



**Beautiful**  
**BIBLE TREASURES**  
**For Children**

**Lesson 27**

**Level A—Little Bible Treasures:**

Brave Brothers

**Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:**

Brave Brothers

**Level C—Story Time with Jesus:**

Brave Brothers

**Level D—What Does it Actually Say?:**

Brave Brothers

**Level E—Bible Bits: Who's That?—Barnabas/**

**Topic Treasures— Tough Jobs for God Get Big Rewards**

## Brave Brothers

When Moses and Aaron talked to the leaders of the Israelites and told them God's plan, they were glad to hear that they would soon be able to leave Egypt!

However, when they boldly told Pharaoh what God had said—that he was to let the people leave Egypt and stop working for him—Pharaoh didn't like that idea.

He tried to make things even more difficult for them all. This was discouraging for the people, but Moses and Aaron kept bravely obeying God's words.

They had faith that it was all going to work out, if they prayed and listened to God and did whatever He told them to do.








## Brave Brothers

Moses and his brother Aaron walked to Egypt, bravely doing what God asked them to. They had the job of helping all the Israelites to leave their difficult life behind, and head out on a very long camping trip!

Moses and Aaron talked with the Israelites about God's plan for them, and showed them the signs of God's power. The people believed what the brothers were saying, and were happy to hear that God would help them to leave soon. But did Pharaoh, who wanted them to work for him, like that idea? Not at all!



Moses and Aaron showed signs of God's power to Pharaoh also—like God turning the staff into a snake, and back into a staff again!

They told Pharaoh what God wanted him to do—to allow the people to leave Egypt. Just hearing about it made Pharaoh worried and upset. He didn't want all his big building plans for a great, elaborate-looking Egypt to come to a halt. If the people left, what would become of Egypt? So Pharaoh made the wrong choice and said, "No!"

Pharaoh made things even tougher for the people and told them to work even harder. He was acting very unkind, and had lots of ugly pride and selfishness in his heart.

It's not a good thing to keep going your own way, when God tells you to do something else. Things were not going to go very well for Pharaoh, as he kept going his own bad way. It was a hard job for Moses and Aaron too. Not only was Pharaoh making things difficult for them, but the people were losing courage and didn't know if it would be possible to leave Egypt.

Some things just take time, and this was something that would take awhile, and there needed to be people with faith and prayer to make it happen. Moses just kept praying and asking God what to do. He and his brother Aaron didn't give up and say the job was too hard. They had God helping them and with God nothing is too hard!

Moses gained hope and faith from his time spent with God, that eventually it would all work out. It was God's plan and idea, and God was going to make it all happen, even if it took longer than they all hoped it would.

### Activity

\*Act out some things that take time. (A seed sprouting and growing into a flower bush; a tree bearing ripe fruit; a baby growing and learning to walk and talk, etc.)

## Brave Brothers



Moses knew it would be a very tough task, to not only convince Pharaoh to let all his workers go—the Israelites who he had now made to be his workmen, whether they wanted to or not, but even getting the people themselves to follow in God's way would also be hard.

Of course they wanted to be free from the sad and difficult situation they were in, but not too many of them really knew God personally. They hadn't learned to talk much to Him as a friend, as a Father, as someone they knew who could and would help them if they called on Him.

It was hard enough being in Egypt at a time like that, when so much work to make bricks was required of the people. Then for a while it looked like things were getting even worse. Pharaoh was not pleased to hear the new idea that Moses and Aaron presented from God—that of letting the people leave. He had no interest in letting the work on his big buildings and great city stop or even slow down. All he could think about was being great. Pharaoh was about to find out that things only get worse for those who think their plans are more important than God's.

You can't stand in God's way, trying to slow down what He's doing. You have to either get going following His plan, joining in and gaining the positive results, or things may go bad for you. God gives people a chance, however, and some time to think things over, and to make up their minds, choosing which side they are going to be on—God's good side, or on the wrong side.



When Moses and Aaron first arrived in Egypt, ready to do what God had asked them to, they first of all gathered the elders, those Israelites who were in positions of responsibility and authority. They talked to them, and told them the plan, and what God had said. Moses and Aaron even showed the miraculous signs to them that God had showed to Moses when He talked with God at the burning bush. Moses demonstrated to those elders that God was serious, and He was there with them, and ready to do miracles to pull them out of that troublesome place.

Thankfully, that first team of people who heard, believed and gained faith that it wasn't just a nice idea, to be delivered from all the troubles in Egypt at that time, but it was a reality! Relief from their hardships was soon to come.

However, Pharaoh had quite a different reaction. He completely refused to give permission for anyone to leave—even for a few days. The original request presented to Pharaoh was for the people to have permission to leave for a short while to have a time of worship and prayer and praise and feasting, and taking time to honour God.

Pharaoh was upset, and totally denied them any such trip. On top of that he ordered that things be made even harder for the workers, telling them to do an impossible amount of work, without sufficient building supplies.



"Make bricks without being given any straw to make them—just try and find something else to make them with—but you must make the same amount as before!" he ordered. Of course he knew they couldn't really do that, but he was trying to make a point—that not only could no one leave,

but that if they even thought about it, he was going to make things more difficult and unbearable. He was just trying to control the people in his own way. However it wasn't going to work, because God is the one in charge, and it would soon be Pharaoh's turn to have things get tough.—God getting tough with him!

So things seemed to be going pretty rough, right from the start. Although God was willing to take them out of that place and relieve the hardship, He also had to wait for people to make decisions in their own hearts and minds.

The people were having a very difficult time believing that this idea could ever even become a reality, after Pharaoh said "no". They had a hard time speaking faith and being supportive of the plan to move, as at first it seemed to make things tougher for them all, since Pharaoh was very unwilling to let them go.

Have you ever been trying to get your own way about something you know is not right, but when someone or something tries to stop you, to help you make a better choice, you don't like it? Rather than changing and doing things the right way, you instead got upset and angry and tried to push your way, and make things difficult for others, making others feel bad?

It would be so much better for someone in that situation to just admit they were going in the wrong direction, and then stop and change. Many people can't do that very easily because it takes something special to be able to do that. Can you guess what it is?

Humility is needed to admit you've been on the wrong track. Being yielded is also needed. That is, being willing to give up what you think you want, in preference for others or for what others know is best.

Unfortunately those two qualities are some of the hardest for humans on Earth to possess. Why? Because of arrogance, pride, feeling you



know what is best, wanting to be well-thought of, thinking you are better than others and that you deserve better or more than others.

Having those wrong feelings and traits inside your heart only makes the opposite happen. You lose friends. You lose your sense of joy. Most of all you make God unhappy—because you start to do things that are unloving and unkind, and you only focus on yourself. You choose to do things that you think will boost you up and show others how great you are, while making others feel they are less important than you.

So Pharaoh had a large dose of the wrong things in his heart, and that's why he couldn't bear to change, to show kindness, to give, to help, to treat others well, to make others happy, or to think of their good above what he wanted to have.

The poor, overworked and hurting people now began to lose hope that good change was possible. They were upset that Moses had even come—as it seemed that he was the one that started the next part of their troubles, with Pharaoh making things even harder for them.

If you were Moses, what would you do now? Well, he learned fast that the best way to succeed is through serious prayer. "What do I do now?" he prayed, almost wishing he hadn't come.

It seemed things might have been easier if he hadn't talked to Pharaoh and told him the words of God, since the immediate results weren't so great. However, that was just because it was the



beginning of great things. Great things, that will truly bring good into your lives and to others, are always tough at the start, but you just need to push through that first barrier and keep at it.

If God ever tells you to do something, don't be surprised if others oppose it and even try to stop you, and make things hard for you. Just do as Moses did and really pray. Pray and ask God if what you are doing is what He wants, and in the way He wants you to be doing it. Then just keep on doing what He shows you to do, and don't give up!

Doing things God's way may seem pretty tough at times, especially when not everyone else wants to join in and do it too. In the end you and others will be so glad at the good results of doing things God's way, regardless of the difficulties. There's no reward given for doing things only the easy way, or the way many people say it should be done, which is often the wrong way. Doing things God's way, however, will bring enormous rewards and benefits, as well as eternal compensation, from the One Who is really in charge of things.

You'd be glad to know that Moses did not give up, even in the face of great opposition. He had God, he had God's Word, and his brother Aaron to help him also. So together, following God's next instructions, they both went before Pharaoh again—this time to show signs of God's amazing power.

As Aaron's rod became a serpent, the other ungodly men tried to prove their power. But God's special snake-rod took away all the other snakes. "Oops—now we don't have any rods!" Pharaoh's magicians must have been thinking. God's power was stronger than anything they could try to imitate.

Did that make Pharaoh choose the way of humility, and at last say he was wrong, and let the people leave, giving up his own ideas, and saying "yes" to God? Read on and find out.





## Let's Talk About It

\*What project have you done lately—something that took a bit of effort and skill? What helped you to keep on at it and to finish it? Or are you still trying to do it, and are persevering?

\*Can you summarise the tips this story brings out, about what to do when there's something that God wants you to do, but others are saying or doing things that aren't supportive of it, and it's making you wonder if it's worth it after all?

## Activity

\*Choose a teamwork-requiring project, and act out together the stages of the job, and possible difficulties encountered. (For example: building a bridge, or building a house, or making a movie, or inventing and manufacturing some new piece of equipment, etc.)

## Brave Brothers

### Connect and Communicate

\*Sit or stand in a circle. One person acts out something that might happen that day to the person on their right—some activity or job they need to do. The others in the circle try to guess what they are acting out. Whoever guesses it, can then pray for that person to have a good day, and to be safe and happy doing what they need to do. The person who was acted out and prayed for, then does the same for the person on their right. On it goes around the circle, until all have had a turn.



### Study Fun

Draw: A brick, a rod and a snake near the verses that mention these things.

✓ Checkmark: The parts of verses that tell of Moses' and Aaron's obedience to God, and doing what He asked them to do, or when they were praying for God's help.

Write: The words "Let my people go" at the bottom of a big piece of paper or the whiteboard or chalkboard. Draw Moses on it, holding out his hand, without a rod in it. (To be used in the activity explained below.)



## Exodus

**4:29** And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:

**4:30** And Aaron spake all the words which the Lord had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.

**4:31** And the people believed: and when they heard that the Lord had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

**5:1** And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.



**5:2** And Pharaoh said, Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go.

**5:3** And they said, The God of the Hebrews hath met with us: let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the Lord our God.

**5:4** And the king of Egypt said unto them, Wherefore do ye, Moses and Aaron, let the people from their works? get you unto your burdens.

**5:5** And Pharaoh said, Behold, the people of the land now are many, and ye make them rest from their burdens.

**5:6** And Pharaoh commanded the same day the taskmasters of the people, and their officers, saying,

**5:7** Ye shall no more give the people straw to make brick, as heretofore: let them go and gather straw for themselves.

**5:8** And the tale of the bricks, which they did make heretofore, ye shall lay upon them; ye shall not diminish ought thereof: for they be idle; therefore they cry, saying, Let us go and sacrifice to our God.

**5:9** Let there more work be laid upon the men, that they may labour therein; and let them not regard vain words.

**5:19** And the officers of the children of Israel did see that they were in evil case, after it was said, Ye shall not minish ought from your bricks of your daily task.

**5:20** And they met Moses and Aaron, who stood in the way, as they came forth from Pharaoh:

**5:21** And they said unto them, The Lord look upon you, and judge; because ye have made our savour to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants.

**5:22** And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, Lord, ... why is it that thou hast sent me?

**5:23** For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in thy name, he hath done evil to this people; neither hast thou delivered thy people at all.

**6:1** Then the Lord said unto Moses, Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for with a strong hand shall he let them go, and with a strong hand shall he drive them out of his land.



**6:11** Go in, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, that he let the children of Israel go out of his land.

**7:8** And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

**7:9** When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall become a serpent.

**7:10** And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the Lord had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

**7:11** ...Now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.





**7:12** For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.

**7:13** And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the Lord had said.

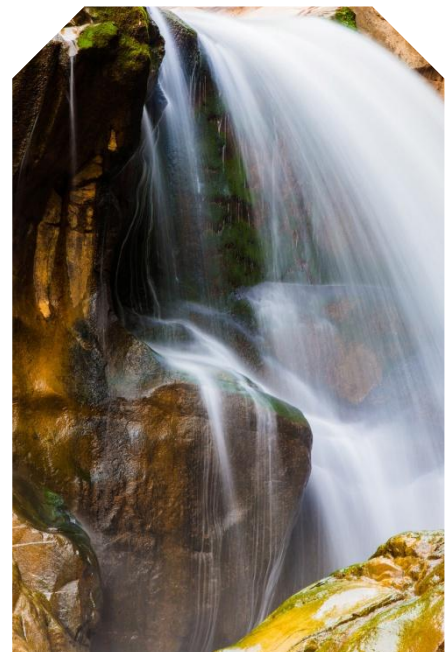
### Activity

\*Play a game like "pin the tail on the donkey" with a drawn picture of Moses, holding out his hand. Create paper rods for each player, the right size for the figure of Moses to be holding. Take turns trying to tape the rod into Moses' hand, while having on a blindfold or each one closing their eyes

## Fountain of Faith

**Psalms 55:22** Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

**Psalms 94:22** But the Lord is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge.



## Who's That?— Barnabas

### Praise

**1Chronicles 16:25** I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord hath bestowed on us.

\*Say things the Lord has done for you or that you are thankful for, something starting with each letter of the word, "lovingkindnesses."

Barnabas was a wholehearted disciple, who believed in and followed Jesus together with the early disciples. His name was "Joses", and the disciples called him "Barnabas" which meant, "son of consolation". He brought comfort and encouragement to them many times.

When he decided to follow Jesus, he sold his land and gave all the money to the disciples, holding nothing back. In the Book of Acts it says, "He was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith" (Acts 11:24). He also had faith to believe that Saul had actually changed—that though he had been trying very hard to stop them all from preaching about Jesus, Saul was a new man and could be trusted. He told the others in Jerusalem that Saul was a true disciple.

When some of the disciples living in one area needed food and other supplies, Barnabas and Saul helped to bring them what they needed—things that others had gathered together and unselfishly shared to be given to those disciples who were in need.

**Acts 4:36** And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,

**Acts 4:37** Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

**ACT. 9:26** And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

**Acts 9:27** But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

**Acts 9:28** And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.

**Acts 11:20** And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.

**Acts 11:21** And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

**Acts 11:22** Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.

**Acts 11:23** Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

**Acts 11:24** For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

**Acts 11:25** Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

**Acts 11:26** And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.



**Acts 11:29** Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:

**Acts 11:30** Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

### Activity

\*Find out what "console" means. Talk about and list some things you can do for others today, or this week, or over this next month or year, to bring comfort and encouragement.



## Topic Treasures

— Tough Jobs for  
God Get Big Rewards

### Study Fun

Draw: A little crown by the words and phrases that speak of rewards.

✓ Checkmark: Beside the good things we are to do. (For example: "be strong", "rejoice", "be faithful", etc.)

Write: One phrase or sentence that tells of rewards on a large piece of paper, and use it later to create a new board game to use with markers and dice. You can draw spaces to land on, things to do, cards to pick, pictures drawn on it, and a picture of Heaven or a crown or a heavenly reward at the end of the game.

**Hebrews 11:25-26** Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

**2 Timothy 2:12** If we suffer, we shall also reign with him.

**Matthew 5:10** Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 5:11-12** Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

**Numbers 22:18** And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak, If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the Lord my God, to do less or more.

**Matthew 26:39** And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

**Revelation 2:10** Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: ... be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

**2 Chronicles 15:7** Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.

**Matthew 25:21** His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.



**Luke 18:29-30** And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.



## Daily Diary

\*Write the portion of Jesus' prayer that says, "Not as I will, but as Thou wilt." Take time to pray this, and tell Jesus that you want to be willing to do whatever He wants you to, even if it's not so easy, and that you know the great rewards He'll prepare for you in return will be worth any cost of serving Him on Earth.

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