Beautiful BIBLE TREASURES

For Children

Lesson 25

Level A—Little Bible Treasures: A Palace, a Prince, and Preparation

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures: A Palace, a Prince, and Preparation

Level C—Story Time with Jesus: A Palace, a Prince, and Preparation

Level D—What Does it Actually Say? : A Palace, a Prince, and Preparation

Level E—Bible Bits: Chapter Studies—Psalm 23/ Topic Treasures—God Prepares and Leads Us

Many people who were from the families of Jacob's sons and their children were living in Egypt. Things were hard for them there. God wanted them to move somewhere else.

One day a baby was sleeping in a little basket-bed-boat, floating near the edge of the river. His older sister was watching over him.

Then Pharaoh's daughter saw the little baby and picked him up. She heard him cry, and loved him. She called him Moses.

Moses' mother cared for him, and the Princess treated him like her own son as well. He grew up as a prince in the palace of Pharaoh.

God was preparing Moses to be the man to do the job of helping the people move out of Egypt many years later.



Many years had passed since Jacob and his 12 sons and their families had moved to Egypt, and things weren't so easy any more. A new Pharaoh had become the ruler, and he disliked all these people, who weren't Egyptians, living in his country.

He could have told them to move, but he had a different idea. He decided to make them his workers, to build and build many things in his country for him.

The people had to work so very hard, and were not treated well at all. They prayed for God to help them—and He did but it took some time until it all happened.



God needed to prepare someone to be just the one that would be able to do the very big job of helping the Israelites to leave Egypt and find a new country to live in.

God sent a baby to a good

couple, who loved and obeyed Him, and they took good care of their little baby.

Then God had the Princess find him one day, as he slept in a little basket on the river, made like a small boat. His sister Miriam was watching over him.

When the Princess found him, she loved him so much, and wished he could live with her. She gave him to his mother to care for, and said that after he grew a bit older that he could come and live in the palace with her.

Moses grew up as a prince in the palace of Pharaoh, learning many things. He didn't know yet that God was preparing him for a very important job in the future.

It would take a lot of time and training and patience until Moses was ready to do the job of helping the Israelites in the way God knew was best.

Activity

*Call out action words that describe some things that happened in the story, and have the children act them out. (For example: build, work, find, cry, hug, etc.)





Ever since the time of famine, when Joseph and Pharaoh invited Jacob (who God also called "Israel") and all his sons and their families to live in Egypt, they had stayed there.

Years passed and now there were many, many people in Egypt. Too many—or so the Egyptians thought! It was getting to be a worry for them. The Egyptians wanted to have full control over the country.

God had promised to Abraham, and to Isaac, and also to Jacob, that if they obeyed Him, their descendants would be many—eventually too many to even count. Now it was coming true.

A new, ungodly Pharaoh, who was in charge after the time of Joseph, wanted to control the people, and to use them to build great things for him. Pharaoh made things pretty tough, and not nice at all for those people living in Egypt, making them work way too hard.

He thought if he made them just work real hard, this would keep them from becoming strong. He didn't want them to start taking control of the country. Pharaoh didn't want any more people, either. He was afraid of there being more than he could handle. But it was God's plan for more and more people to be born.

It was time for God to send someone to help them and lead them out of Egypt. He wanted and needed someone who was just right for the job. Can you imagine what kind of things someone would need to know in order to do this special job? What would they need to be like, in order to do a good job of helping to get everyone on the move again—to go to the place that God had promised to their forefathers, that their descendants could live in?

It would be an enormous task to get that many people mobile. It would need to be someone who was one of them, understood them, spoke their language—but yet also knew a lot about Pharaoh and how things worked in Egypt. They would need to know how to care for people, lots of them, and take good care of them, helping them to move on—like a shepherd cares for his sheep, and brings them to new pastures.

God would need someone with a lot of patience and faith, because it wasn't going to be a fast job, that from one day to the next everyone would be living happily and peacefully in a new country. God needed someone who loved Him and knew how to pray and hear Him speak.

God needed someone real obedient, who would do whatever He asked them to do, because it was going to take being willing to try out a lot of new ideas to make this big move work, and for the people to have all they needed while

travelling.

God isn't in a big hurry when He wants a job done right, and this was a very important job leading and caring for a huge amount of people, while taking a long journey.



First God chose a good family, one that loved and obeyed Him, and that taught their children about Him too. Then He gave them a child, the one chosen for the job. It was going to take a long time till that child was not only grown up, but had learned many important lessons, making him fit for the task.

Pharaoh's idea to make the large amount of Hebrew people—Jacob's descendants—more manageable, and not keep increasing, was for people to simply stop having more babies. That just didn't work, because God's plan was exactly the opposite. But it did make it hard for those who had them to take care of them well. God told one mother—the one He'd given this special child to—to do something unique.

A type of mini boat-basket was made, real good and water-proof, made out of reeds from the river bulrushes and tar. Next, Miriam, the baby's sister, was told to watch over him, while he slept in that little basket



bed, floating close to her on the water of the river.

What happened next was part of a wonderful plan. Can you believe it, but none-else but the King's own daughter who came to bathe in the river, found this basket, and the baby in it?!

The baby of course cried seeing a lady he'd never seen before pick him up. But Miriam was there in a flash to offer to get the princess someone to nurse and care for the baby. —She got their mother! What an amazing miracle took place that day! The princess loved this baby so much, just after seeing him once that she wished he could live with her. But he needed to get a bit older first.

So she gave her royal permission for the mother to take good care of him, and even gave their family money to do so. Then when he was old enough, he lived in the palace, as a prince. She called his name, "Moses".

Moses grew and lived in the palace, getting to know the Pharaoh, and the Egyptian way of doing things. But God's plan for him wasn't to become the next Pharaoh, and to live the rest of his life with the comforts of life, and riches, and all that he wanted.

God placed him there to learn what he needed to. And when the time was right, there were new lessons in new places for him to experience, making him just the kind of person that was needed for the big job he was yet to be called to do.

Activity

*Make a simple little doll bed using whatever you can: cardboard, foam, wood, plastic container, or cloth. Perhaps you have some spare cloth and can make a set of sheets or a little pillow and blanket. Play with it, or give it as a gift to a friend!



Let's Talk About It

*How did Miriam show that she was a responsible older sister? What kinds of things should older brothers and sisters do, in order to be wise and caring?

*Are there too many people in the world for God to keep track of? Think about the Earth and what could make it a nicer place for those who are all squished up together in big cities.

(Here are some thoughts: What if the deserts were lush lands, fertile for growing crops? Would that help? What if instead of large oceans, much of the space was good land to live on, with fresh and clean rivers and lakes? What if money didn't exist, and instead of having to squeeze together in noisy cities to find work and to make money, people instead just worked on growing crops and making useful things for others, and traded in a friendly manner with each other?)

God's going to make things much easier and nicer one day. What would you like to see changed for the better, to make the world a beautiful, happy and comfortable place to live, for all the many and different people and cultures?





Connect and Communicate

*Get quiet for a minute and just listen, then open your eyes and talk about what you heard. Isn't it wonderful to be able to hear? What things are you thankful that you have because you can hear? Look up the verse: Matthew 11:15.

Study Fun

<u>Mark</u>: The good, wise and kind deeds of the people mentioned in this passage.

<u>Look up</u>: Pictures of the pyramids in Egypt, and what bulrushes look like.

List: The names of the main characters in this story.

Exodus

1:8 Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.

1:9 And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:

1:11 Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

1:12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.

1:13 And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:

1:14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in morter, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

1:20 And the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.

2:1 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.

2:2 And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

2:3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

2:4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

2:5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

2:6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.

2:7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?



2:8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

2:9 And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and will give thee thy wages. And the women took the child, and nursed it.

2:10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name



Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

Activity

*What does your name mean, do you know? See if you can find out the meanings of some of the names of your family members or friends using a name book, or the internet.



Isaiah 26:3

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee.

2Peter 1:4a

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature.





Chapter Studies—Psalm 23

Praise1Chronicles 16:8-10 Give thanks unto the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.

*Each one traces their hand on a piece of paper, and writes the initial of a word on each finger, of things they are grateful the Lord gave them hands to help them do. The papers are labelled with each one's names, and swapped around. Whatever hand paper each one gets, they try to guess what things the person was thankful for, by seeing the letters written on each finger.

Psalm 23

Verse 1: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

- What does "want" mean?
- Have you ever been in real need of the basic things for survival?
- What are some ways God has provided for you?
- Draw a picture showing the basic needs for human survival.
- Write a list of some things you might be in need of now, and pray for them!

Verses 2-3 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. **3** He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

- What is something very refreshing and restful and enjoyable for you to do?
- Why is it not the best to always be in the middle of action and noise and confusion?
- In what kind of setting or time of day do you personally best hear from the Lord?
- Use grass, foil and other objects and pens to create a pastoral scene, somewhere you can imagine that sheep would enjoy grazing in—and that you might enjoy strolling through, or picnicking there.
- Grass and water are what sheep need for health, growth and strength. List some of the ways we can receive the strength and growth of heart and spirit from the Lord.

Verse 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

- Have you had to part with a loved one before, someone who has passed on?
- What kinds of dangers are around the place you live, and that you pray for God's help and protection for?
- Is there anything that you used to be afraid of, but are no longer? What helped you to get over it?
- Quote (or read) some verses on faith in place of fear. (Psalm 34:4, Isaiah 41:10, Isaiah 26:3, 2 Timothy 1:7)
- Post a picture of Jesus in your bedroom. Adding Christmas lights all around it can make a very nice nightlight!

Verse 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

- No matter where we are, or who is causing us trouble, or who we are compelled to be around, with God caring for us, we'll have all that we need. Can you think of any situations in Bible times of when and how God gave food to those who loved Him, even when in a difficult situation? (For example: Elijah fed by ravens). Do you know of any modern day situations of provision for people in hard and troubled times?
- In Bible times, when someone was to do a new and special job, often a prophet of God would pour oil on their head, as a sign that they were called for that job, and that God would help them to have the skill and talent to do it. He would give them His Spirit and grace for it. When we have something to do for the Lord we can pray for His Holy Spirit to empower us and to make things easier for us to do it even enjoying the job! You can pray now for this spiritual "anointing" to help you do something better, and easier, and in the way God would like you to do it.
- Make a list of things that God's Spirit can give to us if we ask for it, in order to do a greater job?
- Have you ever heard the expression, "bubbling over with excitement"? Have you ever felt so happy about something that you couldn't help but smile and tell others about it?
- Blow bubbles and thank the Lord for things that make you really happy—either the things that you have now, or the things you are looking forward to having in the future, or in Heaven!

Verse 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

- When you think of having a "good day" what are some things this means to you?
- What do you think makes Jesus feel it was a "good day"?
- Is there any way in this world today that you can be surrounded only by totally good and Godly things, from everyone you meet and all that shows up on the internet and in books and videos? How can you make sure that the good is what will follow you, and be a part of your life and words and thoughts?
- How can you make your home and family a bit like Heaven, a bit like God's home, somewhere He likes to be?
- Draw a picture of a wonderful place that you can imagine exists in Heaven.



Topic Treasures

God Prepares and
Leads Us

Study Fun

<u>Mark</u>: The phrases and portions of verses that say what God will do, and the ways that He helps us, leads and teaches us.

<u>Look up</u>: Information on gold, and how it is purified, and how it reacts to heat, as Job 23:10 talks about.

<u>List</u>: The words that indicate that things might not always be easy, while we are being trained and taught God's ways and will. **Proverbs 16:1** The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the Lord.

Proverbs 16:3 Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.

Job 23:10 But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

John 15:2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

James 1:2-3 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

1 Peter 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

2 Peter 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations.

Psalm 143:10 Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.

Isaiah 64:8 But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.





*List three things that you'd like to do for the Lord when you get older. List some character traits, habits or spiritual strengths that you need to work on and pray for His help to do better in, in order to be used of the Lord to do great things for Him.

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