

MOSES/BURNING BUSH



THINK ABOUT IT:

What does God want you to do?

Introduction

Have the children share with a neighbor how they would send a message to someone. Ask for their answers. Read the *Think About It* question for this lesson. Ask, “How does God give us messages to tell us what to do?” Hold up the Bible and say, “When we want to know more about God’s messages and the choices we should make, we can read about it in the Bible.

Remember, it’s like our instruction book for life. But before these words were written down, how do you think God communicated with people?” Entertain some answers. Say, “Today, we will learn about a very interesting way God communicated to Moses what He wanted Moses to do.”

Message

1. Show the visual of Moses and the burning bush.
2. Choose a student to act out the story of Moses and the Burning Bush.

Moses and the Burning Bush

As Moses cared for his father-in-law’s sheep, he remembered his years growing up as a prince in Egypt. He remembered the suffering of the Hebrew people as they worked long days in the hot sun making bricks. He also remembered the anger that had caused him to kill an Egyptian who was beating a Hebrew worker. It was the fear of getting caught that brought Moses to this faraway land. Everything was different now. He was no longer a prince. He was a husband and a shepherd. While Moses was watching the sheep, a strange sight got his attention. A bush nearby was burning. As Moses approached the burning bush, he realized that while the flames rose high and he could feel the heat from the fire, the bush beneath the flames was still green. The bush was on fire, but it was not burning up. How strange! As Moses inched closer, God called out to him from the burning bush.

(Use a deep voice for God) **“Don’t come any closer. Take off your shoes**



SCRIPTURE

Exodus 3

Micah 6:8



MATERIALS

- Bible for each small group leader
- Pot with wire branches
- Red, orange, and yellow streamers
- Child-sized costume
- Staff
- Visual – Burning bush *
- A piece of colored cellophane for each child
- Permanent markers
- Tape

* Available in the Member Toolbox



PREPARATION

- Write the *Think About It* question on the board
- Make a burning bush by tying the red, orange, and yellow streamers to the wires
- Bookmark the Bible verse

**IDEA!**

In small group time, children will be adding flames to the bush by writing something God is asking them to do on pieces of colored cellophane. If possible, invite the host church to add to the bush over the next few weeks. Use a fan to 'fan the flames.

**IDEA!**

Have the children tell you what they want on their flames and write it for them.

**IDEA!**

Use a fan to 'fan the flames.

**EXTRA TIME**

Ask the children to think of one way they can be fair, kind or caring, or live the way God wants them to *this afternoon!* Encourage them to follow through and report back next week what happened.

because the place you are standing on is special. I am the God of the Hebrew people. I have seen how hard they work in the hot sun and have heard their cries. Moses, I have chosen you to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let my people go." Moses said, "But God, who am I that Pharaoh will listen to me?" God answered, **"I will be with you."**

Moses asked, "But God, what if they don't believe You sent me?" God said, **"I'll give you three signs to show them. Take your staff and throw it on the ground."** (*Moses throws his staff on the ground, jumps back, and yells*). Moses' staff had turned into a snake! God said, **"Now, pick it up by the tail."** (*Moses picks the staff back up*). The snake turned back into a staff! God said, **"Moses, put your hand inside your robe."** (*Moses puts his hand in the robe and pulls it back out*). Oh no! Moses now had a skin disease!

God said, **"Don't panic Moses. Put it back again."** (*Moses puts his hand in the robe and pulls it back out*). His hand was cured! God said, **"And just in case they still don't believe I sent you, take water from the river and pour it out in front of them. I'll turn it into blood right before their eyes."**

Moses said, "That's great and all. . . . But, God, I can't talk very well." God replied, **"No big deal Moses. I will help you speak, and I'll tell you what to say."** Moses asked, "But God, can't you send someone else?" God said, **"Take your brother, Aaron, with you. He speaks well. Aaron can do the talking, but I will tell you what to say, and I will demonstrate my power through both of you."** Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord commanded.

3. Say, "We just heard how God sent a message to Moses telling him what to do. Today in your small groups you will use the Bible, God's message to us, to answer our Think About It question for today, 'What does God want you to do?'"

Dig Deeper in Small Groups

1. Say, "Let's read Micah 6:8 and find out what God wants you to do."
2. Read Micah 6:8.
3. Ask, "What three things does God want you to do?" (*do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God*)
4. Say, "To do justice means we are being fair." Ask, "How can you be fair?"
6. Say, "Loving kindness means we love others all the time." Ask, "How can you love others?"
8. Say, "Walking humbly with your God means we are trying to live the way God wants us to." Ask, "How can you live the way God wants you to?" (*read the Bible, pray, praise*)
10. Give each child a piece of colored cellophane. Share the permanent markers.
11. Have each child write or draw one of the following: a way they can be fair, a way they can be kind or caring, a way they can live the way God wants them to.
12. Give each child a piece of tape so they can add their flame to the bush!