

GOD'S VALUABLE TREASURE

BIBLE POINT

You are a treasure to God!

BIBLE STORY

Baby Moses in a Basket
Exodus 2:1-10

BIBLE VERSE

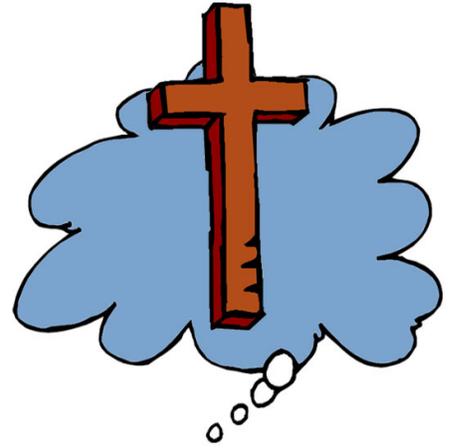
“The Father has loved us so much that we are called children of God.” 1 John 3:1 (NCV)

OVERVIEW

When Moses was born, his mother, Jochebed, took great risks to protect her child. Pharaoh had declared that all boy babies must be killed. Jochebed refused to obey the command and hid Moses for three months. When she no longer could keep him hidden, she wove a basket, placed Moses inside it and hid it along the Nile River. Pharaoh's daughter found the basket and took compassion on Moses, adopting him into her family. Because of Jochebed's faith, Moses was saved.

Children need to understand early in their lives that they are a treasure to God. Before they were born, God knew them intimately.

Psalm 139:13 tells us that God “did form my inward parts, he knit me together in my mother's womb.” (AMP) He has a special plan in mind for each child, just as He had for Moses. He deeply values each person. John 3:16 tells of this great love, “For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He gave up His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (AMP) He desires for each child to give his/her heart to Him, becoming a part of His family.



JONES JR.

Supplies:

- Costume for Jones Jr.

Good Morning. Allow me to introduce myself. I'm the one and only Jones Junior. My father, Dr. Jones, is known far and wide for his heart stopping adventures.

Perhaps you have heard of some of his adventures? How about the time that he wrestled three crocodiles to get to the treasure in Okefenokee swamp? Or how about the time he outran a great snow avalanche looking for Noah's ark? Or the time that twenty wild camels were chasing him while he was searching for David's slingshot?

I love helping my father. It is always exciting. Now, he wants you to join us on an adventure. Are you ready for an adventure? Do you love to search for treasure? Get ready, then, because the adventure is about to begin. Pay close attention today so that you can find the treasure.

Now, I am off to find my father.

AT THE DIG

Supplies:

- Small wicker basket
- Dig site container

Preparation: Bury the basket in the container

Today, we are going to try to find something that is buried in this container. I want everyone to work together to find the treasure.

(Allow the children to dig until someone finds it.)

A basket! A basket can be used for lots of things. Can anyone think of a way we use a basket?

Today a basket is an important part of our story. Let's get ready for the story time.



BIBLE STORY



Moses in the Basket Exodus 2:1-10

Supplies:

- Blue and green paper (1 sheet of each per child)
- Basket with baby doll wrapped in a blanket

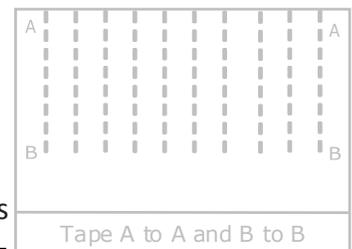
Today our story takes place in Egypt. The Nile River in Egypt is important to our story. So, we are going to make a river to help tell our story. First we need some water in the river. Take your blue sheet of paper and place it in a line here on the floor. This will be the river.

Have children scatter their blue paper across a designated side of the room.

The Nile River had tall stalks of green grass called bulrushes growing along it.

Show the children how to make the bulrushes:

To make the bulrushes, cut strips in your green paper. Leave about 3 to 4 inches uncut at the end of your paper. Form a tube with your paper and tape it together. (See example)



Have children stand their bulrushes along the river.

If I told you there is a treasure hidden in the Nile River, what would you think? Would you be excited? Wonder what it is? Want to be the person to find it?

Today, we are going to learn about a very special treasure someone found beside the river back in bible times.

Our story is found in Exodus 2:1-10. (Show the children where in the Bible the story comes from.)

There was a man named Amram and a woman named Jochebed. They had some children. One of their children's name was Moses. Another was his big sister, Miriam.

When Moses was born, there was a mean king called Pharaoh. Moses' mother had to hide him so that the mean king would not hurt him. After hiding him for three months she was afraid that someone would find him in her home.

She took a basket made out of bulrushes. (Pick up the basket and show the children.) **Those were long pieces of grass that looked like long leaves. She covered the basket with pitch so that water could not get into the basket. Then she put Moses into the basket and placed it in the bulrushes by the river.** (Place the baby in the basket and put the basket in the grass.)

After she hid Moses in the bulrushes, she had his sister, Miriam, stand and watch to see what would happen. (Pretend to be Miriam and hide behind the bulrushes.)

While Miriam was watching, the daughter of the Pharaoh came by with her maids. She saw the basket and sent her maid to get it for her. (Pick up the basket.)

When she opened the basket, she saw the baby. Moses cried. She felt bad for him.

Miriam came out and said to her, "Shall I go and find a nurse to take care of the child for you?"

Pharaoh's daughter said, "Go." So the girl went and got Moses' mother.

Pharaoh's daughter told her that she would pay her to take care of the child. So Moses' mother took care of Moses and he was protected from the mean king.

Later, Moses would even go to live in Pharaoh's house as a child of Pharaoh's daughter.



PRAYER

Thank God for making each child special. Thank Him for treating each child like the treasure that they are to him.



CIRCLE TIME

Supplies:

- None

Have the children sit in a circle. Take turns answering questions.

Why would it be hard to keep a baby hidden? (Baby cries, makes noises)

Would it be hard for a mom to put her baby in a basket in the Nile River? (Dangerous animals, not knowing what would happen to it)

Did Pharaoh's daughter treat the baby as a treasure she had found? (Yes, cared for the baby, protected the baby)

Was Moses adopted into Pharaoh's family?
(Yes)

God looks at us as a special treasure. When we decide to follow Jesus, God adopts us into his family just like Moses was adopted into Pharaoh's family. Did you know that you are a special treasure to God?



TREASURE



Supplies:

- Treasure chest*
- Apple for each child

Preparation: Before class place the apples in the treasure chest. Children will be given an apple, as they leave the class today, as a reminder that they are a treasure to God.

We are now going to open the treasure chest to see what is inside it. Does anyone have a guess what it might be? I'll give you some clues. (Give the children some opportunities to guess after each clue.)

1. It is red.
2. It is round.
3. You eat it.

Open the treasure chest and pull out one apple.

Does anyone know what it means to be the apple of someone's eye? It means that you are very special to them. You are a treasure to them.

Did you ever think that you are an apple of God's eye? In fact, we are so special to Him that He calls us His children. In I John 3:1 it says "The Father has loved us so much that we are called children of God." When you leave today you will get one of these apples to help you remember that you are a treasure to God. . .an apple of His eye.

As you hand each child an apple, say "(Name), you are the apple of God's eye."

ACTIVITY PAGE

Copy the "Find the Basket" page for each child. Have them find the basket and color the page.

GAME

Hide the Treasure

Supplies:

- Treasure such as a small toy

Take turns hiding the treasure and letting the children find it. Discuss how we are so special to God that He seeks to find us and bring us to him.

CRAFT

Baby Moses in a Basket

Supplies:

- Lunch bags
- Markers
- Scraps of material
- Scissors
- Yarn
- Tissue paper

Cut lunch bags to a height of 2 inches. Using markers, draw horizontal and vertical lines on the bags to make them look like baskets.

Baby Moses:

Wad up some tissue paper into a ball. Take a scrap of material and cover the tissue ball, tying the bottom with yarn. Some material should hang out the bottom, giving the idea of a blanket. Draw a face on the ball. Place it in the basket.

SNACK

Teddy Graham® Moses

Supplies:

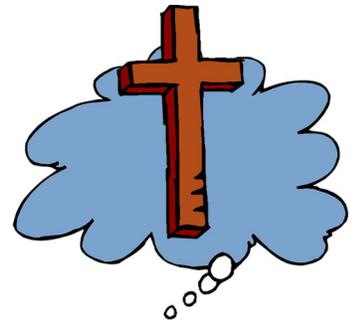
- Teddy Grahams®
- Blue fruit strips
- Graham crackers
- One other color of fruit strips
- Paper plates

The children will make a snack depicting baby Moses in a basket floating in the Nile.

Take the blue fruit strip (about 4 inches long) and place it in the middle of the plate. Take the other fruit strip (about 2 inches long) and wrap it around the Teddy Graham® like a blanket. Put the wrapped teddy graham (Moses) on the graham cracker (basket) and place it on the blue strip (Nile River). When the children have finished making their snack, let them eat it. You can review the story as they are making the snack.



STORYTELLING GLOVE



Supplies:

- Storytelling glove
- Baby Moses
- Miriam
- Pharaohs' daughter
- Maid
- Moses' mother
- Bulrushes

Use the puppet hand to review the story of Baby Moses in the Bulrushes

PRETEND PLAY

Have the children pretend to hide in the bulrushes, watching baby Moses.



Find the basket. Color it brown. Color the bulrushes green.

TOGETHER TIME



THE STORY

Baby Moses
in a Basket
Exodus 2:1-10

THE VERSE

"The Father has
loved us so much
that we are called
children of God."
1 John 3:1

THE POINT

You
are a treasure
to God!

Together Cooking

Make chocolate baskets to remember the basket Moses' mother made for him.

- Shredded breakfast cereal
- Melted chocolate bar
- Bowl
- Spoon
- Aluminum foil
- Gummy bear (optional)

Crumble the cereal into a bowl. Make sure to break up any chunks. Add the melted chocolate to the bowl of cereal and mix together with a spoon. Line a muffin pan with aluminum foil. Place a spoonful of the mixture into each space. Press the mixture down with a spoon, making an indentation in the middle of the space. Leave the baskets to harden. When the baskets are hardened, take them out of the pan.

You can place a gummy bear in the middle to represent Moses.



Talking Together

Tell your child about when she/he was born or joined the family. Talk about what a treasure the child is to you.

Have everyone in the family say something that they treasure about each family member. Example: "I love when Dad tucks me in at night."

Fun Together

Fill the sink or bathtub with water. Make a boat out of recyclable materials around the house. Have a contest to see which boat can float the longest or go the fastest.

Talk about how Moses' mother had to make sure that the basket would float and not leak.



TEACHING NEEDS

JONES JR.

- Costume for Jones Jr. (pith helmet*)

AT THE DIG

- Small wicker basket Dig site container

BIBLE STORY:

- Blue and green paper (1 sheet of each per child) Basket with baby doll wrapped in a blanket

CIRCLE TIME

- None

TREASURE

- Treasure chest* One apple per child

ACTIVITY PAGE

- Copy of the page for each child

GAME:

- Treasure such as a small toy

CRAFT

- Lunch bags Markers Scraps of material Scissors Yarn Tissue paper

SNACK

- Teddy Grahams® Blue fruit strips One other color of fruit strips Graham crackers
 Paper plates.

STORYTELLING GLOVE

- Storytelling glove Baby Moses Miriam Pharaohs' daughter Maid Moses' mother
 Bulrushes

PRETEND PLAY

- None