

MOSES IS BORN**Exodus 1-2**

Lesson Memory Verse: Psalm 34:15 "The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry."

Lesson Aim: Teach children to love God and trust in Him because He takes care of those who trust Him.

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

KEY (for Attention): One day Johnny was out playing in the backyard. He was having a lot of fun climbing the apple tree and helping his mother pick apples. He climbed out as far as he could on the tree limbs, and then he stretched out to pick as many apples as he could reach. It was a little hard for him to keep his balance on the tree limbs when he was stretching out for the apples, but he seemed to be doing all right. However, one time he stretched a little too far, lost his balance, and he fell out of the tree, landing on his left arm. A sharp pain shot through his arm, and Johnny let out a cry for his mother to come and help him.

Johnny's mother watched over him and took care of him because she loved him very much. God watches over and takes care of His children, too, because He loves us even more than Johnny's mother loved him.

HE (for Authority): Our memory verse says that God watches over the "righteous." The "righteous" are those people who are saved because they have trusted in Jesus Christ to take away their sins. The verse also says that "His ears are open unto their cry." What does that mean? (It means that God listens to the prayers of His children. It means that God will hear us when we are in trouble and call for His help.) Just as Johnny's mother watched over him, so God watches over His children and hears their prayers.

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 today's lesson we will see how God took care of His people, Israel, and His servant, Moses. From this lesson we will also see how God also can take care of us.

I. God Watched over His Chosen Nation, Israel (Ex 1:1-22)

A. Israel grew in numbers from 70 people that entered Egypt to a great multitude (1:5, 7).

God helped Israel to grow into a nation of over two million people while they were in Egypt.

WE: God will help us to become strong, too. One way is through His Word (Heb 4:12). When we use His Word, Satan is afraid. Another way that God will make us strong is by the Gospel. When we use it in witnessing to a sinner, it makes him see how Jesus can save him (Rom 1:16). And still another way is by the work of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8). He makes us bold (2 Tim 1:7) and makes the sinner see his need to be saved (Jn 16:7-11).

B. The kings in Egypt were afraid of the Israelites and wanted to decrease their size (1:8-22).

1. One king tried to do this by making the Israelites work so hard that they would die. This did not work, however, and instead they became stronger.

WE: Work is also God's way of making us get stronger. Do not be afraid of work, but rather be afraid of idleness. "Idle hands are the devil's workshop." (Explain the proverb, if necessary.)

2. Another king tried to do this by killing the Israelite sons when they were born. This did not work either because the Egyptians that were supposed to kill the sons of the Israelites feared God and did not kill their baby boys. God protected His people from the Egyptian king.

WE: God will protect us, too. No one can hurt us unless God will use it to defeat Satan. God allowed Jesus Christ to die on the cross, but that brought greater defeat to Satan when Jesus rose from the grave to save us from our sins.

3. The same king, or possibly another king, tried to make Israel weak by drowning their baby sons in the Nile River. This did not work either, as we will see when we discover how God protected baby Moses.

WE: We must realize that God is always with us to help us. We are never alone. If God be for us, who can stand against us?

II. God Watched over His Chosen Servant, Moses (Ex 2:1-22)

A. Moses was protected from drowning by parents who trusted God (2:1-3; Heb 11:23).

1. They hid him for three months until he was too old to be hidden. This was dangerous because they could have been killed for disobeying the king's command. However, they feared God more than they feared the king, and they believed that God would protect them.

WE: We must believe God like Moses' parents did. We must learn to do right even if evil people try to hurt us for doing right. God will protect us.

2. They made a little ark (boat) and put Moses in it. It floated in the river to where the princess came to wash herself. This, too, was dangerous because the king had commanded all his people to cast the Israelite baby boys into the river. Would the princess save Moses or drown him when she found him? Would she obey her father or not? What happened?

WE: We must trust God to take care of us and those that we want to protect.

B. Moses was protected from drowning by the Pharaoh's daughter (2:4-10).

1. Miriam, Moses' older sister, was sent to watch over Moses in the river (4:8). When the princess came to the river and heard Moses crying in his little boat, she loved him and wanted to save him from dying. God gave her that love because He was watching over Moses. Miriam offered to help the princess find a Hebrew woman to take care of Moses for her. When the princess told her to get a nurse, Miriam got her own mother (Moses' mother). See how God used Miriam to watch over Moses. God uses people to watch over His children.

WE: We must be ready to protect someone that God wants to save. God may want to use us to save someone...maybe our brother or sister. How well will we do our job? If we do our job well, God will make sure someone will take care of us when we need help.

2. Moses' mother took care of him for the princess until he was old enough to become her son, and she got paid for doing it (9-10). God used Moses' mother to watch over her own son because she trusted Him.

WE: We should be thankful that God has given people the job of watching over us to help protect us from Satan by the things that they learn in the Bible. Some of these people include Christian parents, Sunday School teachers, and our pastors.

C. Moses was protected from the anger of the Pharaoh by fleeing to Midian (2:11-22).

1. Moses made the Pharaoh angry enough to kill him, but God allowed Moses to escape to another land without being caught.

WE: We will be protected by God, even from kings and mighty men, when we want to do His will.

2. Moses found a family to live with and a place where he could work. God took care of all his needs.

WE: We should rejoice that God will take care of our needs (Phil 4:19). God is watching over His children. He uses other people to watch out for His children. We should thank Him for His care of us. Then we should be ready to do our part to help watch out for others.

BE (for Action): Do you want God to watch over you as He watched over the children of Israel? If so, you must have Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. If you have received Jesus as your Savior, then you can be sure that God will watch over you and hear your prayers. (Give an invitation for the children to receive Jesus as their Savior, so they can be sure God is watching over them and taking care of them.)