

MOSES IS CALLED**Exodus 3-4**

Lesson Memory Verse: Psalm 119:127: "Therefore I love Your commandments above gold; yes above fine gold."

Lesson Aim: To help the children to love God's Word and to read it often so that God can talk to them.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): Have you ever gotten any letters in the mail or any e-mail messages? It is fun to get mail, isn't it? When you get a letter, do you like to read it right away? Or do you forget all about it and never read it?

From whom do you like to get letters most of all? (Let children discuss this briefly.) Did you know that I received a letter from God? It was very exciting and it was wonderful to hear from Him. At first I didn't think too much about it, but the more I thought about it, the more excited I became. Now I want others to know how they can get a letter from God, too! Would you like a letter from God? Well, I think you already have one, but like many people, you haven't read much of it yet. You probably are too interested in other things to read His letter. I was like that, too, but now I am interested in His letter, and I hope you will realize how great it is to read His letter. You see, His letter is the Bible.

The Bible is very important to read because in it God tells us everything we need to know to be saved and how to please Him in this life. It is more important to know what God says than to know anything else in the whole world. It is even more important to have God's message than it is to have money. Listen to what our memory verse says.

HE (for Authority): Read Psalm 119:127 and explain "commandments," "gold" and "fine gold" in the memory verse. Of these three, ask the children what they should love the most.

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First, let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. In our lesson today we will learn how God spoke to Moses and then to Aaron, Moses' older brother.

I. God Got Moses' Attention (Exodus 3:1-6)

While shepherding his father-in-law's flock of sheep on Mt. Sinai, God got Moses' attention with a burning bush that did not burn up. When Moses noticed that the bush did not burn up, he decided to go over to the bush and see what was happening. Then God told him to stop and take off his shoes because he was standing on holy ground. It was holy ground because God was there. Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look upon God. When God had gotten Moses' attention, He could speak to him.

WE: God also wants our attention when He speaks to us out of the Bible. Do you listen carefully to God's Word when it is taught and preached in Sunday school and church?

II. God Spoke to Moses (Exodus 3:7 – 4:23)**A. God told Moses about His plans to deliver Israel from Egypt (3:7-9).**

WE: God has plans for our lives, too. First, He wants to save us from Hell and then He wants to make us like His Son, Jesus Christ (Rom 8:29).

B. God told Moses to go to Pharaoh to lead Israel out of Egypt (3:10-12).

Moses did not think he could, but God said He would be with him to help him.

WE: Whenever God tells us to do something for Him, we should do it, because He also promises to help us do it. We should always obey God.

C. God told Moses that His name was "I Am That I Am" (3:13-14).

This name seems strange to us, but names in the Bible were given to describe something about a person. This name of God tells about His power to do anything without help from anyone higher than Himself because He is the highest One. This is still true of God and always will be true of Him.

WE: When we have God helping us, we can do anything that He tells us to do. Do you believe it?

D. God told Moses who would listen to him and who would not listen to him (3:15-4:1).

God told Moses that the leaders of Israel would listen to him, but that Pharaoh would not listen until Egypt was greatly ruined by his stubbornness. Moses did not believe God. He did not believe the leaders of Israel would believe him. Moses disagreed with God! That was not the right thing to do.

WE: When we read God's Word, we may not understand everything that we are reading, but we should never disagree with God, nor should we doubt what His Word says. When we love God's Word, we will believe it – all of it.

E. God gave Moses three miracles that he could perform for the leaders of Israel (4:2-13).

These miracles helped Moses believe God's promise to help him. God said these miracles would help the leaders believe that God sent Moses. The three miracles were: (1) changing Moses' rod into a serpent and back to a rod again; (2) changing his hand to leprosy and back to health again; and (3) changing water to blood. But even this did not make Moses willing to speak for God. Instead, he said he was not able to speak very well. God told him that He had made his mouth and He would be with it to help him speak the right words. Then Moses told God to send whoever He wanted, but his words showed that he still was not happy to go. God tried to help Moses to trust Him, but Moses refused to do it.

WE: We must learn to believe God and obey Him. God is trying to help us to believe Him. Just as it was wrong of Moses not to believe God and be happy to speak to the leaders of Israel, so it is wrong for us not to believe God will be with our mouth when He tells us to speak for Him.

F. God became angry with Moses and told him that Aaron would speak in his place (4:14-18).

Aaron would be glad to speak in place of Moses. God would speak to Moses, and Moses would tell Aaron God's message. Then Aaron—not Moses—would speak to the people. This was not the way God wanted to work, but Moses was not willing to do it God's way. God does not use unwilling workers, so He chose Aaron because he was glad to speak for Him. Moses was a great man, but he could have been greater had he been willing to speak for God as God wanted him to speak.

WE: We can please God, like Aaron, by being happy to do things God's way. We should not displease God and make Him angry, like Moses, by doubting Him and by trying to change His plans.

G. God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and do his three miracles before him, too (4:19-23).

God warned him that his miracles would not change Pharaoh's mind.

WE: We are to speak for God, even when we know it will not change people's minds. God has a reason for having you speak to certain people, even though it will not change their minds. We are to obey God even though our message is rejected. God wants all people to hear the truth. What they do with the truth is their responsibility.

III. God Spoke to Aaron (Exodus 4:27-31)

A. God spoke to Aaron directly (4:27).

He told Aaron to go into the wilderness and meet Moses. Aaron obeyed and met Moses on Mt. Sinai.

WE: We should be like Aaron and obey God right away.

B. God spoke to Aaron through Moses (4:28).

Moses told Aaron what God had told him.

WE: We receive God's message through holy men like Aaron did. God spoke to holy men who wrote down God's message in the Bible, so each time you read the Bible you are hearing God's message through holy men who lived long ago.

C. Together, Moses and Aaron obeyed the Lord (4:29-31).

They told the people what God had told them when they did the miracles that God told them to do. The people believed as God said they would, and they worshipped God.

WE: When we do what God says, we can expect what He promises. It is exciting to obey God and see what happens when we obey Him. That is why you should love God's Word and read about His promises.

BE (for Action): Let's pretend you are Moses talking to God in heaven about His promises in today's story. What promises did God keep for Moses? I am sure that Moses loved God's promises.

The Bible is full of God's promises to us. That is one reason why we should love God's Word. God tells us in the Bible how He wants us to live so He can bless us with good things. In the Bible He also tells us how to fight the devil and win. Most of all, the Bible tells us about Jesus Christ, Who came to save us from our sins. Those are some good reasons why we should love the Bible and want to read it. Let's see how many of you can give me at least one reason why you should love God's Word, the Bible.

Close with prayer. It would be good to have several students thank the Lord for the Bible and tell Him why they are thankful for it.