

LESSON



Baby Moses

WORSHIP

We thank God for being with us.

References

Exodus 1; 2:1-10; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 241-244.

Memory Verse

"You are my hiding place" (Psalm 32:7, NIV).

Objectives

The children will:

Know that God is always with them as He was with Baby Moses.

Feel that God will take care of them.

Respond by thanking God for His protection and care.

The Message



We worship God when we thank Him.

Getting Ready to Teach

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

Pharaoh orders that all boy babies born to the Israelites in his country are to be killed. When a baby boy is born to one Israelite family, they hide him in their home for three months. Then the mother makes a basket that will float on the water, puts the baby in the basket, and places it in the river. When Pharaoh's daughter comes to the river, she sees the basket, takes it out of the water, and decides to keep the baby. She names him Moses. The baby's sister,

Miriam, comes, asks if the princess wants a nurse for the baby, and is sent to get one. Miriam gets her mother, who takes Baby Moses home and raises him for the princess. The family is glad because Baby Moses is safe. They thank God for His protection and care.

This is a lesson about worship.

God still watches over boys and girls today. When we thank Him for His protection and care we are worshipping Him.

NINE

Program Outline			
LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	ongoing	Greet students at door; hear pleased/troubled	none
1 Readiness Activities	up to 10	A. <i>Paper Boat Loading</i> B. <i>Water Tick-tack-toe</i> C. <i>Protection</i>	paper, cardboard, large bowl or basin, water, pebbles chalkboard or whiteboard or poster paper, chalk or marker tray, items used for protection, towel, chalkboard or whiteboard or poster paper, chalk or marker
* Prayer and Praise*	up to 10	See page 96. *Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.	
2 Bible Lesson	up to 20	Experiencing the Story	basket or box, baby doll with blanket
		Bible Study	Bible
		Memory Verse	Bible
3 Applying the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Angel Protectors</i>	feathers or Ping-Pong balls, <i>Little Voices Praise Him</i> songbook
4 Sharing the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Baby's Basket Boat</i>	small margarine or cottage cheese containers, green ribbon or fabric, scissors, tape, polyester fiberfill, small dolls or craft sticks, green markers

Teacher Enrichment

"The babe was 'a goodly child;' and the parents, believing that the time of Israel's release was drawing near, and that God would raise up a deliverer for His people, determined that their little one should not be sacrificed. Faith in God strengthened their hearts, 'and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.' Hebrews 11:23.

"The mother's earnest prayers had committed her child to the care of God; and angels, unseen, hovered above his lowly resting place. Angels directed Pharaoh's daughter thither.

Her curiosity was excited by the little basket, and as she looked upon the beautiful child within, she read the story at a glance" (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 242, 243).

How has God protected your life in the past? How do you thank Him?

Room Decorations

See Lesson 5. Add some plants, either real or fake (grass, hay, straw, etc.), to represent the reeds at the edge of the water. Have a basket, lined with a towel, large enough to hold a baby doll that is wrapped in a blanket.

Teaching the Lesson

Welcome

Welcome students at the door. Ask them how their week has been—what they are pleased/troubled about. Encourage them to share any experiences from last week's lesson study. Have them begin the readiness activity of your choice.

1

Readiness Activities

Select the activity most appropriate for your situation.

A. Paper Boat Loading

You Need:

- paper
- stiff cardboard
- large bowl or basin
- water
- pebbles

Fill the bowl or basin with water. Float a piece of paper on the water, making sure that none of the edges are turned down and that no water is allowed to come over the sides of the paper. On top of the floating paper, place a somewhat smaller piece of stiff cardboard. This is the boat that is to be loaded with small pebbles. Ask the children to sit around the bowl, and give each child a few pebbles. They are to take turns placing a pebble very carefully on the cardboard. See how many pebbles can be loaded on the boat without sinking it. If the paper gets wet and sinks, you need to start over with dry paper and cardboard.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Did you have fun floating pebbles on the paper? Did you know little stones could float on paper? That reminds me of our Bible story today. It is about something precious that floated in a little basket made of grass and held together with tar and pitch. God protected that basket and kept it floating. And some people were very thankful. Today's message is:**



We worship God when we thank Him.

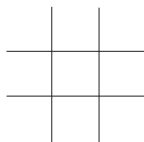
Say that with me.

B. Water Tick-tack-toe

Make a tick-tack-toe grid on the chalk or whiteboard or poster paper. Divide the children into two teams. The object is to get three X's or O's in a row, either vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. Each team tries to block the other. Say: **Our Bible story today has something to do with water. We're going to play tick-tack-toe. You can put an X or an O on the board for your team if you can name a story in the Bible that has water in it.** Give the teams turns.

You Need:

- chalkboard or whiteboard or poster paper
- chalk or marker



Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Did you enjoy playing this game? There are a lot of Bible stories with water in them. Is water important to us? Yes. Water is very important. Water keeps us healthy. What do we do with water?** (bathe, drink, wash clothes, cook, water plants, etc.) **Our Bible story is about a basket floating on a river. Angels watched over and protected something precious that was in the basket. God sends His angels to protect us, too. We are thankful for God's care. Today's message is:**



We worship God when we thank Him.

Say that with me.

C. Protection

In advance, place items we use to protect ourselves on a large tray and cover it with a towel. Items could include: bicycle helmet, elbow/knee pads, catcher's mask, oven mitt, baseball glove, sunglasses, insect repellent, sunscreen, gloves, raincoat, apron, etc. Place the tray on a table and have the children gather around it. Say: **On this tray are items we use to protect ourselves. I'm going to uncover the tray and let you look at it for one minute. Then I'm going to cover it back up, and we'll work together as a group trying to remember all the items on the tray. I'll write them on the board.**

You Need:

- tray
- items used for protection (see activity)
- towel
- chalkboard or whiteboard or poster paper
- chalk or marker

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Was that fun? You did a good job remembering. Let's count how many things you remembered. I'm going to uncover the tray now. Let's see if we got all of them.** Hold up each item and ask: **How do we use this to protect us?**

Say: **We use these things to help keep us safe, but I know of something even better that God uses to protect us. Do you know what that is? (angels) Yes, God's angels are with us all the time, even though we don't see them. Our Bible story today is about God's angels protecting a precious baby whose family was very thankful. Today's message is:**



We worship God when we thank Him.

Say that with me.



NOTE: Prayer and Praise appears on page 96.

2

Bible Lesson

Experiencing the Story

You Need:

- basket or box
- baby doll with blanket

Use a basket or a painted box for the baby basket. The children may kneel around the baby basket and raise their swaying hands as reeds. You can be Moses' mother and do the actions as you read or tell the story.

God's people, the Israelites, had lived in the land of Egypt for a long time. Their families had grown very large. Now there were thousands and thousands of Israelites.

Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, was afraid they would take over his kingdom. He made them become his slaves. He made them work very hard making bricks, building things, and working in the fields. Pharaoh even ordered the Egyptian soldiers to throw all the Israelite baby boys into the river.

One Israelite family wanted to save their baby. *[Hold the doll.]* They hid him at home until he was 3 months old. *[Hide doll under blanket.]* But as he grew bigger, he cried louder, and they were afraid someone would find him. So the family came up with a new plan.

The baby's mother took reeds from the riverbank and used them to weave a basket. *[Pretend you are weaving.]* She carefully covered the basket with tar and pitch so water wouldn't leak in. *[Pretend to paint the basket or box.]* Then she laid the baby in the basket and covered the top. *[Put doll in basket.]* Praying to God to guard the precious basket *[pretend to pray]*, she carried it to the river and hid it in the rushes that grew in the water near the riverbank. *[Place it near "river."]* The baby's older sister, Miriam, played nearby to keep watch over the basket.

The baby in his little boat floated gently on the water.

It wasn't long before Pharaoh's daughter, the princess, came down to the river. There in the water she saw the basket. She sent one of her maids to bring it to her. Imagine her surprise when she opened the basket and found a baby boy inside! *[Pick up basket or box and look inside.]*

"Oh, isn't he lovely! I think I'll keep him. He can be my son. I know, I'll call him Moses," said the princess.

Miriam ran up to the princess. "Shall I go and get one of the Israelite women to take care of the baby for you?" she asked.

"Yes, go," said the princess.

Miriam ran home as fast as she could to get her mother. When the baby's mother saw the princess, she smiled.

"Please," the princess said, "take this baby home with you. Care for him until he is a big boy. Then he will come to live with me in the royal palace."

Moses had been saved! Now that the princess had found him, Moses' family wouldn't have to worry about Egyptians coming to throw him in the river. They were so thankful that God had answered their prayers. He had kept their precious baby safe.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **How do you think Moses' family felt when Pharaoh told the Egyptian soldiers to kill all the baby boys?** (afraid, worried) **What did they do?** (prayed) **God gave them strength and courage and the wisdom to help save Moses.**

How do you think Miriam felt when she saw the king's daughter

coming to the river? When the princess found Baby Moses? (scared, nervous, worried) **How do you think Moses' mother felt when Miriam came and told her the good news?** (happy, joyful, excited)

Bible Study

You Need:

Bible

Open your Bible to Exodus 1 and 2:1-10. Point to the text and say: **This is where**

today's story is found in God's Word, the Bible. Read selected verses aloud, paraphrasing as necessary.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:
What kind of work did the Israelites do? (built things, made bricks, worked in fields)
How long did Moses' mother hide him? (three months) **What did she do then?** (She made a basket boat.) **What was the boat made of?** (reeds like grass, tar and pitch) **Who watched over the boat?** (angels, Miriam)
How did the princess save Moses? (She claimed him as her own; she let his mother take him home to raise him.) **The princess named the baby Moses. Do you know what**

his name means? (To "draw out," like drawing him out of the river.)

What do you think Moses' family did as soon as they got home with him? (They thanked God for caring for him.) **Do you remember our message? Let's say it together:**



We worship God when we thank Him.

Memory Verse

Turn to Psalm 32:7 and say: **This is where we find our memory verse in God's Word, the Bible.** Read the text aloud: **"You are my hiding place."** Explain the meaning of the verse. (God protects us and keeps us safe, just as He kept Moses safe.) Then use the motions to teach the memory verse as outlined below.

You Need:

Bible

You Point upward.



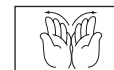
are my Point to self.



hiding place. Hold hands over face/head.



Psalm 32:7 Palms together; then open as if opening a book.



3

Applying the Lesson

You Need:

- feathers or Ping-Pong balls
- Little Voices Praise Him* songbook

Angel Protectors

Use feathers or Ping-Pong balls or something very light. Place them on a flat surface and have the children blow on them to make them move across the surface.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **What made the feather (or Ping-Pong ball) move? (your breath) Can you see your breath? (no) But we still know it's there, because**

we see what is happening. It's the same way with God and His angels. We can't see them, but we know they're there because of what they do for us. They take care of us just as they took care of Baby Moses.

Aren't you glad God sends angels to watch over us? Let's remember to thank Him for that. Remember our message:



We worship God when we thank Him.

PRAYER AND PRAISE



Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). Allow time for sharing experiences from last week's lesson study and review the memory verse. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special, warm greeting to all visitors.

Suggested Songs

- "God Takes Care of Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 90)
- "God Sent His Angels," third verse only (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 47)
- "Jesus Sends the Angels" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 48)
- "Thank God for Angels Bright" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 50)

Mission

Say: **Let's see what our mission story is about today.** Use a story from *Children's Mission*.

Offering

Say: **We worship God when we give Him our offerings.**

Prayer

Say: **Let's pray together. Children, please repeat after me. Thank You, Jesus, for protecting us. We love You. Amen.**

*Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.

4

Sharing the Lesson

Baby's Basket Boat**You Need:**

- small margarine or cottage cheese containers
- green ribbon or fabric
- scissors
- tape
- polyester fiberfill
- small dolls or craft sticks
- green markers

In advance, draw a face on craft sticks for a baby (or use small plastic dolls). Cut fabric for each child to use as a blanket to wrap their "baby."

Also in advance, cut down the sides of a margarine or cottage cheese containers to make even-sized strips down to the base. Cut many narrow strips of the green ribbon or fabric a little longer than the circumference of the container. Then tape the end of the ribbon or fabric

to one of the container's strips on each child's basket.

Say: **You're going to weave a basket boat like Moses' mother made for him.** Have a completed basket to show the children. Demonstrate on one basket how to "weave" the ribbon or cloth in front and behind the strips on the carton. Children will need help, but don't be too concerned if they don't get it exactly right. When one cir-

cumference is completed, they'll need the next strip taped for them.

When they are finished, give each child a bit of fiberfill to line their basket. Then have them take their small doll (or stick with a face drawn on it) and wrap it in the fabric like a baby and place it in the basket. If you have time, the children may color the lid with a green marker to match the basket.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:
Was it easy to make the basket? (probably not) **Do you think it was easy for Moses' family to keep him hidden?** (no)

Do you have a safe and comfortable bed? (yes) **God takes care of us, doesn't He? Let's be thankful for all the things He gives us.**

Say: **Take your basket home with you and share it with someone as you tell them how God protected Baby Moses and how thankful his family was. Let's say our message together one last time:**



We worship God when we thank Him.

Closing

Sing "Good-bye Prayer" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 44). Say a prayer something like this: **Thank You, Jesus, that You send Your angels to protect us. We love You. Amen.**

STUDENT LESSON

Baby Moses

References

Exodus 1; 2:1-10;
Patriarchs and
Prophets, pp. 241-
244

Memory Verse

"You are my
hiding place"
(Psalm 32:7,
NIV).

The Message

We worship
God when we
thank Him.

Do you know you have angels watching you all the time? Baby Moses had angels watching him.

God's people, the Israelites, had lived in the land of Egypt for a long time. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, was afraid of the Israelites. He worried that they might go to war against the Egyptians. First he made the Israelites work very hard, hoping that would keep them from growing in number. Finally the cruel king ordered the Egyptian soldiers to throw all the baby Israelite boys into the river.

One family found a way to save their baby boy. They hid him at home. But as he grew bigger, they were afraid someone would find him. So they came up with a new plan.

The baby's mother took reeds from the riverbank and used them to weave a basket. She carefully covered the basket with tar and pitch so water wouldn't leak in. Then she laid the baby in the basket and put a top on it. She prayed as she carried the basket to the river and hid it in the rushes that grew in the water near the riverbank. The baby's older sister, Miriam, played nearby to keep watch over the basket. And God sent angels to watch over the little baby as the basket gently rocked on the water.

Before long, the king's daughter came to the river. There in the water she saw the basket. She sent one of her

maids to bring it to her. Imagine her surprise when she opened the basket and found a baby boy inside! She felt sorry for the baby and decided to keep him for her own. And right there she named him Moses.

Miriam came running up to the princess. "Shall I go and get one of the



Israelite women to take care of the baby for you?" she asked.

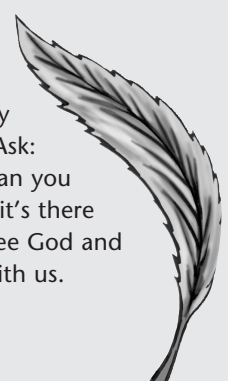
"Oh, yes," the princess answered.

Miriam ran home as fast as she could. She and her mother hurried back to the princess. The princess asked Moses' mother to take him home with her and raise him until he was a big boy. Then he would go to live with the princess in the royal palace.

Moses had been saved! Now his family wouldn't have to worry about soldiers throwing him into the river. They were so thankful that God had answered their prayers. Their precious baby was safe! Perhaps the whole family knelt and said, "Thank You, God, for saving our baby."

God watches over you, too, just as He watched over Moses. Your angel is with you all the time to keep you safe. Even when you don't know you are in danger, God loves you and will never leave you.

Do and Say



Sabbath

Each day this week, read the lesson story together and use the motions to review the memory verse.

- You** Point upward.
- are my** Point to self.
- hiding place.** Hold hands over face/head.
- Psalm 32:7.** Palms together; then open as if opening a book.

and tell them about Baby Moses.

Find a feather (or something very light). Blow on it to make it move. Ask: What made it move? (my breath) Can you see your breath? (no) But we know it's there because of what it does. We can't see God and His angels, but we know they are with us.

Sunday

Read together Exodus 1 and 2:1-10. Ask: How do you think Moses' mother felt when she found out about the king's law to kill the boy babies? How do you think she felt when she found out that the king's daughter found Baby Moses? What do you think their family did when Baby Moses was back home?

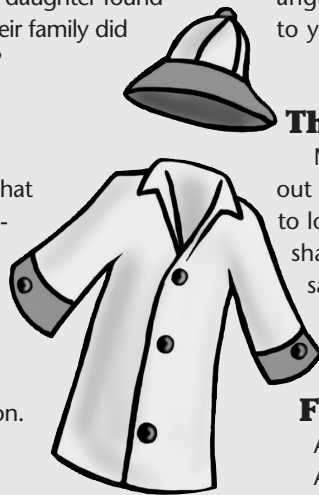
Wednesday

Test things that float on water and things that sink. Ask: Who was watching over Baby Moses as his basket floated on the water? Why didn't it sink?

Ask: Do you know you will meet your guardian angel when Jesus comes? What would you like to say to your guardian angel?

Monday

Find things around the house that we use to protect us (raincoat, sun-screen, insect repellent, gloves, sunglasses, bicycle helmet, apron, etc.). Talk about each, then ask: What does God use to protect us? Tell your child about a time when you felt God's protection.



Thursday

Make a bread basket by helping your child scoop out the middle of a small roll. Roll up a slice of cheese to look like a baby and put it in the "basket." As you share this snack, talk about how Baby Moses was saved in the basket boat. This is best done at meal time.

Tuesday

Encourage your child to share the Baby's Basket Boat that they made in Sabbath School with someone

Friday

Act out the Bible story with your family. Ask each member of your family to tell one thing that God has done to take care of them this week. Thank Him for His loving care. Sing songs about angels before prayer.