

Life of Moses

Lesson 33a — Baby Moses

Lesson 33b — God Calls Moses

Lesson 33c — The Plagues in Egypt

Lesson 33d — The Red Sea Crossing

Lesson 33e — Miracles in the Wilderness

OVERVIEW

Our final unit of this quarter focuses on Moses, the national hero who delivered the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. God used this man to lead His chosen people in their journey to Canaan.

Our first lesson narrates the miraculous sparing of Moses' life shortly after his birth. Though a royal edict ordered the execution of all Israelite male children at birth, Moses spent the first 40 years of his life in the royal court of Pharaoh. As you explain this story, you will want to help your students recognize that God can be trusted to care for us too.

When circumstances brought a dramatic change in Moses' situation, he found himself in the desert tending sheep. There, in a spectacular manner, God called him to be the leader of His people, and this is the topic of our second lesson. As you talk about the scene at the burning bush, bring out that God has a plan for each one of us also, even though it likely will not be revealed in such an amazing manner.

Our third lesson takes up the series of ten plagues sent by God to counter Pharaoh's attempt to keep the people of Israel in bondage. This horrifying judgment on Egypt was God's way of delivering His chosen people. Your students should understand through this story that God has power to deliver, and that power will be exercised for those who trust Him.

In our next lesson the Children of Israel, fleeing before the army of Egypt, faced the Red Sea. The story of how God parted the waters and allowed them to pass through on dry ground is one of the favorites of children this age. Reinforce the theme of God's power to deliver as you teach this lesson.

God's providential care in providing food and water for His people in their time of need is the main thought of the final lesson in this unit. As your students learn about the miracles that God performed in the wilderness, they should realize that He cares for His people today and has promised to supply their needs.

GAMES FOR REVIEW

Place a small coin and a question inside each of several balloons and blow them up. Attach the balloons to a board to start. Let each student take a pin and pop a balloon. If the student correctly answers the question he may keep the coin. This could also be done using the Wordless Book colors.

Play a game similar to Memory using the set of Moses symbol cards (see Patterns). Lay all the cards face down on your table. Allow each student, in turn, to turn over two cards. If he makes a pair, he is allowed to keep them. If they do not match, he must turn them back over and the next person gets a turn.

CONTEST IDEAS

Make a spinner dividing it into thirds and marking the sections for attendance, bringing Bible, and knowing memory verse. Let one of the students spin. If the spinner lands on "Bible," those who have brought their Bible get a prize. A prize can be given for each section.

Spring is a good time of year to feature a kite contest. Make a brightly-colored kite for each child, and let them decorate it and print their name on it in large letters. Attach a long string to the base of each kite and suspend the kites from the ceiling of your class or department area. Each Sunday that a child comes, brings his Bible, brings a friend, or says his memory verse, add a bow to the tail of his kite.

On a large bulletin board, make two sections of the Red Sea with a path between. Divide your group into teams (by classes, boys and girls, or however you wish) and assign a color to each team. Cut out people shapes from each of these colors (see Patterns). Pin a number of people from each color on the left side of the Red Sea. Each Sunday of the unit, a person can be moved to the other side of the sea for each child who attends, brings a Bible, a friend, or whatever you designate as the purpose of the contest. At the end of the unit, the team having the most people of their color on the right side of the Red Sea is the winning team.

BULLETIN BOARDS

Title your board **THE LIFE OF MOSES** (see Patterns). Make a winding trail moving from the top left corner down to the lower right corner. Mark five main places along the trail for the five events covered in our lessons. On each Sunday, post a picture of that event, using the symbols or illustrations from the Primary Pals stories. Along the trail you could also put small representations of other events in Moses' life such as the tables of stone, Mt. Sinai, the brazen serpent.

Title your board **LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TO MOSES** (see Patterns). Cover your board, cutting five windows into the paper so that students can lift up flaps. Put the boy and girl looking toward the windows on the lower right and left corners of your board. Be sure to outline around the windows to indicate the areas to lift up. Underneath each flap, place an enlargement of the symbols or story illustration from Primary Pals, or another of the pictures given to go with the lesson. Or enlarge the symbols given for the Moses Mobile described in Chart Ideas. Use the bulletin board as a teaching tool as you tell each week's story.

Use a light-blue background for your board, with blue foil waves. Tack a lightweight baby blanket on the right side, and on it attach a very lightweight stuffed baby doll or a picture of a baby (see Patterns). Add some lily pads and bulrushes in the left corner, and title your board **BABY MOSES**. If you have room for a table in front of the board, decorate it as a river, hanging green streamers from the edge of the table to look like reeds. Your students could color "lily pads." Put a basket, baby doll and blanket on the table. Then students could reenact the story with their classmates.

UNIT SONGS

"Jesus Never Fails" — Singspiration
"I Just Keep Trusting My Lord" — Singspiration
"Why Worry When You Can Pray?" — Singspiration
"God Can Do Anything But Fail" — Singspiration
"I Know Who Holds the Future" — Singspiration

"Got Any Rivers?" — Singspiration (Lesson 33d)
"How Did Moses Cross the Red Sea?" (Lesson 33d)
"God Will Take Care of Us All" — Primary Children Sing
"No Problem Is Too Small for Jesus" — Sunbeam Songs, Vol. 2
"What's a Miracle?" — Sunbeam Songs, Vol. 2

CHART IDEAS

Let each of your children make a Moses Book, using the bubble letters spelling Moses. Also copy and cut out five pages of that shape for each student (see Patterns). Each Sunday give him one page and let him either draw a picture of that lesson or write his memory verse for the week. At the end of the unit assemble the book and attach together at the left side with brads, or by threading through the holes with yarn.

Give each child a copy of the chart using the name Moses (see Patterns). Cut on the dotted lines so that each letter lifts up. Then back that sheet with a solid, uncut sheet. Each Sunday that the child attends, let him lift one of the letters and glue the small picture for that week underneath.

Give each child a copy of the manna basket which has been reproduced on brown construction paper (see Patterns). Or you may wish to copy them on white paper and let each child color his own basket. Cut the slit as indicated by the dotted line. Tape a backing piece behind the basket slit so manna can be put into the basket. Each Sunday of the unit, let them add pieces of manna to their basket for specific things; such as, attendance, knowing the memory verse, and bringing their Bible.

Help your students make Moses Mobiles for this month's chart (see Patterns). On the first Sunday, help them cut out the word "Moses" and punch the holes as indicated at the bottom of each letter. (To make the mobile more durable, cover this main piece with clear contact paper before they cut it out.) They should also cut out the baby in the basket and attach it by a length of yarn to the hole in the letter M. On the following Sundays, they will attach the burning bush to the letter O, the small frog to the letter S, the parted water to the letter E, and the basket with manna to the last letter S. On the final Sunday, attach a longer length of yarn to the top of the M and S, so the mobile can be hung.

SUPPORT MATERIAL

Family Life Institute series of cassette tapes — Numbers 9, 10, and 12
Stories About Moses — Pict-o-graph, by Standard Publishing
Moses, Volume 1, Biblegram, CEF Press