusts (grasshoppers) ate all the crops, and then darkness covered the land for three days – yet still the king would not let the slaves go.

Moses continued to be faithful to God, and kept going back to the king, pleading for the release of the Israelites. Finally, God decided to take the life of the firstborn child of every Egyptian family. This was the only thing that would make the king change his mind. This was the tenth plague, and because the king’s own firstborn son died, he agreed to let God’s people go, and Moses was the man to be the leader of the millions of men, women and children who left the slavery of Egypt for the new land that God promised them.

Moses had learned to obey exactly what God said, and trusted God when he was fearful and afraid because he believed God’s promise that He would never leave him. Moses earned his leadership position by showing that he could be obedient and trustworthy.

GAME: MOSES WENT SHOPPING
Sit the children in a circle, or if the group is large, have more than one circle operating at the same time. First child starts with an article that Moses would need for his trip through the wilderness, then each following child must remember the previous articles and add one more of their own, e.g.

Child 1: Moses went shopping and bought a water bag...
Child 2: Moses went shopping and bought a water bag and sunglasses...
Child 3: Moses went shopping and bought a water bag, sunglasses and a hat...
Child 4……etc.

The children who cannot remember accurately are out of the game. If you are going to award a prize, it is probably good to reward everyone with a lolly at the end rather than just the winner.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES:
2. Decode the Message Moses took to Pharaoh
3. Puzzles and worksheets.
GOD LED HIS PEOPLE OUT OF EGYPT INTO THE PROMISED LAND

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Moses was obedient to God. He went back to Egypt and asked the pharaoh to let the Israelites go. Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not let them go. Moses never gave up, he was persistent. Moses had faith in God even when he was afraid. God sent ten plagues to make pharaoh change his mind. Pharaoh was a powerful enemy but Moses trusted God because God keeps His promises. Pharaoh finally let the Israelites leave the land of slavery. God led them into the promised land and blessed them abundantly.
THE MESSAGE MOSES TOOK TO PHARAOH

Use the code to find out what he wanted Pharaoh to do...

ANSWER: Let my people go
God Speaks to Moses

How did God get Moses' attention? What did God say to Moses?

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________
One day, while Moses was watching the sheep on a mountaintop, he noticed a bush.

**Genesis 31:41-46**

**The Burning Bush**

As Moses watched, the bush burst into flames. It burned and burned, but the leaves stayed green. "What's going on?"

"Weird!" cried Moses, "How can I lead God's people to freedom?"

"God said, 'He will come back to Egypt to lead his people. And I will be with you. So Moses, do not be afraid!"

"But, I don't want you to lead, Lord."

"I have seen what they did to the Israelites. I have heard their cries and their prayers. I am going to set them free, to lead them to a land of milk and honey, and I am choosing you to be their leader!"
# THE PLAGUES

Find the words listed below in the word search on the next page.

- Frogs
- flies
- gnats
- Blood
- Livestock
- Firstborn
- Locust
- Boils
- Darkness
- Hail

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SPOT THE MISTAKES

The plague of frogs invades Pharaoh’s palace.
Who is standing next to Moses in the picture?
You can read about this in Exodus 8:1–15.
As a baby, Moses was put in a basket and hidden among the reeds of the river Nile.
Which path does the Egyptian princess take to baby Moses?
You can read about this in Exodus 2:1-10.