

LESSON 27

# God Protects Baby Moses

GENESIS 50; EXODUS 1:1–2:10



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**BIBLE TRUTH**

SALVATION COMES FROM GOD IN AN UNEXPECTED WAY

LESSON SNAPSHOT

- 1. OPENING REVIEW** . . . . . **5 MIN**  
 Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.
- 2. BIBLE STORY** . . . . . **10 MIN**  
 Read Exodus 2:1–10 from the Scriptures or read story 27, “God Protects Baby Moses,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.
- 3. OBJECT LESSON 1** . . . . . **20 MIN**  
 Make a Basket  
**SUPPLIES:**  
 ✓ large stack of newspapers  
 ✓ stapler
- 4. TEACHING/DISCUSSION** . . . . . **10 MIN**
- 5. OBJECT LESSON 2** . . . . . **10 MIN**  
 Blessing in Fearing God
- 6. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY** . . . . . **5 MIN**
- 7. ACTIVITY TIME** . . . . . **15 MIN**  
 Baby Moses  
**SUPPLIES:**  
 ✓ modeling clay
- 8. CLOSING PRAYER** . . . . . **5 MIN**
- 9. BONUS OBJECT LESSON** . . . . . **10 MIN**  
 Baby in a Basket  
**SUPPLIES:**  
 ✓ basket and baby doll to be used as baby Moses  
 ✓ rag to swaddle the baby  
 ✓ thirty-foot length of clear fishing line  
 ✓ various simple costumes like a few old flat sheets to use as robes over clothes and ropes to tie around the waist (optional)

**TOTAL 90 MIN**

## PREPARING TO TEACH

## TEACHING POINTS

**God promises to deliver Egypt**—By this time the Israelites have been living in Egypt for some time. Jacob is long dead and now Joseph is dying. Even when Joseph is near death we see him thinking about the plan and purpose of God. He makes the sons of Israel swear to carry his bones back to the land of promise. When Joseph says, “God will visit you and bring you up out of this land” (Genesis 50:24), we get a hint of the deliverance from Egypt that will one day come. Joseph trusts God through times of suffering and times of blessing.

**Pharaoh fears and tries to destroy Israel**—More than three hundred years go by. The people of Israel are still in Egypt and a new king has taken power who knows nothing about Joseph and how he had served Egypt. This king, called Pharaoh, is afraid of the Israelites because there are so many of them.

He orders the destruction of every Israelite son so the people of Israel will not become too strong. But in doing so, Pharaoh is fighting against God and trying to kill people who belong to the Lord. As a result, his plan fails, and the Israelites grow stronger.

**God brings salvation through a baby**—When she can hide her growing son no longer, Moses’ mother places him in a basket to float in a quiet spot on the river’s edge near where Pharaoh’s daughter bathes. Moses’ sister watches from a distance to see what happens. Not only does Pharaoh’s daughter take pity on baby Moses, she decides to adopt him. Moses’ sister sees what is happening, comes over, and offers to find a woman to nurse the baby. She brings Moses’ own mother, who then takes care of Moses and is paid for it by Pharaoh’s daughter!

## A LITTLE BIT MORE

*Save*

The word save means rescue and is often used in the Bible in reference to how God works to spare someone’s life or to spare someone suffering. Joseph tells his brothers that God sent him ahead of them to Egypt to save lives. What good would it do a man to be saved from all earthly harm only to die an eternal death? The greatest peril that God saves us from is the penalty of our sin (see Psalm 39:8). Hebrews calls this being saved to the uttermost (see Hebrews 7:25).

## WHERE IS JESUS? \_\_\_\_\_

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

Read Acts 7:17–22; Matthew 2:13–16.

Moses' life foreshadows or is a picture of Jesus.

Moses' life was threatened from the very beginning. So was the life of Jesus. God saved Jesus by having his family flee to Egypt. God saved Moses from the destruction of Pharaoh by having him live in Pharaoh's own home! Moses was no ordinary child. He would grow up to become the savior of Israel. Jesus was no ordinary child, either. He would grow up to become the Savior of the world. Both Moses and Jesus were mediators, someone who stands between God and his people.

## THE LESSON

### OPENING REVIEW . . . . . 5 MIN

Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

### BIBLE STORY . . . . . 10 MIN

Read Exodus 2:1–10 from the Scriptures or read story 27, "God Protects Baby Moses," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

### OBJECT LESSON 1 . . . . . 20 MIN

#### Make a Basket

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ large stack of newspapers
- ✓ stapler

Divide the class into groups of four to five. Explain to the class that you are going to have a basket-making contest. Each of the groups represents a family in Egypt around the year 1526 BC. They are trying to weave a basket as fast as they can to provide a way for their baby to float down the river.

A simple plaited basket can be made out of newspaper by creating two separate components. First, the ribs can be made by rolling up a sheet of newspaper. Take two of these and make a cross. Take two more and make a second cross. Lay the second cross over the first to form a starlike pattern. A staple can be used to hold these together. Smaller strips of newspaper can be rolled or crumpled to form the material woven over and under these ribs. For extra help, check out a book on basket weaving from the library or do a search on the Internet.

Tell the teams they have ten minutes to make a basket. Team members should divide the workload, some making ribs and some the strips for in between. Lay the finished baskets on a table, and use them as a backdrop to read the story and talk about all that God did.

Then ask the class the following questions:

- **Why were the Egyptians afraid of the Israelites?**  
*(The Israelites were increasing in number and were causing the Egyptians to fear that they might revolt against them.)*
  
- **How did God save Moses from the evil command of Pharaoh?**  
*(God had Moses' mother and sister float him downriver in a basket.)*
  
- **How is this similar to what God did in Noah's day?**  
*(The basket was like the ark in that it saved Moses from destruction just as the ark saved Noah and his family from destruction. The theme of salvation follows God's people for out of the people of God would eventually come our Lord Jesus.)*

**TEACHING/DISCUSSION . . . . . 10 MIN**

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

**OBJECT LESSON 2 . . . . . 10 MIN**

**Blessing in Fearing God**

Have the children read and compare Proverbs 16:6 and Exodus 1:17 and tell you how they relate. The proverb says that a person who fears the Lord will avoid evil, just like the response of the midwives to Pharaoh's command. Exodus 1:21 tells us that God blessed the midwives with families of their own.

Ask the children the following questions.

■ **Why did the midwives fear God?**

*(They feared God, who could bring judgment on them for their sin. They believed God knew everything they did and would know of their evil deeds.)*

■ **What stands in our way of fearing God?**

*(Often the fear of man stands in our way. We become more concerned with what people around us think than with what God thinks.)*

Look up Proverbs 29:25 to see what the Bible says about the fear of man.

**SWORD BIBLE MEMORY . . . . . 5 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.

**ACTIVITY TIME . . . . . 15 MIN**

**Baby Moses**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ modeling clay

Have the children make a baby Moses in a basket out of modeling clay.

**CLOSING PRAYER . . . . . 5 MIN**

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day's scripture passages.

**BONUS OBJECT LESSON . . . . . 10 MIN**

**Baby in a Basket**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ basket and baby doll to be used as baby Moses
- ✓ rag to swaddle the baby
- ✓ thirty-foot length of clear fishing line
- ✓ various simple costumes like a few old flat sheets to use as robes over clothes and ropes to tie around the waist (optional)

Tie the fishing line to the basket. It can be used to pull the basket across the floor, simulating the Nile's current moving the basket down river. Set up one end of your classroom as Moses' home and the other end as Pharaoh's palace. Act out the scene using the baby and the basket. Have Moses' mom place the basket in the river and then have his sister follow at a distance. Assign one student to play the river and pull the baby across the classroom to the palace where a group of children can play Pharaoh's daughter and her attendants.

Use this short skit as a way to open discussion about how amazingly God saved Moses from Pharaoh's decree.