



LESSON 3 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sends Help to His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 1–2

WORD OF WONDER: Deuteronomy 7:9

The book of Exodus is my favorite in the whole Bible. It's a fascinating story; it introduces us to what God's salvation looks like, and it teaches us so much about the character of God. And yet, you can also look at the book of Exodus and wonder why God allowed His people to suffer for so long. Did they really have to be slaves?

Sometimes I look at the world around us or situations in my own life, and I wonder why. Why do people suffer? Why doesn't God step in and fix what I'm going through?

As you prepare to lead kids through this lesson, some of them may wonder the same thing. You might know some of their life situations and wonder along with them—why has God allowed this?

I don't know that we'll get the answers we want from God. But what I do know is that God is always faithful to send His help. Exodus 2 says that God heard the groaning of His people "and was concerned about them" (Exodus 2:25, NIV). He knew it was time to act.

God is always on time. He is faithful to help His people when we call to Him. Pray for the kids you'll be leading through this lesson—that they would see His faithfulness as He sends help to His people.

—Denise Morris Snyder

Spiritual Formation Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Moses' older sister was named Miriam. Along with their brother, Aaron, she played a large role in helping Moses lead Israel out of slavery in Egypt. After crossing the Red Sea, Miriam led worship and was called a prophet ([Exodus 15:20–21](#)).

WHAT?

Joseph and his family had all died, and many generations had passed. Pharaoh was afraid of the growing Hebrew population. He ordered that all Hebrews be put under slave drivers and all male Hebrew babies be murdered. Baby Moses was saved by God through an Egyptian princess.

WHERE?

This passage mainly takes place in Egypt within the land of Goshen. Goshen is a fertile land in the northeastern part of the country where the Nile runs into the Nile Delta, then out to the Mediterranean Sea. The Red Sea is just to the southeast.

WHEN?

Moses was born many years after Joseph and his brothers had died in Egypt, perhaps several centuries. After his birth in [Exodus 2](#), Moses grew up and fled to Midian after killing an Egyptian. In [Exodus 3](#), Moses encountered God at the burning bush and was sent to deliver the Israelites from Egyptian slavery.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

God worked through Moses to deliver Israel from slavery in Egypt. Years later, Jesus, the Messiah, accomplished an even greater deliverance, saving people from sin and death. This salvation reaches to the ends of the earth, available to all who call on Jesus' name.



Curiosity

LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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Curiosity Activity: Will It Float?

SUPPLIES: translucent bowl or bin, water, various small items that can float (such as pom-poms, plastic straw, etc.), various sinking items (rocks, heavy toys, etc.)

Before kids arrive, fill the clear bowl or bin with water. Gather various items that will float or sink in the water. Invite kids to gather around the bowl or bin.

You get to help determine which items float and which ones will sink! I'll hold one up at a time, and you will guess whether it will float or sink. Then I'll drop it into our water, and we'll see if we were right! Ready? Great!

One by one, hold up the various items, asking the kids each time whether they think the item will sink or float. Then drop it into the water carefully to see whether the kids guessed correctly. Intersperse items that float with items that sink.

It was fun guessing whether something would float or sink! This reminds me of how God helps His people. With God's help, we know we will "float" in any situation that happens to us. God helps His people just when they need it most! We'll learn today about a time when God helped someone in a unique way!



Belief

LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Guide kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

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Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God’s big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, we believe that You help Your people. We trust in Your timing. Help us listen and hear from You today. We love and trust You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

God’s Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this? *The Bible*

Ask: Why is the Bible important? *Because it is God’s word. Everything in it is true. It really happened.*

TELL THE BIBLE STORY

The Beginner’s Bible, pages 92-97

A Baby in a Basket

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **To protect him from Pharaoh, what did Moses’ mother do?** (*put him in a basket in the river*)
- **How did God help Baby Moses and his family when Pharaoh’s daughter pulled him out of the Nile?** (*God used Moses’ sister to bring his mother to Pharaoh’s daughter.*)
- **What would Moses do later in his life?** (*lead the people out of Egypt*)
- **How did God show His faithfulness to Moses?**
- **Where have you seen God’s help in your life?**
- **How can we remember that God is faithful when we experience tough times?**

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

**He is the faithful God. He keeps his
covenant of love to a thousand generations
of those who love Him.**

— Deuteronomy 7:9

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- **How has God shown us that He is faithful?**
- **What helps you to know that God is faithful?**



Faith

LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Help kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own story.

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Craft: Moses' Basket

SUPPLIES: half paper plate, baby Moses, muffin cup, die cut hands, blue crayon, glue

In our story, a basket was used for Moses to be saved! Today we're going to make our own baby Moses in a basket! God shows His people that He is faithful by sending help at just the right moment. Just like God helped one family and a whole nation, God helps us in little things as well as big things!

Allow kids to color the paper plate blue. Then glue the hands to the plate and add Moses in the muffin cup basket.





Identity

LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Create space for God to remind kids they are known, loved, led, and their lives can tell of God's wonder.

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Responding in Worship: Motions

SUPPLIES: basket, paper (optional)

To help us remember that God is faithful and helps us, we're going to ask God for help by doing some motions. Moving our bodies can help our minds remember who God is and what He does for us. Just like Moses' mother trusted in God's help when she placed her baby in the basket, we're going to show God we trust He'll help us by placing our needs in a basket.

Set the basket in a prominent place where the kids can access it easily. You can turn down the lights and play some soft music to help kids enter a state of worship. You can also give kids a sheet of paper to hold to symbolize their need.

Allow kids some time to think of where they need God's help. Then, lead kids through several symbolic motions:

- Hands to mouth: Have kids cup their hands to their mouths and whisper a prayer asking God for help.
- Lifted hands: Kids can lift their hands up to represent giving their prayer to God and trusting Him for help.
- Basket hands: Encourage kids to make a "basket" with their hands by cupping their hands together in front of them to remember God's faithfulness and help. Invite them to walk up to the basket one at a time and "drop" their prayer into the basket to symbolize their trust in God's help.

End with some quiet time praying to God individually.

Leader Tip: Some kids may want to share their prayer requests. Allow them to whisper their prayers to you as an act of worship.

10:45 Service

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking God for how He helps us.

God, we trust in Your faithfulness. We believe You will send Your help at just the right time. Give us eyes to see where You are at work in our lives. We give these prayer requests to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you see God's faithfulness in your life. May you trust that God will help you because He loves you. Amen.