

Preschool Bible Study

CONSIDER
Your CALL

ON Holy GROUND

Preschool Bible Study "God Chose Moses"

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Scope: God, Self

Mission Area: Anywhere/Everywhere

Session Bible Thoughts:

- Exodus 3:12 "God said, 'I will be with you.'"
- Genesis 21:22 "God is with you in everything you do."
- Genesis 28:15 "I am with you everywhere you go."
- Jeremiah 29:11 "God has plans for you."

Desired Outcomes:

- Preschoolers will learn that God called Moses to do a special work for him.
- Preschoolers will be made aware that God calls people today to do special work for him.
- Preschoolers will learn that God may choose them to be special workers for him.

Background: Exodus 3:1-22

Key Passage: Exodus 3:9-15

Purpose: To help preschoolers learn that God chooses people to do special work for him.

Bible Story: God Calls Moses

Memory Verse: "God said to Moses: 'I am the eternal God. So tell them the Lord, whose name is "I Am," has sent you'" (Exodus 3:14a CEV)

Preparation



1. Read the story of Moses from your Bible.
2. Review all the suggestions given for the lesson.
3. If you are a teacher, read all the suggestions given for the learning centers. Then choose one or two to lead. Make a list of the items you will need to prepare beforehand.

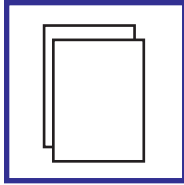


4. Make plans to secure the things that you do not already have for the various learning centers. Make sure all items, toys, and so forth placed in the learning centers are in good shape and safe working condition.
5. Set aside a time to set-up and prepare the various learning centers in preparation for the preschoolers.

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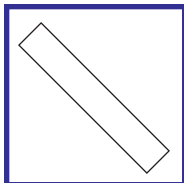
6. Look through picture files in preschool rooms for pictures of Moses. Choose several and place them at various places around the room and in the learning centers.
7. Choose books from the children's section in your church library on Moses. Or, borrow books from other preschool and children's departments. Books may also be purchased from your local Christian book stores.



8. Print these Bible verses on separate strips of construction paper and place them at the appropriate places in your Bible - - Genesis 21:22; Genesis 28:15; Exodus 3:12; Jeremiah 29:11. Print another copy of each verse and attach it to a separate wooden block. Place the blocks at various spots around the room.



9. Choose music appropriate for preschoolers to use during the lesson.



10. Prepare strips of crepe paper or ribbon to use during closing activity.



11. Stress to teachers the importance of sharing Bible thoughts, music, conversation, Bible stories and concepts, and prayer as they work with preschoolers in the various learning centers. Encourage them to saturate themselves with the Bible information so that they may teach from the overflow. Teachers need to be aware also of the times when they should listen and observe.



12. Saturate your plans with prayer. Pray for yourself, the preschoolers you teach, their parents, and your teachers.

Learning Centers (30-45 minutes)

Learning Centers are designed to let preschoolers make choices and learn Bible stories/concepts through activities, conversation, Bible thoughts, and prayer. Plan according to the age and developmental level of the preschoolers you teach.



Teachers/leaders be ready to share Bible stories, thoughts, Bible thoughts and concepts, conversation, and prayer with preschoolers as they work in the various centers.

ART

Before the session, cover tables with paper. (Freezer paper works well with the slick side turned toward the table.) Provide crayons, markers, paints, and other available art materials. Use a marker to divide the paper into large sections.



Brainstorm with preschoolers about what they might want to be when they grow up. Most groups will probably mention a fireman, a policeman, a teacher or a nurse. Help preschoolers to think of other vocations and/or jobs that could be possible choices. Lead them to know that God chooses people who have different kinds of jobs and vocations to help him do his work.

Assign each child a section. Lead him to draw, color, or paint a picture of what he wants to be when he grows up. Talk to preschoolers about how God chose Moses as his special helper. Say: God cared for Moses. Even as a baby, God had a plan for him.

When Moses became a man, God chose Moses to do something very special for him. Continue by saying: God cares for you too. God may have something special he wants you to do.

Ask: Do you think it could be what you have drawn on your paper?

Bible thoughts: God chose Moses to do something special Exodus 3.
 "God has plans for you" Jeremiah 29:11.

CONSTRUCTION/BLOCKS

The Hebrew people were forced to build cities where the King of Egypt could store his supplies. Younger preschoolers may use blockbusters to build cities like the ones built for the Egyptian king.



Say: The Egyptians forced the Hebrew people to work very hard to make brick, mix mortar, and work in the fields. The people begged God to help them because of the way they were being mistreated. God chose Moses to help them escape from their hard work and slavery.

Older preschoolers may make bricks from clay (add water to make it more pliable) or play dough.

Bible thoughts: God chose Moses to help the Hebrew people Exodus 1:10-14.
 "We work together with God" 1 Corinthians 3:9. (God may choose you to help someone.)

MUSIC/MOVEMENT

Lead preschoolers to sing, "If You Are Happy and You Know It."

If you are happy and you know it
 Clap your hands (clap twice).
 If you are happy and you know it
 Clap your hands (clap twice).
 If you are happy and you know it
 Then your face will surely show it.
 If you are happy and you know it
 Clap your hands (clap twice).



Change motions to "walk with me." Moses led the Hebrew people out of Egypt. Preschoolers will pretend to be "walking from Egypt" as they follow you around the room.

Other motions may include "turn around," and "say Amen."

Bible thoughts: Moses followed God's directions Exodus 13:17-18.
 "Do those things that are pleasing to God" 1 John 3:22.

DRAMATIC PLAY/HOMELIVING

Place a picture of Moses wearing sandals in the homeliving area. (You may find one in your department picture file.) Call attention to the sandals on his feet.



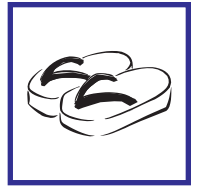
Say: One day when Moses was out in the fields caring for his father-in-law's sheep and goats, God spoke to him and told him to take off his sandals. God said, "The ground where you are standing is holy."

Provide heavy cardstock or cardboard, shoe strings, twine or yarn, blunt ended scissors, and a hole punch.



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Encourage preschoolers to stand on the cardstock as you trace around their feet. Older preschoolers may cut around the foot drawings on the cardstock, punch holes in the sides, and insert shoe strings, twine, or yarn, to make sandals. Younger preschoolers will need help. Preschoolers will place the sandals on their feet and tie them around their legs like Moses. (Use a picture of Moses wearing sandals as an example.)



Before the session, place costumes or pieces of fabric, old sheets, robes, scarves and other items in the homeliving area. Talk with preschoolers about how people dressed during Moses' time. Guide preschoolers to "dress-up" in the costumes and pretend that they are Moses. Allow preschoolers to "act-out" being in the field with their sheep and goats.



Bible thoughts: God told Moses what to do and Moses obeyed Exodus 3:1-5.
"God helps us" Psalm 46:1.

SCIENCE/NATURE

Spread an old oil tablecloth or drop cloth on the floor. Place a large container on top of it. Fill the container with sand. Place sand buckets, shovels, plastic/paper cups, saucers, and other items nearby. Allow preschoolers to scoop up sand and place it in a cup or bucket.



Engage preschoolers in conversation. Ask: Where do you think sand comes from? Who made it? How does the sand feel as you pour it over your hands and through your fingers? How do you think it might feel if you walked in it? Wait for responses after each question. (Allow preschoolers to experience the feel of sand on their feet as they take turns stepping in and out of the container.) Then ask: How does it make you feel as you play in the sand?

Inform preschoolers that when Moses helped the Hebrew people leave Egypt, he led them through the desert toward the sea. As a matter of fact, there was lots of sand in Egypt. And, where there is lots of sand, the weather is usually very hot.

Converse with the preschoolers about how the Hebrew people may have felt in the hot desert. **Ask:** Do you think they were happy to be leaving Egypt? Do you think they were use to the heat of the desert? How do you think you would have felt if you had been leaving Egypt and crossing the desert? Allow preschoolers time to share.

Bible thoughts: Moses obeyed God and led the people out of Egypt Exodus 13:17-18.
"God saw everything he had made, and it was very good" Genesis 1:31.

BOOKS

Have ready a variety of books about Moses. Include also books on obeying God.

Provide a variety of large, soft cushions, carpet squares, or mats for preschoolers to sit or relax on as they "read" their books.



Younger preschoolers will enjoy "picture reading" the books to you after you have read them aloud.

Older preschoolers may repeat phrases as you read them. Some older preschoolers may also be able to recognize some of the words. Also, read aloud a portion of a book and guide older preschoolers to predict what will happen in the following pages. Then read the pages to find out.



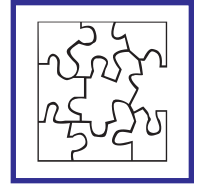
Permit preschoolers to "read" the books with you.

Bible thoughts: "Jesus said, 'Go and help others'" Luke 10:37.
"The Bible tells us to do what is right" 2 Timothy 3:16.

PUZZLES

Provide wooden inlaid puzzles of animals. Or, sketch pictures of animals on heavy stock paper or poster board. Make a matching sketch on heavy construction paper. Cut apart each picture.

Preschoolers will match the pictures to the sketches on the poster board as you talk with them about how Moses, the shepherd, cared for the goats and sheep.



Bible thoughts: God cared for Moses. Moses cared for the goats and sheep Exodus 3:1.
"God cares for you" 1 Peter 5:7.

Clean-up Time (5 minutes)

Give preschoolers a two or three minute warning to finish play and activities before it is time to clean-up. Play a familiar clean-up song. (Preschoolers should know clean-up songs from being involved in other preschool settings.) Or, just move from learning center to learning center and softly whisper to the preschoolers that it is time to put away all toys and learning materials. Adults should always help preschoolers clean-up. Remember as you do so you are modeling appropriate behavior for those you teach.

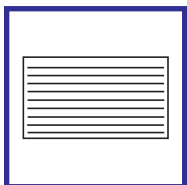
Group Time (15-20 minutes)

Bible Story: God Chose Moses (Exodus 3:9-15)

(Group time is designed especially for preschoolers who are three and older. Leader, take this into consideration when preparing for your preschoolers.)



1. Invite preschoolers to join you in a circle in a designated area of the room. Other leaders will be seated among the preschoolers.
2. Before the session, cut out the picture cards provided with this lesson or find pictures of the following: fireman; policeman; doctor; teacher; farmer; minister; choir director; musician; nurse; a mommy and/or daddy. Glue pictures to separate 3 x 5 inch index cards. Print the name of the person below the picture. Put the cards in a basket or other container and place the container in the middle of the circle.



3. Guide preschoolers to take turns choosing a card and acting out the name printed on it. Leader, help the preschooler by whispering to him the name printed on the card. Also, share with the preschooler ideas of how to act out the vocation. For example: A fireman may pretend to be using a water hose to douse a fire; a farmer may pretend to be planting seeds in the ground; a teacher may pretend to be writing on a marking board or reading from a book; a doctor may pretend to be listening to someone's heart through a stethoscope; a minister may pretend to be preaching; a musician may pretend to be playing a piano; a nurse may pretend to be taking someone's temperature; a choir director may pretend to be directing a choir; and a mommy or daddy may pretend to be rocking or holding a baby. The remaining preschoolers will guess what vocation is being acted out.



4. Encourage preschoolers who worked in the art center to take turns sharing pictures of what they want to be when they grow up. Call attention to the many different kinds of vocations or jobs the children have chosen to illustrate. Compliment the preschoolers on their good work.

Say: Did you know that God already has a special plan just for each of you? And, that plan may include the job and work you have shown in your drawings.

Say: The Bible tells us that God has a plan for each one who follows him. The plan for each of us may be different, but all are important. Also, the Bible tells us that God has promised to be with us wherever we go, and in everything that we do because he cares for us.

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5. Place your Bible on your lap. Open it to Exodus 3:9-15. Say: Our Bible story for today is about Moses. Moses was chosen by God to do a very special work for him. Listen to see if you can tell what God wanted Moses to do.

Moses was married to Jethro's daughter. He also worked for his father-in-law by taking care of Jethro's animals. Moses had to make sure that the animals had plenty of food and water. Sometimes Moses had to move the animals to different fields where grass and water were more plentiful.

One day while Moses was taking care of Jethro's sheep and goats, he may have noticed that they were eating the grass right down to the roots. He may have thought, "If I leave the animals here they will soon eat up all the grass and it will surely die". So, he decided to move them across the desert to a mountain.

As he neared the mountain, Moses noticed a bush nearby. The bush looked like it was on fire, but it was not burning up.

"How strange", Moses may have thought. "I think I will move closer. Maybe I can see why it is not burning up."

But, just as Moses moved closer to the bush, a voice spoke to him. "Don't go any closer," the voice said. "Take off your sandals. You are standing on holy ground."

Moses soon realized that the voice came from God. Moses was afraid and tried to hide his face.

Then God said to Moses, "I have a special job for you to do, Moses. My people, the people of Israel, are suffering as slaves in Egypt. I heard their call for help. I know how cruel the Egyptians are treating them. They have begged me to help them. I want to rescue them. And so, I have chosen you to help me. Now Moses, go to the king. Tell him I am sending you to lead the people of Israel, the Hebrews, out of his country."

But Moses was afraid. "Who am I to go to the king and lead your people out of Egypt?" he questioned God. "Why should I be the one? Why did you choose me to do this? The people won't listen to me. I am uncomfortable even talking to a crowd of people."

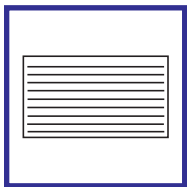
God replied, "I need you, Moses. I will be with you. You won't be alone. Lead my people out of Egypt. Then worship me on this mountain. You will know then that I am the one who sent you."

"Okay!" Moses may have answered. "I will tell the people that the God their relatives worshipped long ago sent me. But what if they ask me your name?"

God answered, "Just tell them that God sent you."



6. Show a Bible picture of Moses. Ask: Who called Moses to do a special work for him? (God); What special work did God ask Moses to do? (Lead his people out of Egypt and slavery); Did Moses obey God? (Yes. At first he was afraid); Who did God say would be with Moses as he obeyed? (God said that he would be with Moses).



7. Beforehand, mark these verses in your Bible—Genesis 21:22; Genesis 28:15; Exodus 3:12; Jeremiah 29:11. Use strips of colored construction paper. Also, print the verses on 3 x 5 inch index cards or separate strips of paper. Attach each verse and reference to a separate wooden block. Place the blocks in various places around the room.

Say: We read in the Bible that God promises to be with us anywhere and everywhere we go. He has a plan for each of us. And, he cares for us.

Invite preschoolers to search the room and find the blocks and printed verses. As each block and verse is found the preschooler will pick up the block and return with it to the circle.

When all the blocks and verses have been found, invite a volunteer to choose a marker from your Bible. Read the verse softly to him. Ask him to say the verse aloud. Then ask the preschooler who has the

block with the same Bible verse attached to it to come and stand by the volunteer. Now ask the remaining preschoolers to stand and repeat the verse together. Lend help as needed. Continue the process until all the marked verses have been found, matched, and read.



8. Pray. **Say:** Thank you God for Moses who was chosen to do a special work.
9. Quietly sing "A Prayer," or another song about prayer familiar to your preschoolers. Seek volunteers to help you sing. Or, quietly hum the song together while preschoolers softly whisper prayers to God.



10. As a closing activity, and while preschoolers are waiting for parents/guardians to pick them up, play a variety of appropriate songs on a CD player, cassette player, or piano. Give each preschooler a colored streamer (ribbon or strip of colored crepe paper). As the music plays, preschoolers will sway their streamers and move their bodies around the room while listening to the movements of the music.



Fireman



Policeman



Doctor



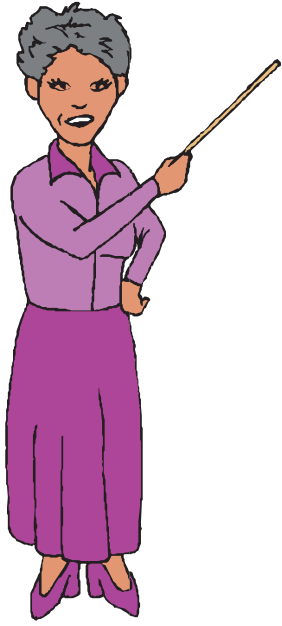
Teacher



Farmer



Minister



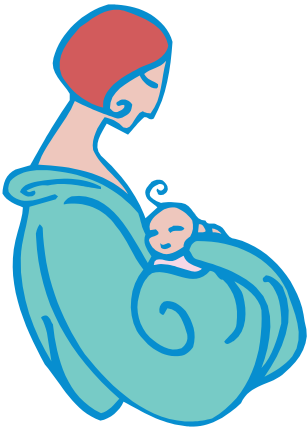
Choir Director



Musician



Nurse



Mommy



Daddy