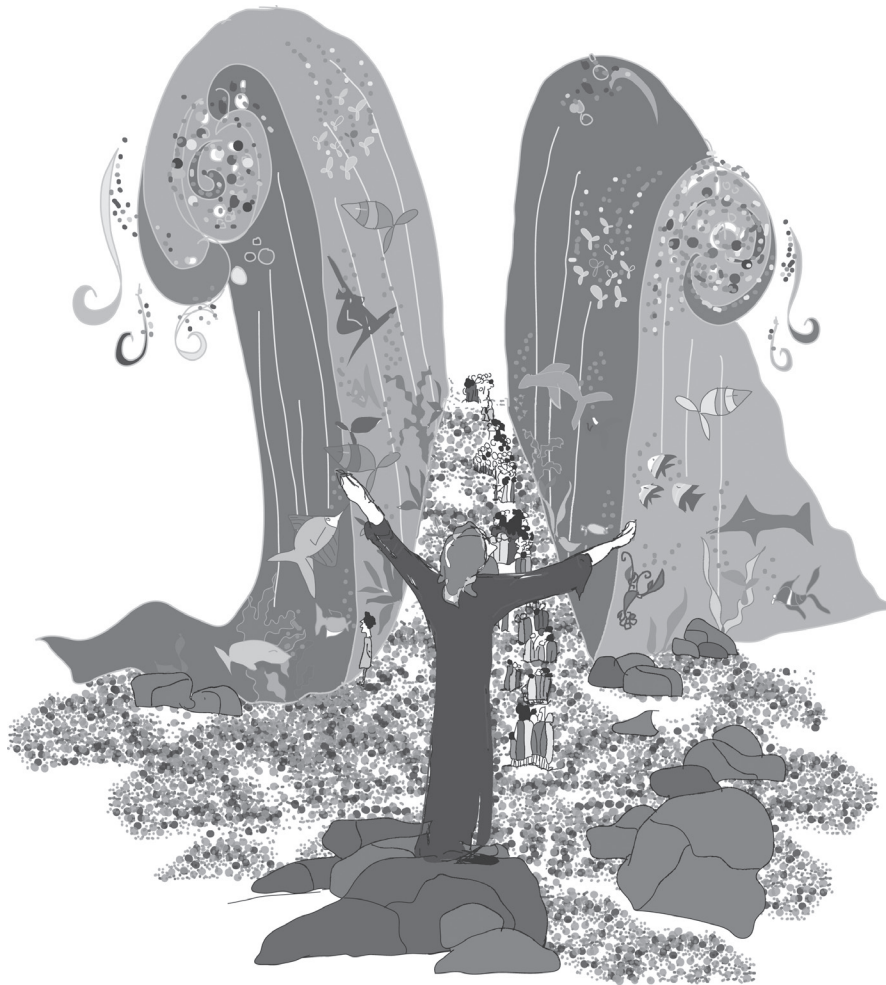


LESSON 32

# God Parts the Red Sea

EXODUS 13:1 – 14:31



---

**BIBLE TRUTH**

THERE IS NO OBSTACLE BIG ENOUGH TO HINDER  
THE ADVANCE OF GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

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 14 from the Scriptures or read story 32, "God Parts the Red Sea," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.
3. **OBJECT LESSON 1** . . . . . **10 MIN**  
Unbelief Leads to Complaining
4. **TEACHING/DISCUSSION** . . . . . **10 MIN**
5. **OBJECT LESSON 2** . . . . . **10 MIN**  
Free from Fear  
**SUPPLIES:**
  - ✓ pencils and paper
  - ✓ whiteboard and dry-erase markers
6. **SWORD BIBLE MEMORY** . . . . . **5 MIN**
7. **ACTIVITY TIME** . . . . . **15 MIN**  
Blood on the Door Frame  
**SUPPLIES:**
  - ✓ pencils
  - ✓ paper
  - ✓ red markers
8. **CLOSING PRAYER** . . . . . **5 MIN**
9. **BONUS OBJECT LESSON** . . . . . **10 MIN**  
A Reminder  
**SUPPLIES:**
  - ✓ large pencil eraser cut into the shape of the letter *P* (or a *P* rubber stamp)
  - ✓ washable red stamp pad

**TOTAL 75 MIN**

## PREPARING TO TEACH

### TEACHING POINTS

**Remember the Passover**—On the day the Israelites leave Egypt, Moses speaks to them on God’s behalf. He wants the Israelites never to forget how God helped them to escape from Egypt. So he does two things to help them remember.

He tells them to keep observing the Passover year after year. He also tells them that when they enter the Promised Land they are to kill a lamb for every firstborn son. In this way the sons shall be “redeemed.” This is to remind Israel how God spared them from the final plague in Egypt.

God wanted Passover to be the most important time of the year for the Israelites. This is because he had planned something like the Passover, only much more wonderful. That plan was that one day the Redeemer, the Messiah, the Savior, died to save people from eternal death. Jesus became the ultimate Passover lamb.

**Be ready to go**—Moses had told the Israelites to celebrate the Passover all dressed and ready as if they were about to go on a journey. The people obeyed Moses and did as he said. They did not know that while they were still wearing the Passover clothes, Pharaoh would tell Moses that the Israelites must leave Egypt. Pharaoh must have been amazed at how quickly all those people were able to go into the wilderness!

Now, we read that Pharaoh quickly changes his mind about letting the people go. He begins to chase after them with his army and six hundred chariots. If the people had not been ready to leave Egypt quickly, they probably would not have been able to leave at all.

**Trust in the Lord**—When the Israelites see that the Egyptians have caught up to them, they are afraid. But Moses is brave. He commands the Israelites not to fear but to trust God to help them.

God puts a pillar of cloud between the Egyptians and the Israelites. The cloud stays there all night. While the cloud protects the Israelites from Pharaoh and his army, God begins to work through Moses to part the Red Sea that stands in the way of the Israelites. In the morning, the Israelites cross the sea on dry ground. When they reach the other side, the Egyptians are

crossing the sea, chasing after them. God works through Moses to close up the sea, and all of Pharaoh's army is drowned.

Not only does God save his people, Israel. He destroys their enemy forever. In the same way, God's Son, Jesus, will save us and destroy our enemy, death, forever.

## A LITTLE BIT MORE

### *Angel of God*

The Angel of God is no ordinary angel but the manifestation of God himself. After wrestling with the Angel of God, Jacob declared that he had seen God face to face (Genesis 32:30). The Angel of the Lord also appeared to Moses and again spoke as God. The Angel of God was in the pillar of cloud that moved from in front of Israel to behind them to shield them from their pursuers.

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

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

Read Exodus 14:8–9; Romans 9:17.

In these passages, we learn something more about God's purposes. Paul tells us in Romans that it was God who put Pharaoh on the throne of Egypt. He also tells us why. He did it to show his power through the life of Pharaoh, so that God's name would be proclaimed in all the earth.

The story of the parting of the Red Sea has been told millions of times, but often the most important part of the story is not mentioned. Because the Israelites escaped from Pharaoh's army, one day a child named Jesus was born in Bethlehem to the nation of Israel. To this day, God's name is proclaimed through the life of Pharaoh and the story of how God parted the Red Sea.

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 14 from the Scriptures or read story 32, “God Parts the Red Sea,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

**OBJECT LESSON 1 . . . . . 10 MIN**

Unbelief Leads to Complaining

Read Exodus 14:11–12, Israel’s response to the approaching Egyptians. Then ask the class the following questions:

- When the Egyptians began to close in on the Israelites, they began to complain and say odd things. What were some of these?  
*(The Israelites said that they had told Moses to leave them in Egypt and assumed that they were now going to die in the wilderness. The truth is that they all came along freely with Moses.)*
  
- In what situations might we complain when things don’t go our way?  
*(We usually complain when we don’t get what we want. The Israelites demonstrated their love of comfort. They wanted to follow God as long as it did not require anything of them. We can have a similar posture, being willing to follow God as long as it does not cost us anything.)*
  
- How was God’s grace demonstrated to the Israelites in spite of their complaining?  
*(The Israelites could have been judged for not trusting in God but instead were protected by God. Similarly we are spared, protected, and saved by the grace of God made available to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.)*

Invite the children to share stories from their lives when they fell into the sin of complaining. Try to help them understand how we are just like the Israelites.

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

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

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

Free from Fear

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ pencils and paper
- ✓ whiteboard and dry-erase markers

Ask the class to make a list of situations where children their age are most likely to become afraid and not trust God. Invite them to write down at least three situations.

After you have allowed five minutes or so, solicit volunteers to share some of their answers. Make a list on the board. Then ask them what Israel learned from the experience of being saved through the Red Sea. Finally, ask them how salvation and Jesus' death on the cross should work to build our faith.

**WORD BIBLE MEMORY . . . . . 5 MIN**

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

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

Blood on the Door Frame

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ pencils
- ✓ paper
- ✓ red markers

Have the children use pencils to draw a house, big enough to show a door frame. Then pass out red markers and have them mark the door frame with red.

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

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

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

**A Reminder**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ large pencil eraser cut into the shape of the letter *P* (or a *P* rubber stamp)
- ✓ washable red stamp pad

Read Exodus 13:3–16. Ask the children why God wanted his people to celebrate the Passover every year. (He wanted them to remember what he did in delivering Israel from the Egyptians, and he wanted the Passover to continue to point to Jesus until Jesus came.)

Tell the children that you are going to stamp each of their hands with a red letter *P*. Tell them that if anyone asks about the red *P* they should say that they learned about the Passover in class today and that the letter *P* reminds them that the Passover pointed to Jesus.

Finally show them how something as simple as a stamp on their hand can serve as a reminder, just as the Passover reminded the Israelites.