



## Moses was born and called.

**Bible Passage:** Exodus 1-4

**Memory Verse:** <sup>4</sup>“But I have been the LORD your God ever since you came out of Egypt. You shall acknowledge no God but me, no Savior except me. **Hosea 13:4**

**Bottom Line:** Because nothing is too hard for God, we can fully trust Him.

**Big Picture Question:** Is there anything God cannot do? God can do all things according to His character.

**Christ Connection:** God saved Moses' life and called him to rescue God's people from slavery. The calling of Moses points to a greater calling and rescue—the call of Jesus to come to earth to save God's people. Jesus gave up His life to save us from slavery to sin

### 10 Minutes SOCIAL: SETTING THE TONE OF THE EXPERIENCE

#### What does it Mean?

**What You Need:** “Letter Meanings” Activity Page (1 per kid), pencils

#### What You Do:

- Distribute a “Letter Meanings” Activity page for each kid with a pencil.
- Challenge kids to work individually or in groups to complete as many of the phrases as they can.
- Explain that each letter stands for a word.
- Use the first phrase as an example: 24 H in a D. (24 hours in a Day)
- Allow kids to work for several minutes.
- Then refer to the answer key to check kid's work.

**What You Say** “Was it hard to figure out the meaning of any of those letter phrases? When you don't know what something means, what are some places you might go to for answers?”

In our Bible Stories, we are learning from some people who had to trust God for some really big things. Let's see how that works out for them.”

### 10 Minutes Worship: CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING

SONGS, OFFERING AND PRAYER

### 15 Minutes LARGE GROUP: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS

Today' s Passage– Exodus 1-4

*What a story! Moses barely survived being a baby because Pharaoh wanted to stop the families of Israel from growing. Pharaoh's daughter raised Moses as her own son, but when Moses got older he left Egypt and became a shepherd. Pharaoh made life hard for God's people by making them slaves. God saw everything the Israelites were experiencing. He heard their cries for help, and **God called Moses to deliver His people from captivity.***

You see, long before Moses was born, God made a covenant with Abraham. God told Abraham that his descendants would live in a foreign land and become slaves there. The people would be slaves for 400 years, but God would free them. [See Gen. 15:13-21.] In the next few weeks, we will hear exactly how God used Moses to rescue the Israelites.

What was the first thing God told Moses to do at the burning bush? [Allow kids to respond.] God told Moses to take off his shoes because he was on holy ground. The ground itself was not special; what was special was that God was there.

**Then God told Moses to speak to Pharaoh. Moses asked God what His name was. Does anyone remember God's answer? [Allow kids to respond.] Yes! God said His name is “I AM WHO I AM.” God's name means that He is in control and He never changes. Moses tried to make excuses. How would you feel about going to speak to one of the most powerful people in the world? But not even Moses could stop God's plan to lead His people to freedom.**

## CONTEXT

Moses was born into a culture that hated his people. The Israelites—descendants of Israel (Jacob)—had set up their home



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in Egypt when a famine forced them to seek out food. They became so numerous that Pharaoh felt threatened and forced them into slavery. But their families still grew, and Pharaoh instituted an unimaginable method of population control: kill all of the baby boys.

Moses' story is a clear picture of God's sovereignty. Not only was Moses' life spared by the Egyptian princess, Moses' mother was able to care for him. Moses grew up in Pharaoh's house and then spent years shepherding in Midian before God called him to his task.

Imagine the encounter between God and Moses at the burning bush. God drew a curious Moses to Himself and then spoke: "Moses, Moses!"

God identified Himself as the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob. He testified to His own grace: "I have observed the misery of my people ... and I know about their sufferings ... I am sending you ... so that you may lead my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt" (Ex. 3:7-10).

God revealed His name: "I AM WHO I AM." The most basic and important fact about God is that He exists; He always has and always will exist. God does not change. God revealed to Moses who He is so that the people would trust in Him.

Help the kids you teach understand that God rescued Moses to deliver His people from captivity. Emphasize how the calling of Moses points to a greater calling and rescue—the call of Jesus to come to earth to save God's people from sin.

### TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- God saved Moses' life because Moses would lead His people out of slavery.
- In this story, God proves, once again, that at nothing is too hard for God because of who He is!
- **BL: Because nothing is too hard for God, we can fully trust Him.**
- When we pray to God, He hears our prayers like He heard the prayer of His people in Exodus 4.
- Trust God by talking to Him about what matters to you!

Give kids a chance to believe in Jesus for the first time. Remind them that God loves them so much that He sent Jesus to earth to pay for their sins. Lead them to pray as you pray. Pray that believers will submit their lives to the Holy Spirit, follow Jesus, and tell others about Him.

### 25 Minutes SMALL GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

#### Discussion Questions:

1. **Why did the new pharaoh fear the Israelites?** *(They outnumbered Egyptians, and Pharaoh thought they might side with Egypt's enemies; Ex. 1:8-10)*
2. **What did Moses' mother do to protect him?** *(placed him in a basket and set it near the banks of the Nile, Ex. 2:3-4)*
3. Why did Moses flee to Midian? *(Moses killed an Egyptian, and Pharaoh found out; Ex. 2:12-15)*
4. **What does it mean for God to call Himself "I AM"?** *Guide the kids to discuss the idea that God has always existed and always will exist. Help them think through the idea that we cannot fully understand God, but His name reveals that He exists, His existence holds everything together, and He is unchanging.*
5. **Why can it be hard to obey God?** *Guide kids to discuss times they disobeyed God. Help them think through what it means to be sinners living in a sinful world. Talk about how Jesus changed things for us. Remind kids that we can trust God to help us obey Him no matter what.*
6. **What are some things God has told us to do?** *Discuss some of the commands in Scripture that are general commands to all believers. Remind the kids that loving others, telling about Jesus, and honoring their parents are all commands, not suggestions. Discuss ways we can trust God to help us obey Him out of love, such as talking to Him and reading His Word.*
7. **How did Moses first react when God called him to deliver His people from captivity?** *Lead*



kids to recall that Moses had a lot of questions and excuses for why he wasn't the right person. Moses even asked God to send someone else. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Ex. 4:10.)

8. **What kind of people does God use in His plans?** Guide kids to recognize that God often uses ordinary people as part of His plan to show His power through them. God, working through Moses, would lead His people out of Egypt. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Acts 13:17.)
9. **Do you think God could use you in His plan? In what ways?** Point out that God can use us even in our weaknesses. Moses wasn't a strong speaker but confronted Pharaoh because God was with him. Emphasize that we can rely on God's strength through us. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 Cor. 1:26-27.)

### Activity: Create a Hero

**What You Need:** "Hero" Activity page, scissors, markers/crayons

#### What You Do:

- Give each kid an activity page and markers/crayons
- Encourage kids to decorate the person on their Hero activity page like what they think a hero looks like.
- When kids have finished coloring their hero, you can get them to cutout the person and not cut the folded top of the paper, cut around the lines only.
- They could color the back side of their hero as well or give their hero a name and write that on the back.
- When they are done they can open their hero at the fold and stand it up like a table tent.
- Ask volunteers to share what makes their hero powerful.

**What You Say** "God uses people like Moses in His plan- people like us. God uses people who aren't powerful because it shows that He is strong. God is the only One who has the power we need in every area of our lives. He has the power to free us from sin.

God called Moses to deliver His people from captivity, but Moses wasn't the biggest hero in the story. The all- powerful God was! We aren't the heroes of our story either, but when we obey God and rely on Him, we show the world that He is strong. **BL- Because nothing is too hard for God, we can fully trust Him.**

### Activity: Memory Verse Activity

**What You Need:** Memory Verse Poster, Crazy Stand Ups Categories List

#### What You Do:

- Review the Memory Verse as a group together out loud a few times.
- Then tell the group you are going to call out some categories.
- If the kids fit in the that category they all stand up and say the verse together.
- You can use these categories or make up your own. (See if kids remember categories from your social time together.)
  - **Stand up if for are a girl/boy**
  - **Stand up if you do not share your bedroom**
  - **Stand up if you are wearing sandals/boots/tennis shoes**
  - **Stand up if you had pancakes/cereal/eggs/waffles/donuts for breakfast**
  - **Stand up if you ride a bike/skateboard/roller skates**
  - **Stand up if you have any brothers/sisters**
  - **Stand up if you are the oldest/youngest in your family**



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- Stand up if you hate spinach/zucchini/Brussel sprouts/bean
- Stand up if you are wearing red/yellow/blue/pink
- Stand up if you own a dog/cat/goat/lizard
- Stand up if your birthday is in January/June/November
- Stand up if you can fold your tongue in half
- Stand up if your eyes are brown/blue
- Stand up if you took a vacation
- Stand up if you love God

**What You Say** "It is so fun to get to know our friends and learn our memory verse together. Next time you can help me come up with a category to use in our game. Our Memory Verse reminds us that God has always had a plan and that Jesus is that plan. We can trust God because He can do anything."

### Pray and Dismiss:

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

### What You Say:

"God, You are good. You love us even though we cannot earn Your favor. Thank You for sending Jesus to be a new and better Moses. Help us to willingly and joyfully obey your plans for our lives. Amen.

### 5 Minutes HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage your kids to tell their parents about Moses. What was God doing? . **BL- Because nothing is too hard for God, we can fully trust Him.**