

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 3 • Unit 6 • Week 3

MOSES AND THE EXODUS

OBJECTIVE:

To show the students that God protects and delivers His people using the story of the Exodus.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Supplies A glass of tomato juice and a napkin to cover it from view.

Say: Water is pretty important, isn't it? When you are really thirsty, you look forward to a nice cool glass of clear, refreshing water. But have you ever seen brown or rusty water come out of the tap? A bit disgusting, right? Maybe even a little worrisome! But what if your drinking water looked like this?

Do: Dramatically pull the napkin off the glass of tomato juice with a gasp.

Say: Scary! This is really just tomato juice, but in ancient Egypt once upon a time all the water turned to BLOOD!

That's just one of the things that happened to get the attention of the Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and the Egyptians. It was one of the 10 plagues that God used to get Pharaoh to set His people free from the brutal slavery they faced.

But that's a little ahead of the story. Let's go back and pick up where we were last time.

BIBLE LESSON:

Optional: To tell the story, you can use a flannel board set with Old Testament characters and background. Or you may choose to use a storybook that has pictures.

Say: Last time we talked about how God talked to Moses out of the burning bush.

- Ask: What did God want Moses to do? [Students respond.]
- Say: God wanted Moses to go to Egypt and ask Pharaoh to let the Israelites go. At first Moses was reluctant. But God convinced him that this was his job to do. So Moses went back to Egypt.
- Do: Summarize the story of God's deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt—Exodus 4:18-31 and chapters 5-14. Place special emphasis on God's protection of His people during the final plagues, His deliverance from Egypt and His final and complete deliverance from the Egyptians with the crossing of the Red Sea. It can be helpful to use a Bible storybook that summarizes the story of the Exodus.
- Say: God loved His people Israel. He saw how miserable they were in their slavery and He made the cruel, stubborn Pharaoh let them go. He used miracles, such as the plagues, to get Pharaoh's attention. And He parted the Red Sea so that the children of Israel could cross, then closed it up to drown all of those who were chasing them trying to take them back to slavery.

God delivers us today as well. God can deliver us from all kinds of problems and difficulties when we go to Him and ask for His help.

A special lesson that God wants us to get out of this story of Moses and the Exodus is that God delivers us from sin. Satan is like the mean Pharaoh who wants to keep us unhappy, doing bad things. But God works miracles in our lives to bring us out of those wrong things so that we can be free to follow His way of life. He provided His Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us so that our sins could be forgiven. And that is why we call Jesus Christ our Deliverer, or our Savior.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Have students perform the following play about God delivering the Israelites from Egypt. If the class is large, the narrator part can be split.

- Props: Rectangles of cloth for head coverings
Sticks for Moses' and Aaron's rods
Brown squares of construction paper to represent bricks
Canvas book or shopping bags for Israelites to use in packing up
Costume jewelry or candy necklaces for Egyptian(s) to give Israelites.

Narrator: The Israelites were taken captive as slaves in Egypt. The Pharaoh forced them to work hard to make bricks. They were not free. Life as a slave was miserable.

(Israelites make bricks. Look tired and unhappy.)

Narrator: God heard their cry and sent Moses to help them. But the Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go. God sent 10 plagues on Egypt, such as the plague of frogs and finally the death of the firstborn.

(Two Israelites walk on stage.)

Israelite 1: Were you scared last night when the death angel passed over?

Israelite 2: Yes, a little. But I knew that my family had done what Moses said to do, and that we would be protected. Now finally the stubborn king is letting us go!

Israelite 1: *(Packing some things.)* There wouldn't be time for our bread to rise, anyway, so it's a good thing Moses told us to eat unleavened bread this next week.

Egyptian: I see you are packing up to leave. Please take these things and go quickly before we all die! *(Gives Israelites jewelry.)*

Moses: Come on, everybody, follow me!

Aaron: We're finally leaving Egypt! We won't have to be slaves anymore!

Narrator: The children of Israel went out of Egypt with a high hand!

(Israelites give each other high fives.)

Narrator: After a few days, the Israelites find they are coming to the Red Sea.

Aaron: *(Running up to Moses.)* Moses, the children of Israel are scared! The army of Egypt is coming up behind us, and the Red Sea is in front of us!

Moses: Don't be afraid. Stand still and see how God will save us.

Narrator: And Moses stretched out his hand over the Red Sea, and God opened the water so the Israelites could walk through and become completely free from Egypt. And the children of Israel sang praise to God.

MUSIC:

From the United Church of God Hymnal, page 46, "His Mercy Never Fails," verse 3.

MEMORY VERSE:

Exodus 14:13, first part, "And Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD.'"

family activity

THE POINT:

God protects and delivers. We can see this in the story of Moses and the Exodus.

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

1. Discuss why God uses plagues to get people's attention.
2. Talk about what the Israelites did on the Passover.

MEMORY VERSE:

Exodus 4:13, first part "And Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid. Stand still and see the salvation of the LORD.'"