Date | April 11, 2021 Family Theme | God Prepares Us for Service Study Text | Exodus 2:1-25; 3:1-22

Objective: Help your children understand that God worked from Moses' birth to prepare him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. We follow God's leading, knowing He has prepared us for the service He has for us.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set over 400 years after Joseph was reunited with His family and brought them to Egypt to survive the famine. They had grown into the great nation God promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Now God was preparing a leader to take them out of Egypt to the land God promised them.

<u>Bible Basics:</u> Review last quarter's memory verses (2 Timothy 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9) this week and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: Exodus 2:1-25; 3:1-22

Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children and grandchildren about how God uses the people in our lives and our experiences to prepare us to serve Him. Watch for ways to serve Him knowing He has prepared us.



Key Truth: God Prepares Us to Serve Him (Exodus 2:1-25)

As Exodus opens, a new Egyptian king was concerned about the population growth of the Israelites and forced them into hard labor. He also ordered the midwives to kill the Hebrew newborn sons. Thankfully, this failed. He then ordered that all Hebrew baby boys be thrown into the Nile River. A Hebrew woman gave birth to a baby boy and hid him for three months, then hid the young child in a basket among the reeds in the Nile River. Pharaoh's daughter providentially came to the river to bathe and saw the basket floating in the water. She adopted the baby. God not only preserved his life, but also made Moses a member of the royal family. He would be raised to understand the Egyptian culture. Jumping ahead forty years, Moses killed an Egyptian who was beating a Hebrew slave. He was forced to flee Egypt and live among the Midianites. There he married and tended his father-in-law's flocks. While the children of Israel continued to suffer enslavement in Egypt, Moses was learning how to navigate the wilderness as he shepherded the flocks in Midian. God prepares and develops His people so He can use them as agents to address His concerns. He puts people in our lives to develop us. He allows us to experience all types of situations so He can hone us.



Key Truth: God Has a Place of Service for Each of Us (Exodus 3:1-22)

Chapter three begins an account of God's call of Moses to free His people from bondage in Egypt. God appeared to Moses in a most unusual way — a bush that was burning, yet remained intact. God told Moses He was sending him to Pharaoh and that Moses was to bring the Israelites out of Egypt. God was aware of the suffering of His people and was acting to change their situation. Though Moses doubted his ability to fulfill God's call, God assured him. Moses was to meet with the Israelite elders and then go with them to Pharaoh and tell him God had requested they take a three-day journey to offer sacrifices to Him. God informed Moses, however, that Pharaoh would not listen. This was so God could demonstrate His mighty power and wonders. After that, Pharaoh would let the people go.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What kind of lessons did Moses learn in the wilderness of Midian?
- · Whom has God used to help get you where you are today?
- How has God used circumstances to teach and prepare you for what He has in store?
- How can we use what God has taught us to serve God and help others come to know Him?
- For Elementary: How did God use various people to save Moses' life when he was a baby?
- For Elementary: What was Moses' reaction to what God planned for him to do?
- For Elementary: How did God respond to Moses?

Everyday Extras

The Bible's record of the way Moses' family hid him from the Egyptians is a great role play opportunity. Assign parts, gather props, and suggest scenarios like crying babies with guards outside or potential crocodiles in the river. Enjoy the acting! Take the show on the road or film it for grandparents. You could try your hand at baby boatmaking too. You could weave with paper, old plastic bags, or fabric strips. Or older kids could carve miniature baby baskets from bars of Ivory soap. (This could be hours of entertainment for the price of a bar of soap!)

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE & ROUND

Today your child learned Moses' mother placed him in a basket in the Nile River to protect him from the king's rule of putting newborn baby boys to death. Your child learned how God planned for Moses' safety and care. God had a plan for Moses and **God Has a Plan** for you.