

# Lesson 27: God Protects Baby Moses

Genesis 50; Exodus 1:1 - 2:10 (pg. 54-55, Gospel Story Bible)

## Teaching Points:

**God promises to deliver Egypt** — By this time the Israelites have been living in Egypt for some time. Jacob is long dead and now Joseph is dying. Even when Joseph is near death we see him thinking about the plan and purpose of God. He makes the sons of Israel swear to carry his bones back to the land of promise. When Joseph says, "God will visit you and bring you up out of this land" (Genesis 50:24), we get a hint of the deliverance from Egypt that will one day come. Joseph trusts God through times of suffering and times of blessing.

**Pharaoh fears and tries to destroy Israel** — More than three hundred years go by. The people of Israel are still in Egypt and a new king has taken power who knows nothing about Joseph and how he had served Egypt. This king, called Pharaoh, is afraid of the Israelites because there are so many of them.

He orders the destruction of every Israelite son so the people of Israel will not become too strong. But in doing so, Pharaoh is fighting against God and trying to kill people who belong to the Lord. As a result, his plan fails, and the Israelites grow stronger.

**God brings salvation through a baby** — When she can hide her growing son no longer, Moses' mother places him in a basket to float in a quiet spot on the river's edge near where Pharaoh's daughter bathes. Moses' sister watches from a distance to see what happens. Not only does Pharaoh's daughter take pity on baby Moses, she decides to adopt him. Moses' sister sees what is happening, comes over, and offers to find a woman to nurse the baby. She brings Moses' own mother, who then takes care of Moses and is paid for it by Pharaoh's daughter!

## Where is the Gospel?

**How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?**

Read Acts 7:17–22; Matthew 2:13–16.

Moses' life foreshadows or is a picture of Jesus.

Moses' life was threatened from the very beginning. So was the life of Jesus. God saved Jesus by having his family flee to Egypt. God saved Moses from the destruction of Pharaoh by having him live in Pharaoh's own home! Moses was no ordinary child. He would grow up to become the savior of Israel. Jesus was no ordinary child, either. He would grow up to become the Savior of the world. Both Moses and Jesus were mediators, someone who stands between God and his people.

## Bible Truth:

Salvation  
comes from  
God in an  
unexpected  
way.

## A Little Bit More (grades 3-5) - Save

The word save means rescue and is often used in the Bible in reference to how God works to spare someone's life or to spare someone suffering. Joseph tells his brothers that God sent him ahead of them to Egypt to save lives. What good would it do a man to be saved from all earthly harm only to die an eternal death? The greatest peril that God saves us from is the penalty of our sin (see Psalm 39:8). Hebrews calls this being saved to the uttermost (see Hebrews 7:25).

## Object Lessons:

### 1. Combine **Hide Baby Moses** with **God is a God who Saves** (Grades K-2)

#### Supplies:

- 12 notecards, 12 photocopies of babies (to fit on notecards).
- Whiteboard & dry erase marker
- Bible, with verses ready: Job 5:15; Psalm 18:46; 20:6; 37:40; 55:16

Hide the card with "Baby Moses" in your Bible in Exodus, chapter one. Hide the rest of the cards in more obvious places in the classroom. When your children come in, tell them they are Egyptian soldiers. Read the first part of Exodus 1:7–22 to your children and then explain that Pharaoh's soldiers went looking for the Hebrew babies to cast them into the river. Ask the children to look around the room for the hidden babies.

Once the children are convinced that they have found all the cards have them sit down. If they missed a few, tell them where they were hiding. Then explain that they did not find baby Moses; it was hidden safely in the Bible where you could protect it. Talk about how God saved Moses from the searching soldiers so that he could raise Moses up to save all of God's people.

Use this object lesson to show that in spite of man's attempt at frustrating the plans of God, God always wins and no one can thwart his plan.

Explain to the class that our God is a God who saves.

Read the following verses out loud: Job 5:15; Psalm 18:46; 20:6; 37:40; 55:16. Then ask the class the following questions:

- Can you name all the people in the Bible who the Lord saved?  
(Make a list on the whiteboard of all the people the children can think of. Examples: he saved Noah and his family on the ark; he saved Moses and the Israelites from the Egyptians; he saved David and the Israelites from Goliath and the Philistines.)
- Why did God save Moses?  
(God saved Moses so that Moses could be used by God to save Israel from the Egyptians and to act as a mediator between God and his people—Moses would go between God and his people.)

### 2. **Make a Basket** (Grades 3-5)

#### Supplies:

- four pieces of paper (per basket), 2 different colors (heavy paper works well); scissors, tape, glue stick.
- instructions on how to make a simple basket (see video on: [grace.church/online-church-resources](http://grace.church/online-church-resources) or <https://vimeo.com/416714471>)

Watch the video on how to make a simple basket. (There are other ways to make a basket, but this is one simple way).

[If in the classroom: Divide the class into groups of two or three. Explain to the class that you are going to have a basket-making contest. Each of the groups represents a family in Egypt around the year 1526 BC. They are trying to weave a basket as fast as they can to provide a way for their baby to float down the river. Tell the teams they have ten minutes to make a basket. Team members should divide the workload, some cutting ribs and some weaving the strips. Lay the finished baskets on a table, and use them as a backdrop to read the story and talk about all that God did.]

Then ask the class the following questions:

- Why were the Egyptians afraid of the Israelites?  
(The Israelites were increasing in number and were causing the Egyptians to fear that they might revolt against them.)
- How did God save Moses from the evil command of Pharaoh? (God had Moses' mother and sister float him downriver in a basket.)
- How is this similar to what God did in Noah's day?  
(The basket was like the ark in that it saved Moses from destruction just as the ark saved Noah and his family from destruction. The theme of salvation follows God's people for out of the people of God would eventually come our Lord Jesus.)