

EGYPT

“Moses Commits Murder”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- Joseph in the Pit
- Joseph at Potiphar’s House
- Moses commits murder
- Moses returns to Egypt

Series Theme Verse: “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that even the ones we see as the closest follower of God fail at times.

Lesson Passage: Exodus 2

Materials Needed: Bibles, Series Theme Verse Poster

Lesson Plan: Briefly summarize the story of Joseph for students to fill in the gaps between last week and this week:

- Joseph was in prison and interpreted dreams for Chief Cupbearer, Baker, and eventually Pharaoh.
- Joseph became second in command of Egypt.
- Joseph’s family moved to Egypt and lived there until all of them had died.
- The Hebrew people (Joseph’s family, the descendants of Abraham) began to grow in Egypt as God blessed them.
- When the number of Hebrew people grew extremely large, the Pharaoh did not remember Joseph, and he became worried that the Hebrew people might turn on the Egyptians.
- As a result, the Pharaoh enslaved the Hebrews and made them build bricks, work in the fields, and even tried to have the Hebrew baby boys killed at birth.
- The Egyptian midwives (nurses) feared God and did not kill the Hebrew baby boys.

Talking Points:

- How long did Moses’ mother hide him from Pharaoh and being thrown into the Nile River? (3 months)
- When she could hide Moses no longer, what did she do? (Made a basket that would float and placed him in the reeds near the bank of the Nile River)
- Who watched the basket float by the bank? (Moses’ sister)
- Who found the baby Moses floating in the Nile River? (Pharaoh’s daughter)

- What did she do with the baby? (She had Moses' mom take care of Moses until he was old enough to move into Pharaoh's daughters home as her son)
- Who named Moses? (Pharaoh's daughter – Moses means "I drew him out of the water")
- What happened when Moses was grown and saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew? (Moses became angry and killed the Egyptian and buried him in the sand)
- The next day, Moses saw two Hebrews fighting and when he asked them why they were fighting among themselves, the Hebrews showed they knew Moses had killed an Egyptian. Was Moses afraid? (Yes, because he was worried about who all might know)
- What did Pharaoh do? (Tried to have Moses killed)
- Why didn't he succeed in killing Moses? (Because Moses fled to the country of Midian)
- What happened to Moses in Midian? (He sat down by a water well and rescued the daughters of a priest of Midian from some pushy shepherds)
- What was Moses' reward? (He was invited to the Priest's house for supper, and he ended up marrying the Priest's daughter, Zipporah)
- What happened in Israel while Moses was in Midian? (Israel was struggling under slavery and the Pharaoh died.)
- Did God care about the Hebrews who were suffering in slavery? (Yes, God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them)

The Story Retold:

- Many of us have heard of Moses and how he led the people of God out of Egypt.
- We forget sometimes that Moses was human, just like us.
- Moses failed when he committed murder, but God still would use Moses.
- How we respond to our own failures says a lot about our faith in God.
- Have one student walk and "fall" in the room.
- Ask students what the person should do now (get up).
- Now have the student fall and have someone help him/her up.
- Remind students that when we fall, we need to get back up, and when we see a friend fall, we need to help them back up.

The Story and Me:

- Point students to the Series Theme Verse Poster.
- Remind students that God was watching over Moses and the Israelites, even when they were in slavery in Egypt.
- Have the students stand in a circle and say the verse one word at a time going around the circle.
- Do this several times until they can do it completely.