

EXODUS

“Israel Should Only Worship God”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- Moses led Israel out of Egypt
- God provided Food and Water in the Desert
- Israel was supposed to Worship God Only
- Moses died and passed the leadership of Israel to Joshua

Series Theme Verse: “The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.”

- Exodus 15:2

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that God wants Israel and us to worship only God.

Lesson Passage: Exodus 32:1-20

Materials Needed: Bibles, theme verse on a poster, Play-Doh for each student

Lesson Plan: To start off, explain to students that God gave the people of Israel rules or standards to live by so they would be a holy people set aside so others would know who the true God was. We know some of these rules or standards as “The Ten Commandments.” Feel free to run through the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), but be sure to emphasize Number 2 because it sets the stage for today’s lesson, “You shall have no other gods before me.”

The Story Retold:

- Normally, this section reinforces the story after the story has been told, but today it will set up the story and be used to tell the story.
- Give each student some Play-Doh
- Give students different items to make using their Play-Doh:
 - Calf
 - Moses
 - Aaron
 - Stone Tablets of Ten Commandments
 - Jewelry
 - Israelite People
- Use the Play-Doh figures to tell the story visually for the students

Talking Points: Exodus 32:1-20

- Moses had gone up on the mountain to speak with God, but took a long time in returning. What did the Israelites do when they saw Moses was not returning? (Asked Aaron, Moses’ brother, to make a god for them)

- Why do you think they asked Aaron to do this? (They were used to worshipping idols they could see, especially in Egypt where the culture was filled with idols and gods...old habits are hard to break)
- What was Aaron's response? (Bring me your gold to melt down and I will)
- What did the idol look like? (A calf, then Aaron built an altar to sacrifice to the calf)
- What did Aaron proclaim? (A festival for the idol)
- What did God tell Moses when God saw all this happening? (God told Moses about the calf and that God was going to destroy the people for worshipping the idol)
- What did Moses do? (Intervened for the people and God decided not to destroy the people)
- When Moses went down the mountain with the stone tablets, what did he do upon seeing the worship of the idol? (Threw down the tablets, breaking them, and melted the calf in the fire, made the people drink the powder of the idol)
- Ultimately, Moses would regain control of the people, but blood was shed and the people were punished through a plague for worshipping the idol.

The Story and Me:

- Have the series memory verse on a poster.
- Read the verse together.
- Explain any words that may be confusing for students.
- Together, create motions for each word of the Series Theme Verse.
- Say the verse together using the motions.
- Remind students that salvation is only possible through the one, true God. That is why we are to worship only God.
- Ask students what are some ways we worship God? Help students to see that worship of God is something we do more than just Sundays and Wednesdays, it is a lifestyle.