

UNIT 4 | SESSION 3

PreK 1/19/25

# MOSES PARTED THE RED SEA

EXODUS 13-15



**CHRIST CONNECTION:** God made a way for His people to be saved. He parted the Red Sea so that His people could live. By sending Jesus, God made the way for us to be saved from our sin. We can trust Him and be thankful.

**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:** The LORD performed miracles and rescued His people.



## PREPARE

### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## LEADER Bible Study

The parting of the Red Sea is one of the most incredible accounts in Scripture. After God freed His people through the events of the Passover, He performed this amazing miracle to deliver them from danger and secure their hearts in worship to Him alone. In this passage, we see glimmers of an even greater miracle—the salvation of God’s people, once and for all time, through Christ’s miraculous sacrifice on our behalf.

Why did God lead His people into the hardships of the wilderness? What was God’s intention for rescuing His people from slavery?

While God led His people on a route that took longer and was different than expected, His divine purpose in doing so was for their good. But even more, He knew the waywardness of His people’s hearts and that the external threat of war would only intensify their inclination to doubt His provision. God led them to the perfect location to display His power and test their trust in Him.

In Exodus 7, God instructed Moses to tell Pharaoh, “The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to tell you: Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the wilderness.” The parting of the Red Sea was certainly enough to inspire worship as the people watched the Lord bring deliverance through the most surprising of means. Just as Moses had spoken, the threat of the Egyptians on that day would never worry them again. God revealed His awe-inspiring power through the parting of the Red Sea, though such a rescue seemed impossible. Like the Israelites, we can know that God will receive glory and that all who place their faith in Jesus will live in the hope of His salvation. Just as God’s people walked through the sea on dry ground, anyone who turns to Christ for salvation will pass through judgment and into eternal life.

Consider the internal and external factors that keep you from giving God the worship He deserves. Pray for the same understanding from the boys and girls who will learn from you today, that they would turn to Christ and receive His miraculous offer of salvation.



## 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
- ☐ large seashells, 6



### LEARN

#### Tell the Bible story

- ☐ "Moses Parted the Red Sea" video (optional)

#### Review the Bible story

- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster
- ☐ clear bowls, 2
- ☐ dry sand
- ☐ wet sand
- ☐ paper towels or wet wipes

#### Learn and practice the key passage phrase

- ☐ Key Passage Phrase Marker



### LOVE

#### Sponge paint the Red Sea

- ☐ art smocks
- ☐ blue fingerpaint
- ☐ sponge, 1 per child
- ☐ paper towels or wet wipes
- ☐ sea scene stickers

#### Pretend to cross the Red Sea

- ☐ "God's People" printable, 1 copy
- ☐ pool noodles, 2



### LIVE

#### Missions activity

- ☐ "Tea Party with Lottie" missions video (optional)

#### Snack and Transition

- ☐ hand sanitizer (optional)
- ☐ "Follow the Footprints" activity page, 1 per child
- ☐ Big Picture Cards for Families



### BONUS

#### Say the key passage phrase

- ☐ Key Passage Phrase Marker

#### Sing songs

- ☐ rhythm instruments, 1 per child

#### Explore water

- ☐ towel
- ☐ art smocks
- ☐ shallow bin
- ☐ water
- ☐ plastic cups
- ☐ plastic plates
- ☐ plastic storage lids
- ☐ interlocking blocks





## 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, write one word of the key passage phrase onto the seashells. Use five shells for the words and one shell for the reference. Post the Big Picture Question Poster above the large shallow bin filled with shredded paper or rice. Hide the 6 large seashells in the bin. Encourage the children to dig in the tub and find the 6 seashells. Read the words and help the children put the seashells in order to match the key passage phrase. Say the key passage phrase together. Hide the seashells again for other children as they arrive.

**SAY** 🗨️ Hello! I am happy to see you! Let's look at the 6 seashells we found in our bin. We often find seashells on the beach, near the ocean. These seashells have the words of our key passage phrase on them. After Pharaoh let God's people leave, God showed them which way to go. He told the people to stay near the Red Sea. **THE LORD PERFORMED MIRACLES AND RESCUED HIS PEOPLE** from Pharaoh. Pharaoh was separated from God because of his sin. Our big picture question and answer tells us, Why does sin keep us from God? Sin keeps us from God because He is holy. 🗨️

\* \*

Worship

\* Me & My House

\* Light of the world

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





## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

## LEARN the Bible Story

### 1 FOLLOW THE LEADER



Invite the children to group time. Ask them to follow you around the room. Pretend to jump over a small puddle, walk through mud, step high walking through deep snow, and climb a mountain. Stop, commenting that there is an ocean in front of you and you can't go any further. Ask if they could walk through the ocean, swim across it, or jump over it.

**SAY** “I am so glad you are here! Follow me and let's pretend to walk through different places. Can you jump over puddles with me? Now, let's walk through the mud. Ooo, my feet are sticky and messy! Now we are in deep snow. Take high steps in the snow. Wow! Look at that tall mountain We need to climb over it. Oh no! Now we are at the Red Sea. What are we going to do? [Allow responses.] You have great ideas! Listen to our Bible story to find out what happened next.”



### 2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY *video*

Open your Bible to Exodus 13–15. Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling points. You may choose to review the Bible story by showing the video.

#### MOSES PARTED THE RED SEA

**SAY** “Long ago, God's people lived in the land of Egypt. The king of Egypt was mean to them, but he finally decided to let God's people move out of the land. God helped His people out of Egypt. He showed them the way with a cloud during the day and fire at night.

God told Moses, “Stay near the Red Sea. The king will come after you, but I will help you.”

The king and his army did chase Moses and the rest of God's people. The people were scared! Moses told them, “Don't worry. God will protect us.”

Then something amazing happened! God made a big wind, and the Red Sea turned into dry land. The people walked through the sea with water on both sides.

The king's army tried to follow, but God stopped them and made the walls of water come crashing down on them.

When the people saw what God did, they trusted Him and sang a happy song. They said, “God is strong, and He saved us!”

**Christ Connection:** God made a way for His people to be saved. He parted the Red Sea so that His people could live. By sending Jesus, God made the way for us to be saved from our sin. We can trust Him and be thankful.



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

#### 3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

\* Display the Bible Story Picture Poster and the two clear bowls. Place dry sand in one bowl and wet sand with water in the other. Let the children take turns feeling the sand in each both. Use paper towels or wet wipes to assist children in cleaning their hands.

**SAY** 🗣️ The people saw the ocean in front of them and Pharaoh's army chasing them. His army was coming closer and closer. They must have been afraid! Then God did something amazing! A big wind began to blow and the Red Sea became dry land. [Show the bowl of water and wet sand and the bowl of dry sand.] The people were able to walk across on dry land! **THE LORD PERFORMED MIRACLES AND RESCUED HIS PEOPLE.** When the king's army tried to follow them, the ocean water crashed down on them and they could not follow God's people! 🗣️

#### 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 song

#### 5 LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

\* Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Psalm 34:17. Ask how God's people must have felt when they saw the wind turn the Red Sea into dry land. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Say the key passage phrase in a surprised and happy voice.

**SAY** 🗣️ God's people must have been afraid when they saw Pharaoh's army chasing after them. They must have wondered what they were going to do when they came to the Red Sea. I am sure they were surprised to see the Red Sea turn into dry land. Let's say the key passage phrase in a surprised voice. 🗣️

#### 6 PRAY

Pray, thanking God for always taking care of us no matter how scared we may be.

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





LOVE

THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

## LOVE God because of what we learned

### 1 SHARE EXPERIENCES



Ask the children questions about going to a lake, river, or ocean. Talk about bodies of water near you and familiar to your preschoolers. Comment that swimming in a lake is different than a pool because the bottom is not smooth and that the ocean has big waves. Ask about their experiences playing in different bodies of water.

**SAY** God's people were afraid when they were standing at the Red Sea and saw Pharaoh's army coming. They had their children, clothes and all their other belongings. They even had their animals with them! How could they get all of that that across the Red Sea without a boat? What happened? Yes! God caused a wind to blow across the Red Sea and the water stood up in two walls. The land in the middle was dry. They could walk across safely.

### 2 SPONGE PAINT THE RED SEA

Assist preschoolers in putting on art smocks. Give each preschooler a sheet of paper, sponge, and blue fingerpaint. Encourage the children to dip their sponges into the paint and cover their papers. Assist them in adding sea scene stickers to their papers.

**SAY** God told the people to stay near the Red Sea. He led them with a cloud all day and a fire at night. **THE LORD PERFORMED MIRACLES AND RESCUED HIS PEOPLE!** God also makes a way for us to be saved. We can be thankful that God loves us and saves us when we trust in Him.

### 3 PRETEND TO CROSS THE RED SEA

Prior to the session, cut apart the Bible people from the "God's People" printable. Tape each Bible figure to a small block. Use the two pool noodles to create an area of dry land. Guide the children to walk the people through the Red Sea as you talk about the Bible story. After all the people have walked safely across, remove the two pool noodles.

**SAY** Let's pretend the floor is the Red Sea. God's people have fled from Egypt where the pharaoh was mean to them. God told them to stay near the Red Sea. Pharaoh's army was chasing after them when they came to the Red Sea. They didn't know how they would be safe from Pharaoh's army. **THE LORD PERFORMED MIRACLES AND RESCUED HIS PEOPLE.** God caused a big wind to blow. The ground in the middle of the Red Sea was dry. The people walked easily across the Red Sea! Let's walk the people across the Red Sea on dry ground. When the people were safe and the army was chasing after them, the walls of water crashed down on Pharaoh's army! The people sang a happy song because they knew God had saved them!

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





LIVE

## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE for God out of love

#### 1 SHOW EMOTIONS



Review the stories from this unit. Stop and say the key passage phrase to show how the people must have felt. Lead the preschoolers in making sad, angry, afraid, glad, and surprised faces.

**SAY** ☞ The Pharaoh in Egypt was mean to God's people. He made them work very hard! He did not want their families to grow. How did the people feel? Say the key passage phrase sadly. God chose Moses to tell Pharaoh to let God's people go. Pharaoh wouldn't let God's people go. God sent ten plagues to show His power. Finally, Pharaoh let God's people leave Egypt. God led the way. Pharaoh changed his mind and his army chased after God's people. What happened when they were waiting at the Red Sea? ☞

#### 2 MISSIONS ACTIVITY



Emphasize to preschoolers that Lottie Moon served as a missionary in China for almost 40 years. Comment that some Chinese people did not believe what she told them about Jesus, but Lottie loved the Chinese people and found creative ways to tell them about Jesus. Show the "Tea Party with Lottie" missions video.

**SAY** ☞ Lottie often made fresh-baked tea cakes (cookies) for the children in her village to help people know they could trust her. Children in China began calling Lottie 'The Cookie Lady.' Gaining the trust of the mothers as she gave cookies to the kids in the village helped her be able to tell them about 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 made a way for His people to be saved. He parted the Red Sea so that His people could live. By sending Jesus, God made the way for us to be saved from our sin. We can trust Him and be thankful. ☞

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

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### **1 CROSS THE WATER**



Invite children to group time. Ask children for ideas about the best way to cross large bodies of water, such as rivers, lakes, and seas. Use the ideas mentioned to lead preschoolers in playing out crossing water. Comment that in our Bible story, God's people had walked as far as they could and would need to cross the sea ahead of them.

### **2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY**

Open the Bible to Exodus 13–15. Use the summarized points below to talk about the Bible story:

#### **MOSES PARTED THE RED SEA**

- When Pharaoh let God's people move out of the land, God showed them the way with a cloud during the day and fire at night.
- God told Moses, "Pharaoh will come after you, but I will help you." Pharaoh and his army chased God's people. They were scared! Moses said, "Don't worry. God will protect us."
- Then God made a big wind, and the Red Sea turned into dry land. The people walked through the sea with water on both sides.
- Pharaoh's army tried to follow, but God stopped them.
- When the people saw what God did, they trusted Him and sang a happy song. They said, "God is strong, and He saved us!"

### **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. Comment that the people must have been amazed when the winds made the Red Sea turn into dry land so they could walk across. Encourage the children to show you their most surprised or amazed faces. Say the key passage phrase to each other as if you are amazed.

### **5 PRAY**

Pray, thanking God that He always does what He promises.



## BONUS Teaching Hour Activities

### 6 DRAW A CLOUD AND FIRE



Give each child a sheet of paper folded in half. Encourage them to draw a line down the middle of the paper on the fold line. Guide them to draw a cloud on one side of the paper and fire on the other side. Suggest children color their drawings.

**SAY** “ When God’s people left Egypt, they did not know where they were going. God helped them by leading the way. There were so many people that God showed them the way to go with a cloud during the day. They could look up and follow the cloud. At night, God led them with a fire they could see in the dark. When the people saw the cloud or the fire, they knew God was taking care of them and God was with them. We know God is with us and taking care of us, too. ”

### 7 SING SONGS

Prior to the session, gather several rhythm instruments. Write the names of several favorite songs about God on individual sheets of construction paper. Give each student a rhythm instrument. Take turns tossing a beanbag onto the songs and sing together the song listed on the paper.

**SAY** “ The Bible tells us God’s people sang a happy song after they saw God saved them! They knew **THE LORD PERFORMED MIRACLES AND RESCUED HIS PEOPLE**. What can we thank God for doing for us? [Allow responses.] Let’s sing some more songs to thank God and worship Him. ”

### 8 EXPLORE WATER

Assist children in putting on art smocks. Fold a towel and place it on a table to prevent spills. Display a shallow bin filled halfway with water, plastic cups, plastic plates, plastic storage lids, and interlocking blocks. Encourage the children to try to divide the water into two sections leaving a dry space on the bottom. Comment that water cannot be piled up like the shredded paper or rice. Say that only God could divide the Red Sea and let the Israelites walk through on dry land.

**SAY** “ Can you divide the water in half? Can you make part of it stay over here and part over there? Can you fix it so the bottom of the tub is dry? Maybe you could build a brick wall to divide the water. Does that work? Only God could use the wind and blow the water so that the Israelites could walk through on dry land. **THE LORD PERFORMED MIRACLES AND RESCUED HIS PEOPLE!** ”

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.