

MOSES CONFRONTED PHARAOH

EXODUS 5-12



CHRIST CONNECTION: God showed His power so His people could be free. Jesus came to earth to rescue people from the power of sin. Everyone who trusts in Jesus will be free from sin and live with God forever.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why does sin keep us from God? Sin keeps us from God because He is holy.

KEY PASSAGE: The LORD hears, and rescues. Psalm 34:17

STORY POINT: God saved His people.



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

LEADER Bible Study

The confrontation between Moses and Pharaoh revealed the stark contrast between the powerful compassion of God toward His people and the heart-hardened pride of the Egyptian ruler. While challenging Pharaoh seemed an impossible task, God used Moses to showcase His glory through Moses' willingness to obey. Though Pharaoh's pride led to the demise of his people, we see in this story a picture of God's mercy to the Israelites. This serves as a foreshadow of the mercy Christ displayed on the cross by taking on Himself the punishment sinners deserved so that they might enjoy eternal life with Him.

Why was Pharaoh's heart so hardened against God? How did Moses and the Israelites trust God despite their circumstances?

Pharaoh's first response to Moses was to question God: "Who is the LORD that I should obey him by letting Israel go?" (Exodus 5:2). Pharaoh did not recognize God's power, nor did he wish to submit himself under any other authority. Pharaoh's disobedience was already leading him on a path of destruction, so God saw fit to further harden the ruler's heart as a means of displaying His own power over Pharaoh and the fake gods of Egypt.

Moses, despite communing with God so closely, still doubted His faithfulness amid the Israelites' suffering. Moses even accused God of causing trouble and making a mistake by choosing him as leader. Yet, God declared that the Egyptians would see His power, and in the end, surrender to His will. God repeated His covenant promises and reminded His people that He would be faithful to deliver them from Egypt and bring them to the land of promise. Through the suffering of slavery and desolation of the plagues, God's people waited. And upon hearing God's Passover instructions, they did as He commanded.

Consider Moses' difficulties in confronting Pharaoh, a man of great prestige. Then, reflect on the grace and mercy of God who reigns in sovereign power. Though it appeared impossible, God made good on His promises. Help kids see that Christ's sacrifice was the ultimate fulfillment of God's promise to redeem people from the bondage of sin. Just as the blood of the lamb saved the firstborn sons at Passover, Christ's blood now and forever frees us from sin.



PREPARE

THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



WELCOME

10-15 MINUTES

Greet preschoolers and open the session



LEARN

25-30 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers the story of the gospel



LOVE

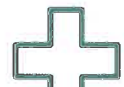
Lead preschoolers to love the God of the gospel

30-40 MINUTES



LIVE

Lead preschoolers to live the mission of the gospel



BONUS

60-65 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers for an additional hour



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep a supply of the following items available during all teaching sessions: Allergy Alert, Bibles, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, construction paper, copy paper, glue sticks, glue, tape, baby dolls, blocks, play dough, and a beanbag.



WELCOME

Read the secret message

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster
- ☐ large shallow bin
- ☐ shredded paper or rice
- ☐ "10 Plagues" printable, 1 copy



LIVE

Missions activity

- ☐ "Lottie Moon Photos" printable

Snack and Transition

- ☐ hand sanitizer (optional)
- ☐ "Draw Faces" activity page, 1 per child
- ☐ Big Picture Cards for Families



LEARN

Tell the Bible story

- ☐ "Moses Confronted Pharaoh" video (optional)

Review the Bible story

- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster
- ☐ "10 Plagues" printable, 1 copy

Learn and practice the key passage phrase

- ☐ Key Passage Phrase Marker



BONUS

Say the key passage phrase

- ☐ Key Passage Phrase Marker

List how God showed His power

- ☐ dry erase board or large paper

Retell the Bible story

- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster



LOVE

Play with farm animals

- ☐ farm animal figures
- ☐ toy barn

Make a frog

- ☐ art smocks
- ☐ green finger paint
- ☐ paper plate halves, 1 per child
- ☐ large googly eyes, 2 per child
- ☐ red and black construction paper
- ☐ wet wipes



WELCOME Preschoolers

Provide as many learning activities as possible from the Love and Live sections to give preschoolers choices to learn. Incorporate the Bible story, Christ Connection, story point, and key passage phrase in your conversations as the preschoolers engage in learning activities throughout the session.

Use the following activity to greet children as they enter the classroom. Talk about the big picture question and answer. After each child completes the welcome activity, encourage him to participate in the activities provided from the Love and Live sections of the leader guide.

READ THE SECRET MESSAGE

Prior to the session, print one copy of the "10 Plagues" printable and cut apart the pictures. Post the Big Picture Question Poster near the large shallow tub used last week. Add the cut apart pictures from the printable to the bin and cover with shredded paper or rice. Encourage the children to take turns digging in the shredded paper or rice and pulling out a picture. Put the pictures in order by the numbers in the corner of each picture and by naming the plagues. After the children find all of the images and place them in order, encourage them to hide them again for other children.

SAY Hi! I am so happy to see you! There are pictures hidden in our tub today. The king of Egypt, called a Pharaoh, did not want to let God's people leave. Every time Moses and Aaron asked for God's people to be allowed to leave Egypt, he would refuse. Each time he refused to obey God's command to free His people, God sent a plague to show His power. We will hear more in our Bible story, but let's look at the pictures now. God used the plagues to show His power. In our time together today we will learn how **GOD SAVED HIS PEOPLE**.

Worship

* Me and My House

* Light of the world

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 ANSWER QUESTIONS



Greet the children and ask questions that they will answer “no” to. Ask questions such as “Can you run as fast as a car?” “Can you jump over a giraffe?” “Can dogs fly?” “Is your house on the moon?”

SAY “Those were silly questions, weren’t they? We all know that dogs can’t fly and your house is not on the moon. What was your answer to every question? You said, “No!” Our Bible story is about a Pharaoh who said “no” to God over and over again. Moses kept asking him to do what God commanded.”

2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY *video*

Open your Bible to Exodus 5–12. Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling points. You may choose to review the Bible story by showing the video.

MOSES CONFRONTED PHARAOH

SAY “God sent Moses and his brother Aaron to talk to the Pharaoh of Egypt. They said to the Pharaoh, “God says, ‘Let My people go.’” Did the Pharaoh let God’s people go? No! The Pharaoh made God’s people work even harder.

Moses was upset. But God had a plan to show His power. Moses went back to the Pharaoh and said, “Let God’s people go!” What did the Pharaoh say? No!

So God sent ten plagues, or troubles, to the land of Egypt. First, the water in the river turned into blood. Then, frogs came and covered the land! The dust turned into gnats. Swarms of flies came. Then the farm animals died. After that, people got sick. Then storms came and ruined the plants. Locusts ate up the plants. And then, darkness came and covered the land.

Still, the Pharaoh did not let God’s people go. So God sent the last plague. First, God told His people how to stay safe. They put the blood of a lamb or goat over their doors. They put on their sandals and ate a meal. That night, God moved through Egypt. The firstborn son of each family in Egypt died. But God’s people who put blood over the door were safe.

Did the Pharaoh finally decide to let God’s people go? Yes! The Pharaoh said, “Go!”

Christ Connection: God showed His power so His people could be free. Jesus came to earth to rescue people from the power of sin. Everyone who trusts in Jesus will be free from sin and live with God forever.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Print one copy of the "10 Plagues" printable and cut apart the pictures. Assign the ten pictures to preschoolers willing to come to the front of the room. Have the children work together to get in the correct order. Each image is numbered for assistance.

SAY 🗣️ Look at all those plagues! The water turned to blood, frogs covered the land, dust turned to gnats, there were so many flies, the farm animals died, people got sick, storms came and ruined the plants, locusts ate up the plants, it got very dark even in the daytime, and then the oldest son in each family died. The Pharaoh's refusal to let God's people go lead to a lot of trouble. Pharaoh was separated from God because of his sin. Our big picture question and answer says, Why does sin keep us from God? Sin keeps us from God because He is holy. The plagues were bad but the good news is that **GOD SAVED HIS PEOPLE** told them how to be safe! God provides a way to rescue us, too. God sent Jesus so we could be free from sin and live with Him forever. 🙏

4 SING A SONG

Sing the song to the familiar tune of "Skip to My Lou":

Hear, hear, hear and rescue
Hear, hear, hear and rescue
Hear, hear, hear and rescue
The Lord hears and rescues

* "The Lord hears" worship video

5 LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Psalm 34:17. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Say the key passage phrase. Encourage the children to follow you around the room as you repeat the key passage phrase several times.

SAY 🗣️ God sent Moses and Aaron to talk to the Pharaoh of Egypt. God heard their prayers and had a plan to rescue them so they would be free. 🙏

6 PRAY

Pray, thanking God for saving His people from Pharaoh and for saving us by sending Jesus.

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





LOVE

THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God because of what we learned



1 PLAY OUT PLAGUES

Instruct preschoolers to spread out safely around the room. Have children copy your motions, playing out different plagues. Examples include hopping like a frog, moving fingers like rain, poking gently at their arms for boils, covering eyes for darkness.

SAY ☞ God knew that the Pharaoh of Egypt was being mean to His people. He told Moses and Aaron to go to Egypt and tell the Pharaoh to let God's people go. The Pharaoh refused each time he was asked, and each time God sent plagues to show His power. The plagues brought fear and frustration to the people. ☞

2 PLAY WITH FARM ANIMALS

Provide farm animal figures, toy barn, and blocks. Encourage the children to build a fence with the blocks for the animals. Talk about the animals and the ways they help families. Ask about the children's experiences with different farm animals.

SAY ☞ Farm animals provide for us in many ways. When Pharaoh refused to let God's people leave Egypt, one of the plagues that God sent was to cause the farm animals that belonged to the people of Egypt to die. God protected the farm animals that belonged to His people! ☞

3 MAKE A FROG

Complete the following prior to the session: cut paper plates into halves, cut strips of black paper into smiles, cut red strips of paper for tongues and accordion fold. Assist preschoolers with putting on art smocks. Place a small amount of green finger paint onto the halved plates and place within reach of each child. Encourage children to spread the paint over the front side of the plate. Assist children in attaching googly eyes to the straight edge of the plate. Assist children in gluing the smile onto the plate. Finally, glue the tongue onto the smile creating their frogs. Assist children with removing their art smocks and washing hands, using wet wipes if needed.

SAY ☞ Wow! Look at all of your frogs. Can you imagine how many frogs must have covered the land during the plague? What sound does a frog make? Can you all sound like a frog? That is a lot of noise. What do you think it would have been like to have so many noisy frogs around? ☞

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





LIVE

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE for God out of love

1 TALK ABOUT DARKNESS



Remind the children that darkness was one of the plagues in the land of Egypt. Even though it was daytime, the sky turned dark and there was no light. Encourage the children to cover their eyes to make it dark as they say the key passage phrase.

SAY “What would it be like if it got dark in the middle of the day! The people of Egypt probably wondered what was happening! God used ten different plagues to show His power and to encourage the Pharaoh of Egypt to let His people go.”

2 MISSIONS ACTIVITY



Print and display the “Lottie Moon Photos” printable. Explain to preschoolers that Lottie Moon and her sister were missionaries in China.

SAY “Lottie would go house to house to visit women in small villages. Lottie was brave in telling the Chinese people about Jesus. Lottie taught in a girls’ school and wrote articles about her work as a missionary in China. The church in China is growing, but there are still many people in China who need to know about the love of Jesus. [Lead a prayer.]”

3 SNACK AND TRANSITION



Post an Allergy Alert. Serve the snack. As children eat, review and talk about the Bible story. When children finish their snack, lead them to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ Connection.

SAY “God showed His power so His people could be free. Jesus came to earth to rescue people from the power of sin. Everyone who trusts in Jesus will be free from sin and live with God forever.”

Remember to communicate helpful information to the bonus teaching hour leaders. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something their child did well during the session. Distribute Big Picture Cards for Families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.



BONUS Teaching Hour Group Time

1 ACT OUT PLAGUES



Invite the children to gather with you for group time. Talk about each of the plagues and the consequences for the people. Ask volunteers to share which plagues they think would be the worst. Choose a simple motion for each plague and have the children copy you as you say the plagues in order.

2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY

Open the Bible to Exodus 5–12. Use the summarized points below to talk about the Bible story.

MOSES CONFRONTED PHARAOH

- God sent Moses and Aaron to talk to the king of Egypt. They said to the king, “God says, ‘Let My people go.’” The king said, “No.”
- God had a plan to show His power. He sent ten plagues, or troubles, to the land. The water turned into blood. Frogs and insects were everywhere. People and animals got sick. Storms came. Then darkness covered the land.
- Still, the king did not let God’s people go. So God sent the last plague. First, God told His people to put the blood of a lamb or goat over their doors. They ate a meal and put on their sandals.
- That night, God moved through Egypt. The firstborn son of each family in Egypt died. But God’s people who put blood over the door were safe.
- Finally, the king let God’s people go.

3 SING A SONG

Sing the song below to the tune of “Skip to My Lou”:

Hear, hear, hear and rescue
Hear, hear, hear and rescue
Hear, hear, hear and rescue
The Lord hears and rescues

4 SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Psalm 34:17. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Remind the children God’s people wanted the Pharaoh to let them go. Pass a doll around the room as you repeat the key passage phrase together several times.

5 PRAY

Pray, thanking God for hearing our prayers and helping us.



BONUS Teaching Hour Activities

6 PLAY A STOP AND GO GAME

Choose one person to be Pharaoh and give directions to the others. He might say, “Everybody jump. Go.” Then everyone will jump until Pharaoh says “stop.” Or he might give directions to a group such as “All the girls clap. Go.” Let the pharaoh choose several actions and then choose a new Pharaoh to lead the group.

SAY “ The Pharaoh of Egypt told God’s people what to do! He made them work hard all the time. After Moses told him to let God’s people go, he made them work even harder. Moses was upset. We are having fun playing a game with a Pharaoh telling us what to do, but when a real Pharaoh is mean and does things that hurt you, it is not fun. The good news is that God had a plan. God showed His power and sent plagues to make the king change His mind. **GOD SAVED HIS PEOPLE.** ”

7 LIST HOW GOD SHOWED HIS POWER

On a large piece of paper or dry erase board, copy down things children tell you God did to show His power to His people and the pharaoh of Egypt. Prompt them to name the ten plagues. Remind them how God cared for Moses by protecting him from the river, and having the king’s daughter decide raise him. Remind them God also protected His people when their first born sons did not die. Comment that God took care of His people even when He caused bad things to happen to the people of Egypt.

SAY “ Let’s see if we can make a list of the things that God did to show His power. The Pharaoh of Egypt thought that he was powerful but we know God is even more powerful! What do you remember that God did? ”

8 RETELL THE BIBLE STORY

Show the Bible Story Picture Poster and retell the Bible story. Stop frequently as you retell the story and ask the children to show you how the people must have felt. Encourage them to show their emotions on their faces and also with their actions.

SAY “ Let’s think about the people of Egypt and the king of Egypt as we listen to the story again. Show me how you think the Egyptians felt. (Tell the story, and stop asking questions about their feelings.) Let’s listen to the story again. Show me how you think God’s people felt? Remember that the bad things that happened to the Egyptians, did not happen to God’s people! God’s people were sad and tired though because the king made the work harder and harder! ”

Release preschoolers to parents according to your church’s security procedure. Tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.