

LESSON 28

God Calls Moses

EXODUS 2:11 – 4:31



BIBLE TRUTH

GOD CALLED HIS SERVANT MOSES TO DELIVER HIS PEOPLE FROM BONDAGE

LESSON SNAPSHOT

1. OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION 5 MIN

SUPPLIES: Puppet

2. BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

SUPPLIES: *The Gospel Story Bible* (story 28)

3. BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION 5 MIN

Where Is Jesus?

SUPPLIES: Bible (ESV preferred); Review “Where Is Jesus?” to prepare

4. SNACK QUESTIONS 10 MIN

SUPPLIES: Snack food/water

5. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5–10 MIN

6. ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE) 20–30 MIN

Coloring Page 28

SUPPLIES: markers/crayons

Act It Out

SUPPLIES: butane long stick lighter; broomstick

Holy Ground

7. CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN

TOTAL 60–75 MIN

THE LESSON

OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION 5 MIN

In today’s lesson the children will hear the story of how God appeared to Moses in the burning bush.

This opening is designed to help the children understand that God is not like us. He is holy, and even his name is different.

Puppet: Teacher, what is God’s name?

Teacher: Well, God’s name is “I Am.”

Puppet: (*interrupting*) I am? What kind of name is “I am?”

Teacher: It is the name God told Moses to use.

Puppet: “I am” is not a name. Harry or John or Fred are names. “I am?” That is not a name; it is a statement like “I was.” Can you imagine your mom calling out, “I am, time to come in.” No one would get it.

Teacher: You don’t understand, Puppet. God is not like us. Any ordinary name would not be big enough to describe God. “I am” is a name that never ends. “I am” is never over, never complete. Why, “I am” stands for always. You see, God is bigger than words can describe. That is why he used the name “I am.”

Puppet: I guess I forgot that God is Holy and so much different than I am, I mean than me is. Oh, never mind.

Pray for the remainder of the class time before moving forward with the lesson.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read story 28, “God Calls Moses,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION 5 MIN

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion:

- What is this story about?
(*The story is about God calling Moses to deliver Israel from the Egyptians.*)

- What did Moses see?
(a burning bush that did not burn up)

- What does it mean to deliver the Israelites?
(To rescue them from the Egyptians who were treating the Israelites as slaves and forcing them to do their work.)

- Did Moses think he would be able to do this job?
(No, he didn't think he could do it, and he didn't think the people would believe him when he told them that God had sent him to deliver Israel.)

SNACK QUESTIONS 10 MIN

While the children are eating the snack, engage them by asking:

- What do you think the burning bush looked like?
(Accept any answer.)

- What would you do if you saw a bush burning, but it was not being burned up?
(Accept any answer.)

- What did the Lord do to Moses' staff?
(He used it in miraculous signs like turning it into a snake.)

- Why did God give these miraculous signs to Moses?
(so that the people he spoke to could see them and believe)

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5-10 MIN

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Passage: Hebrews 11:23–26

Verse 26 tells us two things. First, Moses believed that God would send the world a Savior through the Israelites. This Savior was Jesus, who was born more than 1,300 years later. Also, the verse tells us that Moses wanted to be part of God's plan of salvation more than he wanted all the pleasures and riches he could have in Pharaoh's household.

God gave grace to Moses to see these things. So, to Moses, all the earthly treasures of Egypt were meaningless.

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS. 20–30 MIN

Coloring Activity

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ coloring page 28—one copy for each child

While the children are coloring, engage them by asking the following questions:

- What color should the bush be if it is not burning up?
(*green*)

Have the children color the bush green.

- What color are the flames?
(*yellow and orange*)

Have the children color the flames.

- What did Moses take off his feet?

(sandals)

Have the children draw a pair of sandals off to the side.

- Why did God ask Moses to take off his sandals?

(God told him the ground was holy. Taking his sandals off was one way that Moses could show his respect for the power and holiness of God.)

Act It Out

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ butane long stick lighter
- ✓ broomstick

This is a great story to tell with a few props.

Retell the story of Moses using the staff to help you pretend to climb the mountain to the burning bush. When you mention the bush, show them the lighter and click a flame on. Just having the fire burning in front of them will make your story come to life. Then take off your own shoes at the appropriate time. Finally, throw down the broomstick when you tell them about how God turned it into a snake.

Then you can pretend to be confused about why your staff didn't turn into a snake. Pick it back up and try throwing it down several different ways. Ham it up. Then ask the children why Moses' staff turned into a snake and yours didn't. Steer them to understand that it was the power of God that changed the staff as a sign for Pharaoh, not as a trick to be repeated in a classroom.

Holy Ground

God said to Moses, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground" (Exodus 3:5).

- Do you think that Moses would have taken his sandals off quickly or slowly?

(quickly)

■ Why did God want Moses to take off his sandals?

(Because God is holy and Moses needed to show respect; Moses was a sinner and could not walk with his dirty shoes on the ground where God was present.)

Use the illustration of brand new carpet and muddy shoes to help the children understand that Moses was unclean and his feet were unclean.

Ask the children: “Who thinks they could take off their shoes the quickest?” Pick four volunteers and have them line up in two rows of two. Have two children compete at the same time. When you say “Go” have them slowly walk forward. At some point tell them to stop for the ground they are walking on is holy ground. Then tell them to take off their shoes. See who takes their shoes off fastest. Repeat this game with the second pair of children.

The children are likely to have fun and laugh. Ask them if they think Moses laughed when God had him take off his shoes. Explain to them that God was not playing any games and that apart from God’s grace Moses would have been killed in God’s presence.

PRAY **5 MIN**

Take time at the end of class to thank God for all you learned today. Include parts of your Bible lesson in your prayer as another way for the children to remember what today’s lesson was about.

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