

Lesson C1.5 - God Protects Us



Teacher's Pages with Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

For Lower Elementary Students and Classes

Recommended for students in Preschool, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-2.

Quick Facts for the Teacher

Lesson Summary: Exodus 1:8 - 2:10

► Bible Characters: Moses, Miriam, Pharaoh's daughter

Pharaoh decided to rid the land of all baby boys born to Hebrew mothers. But several women (even Pharaoh's daughter) disobeyed, and little Moses was saved. God sometimes uses unexpected people and situations to accomplish amazing things.

Brief Bible Background

- Today's Lesson is from the Old Testament
- Scripture Section: Exodus

Before leading his people out of Egypt as a young man, Moses spent years as a child in Pharaoh's own house. While Pharaoh thought he was in charge, God was working behind the scenes all along.

For More Information

The primary role of a Sunday School teacher for Preschool, Kindergarten (pre-readers), and Early Elementary (new readers) is to simply tell children the stories of Scripture and introduce them to the major characters of the Bible.

Teachers who want to know more about the lessons for their own familiarity with the story are encouraged to read the information in the SEED Upper Elementary and Youth Teacher's Pages.

a. Classroom Greeting

Teachers should arrive 10 to 15 minutes before class and greet students and parents by name. Write the day's Bible Message on the white board or poster board for all the kids to see. Have kids gather on a rug or in a dedicated meeting space. Encourage the children to learn each other's names.

b. Opening Prayer Song

This same opening prayer song should be sung every week with young kids — remember, repetition is good.

The words to this song are sung to the tune of "This Old Man." No accompaniment is needed. Clap along in rhythm as you sing.

*Welcome, friends! Welcome, friends!
Glad to see you all again!*

*Now it's time to learn and pray together, too:
Thank you, Lord, for all you do!*

c. Introduction to Today's Message

*Teacher's Script (student responses are in **bold**).*

Raise your hand if you've ever had a scary thing happen in your life. And yet, here you are, sitting in our class today! You survived! Sometimes we face frightening events, and we may feel alone, but **God protects us**. Say that with me: **God protects us**.

- Do we always *know* when God is protecting us? [*No.*]
- What are two things we can do if we are in a scary situation? [*Pray to God and find a good adult to help.*]

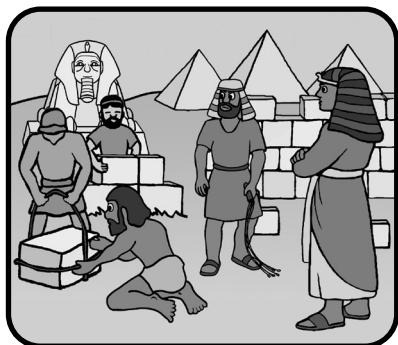
In today's story about how **God protects us**, baby Moses was in a basket on a river all by himself. Maybe he was scared. But was he truly alone? No! God used many good people along the way to keep him safe. **God protects us** every day, even when we don't realize it.

d. SEED Bible Story Video

The teacher may introduce the lesson by playing the video clip from the SEED website. This may be displayed simply on a laptop computer or tablet. If the classroom is equipped with a computer video monitor or video projector, the video can be displayed in a larger size.

e. Read the Story with Poster Pictures

The Bible Story has been divided into four parts, each with an accompanying Poster Picture. The teacher should hold up or point to the relevant Poster Picture while reading the individual part of the story, asking questions while reading. Posters may be printed on letter-sized paper, or enlarged and printed on ledger-sized paper if a bigger printer is available. Poster pictures may also be opened as a PDF on a computer screen, scrolling through each of the four pages.



Picture 1

Tell the children: Years after Joseph was a leader in Egypt, a new pharaoh got to be in charge. This pharaoh forgot Joseph and turned against the Hebrew people.

Read the caption: Pharaoh was the king of Egypt. He did not like God's people, so made them work hard as his slaves.

- *Look at the picture. What is happening? [Call on volunteers.]*
- *Raise your hand if you can tell me how you know which person is Pharaoh in this picture. [Pharaoh is wearing gold colors in his outfit. He is not working, is dressed in very fancy robes, and is watching the Hebrew slaves build a pyramid.]*



Picture 2

Tell the children: Pharaoh was afraid that if the Hebrews kept having children, they would take over his land. So he told everyone to get rid of the Hebrew boy babies.

Read the caption: When baby Moses was born, his mother wanted to save him from Pharaoh. She put him in a basket floating in the river.

- *Which person in this picture is Moses' mother? Who is the other girl? [Moses' mother is crying and leaning over her baby. The other girl is Moses' sister.]*
- *Raise your hand if you can tell me what might have been going through Moses's mind in this picture.*



Picture 3

Tell the children: The basket was covered with pitch so it would not sink. His mother wanted to know where he would end up, so she asked his sister to follow along.

Read the caption: Moses' sister Miriam followed the basket to make sure the baby was safe. Soon a princess found the basket and baby in the river.

- *Raise your hand to tell me how God protected Moses in this picture. [By providing a mother to plan how to save him, a sister to watch him and a princess to find him.]*
- *Raise your hand to tell me how Moses looks. [Comfortable; warm and dry. He sees his sister nearby.]*



Picture 4

Tell the children: Miriam came out of the reeds and told the princess that she knew someone who could nurse the baby. Then, she brought her mother to the princess.

Read the caption: The princess was Pharaoh's daughter. She raised Moses as her own son. Moses grew up and became a great leader of God's people!

- *Raise your hand if you can tell me how you know this woman is Pharaoh's daughter? [Crown; fancy clothes in the same color as Pharaoh.]*
- *Are you surprised God used Pharaoh's own daughter to protect Moses? [Perhaps, but God uses all sorts of people — even unexpected ones — to do his work.]*

Remember today's message: **God protects us.**

f. Bible Story Rhyme (optional)

The Bible Story Rhyme below is the same one found on the Upper Elementary Student sheet. The teacher can read the beginning of the line and see if the children can finish the last rhyming word of the phrase.

*The new king, Pharaoh, was upset;
he thought the Hebrews were a threat.
And, fearing that they'd want to fight,
he made them work both day and night.*

*Then, thinking they might multiply,
he said Hebrew baby boys must die!
But one brave mom would not obey;
instead, she hid her son away.*

*Placed in a basket made of weeds,
her baby rocked there, in the reeds,
and floated gently on the Nile, where
Pharaoh's daughter saved the child!*

g. Young Children's Activity (optional)

Simple in-class crafts or activities may be completed by the children if there is time left at the end of class. (Note: For the youngest children, simply providing crayons and letting them complete the Coloring Page may serve as the "craft" for the day.)

Out of the Water Game

Materials Needed: Small baby item (baby spoon, teether, etc); Memory Cards of baby Moses (from this unit)

Instructions: Before class, hide the small baby item somewhere in the classroom or in another, larger room. Explain that kids will need to search for Baby Moses. But in order to find him, they will *first* need to find something he dropped in the water. Tell kids that this toy or baby item could be anywhere in the room. Don't tell kids exactly what they are looking for — just that it's something a baby might have or a parent might use.

In order to find the item, and then to find Moses, children will need to search as a team. Explain that if the group wades in the wrong direction, away from the item, you will say, "**Dry ground.**" If they get closer, you will say, "**Marsh land.**" If they are very near, you will say, "**River water!**" When kids have found the baby's item, they will bring it to you. In exchange, you will give each one a Baby Moses memory card. They have found little Moses!



h. Song (optional)

You can listen to this classic hymn on YouTube, Vimeo, or online children's music sites.

Sing this song as a lullaby, having kids pretend to rock a baby as they sing. No accompaniment needed.

God is So Good

**God is so good, God is so good,
God is so good, He's so good to me!**

**He cares for me, He cares for me,
He cares for me, He's so good to me!**

**I love Him so, I love Him so,
I love Him so, He's so good to me!**

i. Story Review: Then What Happened?

Then What Happened is a learning game that helps kids retell the story and remember the flow of events. The teacher reads the starting sentence and then chooses a student to continue the story. There are two rules: each student may only add one sentence or say one new thing, and events in the story need to be in the right order.

► **Start: Pharaoh thought there were too many Hebrew people in his land of Egypt. Then what happened?**

If the younger kids have trouble, cut a Take-Home Page into four pieces (with no words) and let the kids put the illustrations in order while they tell the story.

j. Closing Prayer

Send the children home with the Take-Home Page, and tell them to ask their parents to read the story to them again (or, perhaps, they can read it to their parents).

End class with this closing prayer, repeated each week for memorization.

*Dear God,
Thank you for the world you made
For rain and plants and sun and shade
For those we love who love us too
We are so blessed because of YOU!
Amen.*