

BABY MOSES



THINK ABOUT IT:

How does God care for you?

Introduction

Ask the children the following questions to help them connect this week’s lesson with the story of God’s people so far:

- “Over the last two weeks we learned about someone who fully relied on God. Who was that?” (*Joseph*)
- “We learned that Joseph was given a very important job in Egypt. Only Pharaoh had more power than him. Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of getting ready for the famine that was going to come. There was not much food when the famine came. Who came all the way from Israel looking for food?” (*Joseph’s brothers*)
- “Joseph was happy to be reunited with his family and showed forgiveness. He moved his family, God’s people, to Egypt to live with him. Hundreds of years passed and the number of God’s people grew and grew. Pharaoh was afraid they might try to overtake his kingdom, so he forced them to become slaves, making bricks for his monuments. Do you think God’s people thought that He still cared for them? Show me a thumb up if you think He still cared for the Israelites; a thumb down if you think He had forgotten about them.”

Message

1. Say, “God did still care for his people, and He cares today about each and every one of you.”
2. Hold up the basket and ask, “What can we use a basket for?” Allow the children to respond and affirm answers. Tell the children that a simple basket like the one you are holding was the tool God used to show he cared about His people.
3. Show the visual of Moses being drawn from the water while an adult volunteer in costume reads Jochebed’s story.



SCRIPTURE

Exodus 1-2
 Matthew 6:26-32
 1 Peter 5:7



MATERIALS

- Bible for each small group leader
- Costume for adult female volunteer
- Visual - Moses drawn from water *
- Scrap paper for each child

* Available in the Member Toolbox



PREPARATION

- Write the *Think About It* question on the board
- Bookmark the Bible verses
- Choose an adult volunteer to read Jochebed’s story



EXTRA TIME

Brainstorm as many ways as the children can think of to show God's care of us. Nothing is too small or insignificant to be shared!

Jochebed's Story

Isn't he beautiful? This is my baby, Moses. He's not my only child, though. He has a big brother named Aaron. He also has a big sister named Miriam. Oh, how Miriam loves her baby brother. My husband and I were so excited when Moses was born. That was until we heard about the king's new law. I didn't believe it at first. I couldn't understand how anyone could be so wicked. The evil king ordered that all Hebrew baby boys should be thrown in the Nile River and drowned. We kept Moses hidden for as long as we could, but he was getting bigger...and louder!

I had to find a better place to hide him, so I made a basket and covered it with black pitch to keep it dry. I put Moses in his new little bed and hid him in the high grass down by the river. Miriam is such a good girl. She played all day near the river so she could go to Moses if he cried. She was playing there on the river bank when the king's daughter came. Can you believe it? The princess wanted to take her bath right there where Moses was sleeping. I can't imagine how frightened Miriam must have been. The princess had some servants with her, but even with all the talking and laughing, Moses slept peacefully. Miriam was just starting to relax when the princess noticed the basket and sent her slave girl to get it.

As she opened the basket, Moses began to cry. The princess knew that Moses was a Hebrew baby, but she felt sorry for him and decided to raise him as her own child. I'm so proud of Miriam for her quick thinking. As Moses cried, she ran to the princess and asked if she should find someone to feed the baby. I ran quickly to the river when Miriam called for me. My heart pounded with fear when I realized what had happened. To my surprise, the princess put Moses in my arms and asked me to care for him! She said that when he was older, she wanted me to bring him to the palace where he would grow up as her son. I knew then that Moses was special. I knew God had saved him and that He must have a special plan and purpose for his life.

4. Have the volunteer leave the basket in a prominent spot; it will be used in small group time.
5. Say, "We just learned how God cared for Moses when he was a baby. Next in small group you will answer the question, how does God care for me?"

Dig Deeper in Small Groups

1. Say, "Listen for what God provides in these verses."
2. Read Matthew 6:26-32.
3. Ask, "How do we know God cares for us?" (*He gives us what we need—food, shelter, clothing; He gives us caring adults to take care of us; He created us like Him; He gave us responsibility to take care of the earth; He wants a relationship with us, etc.*)

4. Say, “There’s another way God shows He cares for us. Let’s read about it.”
5. Read 1 Peter 5:7.
6. Ask, “What can we do because God cares for us?” (*cast all our anxieties on Him*)
7. Give each child a scrap piece of paper and a pencil. Have the children write or draw anything that is worrying them. Reassure the children that their responses will be kept confidential. We won’t be sharing them with the group.
8. Have the children fold their papers and place inside their folded hands for prayer time.
9. Pray. Thank God for caring for us, and for taking on our worries for us. Ask God to take each worry the children have.
10. Have the children give their worries to God by placing their folded papers in the basket.
11. Say, “Just like God took care of Moses in the basket, He will take care of you.”