

MOSES

CHOSEN

DELIVERER

PLEASE NOTE!

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Introduction

Teaching Bible truths

We fall short of our responsibility as teachers if we only tell children Bible stories. It is essential that children learn the truths those stories were written down to teach us, and that we then take them a step further to show what that truth means to them in their daily lives. Of course, we cannot in one lesson cover all the teaching any particular story would provide, so in each of these lessons one central truth has been chosen. The teaching of the central truth has been woven throughout the narrative, but to help you in your preparation the teaching sections have been marked CT. These are also marked out in the lesson plan. You will notice that the central truths are marked with a U or an S to show the kind of children the truth is applied to - unsaved or saved. This is also made clear in the text by using phrases such as “If you have not trusted the Lord Jesus to forgive your sin ...” or “Christian, you ...” The application of the truth has been highlighted in the margin of the text. You may feel it necessary to adapt the applications to better suit the children you teach. The important thing is that the Word of God is applied to their lives.

Making yourself available (MYA)

When you present the Gospel message, there will be children who will respond to it independently. They may or may not tell you that they have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour at a later date. There will, however, be others who would like some help. They may have questions to ask; they may want to share a difficulty so that you can pray for them, especially if you are the only Christian support they have. For these reasons it is important that the children know you are available to talk. It is also important that they know when and where to go when they want to talk to you. Finally, it is essential that unsaved children do not confuse coming to the Lord Jesus with coming to you.

In all cases you should not make yourself available at the same time as giving the Gospel invitation, so that the children never get the impression that they cannot come to Christ without coming through you, or that they are saved simply by waiting to speak to you.

An example of MYA for the unsaved child

“Do you really want to live for the Lord Jesus, but you don’t know how to come to Him? I will be glad to explain it from the Bible; come and see me. I’ll be standing by that tree when the meeting is over. Remember, I can’t take away your sin. Only the Lord Jesus can do that, but I will be glad to help you understand better how you can come to Him. Just come and sit with me under the tree.”

An example of MYA for saved child

“If you have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour and you have never told me about it, please let me know. I’ll be standing beside the piano after the meeting is finished. I would like to know if you too have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, so that I can pray for you and perhaps help you.”

Memory verses

A Scripture verse to teach the children is suggested for each lesson. If you are teaching the lessons as a series over six weeks it would be advisable to choose two or three verses to teach well, which the children will then remember. If you try to teach all six, the children may not really know any of them well.

Review questions

Review time, if conducted in an orderly way, can be an ideal opportunity to reinforce what you have taught while still being fun for the children. You will often discover misunderstandings or gaps in their knowledge which you can correct there and then.

Overview

Lesson	Central truth	Application	Memory verse
The birth of Moses Exodus 1:11 - 2:10	Sin is a cruel master	Unsaved: Trust the Lord Jesus today - only He has the power to set you free from sin	"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" Romans 3:23
God's call to Moses Exodus 2:10-4:18 Acts 7:22-35 Hebrews 11:24-27	God's way is perfect	Unsaved: God's way for you is that you come to Him through the Lord Jesus Christ, who is "the way" Saved: You can follow God's perfect way for your life in His strength	"As for God, His way is perfect" 2 Samuel 22:31
Moses delivers God's message Exodus 4:18-6:9	God wants you to trust Him	Unsaved: Trust the Lord Jesus Christ to save you from sin Saved: God wants you to trust in Him each day	"No one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spoke concerning you" Joshua 23:14
Moses sees God's power Exodus 7:1-12:51	God is able to set you free	Unsaved: Ask the Lord Jesus to save you from God's judgement and set you free from sin's control	"If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" John 8:36
The triumphant crossing Exodus 13:17-15:21	God will never leave His children	Saved: Trust Him that He is constantly with you	"I will never leave you nor forsake you" Hebrews 13:5b
The people complain, God provides Exodus 15:22-17:7	God promises to give His children all that they need	Unsaved: Trust the Lord Jesus for your greatest need - the forgiveness of sin Saved: Trust Him to supply your needs	"He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:32

Lesson 1

The birth of Moses

Suggestions for teachers

Teach the Bible Lesson near the beginning of the Good News Club®.

Towards the end of club introduce the case study. In a large club, with sufficient helpers, you may wish to divide into smaller groups to discuss the questions with the children.

Scripture for teachers

Exodus 1:11 - 2:10

Central truth

Sin is a cruel master

Application

Unsaved: 'Trust the Lord Jesus today - only He has the power to set you free from sin

Memory verse

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" Romans 3:23

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5 and 1-6

Or

- ◆ Figures: MC-1, MC-2, MC-3, MC-4, MC-5, MC-6, MC-7, MC-8, MC-9, MC-10, MC-11, MC-12, MC-13, MC-16 and MC-17
- ◆ Backgrounds (optional): Indoor scene, outdoor scene and river scene

And

- ◆ Additional pictures of a baby girl
- ◆ Wordstrip "sin"

Lesson outline

Introduction

The birth of a baby

Progression of events

- 1 Amram and Jochebed await the birth of baby CTU
- 2 The Egyptians fear the Israelites
- 3 Israelites become slaves CTU
- 4 Kill all baby boys! CTU
- 5 Amram and Jochebed's baby is born CTU
- 6 Kept hidden for three months
- 7 Jochebed makes a basket for baby CTU
- 8 Miriam keeps watch along the river CTU
- 9 Princess finds the baby
- 10 Miriam offers to find a nurse CTU

Climax

The Princess gives the baby to Jochebed

Conclusion

Amram and Jochebed take their son to the palace CTU

Lesson

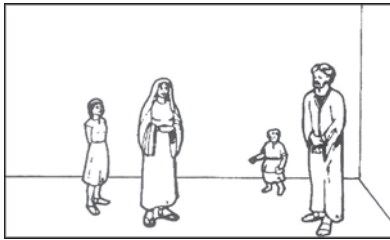
“A baby girl! She is of no use to us - get rid of her!”

Place pictures of a baby girl.

Perhaps you have a little sister. Maybe she cries a lot. Has she broken some of your toys? Despite all that, you love her dearly. Imagine someone saying, “Get rid of her!” Sadly there are some countries today where such things do happen. Baby boys are welcome, but little girls - they are a burden to the family. Many are placed in orphanages, some are killed, or simply left to die.

Scene 1

Optional background: Indoor. Place Amram (MC-2), Jochebed (MC-1), Miriam (MC-3) and Aaron (MC-4).



Amram and Jochebed.
You can have the children
say the names with you.

Thousands of years ago, in the land of Egypt, the Bible tells us of two Israelites, Amram and Jochebed. They were going to have a new baby. Even though they already had a son and daughter, they must have been excited that another child would be born into their family. But what if it were a boy? At that time in Egypt, it was not the lives of baby girls that were at risk, it was baby boys. Israelite baby boys. The law of the land stated that they were to be thrown into the River Nile.

CTU

Why was there such a cruel law? Why is there so much cruelty in our world today? Why is there so much evil? God gives us the answer in the Bible - sin.

Place wordstrip “sin”.

Do you know what sin is? Sin is against God. Sin is doing what God says we should not do, and failing to do what He commands. The Bible, God’s Word, tells us sin came into the world when the first man and woman, Adam and Eve, disobeyed God. Since then everyone except the Lord Jesus, has been born with a sinful nature and because of that nature, all sin. What does the Bible say?

Read Romans 3:23.

“... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Now listen to what the Lord Jesus said.

Read John 8:34.

“... whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.”

Are you a slave of sin? Sin is a very powerful and cruel master.

The people of Israel, God’s special people, were suffering terribly under a very harsh, cruel master – Pharaoh, King of Egypt. This had not always been so, there was a time when life in Egypt had been good for the Israelites. One of their ancestors, Joseph, had been used by God to help Egypt in a time of famine. All of Joseph’s relatives had settled in Egypt, in a place called Goshen. At that time

Flashcard 1-1

Pharaoh (PHAY-row)
Have small children
pronounce this new word
with you.

Let the children locate
Egypt and Goshen on a
map.

they numbered about 70. As the years passed, God blessed His people with many children. After about 400 years, there were some 2 million Israelites living in Egypt. The Egyptians began to fear them. A new king came to the throne, who knew nothing of Joseph. To him these foreigners were a threat to Egypt's security. What if war broke out? They might join forces with the enemy! Clearly something had to be done.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Optional background: Outdoor. Place Egyptian (MC-16) and Israelite (MC-17).

Suddenly life changed for the Israelites. They became slaves to the Egyptians. Pharaoh appointed cruel taskmasters to oversee them, and how they made the Israelites work! From early morning till late at night they were in the brick fields. What a cruel master Pharaoh was.

Who is the other cruel master you have heard about? - sin. Perhaps you are thinking that you do not have a master. You are free. Are you? Just think about how you have acted today. Perhaps you yelled at your mum at breakfast time, when she reminded you to come straight home from school. "Stop treating me as if I'm a baby!" Then you ran out and slammed the door. The Bible commands children to honour and obey their parents. Failure to do that is sin. What did the Lord Jesus say? "Whoever commits sin is a slave of sin." Does that apply to you?

Is there someone in your class who is always being teased? Have you ever joined in? Perhaps you shouted: "You are so stupid, always at the bottom of the class!"

Do you realise how much that hurt? The Lord Jesus said, treat others as you would have them treat you. Not doing that is a sin.

Are you free, or do you have a master - sin? Sin is a cruel master.

Let's find out what God's Word says.

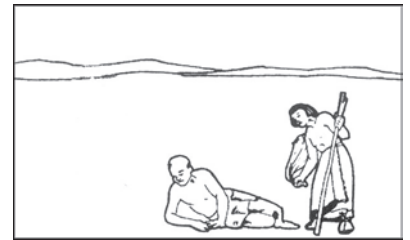
Read Romans 6:23a.

"For the wages of sin is death ..."

That means, if you continue to live with sin as your master, you will be separated from God forever, in a place of punishment called hell. Yes, sin is a very cruel master.

Pharaoh, king of Egypt, was a very cruel master and people like Amram and Jochebed must have felt so helpless. Jochebed's baby was born - was it a boy or a girl?

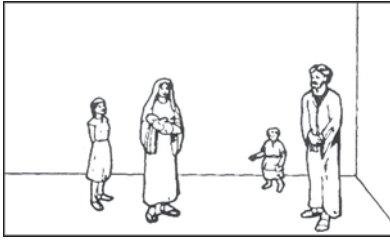
Read Exodus 2:2a.



CTU

The bricks were probably handmade using clay and straw. Preschoolers can pretend to make bricks, or use blocks to make buildings.

Flashcard 1-2



CTU

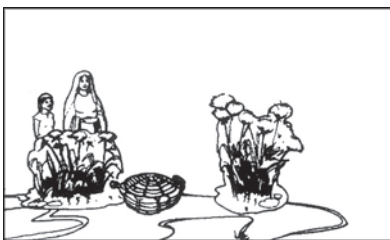
Preschoolers can say "shh" and pretend to rock the baby to sleep. You can also show a calendar and have the preschoolers count three months.

You may want to bring a large basket for the children to see and touch.

Flashcard 1-3



Flashcard 1-4



CTU

Remove all figures. Place Amram (MC-2), Jochebed (MC-1), Miriam (MC-3), Aaron (MC-4) and baby Moses (MC-5).

It was a boy! This ought to have been a really joyful time. Instead, they faced the possibility of their new-born son being killed because of Pharaoh's cruelty. They were powerless against such a master.

Was anyone strong enough to rescue the Israelites? Could anyone overcome such a cruel and powerful master as Pharaoh? Yes - the Lord. He is more powerful than any king or ruler. The Bible says that no one or nothing is more powerful than God. He alone is more powerful than sin. He alone can set you free from this cruel master. You could never, ever free yourself.

The amazing thing is that God's plan to set the Israelite people free involved a tiny helpless baby. God would use the baby son born to Amram and Jochebed. Weren't they supposed to throw the baby in the River Nile? Yes - but listen to what happened.

Read Hebrews 11:23.

Amram and Jochebed were trusting in the One who was far greater and more powerful than Pharaoh.

It cannot have been easy to hide a baby for three months. Even tiny babies make a lot of noise. Possibly Miriam, his sister, helped to keep him quiet by playing with him. His cries had to be hushed. He would be in great danger if the Egyptians found him. After three months the situation was impossible. God gave Jochebed another plan.

Read Exodus 2:3.

Place basket and lid (MC-6 and MC-7), removing baby (MC-5) from Jochebed's arms.

The tar and pitch kept the water out of the basket. Jochebed tenderly laid her son in it. Do you think each one of the family kissed the baby before it was carried to the River Nile and hidden among the tall reeds at the river's edge? Miriam stood some distance away to keep watch.

Remove all figures.

Scene 3

Optional background: River. Place Jochebed (MC-1), Miriam (MC-3), baby in basket (MC-6 and MC-7), and bulrushes (MC-8 and MC-9).

Jochebed was trusting the Lord to save her child, but her heart must have ached as she left her baby. The wonderful thing is that God cared. The Lord who is so powerful and mighty, is also caring and loving. God cared for that little baby, He cared for Jochebed, and He cares for you. How different from that cruel master sin, which brings heartache, pain, and death. God cares for you so much, He wants to rescue you from that cruel master - sin. If you would like to talk to me about being set free from sin, you can wait behind after our

meeting. Just sit in the front row, and I will know you are waiting to see me. We can look together at what God's Word says.

About two thousand years ago another little baby was born. His bed was just as strange as a basket! This baby was placed in a manger, which was a trough that animals normally fed from. Yet this was the eternal Son of God. Why should the One who had been with the Father for ever and ever, be born a helpless little baby, in a stable in Bethlehem? The Bible says it was because God loved the world. His only begotten Son would live, and die in the place of sinners like you, and rise again, to defeat that cruel master, sin. Yes, God cares about you more than you can ever understand, and He cared about Jochebed and her little son. God was going to use this little baby, hidden among the reeds, to free His people from Pharaoh. How could that be?

Remove Jochebed (MC-1). Place princess (MC-10) and servant girls (MC-11 and MC-12).

As Miriam watched, suddenly there was a noise. She could hear voices, who could it be?

Read Exodus 2:5a.

Why had the princess come to the River Nile? Would she find the baby?

Read Exodus 2:5b.

Miriam must have held her breath. What would happen now?

Replace princess (MC-10) with figure MC-13. Remove lid from basket.

The basket was opened, and there was the baby, and it was crying.

Read Exodus 2:6b.

Bravely Miriam came out of her hiding place and approached the princess. Her heart must have been beating very fast. God gave her courage.

Read Miriam's words from Exodus 2:7.

"Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?"

"Go," replied the princess.

Isn't that amazing? The Princess of Egypt was going to keep the Israelite baby boy that her father had ordered to be killed. God had worked. The Lord God, who is far greater than Pharaoh or any other ruler, had a plan to set His people free from slavery in Egypt, and this baby was part of that plan.

God has made a way to set you free from being a slave to sin. His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who had no sin, paid for your sin when He died on the cross. He has defeated that cruel master, sin. We know that, because the Lord Jesus rose from the dead, and is alive forever.

The reeds or bulrushes were huge hollow-stemmed grasses growing along the river and would easily have concealed a young girl. Preschoolers can pretend to hide with Miriam.



Flashcard 1-5



CTU

Flashcard 1-6



What must you do? If you want with all your heart to be free from sin, but realise that you can never free yourself, then turn to the Lord Jesus. Trust Him alone. Only He can save you. In John 8:36 Jesus said, "If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

Scene 4

Remove Miriam (MC-3).

Miriam raced home. There wasn't a moment to lose! Perhaps she cried out, "Mother, mother, you must come at once to the river. The baby is safe. The princess is going to keep him. She wants someone to nurse him - hurry!"

As Jochebed ran back with Miriam, her heart must have been full of praise to the Lord - her baby was safe.

Place Jochebed (MC-1) and Miriam (MC-3).

It must have seemed like a wonderful dream! Did Jochebed have to pinch herself to make sure it was real? This was no dream, this was God's work. Even though the princess may have realised who Jochebed was, she said, "Take this baby and nurse him for me and I will pay you."

Amram and Jochebed's son was safe. For a time he would be under their care, they must do all they could to teach him about the one true God.

All too soon it was time to take him to the palace and hand him over to the Princess, and he became her son. She named him Moses, because she drew him out of the water.

What will happen to Moses? How will God use him to set His people free?

CTU

Who is your master? Remember the words of the Lord Jesus: "Whoever commits sin is a slave of sin" (John 8:34). Do you long to be free? You can be. Today, you can trust the Lord Jesus with all of your heart, to break the hold sin has on your life. You will be forgiven, safe from the punishment your sin deserves. You will be free to serve the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave His life for you. The Lord Jesus said, "If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" (John 8:36).

Review game

Basket game

When a child answers a question, he may throw a soft object into a basket. Points are given when the object lands in the basket. Or you can think of other variations of this game.

Review questions

- 1 Quote Romans 3:23. ("For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.")
- 2 What is sin? (Sin is disobeying God. We sin when we do what He says we are not to do, and when we fail to do what He says we should.)
- 3 What is the missing word? The Lord Jesus said, "Whoever commits sin, is a _ _ _ _ of sin." (Slave.)

- 4 Name the group of people that were slaves in Egypt. (Israelites.)
- 5 Why did the king of Egypt want Israelite baby boys to die? (Pharaoh was afraid because there were so many Israelites, and if war broke out, they might fight for the enemy against Egypt.)
- 6 Who was the only one strong enough to save the Israelites from Pharaoh's cruelties and set them free? (God.)
- 7 Who is the only one strong enough to save us from sin and set us free? (God.)
- 8 What did the Lord do to defeat sin, and make a way that sinners could be forgiven and set free? (God gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to die instead of sinners and take the punishment for their sin.)
- 9 How do we know that the Lord Jesus defeated sin and Satan, when He died on the cross? (He rose from the dead and is alive forever.)
- 10 Amram and Jochebed trusted God to protect their baby boy. How did the Lord do this? (His mother hid him in a basket in the River Nile and the princess found him.)
- 11 What did Miriam do when she saw that the princess had found her brother in the river? (Offered to find a nurse to take care of the baby for the princess.)
- 12 When Miriam brought her mother to the princess, what did the princess tell Jochebed? (She would pay her to care for the baby.)

Case study

Louise was a little girl of 8 years of age. Every day she would think, "I'm going to be different. I am determined to be really good. No more lies, no more nasty words, no more bad temper." Louise really meant to change, but no matter how hard she tried, she always failed. Why? Louise could not stop sinning because she was not free. Sin was her master. She needed Someone stronger than sin to set her free. It is exactly the same for you.

- ◆ Was Louise happy with her behaviour?
- ◆ What did she try to do?
- ◆ Was she able to?
- ◆ Why not?
- ◆ Did she know that she was not free?
- ◆ What did Louise need to hear?

Lesson 2

God's call to Moses

Suggestions for teachers

Select a chorus which teaches the way of salvation. As you think about the chorus, let the children know that you are available for counselling.

Teach the Bible Lesson in the early part of the Good News Club hour and use the review game (Egyptian Radio Broadcast) towards the end of your programme.

Scripture for teachers

Exodus 2:10-4:18

Acts 7:22-35

Hebrews 11:24-27

Central truth

God's way is perfect

Application

Unsaved: God's way for you is that you come to Him through the Lord Jesus Christ, who is "the way"

Saved: You can follow God's perfect way for your life in His strength

Memory verse

"As for God, His way is perfect" 2 Samuel 22:31

Visual aids

- ♦ Flashcards 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5 and 2-6

Or

- ♦ Figures: MC-1, MC-10, MC-12, MC-14, MC-15, MC-16, MC-17, MC-18, MC-19, MC-20, MC-21, MC-22, MC-23, MC-24, MC-25, MC-26, MC-27 and MC-28
- ♦ Backgrounds (optional): Palace scene and outdoor scene

Lesson outline

Introduction

Had God forgotten His people?

Progression of events

- 1 Moses goes to live in the palace CTU
- 2 God is preparing him for service CTU
- 3 Moses kills an Egyptian
- 4 An Israelite asks, "Are you going to kill me too?" CTU
- 5 Moses flees from Pharaoh
- 6 Stays with Jethro and his family
- 7 Marries daughter and works 40 years CTS
- 8 The burning bush CTU
- 9 God tells Moses he is to bring His people out of Egypt CTSU
- 10 Moses makes excuses
- 11 God gives Moses signs - rod, leprosy, water to blood CTU

Climax

God becomes angry with Moses

Conclusion

God had answered all Moses' questions

Now he must go to Egypt CTSU

Lesson

“God has forgotten us!”

Is that what the Israelite people thought? Would God never bring them out of Egypt where Pharaoh treated them so cruelly? Had God forgotten His people? Never! God would set His people free - but in His time and in His way. His Word tells us, “As for God, His way is perfect” (2 Samuel 22:31).

Who can tell us what happened to the little boy hidden in the bulrushes beside the River Nile?

Who was paid to nurse the baby?

Scene 1

Optional background: Palace. Place Jochebed (MC-1), Moses (MC-14), princess (MC-10) and servant girl (MC-12).

When the time came for the child to go to live with the Princess at the palace his family must have been sad to see him go, and at the same time thankful for the way God had used the Princess to save his life. Remember what 2 Samuel 22:31 says, “As for God, His way is perfect”.

Long, long before Moses was born, God had promised to send someone to set people free from being slaves to sin.

Can you tell us what sin is?

How many people are guilty of sinning against God?

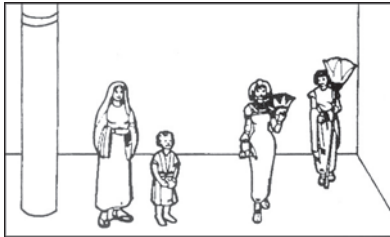
What happens to those who are not set free from sin?

Can you see how important it was that God send a Saviour? The question was - when? Hundreds of years passed - nothing! Thousands of years - nothing! Had God forgotten? Impossible! Had God changed His mind? No! The Bible tells us that at just the right time, God sent His Son to be the Saviour (Galatians 4:4). This was God’s perfect way, and God would set His people free from slavery in Egypt at just the right time.

Unknown to the Israelites, the one whom God was going to use to bring them out of Egypt was being prepared for this very important job. Would you believe his preparation was taking place in Pharaoh’s palace! God had chosen Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, and he was being brought up as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter! Would you ever have thought of such a plan? God tells us His ways are not our ways - no - His ways are far better, they are perfect.

Boys and girls, God’s way for your life is perfect.

Remove all figures.



You can help children understand that although many of the stories they hear about palaces are make believe, this is a true story from the Bible, God’s Word.

CTU

Scene 2

Optional background: Outdoor. Place Moses (MC-15).

How different Moses' life was to that of other young Israelites. He dressed like a prince. He received the very best education. Did he ever think of his own people who were suffering as slaves? When he saw the Egyptians worship false gods did he think of what his parents had taught him of the true God?

Somehow Moses knew God had a plan for him that was far more important than being a prince of Egypt.

Do you know what God's plan is for you? The Bible tells us God wants you to know and love Him, but it also says that the sin in your life comes between you and God. The amazing thing is that God has made a way that sin can be forgiven and you can come to know Him. John 14:6 shows you God's way. Jesus said, "I am the way ... no one comes to the Father except through Me." The Lord Jesus Christ is the One whom God promised to send to be the Saviour. He alone can free you from the sin that rules your life, so that you can know and love and serve God.

Do you want to go God's way? Remember - God's way is perfect.

Moses wanted to go God's way. The Bible says he chose to obey God. He refused to be called the son of the king's daughter any longer.

Place Israelite (MC-17) and Egyptian (MC-16).

Moses wanted to help his people. The Bible tells us that as he walked near the brickfields where the Israelites worked he saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite. Suddenly Moses became so furious that he killed the Egyptian. Thinking no-one had seen him, he hid the body in the desert sand.

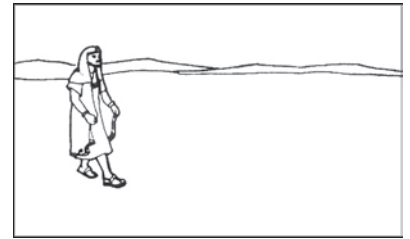
Replace Egyptian (MC-16) with Israelite (MC-18).

The very next day Moses saw two of his own people fighting one another! He pleaded with them not to fight, but one of them asked, "Who made you our ruler and judge? Are you going to kill me just as you killed the Egyptian?"

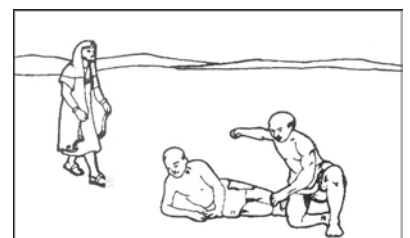
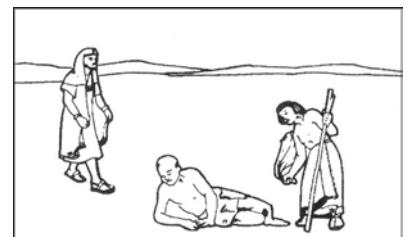
Moses wanted to help these men but they rejected him. He was also very afraid. What if Pharaoh heard that he had killed an Egyptian?

The Bible tells us of someone else who was rejected by the very people He wanted to help. Most of the Jewish leaders refused to accept that the Lord Jesus was the Saviour sent from God. At first many ordinary people followed the Lord Jesus, but as they listened to His teaching they realised that His way was not an easy one and they turned from Him. One terrible day the Lord Jesus was brought before crowds in Jerusalem. The Romans had made Pilate the ruler

Flashcard 2-1



CTU



CTU

(or governor) of Judah. He said to the people, "Here is your king!" What did the crowd say?

Read John 19:15a.

"Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!"

This was Jesus, the only Son of God, and He was willing to face all of this in order to save sinners like you and me. He knew this was God's way. He must suffer and die in the sinner's place, and on the third day rise again.

God's way for you is not that you suffer the punishment you deserve for your sin. His way is that you trust in the One who has suffered and died in your place. His way for you today is that you turn from these things in your life that do not please Him, and you turn to the Lord Jesus Christ, depending on Him alone to be your Saviour and Lord.

God does not say His way is easy, but it is a perfect way. God's way for Moses was not easy. When Pharaoh heard that Moses had killed an Egyptian he ordered that Moses be killed, so there was no choice but to run away.

Remove all figures.

Scene 3

Optional background: Outdoor. Place Moses at well in Midian (MC-19), daughters of Jethro (MC-22), shepherds (MC-23) and sheep (MC-20 and MC-21).

After crossing desert and mountains Moses finally reached a place of safety. Tired and thirsty he came to a well in the country of Midian. He noticed some girls trying to water sheep, but rude shepherds chased them away from the well. Moses helped the girls water their flock.

When the young women arrived home their father asked, "Why are you home so much earlier today?"

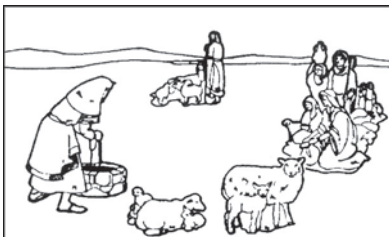
After hearing what had happened Jethro sent for Moses. Moses stayed with the family. Eventually he married one of Jethro's daughters and worked for his father-in-law.

Remove all figures.

Forty years went by. During the first forty years of Moses' life he had been a prince. For the next forty he worked as a shepherd. Do you wonder if his thoughts sometimes went back to Egypt and to his people who were still in slavery? Surely they weren't his problem.

This was not how the Lord saw things. The forty years in the palace were part of His plan for Moses - so were the forty years looking after sheep in the desert. God was preparing Moses for the task of leading the Israelites out of Egypt.

Flashcard 2-2



You can help the children to locate Midian on a map.

Preschoolers can pretend to pour water for the sheep.

Jethro was the priest of Midian.

Flashcard 2-3

If you have come to know God through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, then you can be sure that God is working out His perfect plan for your life. He will use the good times, and the difficult times, just as He did in Moses' life.

Place Moses (MC-24), rod (MC-25) and sheep (MC-20 and MC-21).

One day Moses led the sheep to a grassy spot on Mount Sinai. Suddenly flames of fire came out of one of the bushes.

Place burning bush (MC-26).

The flames were real, but the bush didn't burn up.

Moses stared at it. What was happening? He didn't know then that the fire was a sign of God's presence. He thought, "I'll go a little closer to get a better look."

"Moses, Moses." Who was speaking?

Read Exodus 3:4 and encourage the children to tell you who spoke to Moses.

What did the Lord say to Moses?

Read the conversation directly from the Bible, or have a child who is a competent reader to do it.

Exodus 3:5 - "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground."

Exodus 3:6a - "I am the God of your father - the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

How did Moses feel? Listen.

Read Exodus 3:6b, and again encourage the children to answer the question.

"And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God."

Moses was right to fear God, He is so great and so powerful.

Replace Moses (MC-24) with figure MC-27. Note dotted line on right for inserting and removing rod (MC-25).

Sometimes boys and girls today make jokes about God. They laugh at what the Bible says. They poke fun at those who love God. "Who needs God? We can live our lives the way we want to." The Bible says they are fools, and one day they will have to answer to God for the way they have lived their lives.

The Bible also says that those who fear God are wise. Moses was wise. He feared God and listened to God's voice.

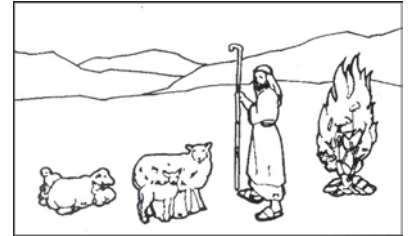
The Lord said, "The Israelites have suffered in Egypt. I will save them from the Egyptians and bring them out of that country. I have chosen you to go and bring them out of there."

How do you think Moses answered?

Read Exodus 3:11.

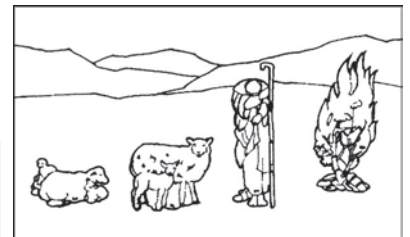
CTS

Flashcard 2-4



In the Bible, fire often symbolises God's presence either for judgment or cleansing.

Preschoolers can pretend to take off their shoes and hide their faces.



CTU

“Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

Do you remember when Moses was a young prince in Egypt, he thought he was strong enough to help his people. Moses realised now how weak he was, but he had something else to learn. Listen to God’s words.

Read Exodus 3:12a.

“So He (the Lord) said, ‘I will certainly be with you.’”

Moses could never rescue the Israelites, but he needed to understand that he could lead them out of Egypt in God’s strength. This was God’s way.

CTSU

What about you? Have you learned that you can never break free from sin in your own strength? That is good, but now you must understand how great God is. God’s way is that you don’t depend on yourself, but on the Lord Jesus Christ. He alone can deal with the sin in your life. Only He has the power to set you free. It is only when you take Him as Saviour and Lord of your life that you will be able to follow the way God shows you in His Word, the Bible.

Despite God’s words, Moses wasn’t feeling very confident about following God’s way.

Moses asked, “When I go to the Israelites whom shall I say sent me?”

God said, “I am who I am. Tell the people ‘I am’ has sent you. Tell them that I am the God of their ancestors - Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.”

How do you think Moses felt now?

Read Exodus 4:1.

“But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, ‘The Lord has not appeared to you.’”

It sounds as if Moses didn’t want to go! The Lord was very patient with him and gave Moses some signs he could use to convince the Israelites that the Lord had sent him. Listen carefully and see if you can find three signs.

Read Exodus 4:3, 4, 6, 7 and 9.

What were the three signs?

Remove rod (MC-25). Place snake (MC-28).

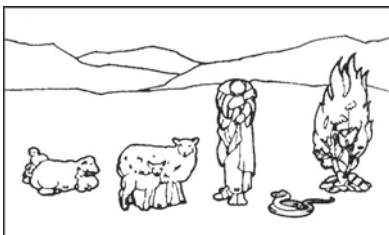
Moses’ rod became a snake.

Moses’ hand was covered with leprosy, a terrible disease that affected the skin.

Water from the river became blood.

The name Yahweh (Jehovah) is a form of the verb “to be”, here translated “I am”, indicating God is the present one - He who is. To prisoners in a foreign land, feeling perhaps that even God had turned His back on them, this would be exhilarating news. Your God is present even in Egypt. (*The Children’s Ministry Resource Bible*, Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, TN, 1993.)

Flashcard 2-5



Moses had seen God's great power. Surely now he would be ready to trust the Lord and go His way. Are you? The Lord called Himself "I AM". That means He will always be the same.

Perhaps you are like Ian. Ian really wanted to become a Christian and go God's way, but he was afraid. What if his friends laughed at him? What if they didn't want him as a friend any more? What if God asked him to do something difficult? Would he be strong enough? Then Ian realised he had no need to fear. He was right, he would never be strong enough to live for God! That was not God's way. Ian saw that God's way was for him not to depend on himself. If he did he would definitely fail. God's way was for Ian to depend on the Lord Jesus alone to save him from sin and to give him strength to live for God each day.

Do you know what Moses said, even after all he had seen?

"Since I cannot speak very well, I don't think I can be the one to speak to the king."

"Who made man's mouth? And who makes man deaf or able to speak? Or who gives man sight or makes him blind? I do! Now go and I will help you know what to say."

But Moses begged, "Please, Lord, send someone else!"

God became angry with Moses. "Your brother Aaron speaks well. I will allow him to speak and you to do the signs with your rod."

God had answered all of Moses' questions. God's way was for him to go to Egypt and bring the Israelites out. It would not be easy, but Moses had God's promise that He would be with him every step of the way. Now Moses must obey, depending on God for strength to follow His way.

Are you going God's way? Have you come to the Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am the way"? Have you trusted Him to deal with the sin in your life that has been separating you from God. Are you depending on Him to set you free? If you are, then day by day you must also lean on Him for strength to follow His way for your life.

Remember, the Lord says in His Word the Bible, "As for God, His way is perfect."

Review game

Egyptian Radio Broadcast (ERB)

If you do not have a microphone, make one from a short wooden dowel or similar object and wadded aluminium foil.

Pretend to be a reporter from the Egyptian radio station ERB. You are anxious to interview anyone who can tell you anything about Moses.

Can anyone tell me what kind of a family Moses came from? Did he have brothers or sisters? What were his parents like? (Israelite parents. Brother Aaron, sister Miriam. His parents loved the Lord.)

CTU

Flashcard 2-6

CTSU

John 14:6

Preschool
review game

Dots

Using a marker, create a grid of nine dots on a sheet of paper (three rows of three dots). Each child who answers correctly can connect two dots. When a box is

formed by connecting dots, draw a smiley face inside it. Continue as interest and time allow.

Take your microphone over to the child who is answering. You may also want to have a tape recorder running. Next week at club you could "tune in" to ERB and listen to the children's answers as a simple review.

I believe Moses spent a good number of years living in the palace and was looked on as a prince. Can anyone explain how someone from a poor Israelite family could end up in Pharaoh's palace? (Hidden in a basket in the River Nile. Found by the princess who decided to keep him.)

It's been said that Moses had to leave Egypt very suddenly - something to do with a fight? Has anyone any information about what actually happened? (Killed an Egyptian who was beating an Israelite slave.)

We've been informed that Moses has a wife and family in Midian. Does anyone know who he is married to, and how they came to meet? (Married to one of the daughters of the Priest of Midian. Met at a well. Moses stood up to shepherds who wouldn't let the girls water their flock. When their father heard this he invited Moses to his home.)

How did Moses support his family in Midian? (He looked after his father-in-law's sheep.)

We've heard some rumours about Moses and a bush and a fire! Can you throw any light on that? (Moses saw a burning bush near Mount Sinai. Although the bush was burning, the fire wasn't destroying it. The Lord spoke to Moses from the bush.)

You are claiming that God actually spoke to Moses! Do you know what was said? (The Lord told Moses He had chosen him to bring His people out of Egypt.)

Moses would need evidence to back up a claim like that - God spoke to him! Is there any? (Signs - rod turning to a snake, Moses' hand covered with leprosy, water from the Nile turning to blood when it was poured out.)

This exclusive interview has been brought to you live from ERB. Tune in next week for more on this amazing story!

Take-home challenge

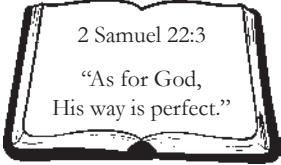
Have available sheets of paper divided into four sections.

Suggest they use simple figures to draw their own three-scene story showing how they can go God's way throughout their lives. Show a large sample drawing of your "life story" on posterboard or chalkboard.

Eg

- 1 Praying stick figure for trusting Jesus as Lord and Saviour.
- 2 Stick figure with open Bible for studying Bible.
- 3 Two stick figures for telling others.

Read the verse and describe what is happening in each “scene” of your life. Discuss situations children may use in drawing their three-scene stories.

Name _____ 	Scene 1
Scene 2	Scene 3

Lesson 3

Moses delivers God's message

Suggestions for teachers

There is application in this lesson for the unsaved child. However, the emphasis is on teaching for the Christian child. It would be good therefore to have in your programme several songs which have a clear evangelistic message and as you teach these make yourself available for counselling.

Teach the Bible lesson in the first half of the programme and use the case study towards the end of the class. This study is aimed at reinforcing the application for saved children in the lesson.

Scripture for teachers

Exodus 4:18-6:9

Central truth

God wants you to trust Him

Application

Unsaved: Trust the Lord Jesus Christ to save you from sin

Saved: God wants you to trust in Him each day

Memory verse

"No one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spoke concerning you" Joshua 23:14

Visual aids

- ♦ Flashcards 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5 and 3-6

Or

- ♦ Figures: MC-20, MC-21, MC-24, MC-25, MC-29, MC-30, MC-31, MC-32, MC-33, MC-34 and MC-35
- ♦ Backgrounds (optional): Mountain scene, outdoor scene and palace scene

Lesson outline

Introduction

The problem with promises CTS

Progression of events

- 1 God sends Moses on his way to Egypt CTS
- 2 God sends Aaron to meet Moses CTS
- 3 Moses and Aaron travel to Egypt CTU
- 4 They share God's plan with the people CTU
- 5 Moses before Pharaoh CT
- 6 The people have to work harder CT
- 7 Pharaoh says "no" to their plea for help
- 8 They blame Moses for their trouble CTS
- 9 Moses pleads with God for help

Climax

God's words to Moses and the Israelites - He is the Lord, He will set them free

Conclusion

Moses could trust the Lord - the Israelites could trust the Lord CTSU

Lesson

“But you promised! You said we were going on holiday. It’s just not fair! I’ve told all my friends we are going to Disney World. They’ll say I was making it all up. It’s not fair! You promised!”

Nathan’s parents tried to explain that their plans had to be changed. Last year when they talked about a holiday in Florida they didn’t know that the firm Nathan’s dad worked for would close down and he would be without a job.

Choose a location applicable to the children you teach.

Sometimes even parents or best friends can make promises that they are not able to keep. It isn’t that they want to let you down, but things can happen that they have no control over - like Nathan’s dad losing his job.

Listen to what God’s Word says.

Read Joshua 23:14.

“Not one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spoke concerning you.”

CTS

Isn’t it wonderful to know that God always keeps His promises. Nothing that happens can change that. Nothing is outside His control, for God is more powerful, more strong than anyone or anything. God loves His people. His promises to them cannot fail.

God loved His people who were slaves in Egypt. Perhaps many thought God had forgotten about them - no - God would keep His promise to them. He would set them free. They must trust Him.

Scene 1

Optional background: Mountain. Place sheep (MC-20 and MC-21) and Moses (MC-24) with rod (MC-25).

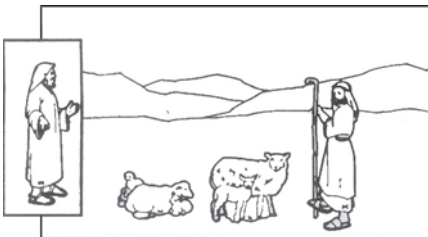
God had given Moses the task of leading the people out of Egypt. God had promised to be with Moses and to bring the people out. God wanted Moses to trust Him.

God wants you to trust Him. Remember our first lesson? We learned that God has promised that those who trust in the Lord Jesus will be set free from that cruel master - sin. Are you trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ? His promises will never fail. You can be sure that one day you will be in Heaven with Him, if you are trusting Him now.

Can you remember some of Moses’ fears when God told him to go to Pharaoh?

“I can’t speak very well,” Moses had said. He learned that he could trust God with that problem. What was the Lord’s answer?

Show briefly Aaron (MC-29).



CTS

Encourage the children to give answers.

“Your brother Aaron speaks well. I will allow him to speak, and you to do the signs with your rod.”

But how would Moses ever find Aaron? It was a long, long time since he had seen any of his family. In those days there were no telephones or e-mails to help people keep in touch. There was no postal service to deliver letters and cards.

Again God showed Moses he could trust Him. The Lord spoke to Aaron and told him exactly where to go to meet Moses. It was a long journey for Aaron, from Egypt to Midian. He didn't need a map - Aaron had God to guide him.

If you are trusting the Lord Jesus as your Saviour from sin, you are God's child and He has promised to guide you.

Read from Psalm 119:105.

How does God guide His children today? God uses His Word, the Bible. The Bible will not direct you the wrong way. You can trust the Lord. He will show you how to live to please Him instead of your old master, sin.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Place Moses and Aaron (MC-30).

God guided Aaron to Mount Sinai, where He had spoken to Moses from the burning bush. It must have been a very special meeting for the brothers after so many years apart. I'm sure Moses had many questions to ask about his family, but even more importantly, Moses had to tell Aaron of the wonderful way God had spoken to him. Perhaps he said something like this.

“Oh, Aaron, the true God of our ancestors spoke to me from a burning bush on this very mountain. You are to speak for me. I'm to use the shepherd's rod to do signs so that the people will believe us.”

Christian boy or girl, do you wish God would speak in that way to you? You could know exactly what to do! God did speak to Moses in this very special way, but then all the other people had to listen to Moses. They had to depend on him to know God's way.

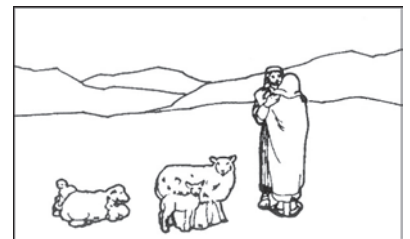
Today, every boy or girl who knows the Lord Jesus as Saviour and Lord of their lives has God's Word. Everything in the Bible is from God and is for you. However, if you want to know what God says, you must read the Bible - regularly - everyday. You must think about it, and with God's help put it into practice in your life. Remember, it is the Word of God - you can trust it.

Moses and Aaron had to trust the Lord to guide them.

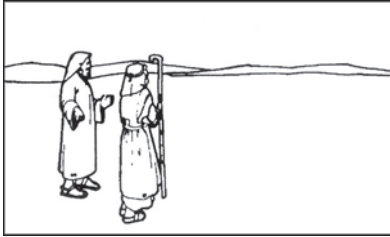
You could show Egypt and Midian on a map as you talk about Aaron's journey.

CTS

Flashcard 3-1



CTS



Encourage the children to discuss how Pharaoh might react.

Scene 3

Optional background: Outdoor. Remove figures. Place Aaron (MC-29) and Moses (MC-31) with rod (MC-25).

Perhaps as the brothers began the long journey back to Egypt, Aaron would have brought Moses right up-to-date with family news. Surely Aaron would have wanted to hear about Moses' life in Midian - what had he been doing for the last forty years? Don't you think, however, that for a lot of the time they were talking and thinking about the enormous job the Lord had given them to do.

They had to convince the Israelites that God had sent them to bring His people out of Egypt! They had to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let God's people go. How would Pharaoh react to that? Then they had to lead all the people of Israel out of Egypt and to a new land.

Moses and Aaron knew they had to trust the Lord with all their hearts, for only He could make Pharaoh let Israel go. Only the Lord could take them to a new land.

CTU

You too must trust the Lord with all your heart. Only He can set you free from the slavery of sin. It's good to remember how the Lord Jesus defeated sin by dying in the sinner's place at Calvary and rising again from the dead. Only by trusting in Him, can you live each day the way He tells you in His Word. Isn't it wonderful to know that the Lord can never let you down, His promises will never fail.

Flashcard 3-2



Scene 4

Optional background: Outdoor. Place Israelites (MC-32).

Excitement must have spread when the two men arrived in Egypt.

"Is the stranger with Aaron the one who lived at the palace as the prince?"

"Didn't he try to help us by killing an Egyptian?"

"Why is he here now?"

"Is he our deliverer?"

Moses and Aaron gathered the leaders of the Israelites together. Aaron spoke for Moses.

"The God of your ancestors appeared to Moses. He has seen your troubles in Egypt. God has promised to take you away from Egypt to a good land that grows much food."

"Can it be true?" the people wondered. "After all these years are we really going to leave this terrible place?" It was hard for the leaders to believe.

Remember the signs God had given Moses for the people? Moses threw his rod on the ground. It became a snake! He grabbed the

snake's tail and it became a rod again! Moses put his hand inside his coat and brought it out covered with leprosy. When he put his hand in his coat and pulled it out again the leprosy was gone!

Do you think the leaders believed that God had spoken to Moses when they saw the miracles? Yes, they did.

"I would believe if I could see miracles like that!" Is that what you are thinking? You have heard that the Lord Jesus can save you and change your life, but you have doubts.

"How can I know that I can trust Him? If only I had signs like the Israelites had!"

Look around you - at the sky, the mountains, the sea. Think of the different kinds of animals and plants in the world. Can't you trust the One who is so great He created all of these?

Let's read John 3:16.

Read verse.

Think of the Lord Jesus, God's one and only Son, dying on a cross to save sinners like you. How much God loved His Son, and yet He gave Him so that you might be saved. You will not see signs like those God gave to Moses for the Israelites, but how can you doubt the One Who has done so much for you? Surely you must believe.

The Israelites believed Moses and Aaron, but what about Pharaoh?

Remove all figures.

Scene 5

Optional background: Palace. Place Aaron (MC-29), Moses (MC-31) with rod (MC-25) and king (MC-33).

Moses and Aaron spoke out boldly to the king of Egypt. What did they say?

Read Exodus 5:1.

"... Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Let my people go ...?'"

How did Pharaoh react?

Read Exodus 5:2.

"Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, nor will I let Israel go."

Pharaoh was angry. These men were keeping the people from their work in the brickfields! What did he do?

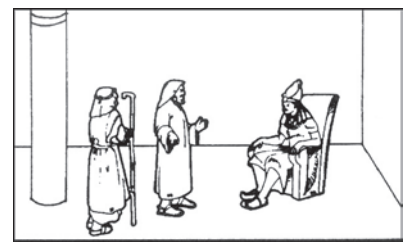
Read Exodus 5:6-7.

"The same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their officers, saying, 'You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick ... Let them go and gather straw for themselves.'"

What had God told Moses to do?

CTU

Flashcard 3-3



Preschoolers can pretend to gather straw for making bricks.

Allow children to respond.

Moses had obeyed God. He believed God had guided him to rescue the people and go to the king, and yet the lives of the Israelites had become more difficult than ever! Their work was much harder now for they had to gather the straw and still make as many bricks as before.

CT

Had God failed? No. God cannot fail. Was the Lord able to rescue His people from slavery in Egypt? Yes. He had the power to set them free.

Can you think back to last week's lesson? Who can complete the sentence? "God's ways are _____ (perfect)."

However, we saw that God's ways are different from our ways.

Many, many years after Moses had died the Lord Jesus came to this earth. His followers trusted Him. They were sure He was the Messiah sent from God. How confused and frightened they were when the Lord Jesus was arrested, tried and crucified! How could this happen? It seemed as if the Lord had failed. Later they understood. The Lord Jesus Christ had to suffer and die in the place of sinners so that anyone who trusted in Him would be set free. This was God's perfect way. After the Lord Jesus rose from the dead they could see it all, they understood, but at the same time it was very hard and very confusing.

God's people in Egypt were very confused. They were finding it very hard to trust.

Place king (MC-33) and leaders (MC-34).

Some of them went to Pharaoh.

Read Exodus 5:15b-16a.

"Why are you dealing thus with your servants? There is no straw given to your servants ... they say to us, 'Make brick!' ... Your servants are beaten ..."

Was Pharaoh sympathetic? No!

Read Exodus 5:17-18.

"He said, 'You are idle!' ... you say, 'Let us go and sacrifice to the Lord' ... go now and work; for no straw shall be given you, yet you shall deliver the quota of bricks."

Remove all figures.

Scene 6

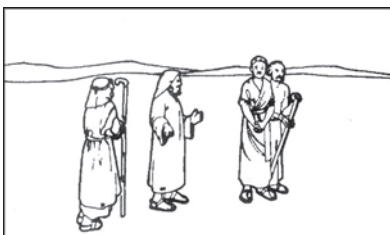
Optional background: Outdoor. Place Moses (MC-31) with rod (MC-25), Aaron (MC-29) and leaders (MC-34).

As Moses and Aaron left the palace the Hebrew leaders shouted at them, "It's all your fault! May God punish you for all our troubles!"

Flashcard 3-4



Flashcard 3-5



“Why blame me?” Moses must have wondered. It seemed very unfair. Didn’t the people believe God’s promise to rescue them?

Do you think Moses felt very discouraged? He knew he was obeying God, but things did not seem to be working out.

Are you feeling like that? You have trusted the Lord Jesus to be your Saviour, and are living for Him each day, but just now it’s very difficult. Are you having problems at home? Perhaps your Dad has lost his job and there is never enough money to pay the bills. Perhaps Mum and Dad blame you for something you didn’t do. Then you wonder why God has allowed this to happen if He is so great?

Is it school that’s a problem? Are you finding it difficult to be different? Do the other children laugh at you when you won’t read certain articles in teen magazines or when you don’t rave about the latest pop songs?

What did Moses do? He did what you must do. Moses talked to the Lord.

Remove all figures.

Scene 7

Optional background: Indoor. Place Moses praying (MC-35).

Read Exodus 5:22-23.

“... Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people? Why is it You have sent me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people; neither have You delivered Your people at all.”

What was the Lord’s answer?

Read Exodus 6:2b,6.

“I am the Lord ... Say to the children of Israel: ‘I am the Lord; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgements.’”

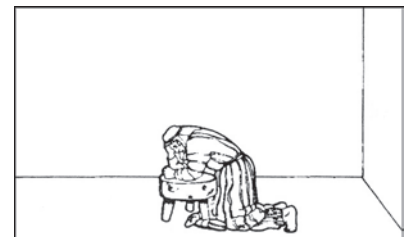
Moses could trust the Lord. The people of Israel could trust the Lord. His promise to set them free would not fail. You can trust the Lord. If you are not saved, today, right now, you can trust the Lord Jesus with all of your heart to set you free from being a slave to sin. Remember His promise: “If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36).

If you know the Lord Jesus as your Saviour from sin, then each day trust Him to help you at home, with your friends, at school. His promises to you can never fail.

“Not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed” (Joshua 23:14).

CTS

Flashcard 3-6



CTSU

Review game

Missing letters

P _ _ _ _ _

P _ _ _ _ _

T _ _ _ _

Card or chalkboard

As a child answers a question correctly he may guess a letter. The words are "Promises", "Problems" and "Trust".

When a letter is in the words, write it on the board and the team scores according to the number of times a particular letter appears, eg "R" equals three points. A child may guess a word rather than choosing a letter. A correct guess equals ten points.

If the words are completed before all the review questions are asked continue with the questions, awarding one point for a correct answer.

If the questions are finished, but some words remain unsolved, fill in the missing letters for the children.

In either case, take time to discuss with the class the significance of these words to the lesson.

Review questions

- 1 Who always keeps His promises? (The Lord.)
- 2 Why can God's promises never fail? (God cannot lie, and He is in control of everything.)
- 3 How did Aaron know where to meet his brother Moses? (God guided him.)
- 4 How does God show us His way for our lives? (Through His Word, the Bible.)
- 5 What signs had God given Moses for the people of Israel? (Moses' rod became a snake; his hand covered with leprosy; water poured on the ground became blood.)
- 6 What did the Israelites think after Moses and Aaron spoke to them and performed these signs? (They believed God had sent them.)
- 7 What did Pharaoh say when Moses and Aaron told him that he was to let the Israelites go? ("I will not let them go.")
- 8 What did Pharaoh do to make life even more difficult for the Israelites? (He ordered that no straw be given to them to make bricks. They had to gather their own and still make as many bricks as before.)
- 9 Who did the Israelites blame for their troubles? (Moses and Aaron.)
- 10 What does God want His children to do when troubles and difficulties come into their lives? (Trust Him.)
- 11 What did Moses do when the people blamed him for making their lives even more difficult than ever? (He spoke to the Lord.)
- 12 What answer did the Lord give to Moses? ("I am the Lord, I will bring the children of Israel out of Egypt.")

Case study

Involve a helper or senior child in the following sketch.

Robert talks to himself.

"Why are things so difficult? I love the Lord Jesus, He is my Saviour, but it's so hard. At school other boys cheat and copy and I'm tempted to do those things. At home it isn't any better. My sister is always teasing me about being 'a goody-goody'. There are so many problems! Sometimes I feel as if God has let me down."

Robert then reads from his Bible. He reads out loud Proverbs 3:5-6 and then bows his head and prays silently.

Discuss with the children.

Why was Robert puzzled?

He did two wise things. What were they?

What did God tell him?

If you are feeling troubled like Robert, then please talk with me after class. Stay in your seat when the other children have left. Together we can look at what God's Word says and we can pray about your special problems.

Perhaps you are not like Robert because you have never trusted the Lord Jesus to be your Saviour. The big problem in your life is your sin. If you want to talk about becoming a Christian, then again please wait behind.

Lesson 4

Moses sees God's power

Suggestions for teachers

Teach the memory verse John 8:36 at an early stage in the programme. As you teach, refer to Lesson 1 and draw out from the children the following points:

- ♦ what sin is
- ♦ examples of sin
- ♦ that all are guilty of sinning against God
- ♦ the punishment sin brings

Use a chorus such as "What can wash away my sin?" to reinforce (briefly) this teaching on sin.

By using the memory verse and chorus to remind the children about previous teaching on sin, you are providing a good foundation for Lesson 4.

The first nine plagues have been dealt with very briefly. To do otherwise would make the lesson much too long. If you want to go into more detail you will need to divide the lesson over two weeks.

Scripture for teachers

Exodus 7:1-12:51

Central truth

God is able to set you free

Application

Unsaved: Ask the Lord Jesus to save you from God's judgement and set you free from sin's control

Memory verse

"If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed"
John 8:36

Visual aids

- ♦ Flashcards 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6 and 5-1

Or

- ♦ Figures: MC-25, MC-28, MC-29, MC-31, MC-33, MC-36, MC-37, MC-38, MC-39, MC-40, MC-41, MC-42, MC-43, MC-44, MC-45, MC-46, MC-47, MC-48, MC-49, MC-50, MC-51, MC-52 and MC-53

- ♦ Backgrounds (optional): Palace scene and indoor scene

And

- ♦ Cross application visual
- ♦ Empty tomb application visual

Lesson outline

Introduction

"I will not let them go!"

Progression of events

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| 1 The plague of blood | |
| 2 Plague of frogs; gnats; flies | |
| 3 Plague on livestock; boils | |
| 4 Plague of hail; locusts | |
| 5 Plague of darkness | CTU |
| 6 Final warning to Pharaoh | |
| 7 Preparation of the Passover Lamb | CTU |
| 8 The Egyptian firstborn die | CTU |

Climax

The Israelites commanded to leave CTU

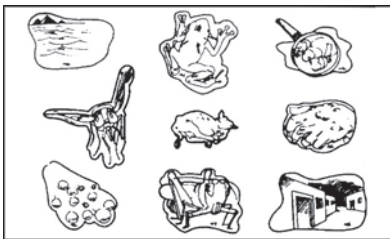
Conclusion

The Exodus CTU

Flashcard 4-1
Flashcard 4-2



Flashcard 4-3



Preschoolers can pretend to be croaking frogs and buzzing flies.

Frogs were considered sacred in Egypt and were not to be killed. Pharaoh's magicians recognized the "finger of God" in the plague of gnats (or possibly mosquitoes).

These insects came from the dust, suggesting they were very numerous. The flies may have been a biting species and came only on the Egyptians.

The infectious disease

Flashcard 4-4

struck the animals in the fields but apparently not those in shelters. The sores were painful boils

CTU

Lesson

Scene 1

"I will not let the Israelites go!" This was Pharaoh's answer, time after time.

Optional background: Palace. Place snakes (MC-28 and MC-39), Aaron (MC-29) with rod (MC-36), Moses (MC-31) with rod (MC-25), king (MC-33) and Egyptians (MC-37 and MC-38).

Moses had shown the king the signs he had received from God. Couldn't Pharaoh see how powerful God was? He and his people had suffered greatly when the Lord turned the River Nile to blood. The fish died. There was no water to drink, for even water in pots inside the houses turned to blood! What did Pharaoh say? "I will not let the people go."

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Optional background: Plain. Place plagues as they are taught (MC-40, MC-41, MC-42, MC-43, MC-44, MC-45, MC-46, MC-47 and MC-48).

Perhaps the Israelites thought nothing could change Pharaoh's mind. They would never be free! They were wrong. The Lord was able to set them free, but He warned Moses that this would not happen until Pharaoh had seen just how great and mighty the God of Israel was. What did the Lord do?

Read Exodus 8:5.

Frogs! Millions of them! They were everywhere.

After the frogs came gnats, then flies! Everything and everyone were covered with them.

"I will let the people go," said Pharaoh when God sent the plague of flies, but no sooner had the Lord taken away the flies than Pharaoh went back on his word.

Pharaoh was soon to see again the power of God, for the Lord sent disease on all the animals belonging to the Egyptians. The king continued to refuse to free the Israelites, and God sent dreadful sores on the people and their animals.

Next came a fierce hailstorm, then great numbers of locusts. What did Pharaoh do? He refused to let the people go!

God sent a ninth warning. This time darkness covered the land.

What terrible suffering Pharaoh brought on the Egyptian people because he would not heed the Lord, and the worst was yet to come!

Can you think back to the first lesson you were taught about Moses? Who can tell me the name of the cruel master who rules over the lives of men and women, boys and girls? (Sin.)

Sin has brought terrible suffering into our world. What are some of the dreadful things that happen because of sin? (Wars, sickness, death.)

Do you remember that the worst thing is that sin destroys our lives, and prevents us from knowing and loving God? One day sin could cause you to be separated from God forever, in a place of punishment called hell.

Are you wondering: can anyone set me free from this dreadful master and save me from the terrible punishment sin brings? Listen to the words of the Lord Jesus.

Read John 8:36.

“... If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”

Are you thinking that you want to be free but you are not sure what you must do? Perhaps you have asked the Lord Jesus to set you free but you are not sure if He has. In either case, please come and talk with me after club. Just come and sit at the front when the other children are leaving and I will know that you want to speak with me. Together we can see what God’s Word has to say.

That cruel master, sin, does not want you to be free. You can never free yourself. Isn’t it wonderful to know that the Lord can set you free!

Pharaoh did not want Israel to be free. The Israelites had no power to free themselves. Their God had promised to set them free and He would do just that.

Remove all figures.

Scene 3

Optional background: Palace. Place Moses (MC-31) with rod (MC-25), Aaron (MC-29) with rod (MC-36) and king (MC-33).

Moses went to Pharaoh with the final warning from the Lord.

Read Exodus 11:4-6.

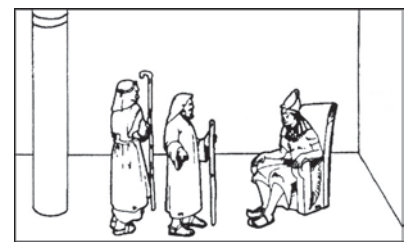
“Thus says the Lord: ‘About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt; and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the animals. Then there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as was not like it before, nor shall be like it again.’”

But what about the Israelites? God said they would be kept safe. Surely Pharaoh would not want this to happen! Surely now he would let Israel go. No - his heart was so hard he would not set them free, but the Lord would free His people from slavery. Pharaoh was going to see the mighty power of God in a terrible way.

that struck men and animals alike. The Egyptians worshiped gods that presumably had power over disease and pestilence, yet these deities could not save them.

The hail destroyed all the crops ready for harvest. The locusts followed in massive numbers, completely devouring what was left. These plagues challenged the authority of the Egyptian gods of weather and crop fertility.

The plague of darkness fell only on the Egyptians. As a representative of the sun god, Re, Pharaoh was particularly challenged by this plague.



Flashcard 4-5



Meanwhile, God's people were preparing to leave Egypt. Moses and Aaron had given them the Lord's instructions which had to be obeyed if they were to escape the judgement that was coming on Egypt and be set free. What had they to do?

Remove all figures.

Scene 4

Optional background: Plain. Place Israelite (MC-50), doorframe (MC-49) and bowl (MC-51).

Have an older child, or another helper read Exodus 12:3, 4a, 5a, 6, 7 and 13.

"On the tenth day of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb ... a lamb for a household.

And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next to his house take it ...

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year ...

Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight.

And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it.

... Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt."

The lambs had to die so that the people of Israel would be saved from death and set free from slavery. It was a wonderful picture of God's plan to save sinners like you and me from the judgement our sin deserves and to set us free from being slaves of sin.

What was the lamb to be like? There was to be nothing wrong with it. The Bible calls the Lord Jesus the Lamb of God. There was nothing wrong with His life. He never sinned in thought, word or action.

No-one else could save us from sin, for everyone else had sinned, everyone else had disobeyed God. Only the perfect, sinless Son of God could be the lamb that would die to save us and set us free.

Remove all figures.

Scene 5

Place cross application visual.

The Lord Jesus Christ, Who had broken no law, was put on trial and lies were told about Him. Cruel men made fun of Him and beat Him badly. Finally He was nailed to a cross as if He were a criminal. There on Calvary He suffered far more than we can understand and His blood was poured out for sinners.

CTU

Flashcard 4-6



Didn't you hear last week that no-one is more powerful than God? Are you wondering why the Lord didn't stop all this happening to His only Son that He loved so much?

The Lord Jesus was crucified not because God could not stop it, but because He loved the world so much.

Sin had to be punished and the power of sin destroyed, and so God in His amazing love, punished His beloved Son in the sinner's place. The Lord Jesus willingly gave His life to save you and set you free from that cruel master, sin.

Remember, to be saved from death and to go free from Egypt, the Israelites had to follow God's way. Anyone who failed to do that would follow the same terrible judgement as the Egyptians.

Remove cross application visual.

Scene 6

Place Israelite (MC-50), doorframe (MC-49) and bowl (MC-51).

When the time came the Israelites were ready. Their God had promised to save them and set them free. They waited in their homes. At twilight the lambs were slaughtered. The head of the family took some of the blood and sprinkled it on the door frames as they had been instructed. The lamb was roasted with bitter herbs, and bread without yeast was prepared. The table was not set for a leisurely meal - no, the Israelites were dressed in their cloaks, ready to set out on a journey. This meal was to be eaten quickly. Nothing was to be left until morning.

At midnight the Angel of the Lord passed through the land of Egypt. He had come to kill the oldest son in every home. This was God's punishment on the people of Egypt. However, where the blood of a lamb was painted on the door frame everyone was safe.

God tells us in His Word that all deserve His punishment for all have disobeyed Him - you have, I have. The sin that controls your life will bring God's judgement on you. That judgement is to be separated from God forever. God also tells us in His Word of the wonderful way He has provided, that you and I might be saved from that judgement and be set free from sin's control.

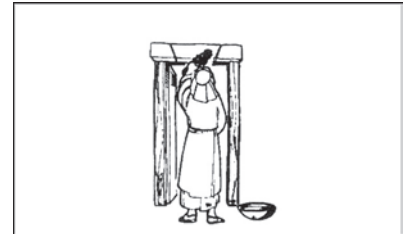
Who is the Lamb of God?

What happened to His blood?

When the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross, His precious blood bought our salvation from the punishment we deserve, and the control of Satan and sin. You can be absolutely sure of that because God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead.

Remove all figures. Place empty tomb application picture.

Flashcard 4-5



You may want to have some children role-play an Israelite family preparing for this night.

CTU

Flashcard 4-6



The Lord Jesus is alive forever!

What must you do? If you realise that you are in terrible danger because of the sin in your life then you must come to Christ. There is no time to delay. God wants you to come now. Right where you are seated you can tell the Lord that you are truly sorry for your sin and want nothing more to do with it. Then thank the Lord Jesus for dying for your sin and ask Him to save you and set you free from sin's control.

John 8:36 says, "If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

What about the Egyptians? Oh, the cries that went up from their homes! From the richest home in the land to the poorest there was dreadful sorrow, for the eldest son had died - just as Moses had warned. Oh how foolish it is to ignore God's warning.

It was still night when Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. What did he want?

Read Exodus 12:31.

Pharaoh said, "Rise, go out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. And go, serve the Lord as you have said."

Remove all figures.

Flashcard 5-1



Preschoolers can pretend to quickly pack for the journey.

Scene 7

Background: Mountainous. Place Israelites (MC-52 and MC-53).

Silver and gold and clothing were given to the Israelites. The Egyptians gave them all they asked for and more - anything to get them out of the land. They were so afraid. They begged the Israelites to leave, fearing they would all die!

The Israelites left so quickly they didn't even have time to finish baking the bread they had mixed! They carried the dough with them.

They were leaving Egypt. They were leaving slavery. They were safe, they were free.

CTU

Boys and girls, be warned! God, who loved the world so much that He gave His only begotten Son to die for sinners, cannot overlook sin. The sin that controls your life will bring God's judgement on you unless you turn to the Lord Jesus Christ. Be like the Israelites - there is no time to delay. Come today, come now to the only One who can save you and set you free.

"In Him we have redemption (freedom from slavery) through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

Review questions

- 1 What had God told Moses and Aaron to tell the king? ("Let my people go.")

- 2 What was Pharaoh's answer? ("Who is the Lord? I will not let Israel go.")
- 3 What were three of the terrible plagues the Lord sent on Egypt? (Nine plagues - turned water to blood, frogs, gnats, flies, diseases on animals, sores on Egyptians and animals, hailstorm, locusts and darkness.)
- 4 What was the final warning given to the king? (Every firstborn son of the Egyptians and their animals would die.)
- 5 How were the Israelites protected from God's terrible judgement on the Egyptians? (Blood of the lamb on the door frames of each home of the Israelites.)
- 6 What kind of lamb was to be killed? (One that had nothing wrong with it.)
- 7 How do these lambs remind us of the Lord Jesus? (Sinless Lamb of God who died to save sinners.)
- 8 What must you do to be saved from God's judgement on your sin? (Trust in the Lord Jesus alone to save. His blood was poured out to pay for your sin.)
- 9 What happened at midnight in our lesson? (God did what He had said He would do and every firstborn Egyptian son and animal died.)
- 10 Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron. What did he say? ("Go! Leave my people. Take your children, your flocks and your herds.")
- 11 What did the Egyptians give to the Israelites? (Silver, gold and clothing.)
- 12 What does John 8:36 say? ("If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.")

Lesson 5

The triumphant crossing

Suggestions for teachers

Most of the teaching in this lesson is for the saved child. It is important therefore to use other parts of the programme to teach the unsaved child and to make yourself available for counselling, eg refer to the previous week's lesson and use the chorus "What can wash away my sin?"

The lesson refers to the Holy Spirit's role in giving assurance of salvation. To remind the children of the person and work of the Holy Spirit use the chorus "I believe in God the Father".

The lesson contains an illustration about a boy named Stephen. This is followed by some questions. Take time to allow the children to answer the questions and discuss their answers with them. After the discussion you may need to use a few more questions to get back into the story, eg

- ♦ What was happening to make the Israelites so afraid?
- ♦ Would the Israelites have been better off staying in Egypt?
- ♦ What did they need to remember?

Scripture for teachers

Exodus 13:17-15:21

Central truth

God will never leave His children

Application

Saved: Trust Him that He is constantly with you

Memory verse

"I will never leave you nor forsake you"

Hebrews 13:5b

Visual aids

- ♦ Flashcards 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5 and 5-6

Or

- ♦ Figures: MC-33, MC-37, MC-52, MC-53, MC-54, MC-55 and MC-56

- ♦ Backgrounds (optional): Mountainous outdoor scene
- ♦ Additional overlays in flannel or felt: A - cloud, B - Red Sea and C - Red Sea (see pages 58-59)

Lesson outline

Introduction

Free at last!

Progression of events

- | | | |
|---|---|------|
| 1 | God is leading to a new land | CTS |
| 2 | Pillar of cloud and fire | CTS |
| 3 | Pharaoh prepares for battle | |
| 4 | The Israelites are afraid and blame Moses | CTS |
| 5 | Cloud brings darkness to the Egyptians | CTS |
| 6 | The waters are divided and the people march through | CTSU |
| 7 | Egyptians thrown into confusion | |

Climax

The sea crashes over them

Conclusion

The people are safe CTS

Flashcard 5-1

Lesson

Scene 1

Optional background: Mountainous. Place Israelites (MC-52 and MC-53).

Free at last! God had brought His people out of Egypt. Over two million Israelites - men, women and children left while it was still night. But what now? God had set them free, but where would they go? How would they get there?

God had shown His people His great power in Egypt. They had seen the terrible judgement God brought on the Egyptians while they experienced His love toward them. Now they were going to learn more about their God. He had brought them out of Egypt and promised them a new land, and He would take them to it. They would learn that their God would always be with them. He would never leave them.

CTS

Have you asked the Lord Jesus Christ to be your Saviour and Lord? If you have, then you are free, sin is no longer your master and you are safe from the punishment you deserve for your sin. Do you also know God's promise to you is, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5b)?

You could not save yourself, only the Lord could do that. You cannot live the Christian life by yourself, you need the Lord. Just as He was with His people, the Israelites, so He will be with you on every step of your journey through life. His promise is, "I will never leave you".

Are you wondering how you can know the Lord is with you? How did Israel know the Lord was with them?

Place overlay of cloud (overlay A).

When morning came they noticed a strange pillar of cloud. The Bible says the Lord was in the cloud. At night the cloud turned to a pillar of fire to lead the way for them. Listen to what God's Word says.

Read Exodus 13:22.

"He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people."

The people could see that the Lord was with them and would not leave them.

CTS

Today God does not appear in a pillar of cloud or fire, but if you are His child you can be just as certain that He is with you. How? When you trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour His Holy Spirit came to live in your life. The Holy Spirit helps you to know the Lord is with you. He gives you peace in your heart and the assurance that you are God's child. However, remember that sin does not want to let you go, and Satan can make you doubt if God is really with you! God has given you His Spirit and His Word. In His Word are His promises which can never fail. He says, "I will never leave you". Sometimes



you may not feel as if God is with you, but you have His promise. Trust Him.

The cloud and fire showed Israel that God was with them, and also guided them the way God wanted them to go. Although they were only about one hundred miles away from the land God had promised to give them, God led them a different way so that they didn't have to go through enemy territory.

Scene 2

Place on an inset king (MC-33) and his leaders (MC-37).

Now let's go back to Egypt for a moment. Was the king still very sad because of the death of his son, and the other children who had died in Egyptian families? Perhaps. But he was certainly very sorry he had lost his slaves, the Israelites.

Remove king (MC-33) and leaders (MC-37).

Pharaoh quickly gathered his army and six hundred of his best chariots. Each chariot would be drawn by five horses and manned by two Egyptian warriors. One drove the chariot while the other was armed with a sword and a shield. The king and his chariot must have led the army as they chased after the Israelites.

In the meantime, God's people had set up camp close to the sea. This was where the Lord had led them. They must have felt so good - free - travelling to the land God had promised them for their own.

Suddenly everything changed! Did they hear the pounding hooves of hundreds of horses? Did they see the clouds of dust such an army would have raised? Perhaps in the stillness of the desert they even heard the shouts of Egyptian warriors!

The Israelites were terrified. They were trapped! There were mountains on either side of them, the sea was in front - it seemed there was no escape from Pharaoh's army. In their panic they turned on Moses. "Why did you do this to us? We could have died in Egypt! Why did you bring us out to the desert to die?"

Did they think there would be no difficulties or dangers once they were out of Egypt? Do you think that once you trust the Lord Jesus as your Saviour everything will be easy? Do you think God will take away all your problems? No! God does not promise to do that. As long as you are in the world you will have problems. Do you think your old master, sin, will let you have an easy time? Be sure that as you try to live for God and not for sin there will be temptations, doubts and problems. Perhaps something has happened to you to make you say, like the Israelites, "I was better off before - it was easier!"

Stephen was feeling like that. He had trusted the Lord Jesus to be his Saviour. Before, he had been one of the gang, always getting up to

Flashcard 5-2



Flashcard 5-3

CTS

You may want to have a child read aloud Moses' encouraging words. You could print them on a card and encourage the child to say them with enthusiasm.

mischief in school. They bullied the younger children and made life very difficult for some of the teachers. In the beginning Stephen had felt good, but God worked in his life and he began to see just how sinful he was. Eventually Stephen asked for forgiveness and put his trust in the Lord Jesus. His life was changed. He was no longer in the gang and he tried to make up for some of the hurt he had caused. At first the other gang members just laughed. "Stephen has become a real goody-goody!" They thought it wouldn't last. Stephen would soon be back with them. When this didn't happen their attitude changed. Stephen found he was being bullied and threatened!

How do you think Stephen felt now? Had the Lord left him? How do you know? Would he be better off if he had not trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ? What advice would you give him?

Encourage the children to work out the answers from what they have already been taught.

Had the Israelites forgotten so quickly what the Lord had done for them? He had set them free. He had promised them a new land. He was with them!

Moses said, "Do not be afraid, stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Lord will fight for you. You need only to be still."

But just how could the Israelites escape from Pharaoh's army? The sea was in front of them! The mountains were on either side! What could they do? They could do nothing but trust in the Lord who was with them. Remember, nothing is too difficult for the Lord. Listen to what Moses told the people.

Read Exodus 14:13a and 14a.

"Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord ... The Lord will fight for you."

Scene 3

Move overlay of cloud (overlay A).

The cloud that travelled in front of them now moved behind to separate them from the Egyptian army. The cloud made it dark for the Egyptians and gave light for the Israelites all that night. God was with His people.

Place Moses (MC-54). Place overlay of Red Sea (overlay B).

The Lord told Moses to stretch his rod over the sea. A strong wind blew and made a path through the sea. The water piled up on either side like great walls. God's people were no longer trapped. In a miraculous way their God had provided an escape from the Egyptian army.

Replace overlay of Red Sea (overlay B) with overlay C.

Flashcard 5-4



How powerful God is! What does this great God promise His children? "I will never leave you." It's wonderful to have parents and friends who care for you, but even though they love you very much they cannot be right beside you every minute of every day and night. The Bible tells us that God never sleeps. He is constantly watching over His children.

Read Psalm 121:3b-4.

"... He who keeps you will not slumber ... He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

Our parents and friends try to protect us from harm, but sometimes things happen that they have no power over. Remember, nothing is too hard for the Lord, and He is always with His children.

Place Israelites (MC-55).

It must have seemed like a dream to the Israelites as they marched through the Red Sea on dry land. Their God had done this. How great and mighty He was.

Christian, your God is just as powerful today, and He is always with you.

Do you realise how much the Lord Jesus had to pay in order that you could know the Lord is with you all the time?

The Bible says that sin separates from God. It hides His face from us. When the Lord Jesus was hanging on the cross all our sin was on Him. He cried out, "My God, why have You forsaken me?" God could not look on His beloved Son, as He took the punishment that we deserved. The Lord Jesus suffered the most terrible pain of all - separation from God - so that those who put their trust in Him would never be away from the Lord.

Isn't it wonderful to know that the Lord Jesus is alive. He has paid completely for sin, and He is alive forever.

Remove all figures.

Scene 4

What about the Egyptian army? The Egyptians raced after the Israelites, but the Lord was not with them, He was against them. God caused the army to become confused. Their finest chariots buried their wheels in the mud.

"Let's turn round and get away from the Israelites! God is fighting the battle for them!"

Moses held his rod over the Red Sea. The walls of water God had held back for the Israelites crashed on top of the Egyptians, their horses and chariots. Not one of the Egyptians survived!

Place Israelites and Moses (MC-56).

CTS

Preschoolers will enjoy pretending to walk through the sea with the Israelites.

Flashcard 5-5



CTS

CTU

Matthew 27:46 and
Mark 15:34

Flashcard 5-6



CTS

Review game

Smiley faces

Use cards with a smiley face on one side and a frowny face on the other. Each team has five cards with the frowny face showing. When a child answers a question correctly, he may turn over a card to show the smiley face.

The first team to have all the smiley faces showing are the winners.

But all the Israelites were now on the other side of the Red Sea. The Lord God had fought the battle for them. They had seen the power of their God, and learned that He would always be with them.

Can you say, "I am God's child"? You can if you are trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ alone to save you from sin and set you free.

Can you say, "I don't need to be afraid"? You can if you are His child because you have His promise, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5b).

Review questions

- 1 How did God show the Israelites He was with them both morning and night? (Cloud by day, pillar of fire by night.)
- 2 What does God promise His children in Hebrews 13:5? ("I will never leave you nor forsake you.")
- 3 Where did God lead His people to set up camp? (Close to the sea.)
- 4 What did Pharaoh decide to do after the Israelites left Egypt? (Gather his best chariots and soldiers to go after them.)
- 5 How did the Israelites show they were not trusting God to help them? (They complained to Moses.)
- 6 What should God's people do when they face difficulties? (Keep on trusting the Lord.)
- 7 How were the Israelites separated and protected from the Egyptian soldiers? (The cloud was between them.)
- 8 What instructions did God give Moses? (Stretch out his rod over the sea.)
- 9 What happened when Moses obeyed the Lord? (The waters divided making a path through the sea.)
- 10 How could the Lord do this? (All power belongs to Him.)
- 11 What happened to the Egyptian army when they tried to follow the Israelites? (The water crashed on top of them.)
- 12 Why do God's children not need to be afraid? (God's promise to be with them always will never fail.)

Carry-over activity

Have a helper or hostess tell how they have proved the Lord was with them in a very difficult situation.

Take-home challenge

Encourage those children who profess faith in Christ to make a number of copies of the memory verse (Hebrews 13:5b). Put these in different places, eg bedroom, schoolbag, diary, desk.

“Each time a problem or difficulty arises and you are tempted to be afraid, look at this verse, read it and thank God that He is with you.”

Lesson 6

The people complain, God provides

Suggestions for teachers

Teach the Bible lesson during the first half of Good News Club.

Towards the end of the club introduce the two case studies. In a large club with sufficient helpers you may wish to divide into smaller groups to discuss the questions with the children.

Scripture for teachers

Exodus 15:22-17:7

Central truth

God promises to give His children all that they need

Application

Unsaved: Trust the Lord Jesus for your greatest need - the forgiveness of sin

Saved: Trust Him to supply your needs

Memory verse

“He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” Romans 8:32

Visual aids

- ♦ Flashcards 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 6-5 and 6-6

Or

- ♦ Figures: MC-31, MC-29, MC-52, MC-53, MC-57, MC-58, MC-59, MC-60, MC-61, MC-62, MC-63, MC-64, MC-65, MC-66 and MC-67
- ♦ Backgrounds (optional): Mountainous outdoor scene
- ♦ Piece of blue wool or blue card/felt to create water overlay

Lesson outline

Introduction

“Why did you bring us here?”

CT

Progression of events

- 1 The Israelites are desperate for water
- 2 Marah - the water is bitter, the people complain
- 3 Moses cries to God - the water is made sweet
CTS
- 4 Rest time at Elim
CTS
- 5 Hunger in the desert - the people complain
CTS
- 6 God speaks to the people through Moses and promises meat and bread
CTSU

Climax

Quails and manna

Conclusion

God’s people can trust Him to provide all that they need
CTSU

Lesson

“Why did you bring us here? I hate it! I don’t know anyone! It was far better where we lived before,” Richard complained to his parents. He was feeling very lonely and dreaded going to a new school. Richard really needed a friend.

CT

Remember the promise in last week’s lesson? “God will never leave His children.” This week you are going to see the Lord keep another wonderful promise. He has promised to give His children all that they need.

Scene 1

Optional background: Mountainous. Place Israelites (MC-52 and MC-53).

The people of Israel were in desperate need of water. It had been three days since they had crossed the Red Sea. The young children cried, the adults were hot and thirsty. Oh, how their throats ached for water!

They were surrounded by grey mountains that looked like great walls on each side. The highest peak was about 9,000 feet. Step after step they followed the yellow sand and sometimes rocky path through the mountains. They were now in a very empty, barren place.

During the winter there was a stream which ran through the mountain path. But now it was like a road through this wilderness.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Optional background: Use blue wool or blue card/felt to creat water overlay. Place Moses (MC-31) and Israelites (MC-57, MC-58, MC-59, MC-60 and MC-61).

“Aah! Water to drink.” But they were disappointed for the water was bitter. They couldn’t drink it.

God wants His children to trust Him to give them all that they need. What did the Israelites do? They grumbled against Moses. “What are we to do?”

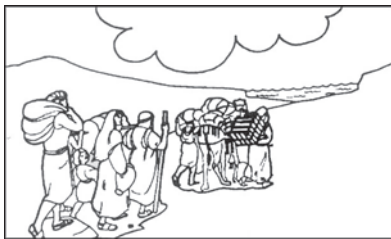
Moses did the right thing. He cried to the Lord and God told Moses exactly what to do.

Replace Moses (MC-31) with figure MC-62.

Read Exodus 15:25.

God showed Moses a special tree and told him to throw it into the water. Suddenly the water was good to drink! God loved His people. God had given them what they needed.

Christian boy or girl, isn’t it wonderful to know that God has provided for your greatest need. You needed to have your sin forgiven and to be made right with God - even more than you need food and water! God loved you so much that He gave His only begotten Son, the



Flashcard 6-1



Flashcard 6-2



CTS

Lord Jesus Christ, to pay for your sin. You are a child of God because the Lord Jesus died for you and rose again, and you are trusting in Him.

Romans 8:32 tells us that if God “did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely (or graciously) give us all things?”

If the Lord Jesus is your Saviour you can be sure that God will give you everything you need.

This could be a good point to discuss briefly the difference between wanting and needing. Explain that God always does what is best for His children, giving them what they need, but not always what they want.

From Marah God led the Israelites to Elim where there were twelve wells of water! There were also shady palm trees. How good God was to them. They rested at Elim for almost a month. It was easy to trust God now when everything was going well.

Remember Richard, the boy who needed a friend? Richard had trusted the Lord Jesus to be his Saviour. At his old school there were a lot of other Christians and each week they met together with a Christian teacher to study the Bible. When other pupils teased Richard because he was a Christian it didn't matter so much because he had lots of friends who also loved the Lord Jesus. It had been easy to trust God there. Now it was different! They had to move to a new town because of his father's job and Richard was afraid and very lonely. He would be going to a new school. He wouldn't know anyone. It was awful! Instead of trusting God, Richard moaned - just like the Israelites!

His parents understood and his dad reminded him of all that God had done for him already. “Richard, if God loves you so much that He gave His Son for you, don't you think you can trust Him to give you all that you need. Let's pray that God will give you a new friend.”

Christian boy or girl, is there something you really need just now? What are you doing about it? Worrying? Complaining? God wants you to trust Him to give you what you need.

Remove all figures.

Scene 3

Optional background: Mountainous. Place Moses (MC-31), Aaron (MC-29) and complaining people (MC-60, MC-61, MC-63 and MC-64).

Sadly, it wasn't long before the moans were going up from the Israelites again! Their journey had brought them to another desert. There certainly wasn't much food to be found there. Their stomachs growled with hunger.

“It would have been better for us to stay in Egypt. We had all the food we wanted there. Now you've brought us out here to starve to

The children could trace the route from Marah to Elim on a map.

CTS

Flashcard 6-3



death!” they complained to Moses. Didn’t they realise that the Lord who freed them from slavery in Egypt, who opened up the Red Sea so that they could cross on dry land, could be depended on to give them food and water?

CTS

How do you think the Lord feels when His children complain or worry instead of trusting Him to give them what they need?

Encourage the children to say what they think.

Yet, how good and patient God is. Despite all the moaning and grumbling that the Israelites did, the Lord spoke to Moses and Moses took His word to the Israelites.

Have a helper or older child read a summary such as this from Exodus 16:6,7,11-16, 19,22a.

Flashcard 6-4

“This evening you will know that God is the One who brought you out of Egypt. Tomorrow morning you will see how great God is. He has heard your grumbling. Even though you complained to me, you are really speaking against God. Each evening God will give you meat to eat. Every morning He will give you all the bread you can eat. You are not to save any of the bread until the next day. God will give you fresh bread every morning, except the Sabbath. On the day before the Sabbath day, gather enough food for two days. So you are to gather food six days and rest on the seventh day.”

Briefly remind the children that the seventh day had been set aside by the Lord as a day of rest.

Flashcard 6-5

God knew what His people needed and He was going to provide for them in a miraculous way.

CTS

Are you wondering if it could be the same today? Yes! God does not change. His promises are always the same. The God who gave the Israelites what they needed, gives His children today all that they need.

What about Richard’s need for a friend? Richard went to school on Monday and it was tough! Everyone seemed to have their own friends and he felt very left out! He and his parents were still praying but when, and how, would God answer? It wasn’t easy for Richard to trust, but he kept thinking about Romans 8:32. He knew God loved him so much that He gave His only Son to die for him, so surely Richard could trust God to give him the friend he needed.

CTU

What about you? Are you thinking that you couldn’t be like Richard because you don’t know the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour? Your greatest need is to have your sin forgiven. That could happen today. If you truly want to have nothing more to do with your sin then tell the Lord and trust Him for forgiveness.

Perhaps you are not sure what to do. Then please come and talk with me when the club is over. Sit in the front row and I will know that you want to talk with me about becoming a Christian.

One day, a few weeks after Richard had started his new school, he came running home. He was just bursting to tell his mum and dad the news! Another new boy had started school and was in Richard's class. The teacher had introduced him to Richard and suggested that he might be able to help Philip settle in, since he knew what it was like to be new at the school.

"It's great, Dad," said Richard. "We get on really well. Philip likes football and cricket, just like me. Can I invite him round to our house? The best part is that Philip is a Christian - perhaps together we will be able to tell some of the others in our class about Jesus."

Hadn't the Lord given Richard exactly what he needed? If you are His child you can trust Him to give you all that you need.

Remember what He promised the Israelites?

Scene 4

"Look! I caught one! Oh, another one! They're everywhere! There are enough for every family to eat!" The Israelites may have shouted to one another. God had sent birds called quail. They covered the camp. The people had all the meat they needed.

Remove all figures, except Moses (MC-31). Place Israelites gathering manna (MC-57, MC-58, MC-65, MC-66 and MC-67).

Next morning they saw something had fallen on the ground during the night. The ground was white!

"What is this?" they asked Moses.

"This is the bread God has given you to eat," Moses replied.

The bread looked like small round wafers. Oh, it tasted so sweet and good - like honey! It was food from heaven. The Israelites called it manna.

The Lord promised them fresh food each day. But what happened? Some of the people were afraid to trust and they gathered far more than they could eat! What about the leftovers? The next morning it smelled horrible and worms crawled around in it!

How much were they to gather on the sixth day? Enough for two days. Was that food good the next day? Yes, because God had said they were to rest on the seventh day. Sadly, there were those who didn't heed God's Word and went out on the Sabbath day to gather bread - but there was none!

God showed His people time and time again that all they had to do was trust Him and He would give them all they needed. Do you know that all through the years that they spent in the wilderness they were never without food or water?

Preschoolers can pretend to catch the quail.



Flashcard 6-6

As you discuss the manna, or at the end of Club, you may want to provide crackers for the children to eat.

They were to each gather one omer of manna per person. On the sixth day part of the manna was to be baked or boiled to preserve it for the seventh day.

CTU

CTS

Review game

The Lord provides

Cut out twelve pictures illustrating some of the needs we can trust the Lord to provide. When a child answers a question, he or she selects one of the pictures and puts it on the board.

Examples of subjects for pictures:

- ♦ food
- ♦ water
- ♦ clothes
- ♦ home
- ♦ friends
- ♦ parents
- ♦ Bible
- ♦ Church
- ♦ hospital
- ♦ doctors
- ♦ nurses
- ♦ sun/rain

God does not change. You can trust Him today. You can trust the Lord Jesus Christ to forgive your sin and make you a child of God. If you are in God's family you can trust His promise to give you all that you need. Remember Romans 8:32, "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things."

Review questions

- 1 Why did the people complain at Marah? (The water was bitter.)
- 2 What should the Israelites have done instead of complaining? (Trusted God.)
- 3 What did Moses do when the people complained? (He prayed.)
- 4 What was God's answer to Moses' prayer? (Throw a special tree into the water.)
- 5 What does Romans 8:32 say? ("He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?")
- 6 What is our greatest need? (To have our sin dealt with.)
- 7 How has God provided for this need? (He sent His only Son to die in our place and take our punishment.)
- 8 What did the Israelites do when they were in the desert and had no food? (They complained to Moses.)
- 9 How did God provide food for them? (He sent quails in the evening and manna in the morning.)
- 10 If God loved us so much that He gave His Son for us, what does Romans 8:32 tell us we can trust Him to do? (Give us everything we need.)
- 11 What is the difference between what we need and what we want?
- 12 If you are a Christian what does God want you to do when you need something? (Trust Him to provide.)

Take-home challenge

Have available sheets of paper divided into seven parts.

Encourage those children who read their Bibles each day to look out

Sunday	
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	

for promises God has made to provide for specific needs, eg Matthew 6:30 - God promises to clothe His children.

The children should write down any promise they find and thank God for it.

Take time in the next club to discuss some of the promises they have discovered.

Case study 1

Rachel lives in a little village in Ethiopia. She needs the same things you do - clothes, food, water, education. Rachel's parents love the Lord Jesus and have taught Rachel about Him. Rachel is trusting the Lord Jesus as her Lord and Saviour.

Rachel has many brothers and sisters. They are a very poor family. How do you think God might give them what they need?

What kind of people could God use to help Rachel and her family? (Missionaries.)

How might missionaries be able to help? (Teach better farming practices; provide schools; set up health and hygiene programmes.)

How could God use you to help missionaries help Rachel? (Pray; give.)

Case study 2

Jamie lives with his mum. His dad is dead. His mother has to work hard to provide for Jamie and his sister. She loves the Lord Jesus and she has taught Jamie that they should be thankful to God for providing a job for her.

Not long ago Jamie asked the Lord Jesus to be his Saviour and Lord of his life. He is really trying to live to please the Lord. However, lately that has been a struggle.

A ski trip has been organised by Jamie's school. Several of his friends are going and he would love to go. However, when he asked his mum she said it would be too expensive and she couldn't afford to send him.

"So much for trusting God to provide for our needs!" Jamie thought, and he has been sulking ever since.

Does God promise to give us everything we want?

Would you say the ski trip was a need or a want?

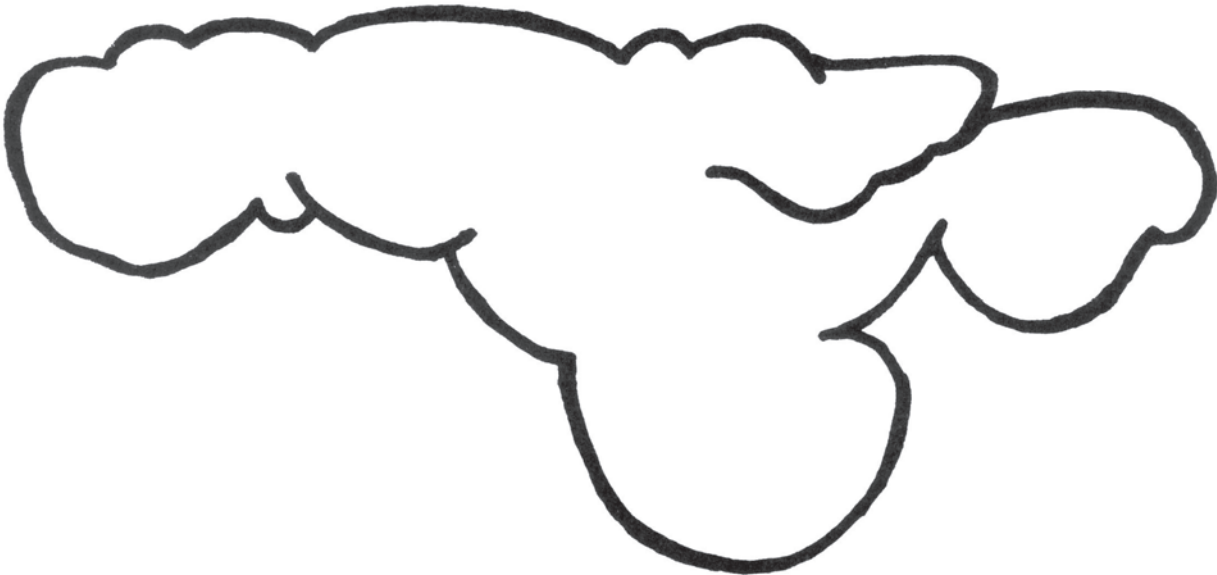
What is wrong with Jamie's attitude?

What does Jamie need to do to sort things out with his mother and with the Lord?

What could Jamie do so that he could go on the ski trip the following year? (Eg, save up his birthday and Christmas money, earn some money by cutting grass, etc.)

Patterns for overlays

Cloud overlay (A) - Lesson 5



Red Sea overlay (B) - Lesson 5

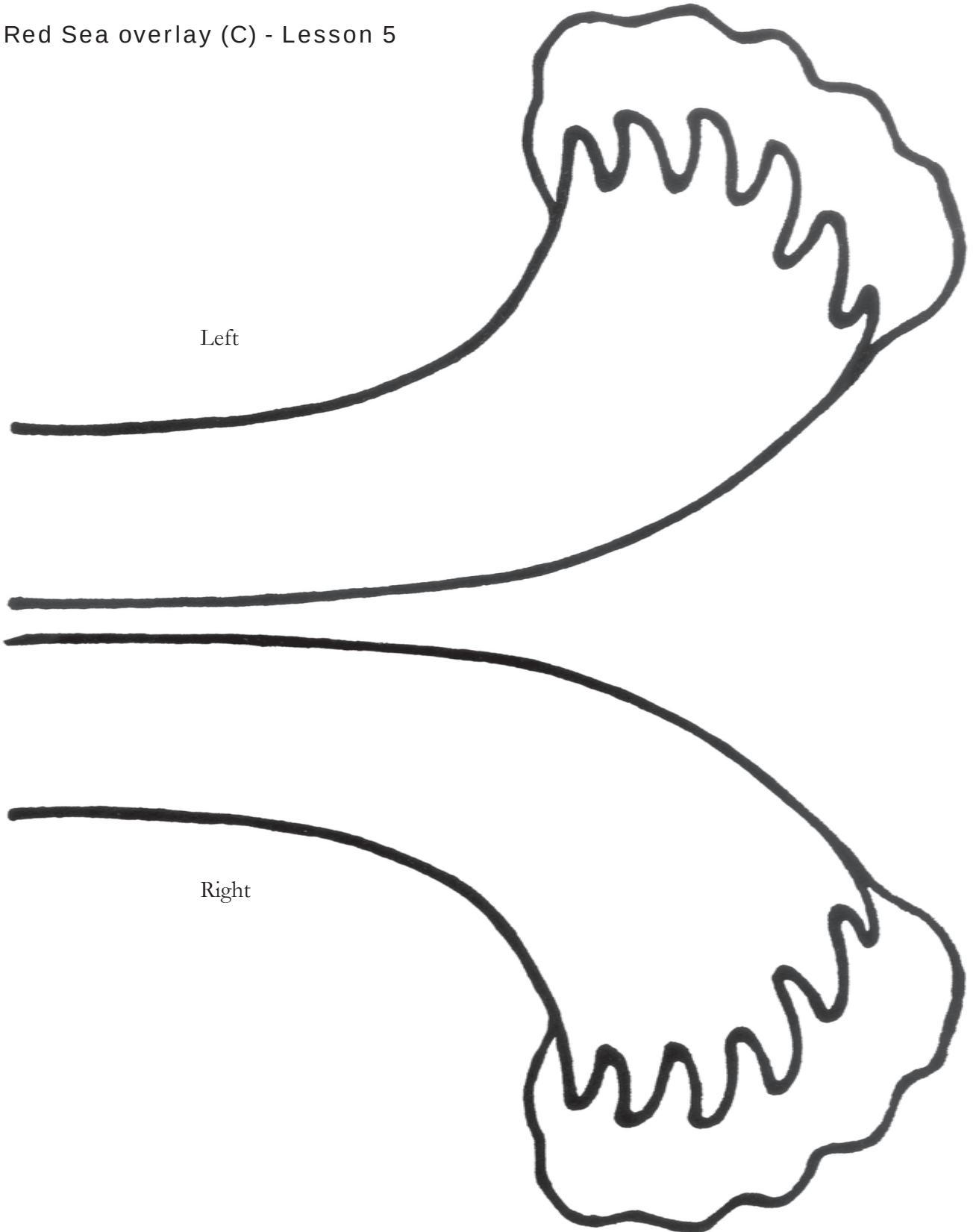
Use the following overlay to create mountainous background and an overlay of the water (ie two pieces). Alternatively, if you use a different background for the mountains you will need to adapt the water overlay to suit the background.



Patterns for overlays

Red Sea overlay (C) - Lesson 5

Left



Right

Copy, cut out and keep in your Bible



Summary of steps for counselling the child who wants to come to Christ

Make sure the child understands about

God

Who is God?
God made us. He speaks to us through the Bible.
God is holy and pure. He loves us.

Sin

What is sin?
Sin is disobeying God's commands. It is against God.
Speak about specific sins.
The child is a sinner by nature and act. (We sin because we are sinners.)
Sin deserves punishment.

The Saviour

Who alone can take away your sin?
God the Son died on the cross for sinners.
The Lord Jesus rose again from the dead.
He is Lord of all.

Explain how to be saved

Explain what the Lord wants us to do, and what He will do.
Use a Bible verse (*John 1:12; 3:16; 6:37; Acts 16:31; Romans 6:23 or 10:13*).
What does the Lord want you to do?
What will the Lord do?
Warn about difficulties.
Ask: "Do you want to trust Christ, or would you rather wait?"
Encourage the child to pray audibly (if ready).

Speak about assurance of salvation

Go back to the Bible verse you used.
Speak about a changed life.
Tell him what the person who is truly trusting in Christ can know.

Give (later) some advice about the Christian life

Read and obey your Bible.
Talk to God, our heavenly Father.
Tell others what the Lord has done for you.
Ask God to forgive you when you sin.
Meet with other Christians.
Remember the Lord promises: "*I will never leave you*" (*Heb 13:5*).