

BIBLE LESSON # 25

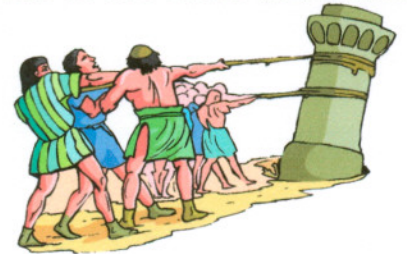
1.

Exodus 1

Once long ago there were kings in the land of Egypt that were called Pharaohs. When Joseph lived in Egypt the Pharaoh was a kind man, but now Joseph was gone and a new Pharaoh was ruling the people. This Pharaoh was mean to his workers and Joseph's relatives (who were called the children of Israel) were treated very badly. They were slaves and had to work very hard without any money. They had very little food and ragged clothes and the Egyptian masters they worked for would sometimes beat them with long sticks and whips.

The children of Israel had to work hard all day long building big palaces and statues with stones and bricks. Some of the men had to hammer big rocks out of the cliffs and others had to stand in pools of mud and stomp their feet up and down

to mix the mud and straw together to make bricks. That really made their backs hurt and their feet sore and yucky!



25

2.

One day the Pharaoh looked out of his window. "There are more and more children of Israel in my land. I'm afraid they will become strong and one day they may try to fight me and my men. I think I ought to get rid of some of them." he said. "HMMMMM, I can't get rid of the men for they are needed to build my statues and buildings. I can't get rid of the women, for I need them to do my cooking and wash my floors and sew my clothes. I know, I'll get rid of the boy babies when they are born, then they won't grow up to fight me."

There were nurses in Egypt who helped take care of the women when they had babies. They would also take care of the little babies. Pharaoh called the nurses and ordered them to get rid of any little boy babies when they were born. "Just throw them in the river," Pharaoh said.

Pharaoh was really a bad man, wasn't he?



Do you think the nurses obeyed Pharaoh? No, they loved God and the nurses knew if they obeyed Pharaoh, they would be disobeying God. The nurses knew that God loves little babies and it would be wrong to throw them in the river. So the nurses disobeyed Pharaoh and let the little babies live with their mothers. God watched over the nurses and took care of them so Pharaoh didn't punish them. However, Pharaoh gave an order to all his people if they found any little boy babies, they were to throw them in the river.

Now there was an mother and father who had two children; a girl named Miriam and a boy named Aaron. When the Pharaoh gave the order to throw the babies in the river, the mother had just given birth to a brand new baby boy. Miriam and Aaron loved their new baby brother and thought he was very special. The mother hid the baby as long as she could but one day she knew she could no longer hide him.

What do you think she did?

She made a little basket that would float and she put her baby boy in the basket and took it to the river and hid him among the tall reeds.



Now If the soldiers came to get her baby, she could tell them that her baby was in the river. Big sister Miriam, hid among the reeds to see what would happen to her little brother. His mother was planning on coming back later to get her little boy.

Just then, Miriam heard some women laugh and talking. They were getting closer to where her little brother was hidden. It was the daughter of Pharaoh and her servant girls! "Oh no!" Miriam thought, "the Princess will find my baby brother and hurt him." She was very frightened. Pharaoh's daughter saw the basket hidden in the reeds and she sent her servant girl to see what it was. "Why, it's a basket and it's heavy," the servant said. "Bring it to me," said the Princess. When the servant brought the basket and lifted the lid, the baby started to cry. "Oh, it's a tiny baby," the Princess said.

"This baby must belong to one of the children of Israel."



What do you think the princess did with the baby?

Do you think she threw him in the river?

"What will you do with the baby?" one of the servants asked. "Why I will keep him and raise him as my own son," the Princess answered. "I will name him Moses and he will come and live with me in the palace."

Miriam was hiding and listening to all that was said. Now she bravely came out of hiding and said, "Would you like me to find a woman to take care of the baby and feed him for you?" Miriam asked. "I know a good woman who could take care of him." The Princess thought about this. This would work out good, for it would give her time to make a place for little Moses and to tell her cruel father that she was going to adopt a little boy. She wouldn't let her father know that this was a baby who belonged to the children of Israel. So the Princess told Miriam, "Yes, take the baby to this woman and tell her I will pay her to feed and care for little Moses and as he gets a little older, he will come to the palace to live."



Who do you think Miriam found to take care of little Moses?

Miriam took the baby back to her home and put Moses in the arms of his very own mother!

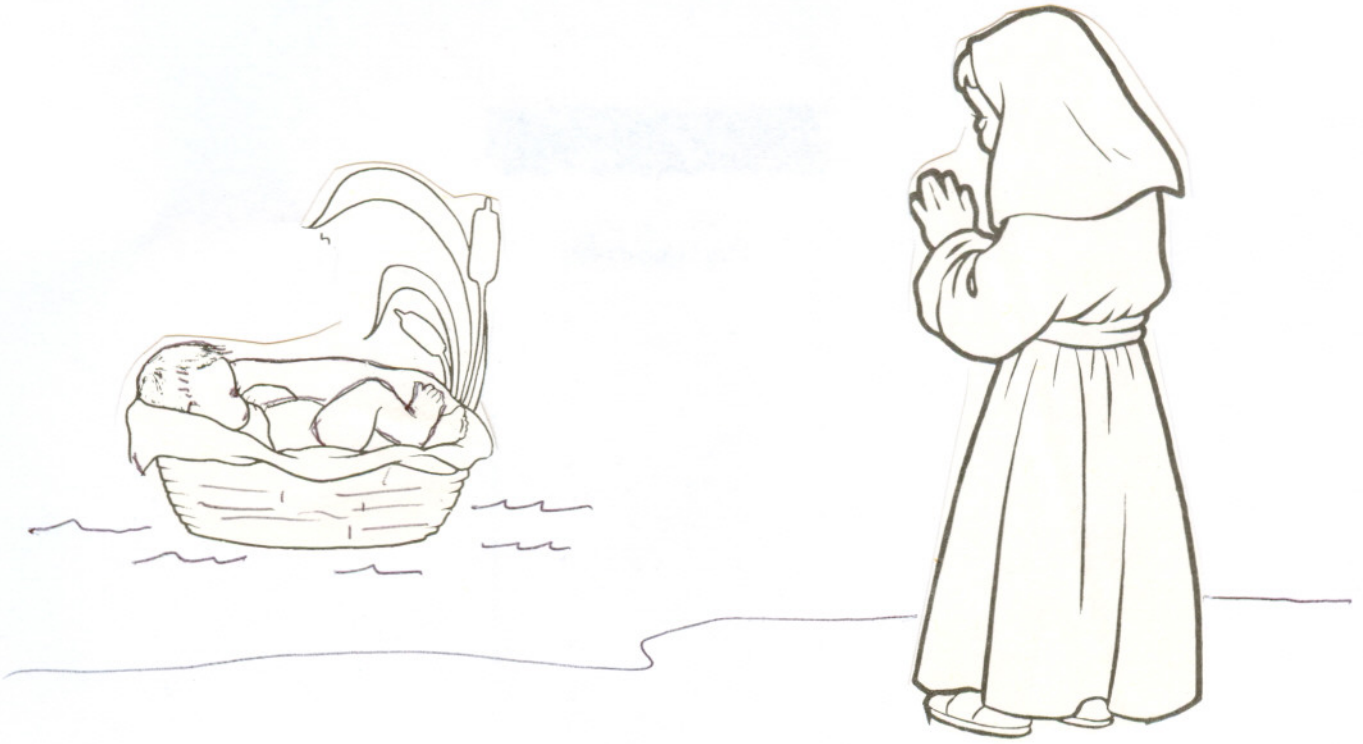
God took care of that family in a wonderful way, didn't he? The mother had her own son back and he would be safe now, for the Princess sent orders to keep anyone from harming this little boy. No doubt the princess would visit the home many times until it was time for little Moses to come and live in the palace with her. Moses's mother would tell little Moses Bible stories and Miriam and Aaron would teach him how to catch frogs and they would run and play along the river bank with him.

God had a special reason plan for Moses. As he grew older he went to live in the Palace and he learned how to read and write and how to be a leader.

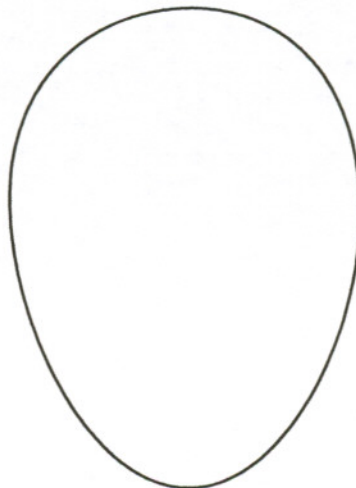
In our next lesson we'll hear more stories about Moses and see what God's plans were for him when he grew up.



Miriam is trying to hide from the Princess, but she doesn't have any bushes to hide behind. Can you make some reeds and bushes for her to hide behind then color the picture?



The Pharaoh's daughter is a Princess and needs to have a beautiful Egyptian crown. Which crown to you like best? Draw eyes, nose and mouth and hair for the Princess then draw the crown you like best on her head.



Moses liked to play along the river. To see something Moses might have played with, color all the dots with green and color everything that has an x in it blue and color everything that has a line in it yellow

