



3's and 4's/Pre K

October 20-21, 2012

DATE

A Journey Home—Week 3: Moses

LESSON TITLE

Exodus 2-4

WHERE TO FIND IT

Moses found he belonged in God's family

MAIN POINT

schedule

SCHEDULE for all sites:

First 10 minutes of the service hour:

Relationship-building time (kids get to know each other and the volunteers)

Next 25 minutes: Large group teaching and worship

Last 30 minutes: Story review, snack and small groups, activities/crafts

If you finish early, have kids engage group games as parents arrive. Check out the end of the activities section to find an idea for this week.

tips

When you're doing a craft/activity that kids will do individually, write their names on the back of the item as they come into the room. That will save you some time later and allow you to spend more time helping them with the activity. Plus, it is easier to distinguish which craft is theirs at check-out time.

check-in/out

Be sure to have things ready for kids as they enter. Coloring pages, playdough and toys are all good options. If you finish early, try to get all the kids involved in a group game. And if you're looking for a group game to try, there's an idea at the end of the activities section.

large group heads up

Today we're talking about how Moses kept running away until he realized he belonged in God's family. He even had a special job from God. We're going to focus on how each kid is invited to join God's family too.

*Also, don't be shy: redirect rowdy kids so the presenter can focus on presenting.



instructions

Goal: To help kids understand that God loves them just as they are. They don't need to do anything to earn his approval.

Why? We want kids to trust in God's character right now, while they are young, and live knowing they are loved.

Tip: Have some fun making silly faces, voices, hairstyles, and poses in the mirrors before you put on the stickers. Some ideas are listed below, but make sure kids know why they are creating mirrors to take home.

QUESTIONS

Lead the kids to **RETELL** the story:

1. What was the name of the guy in our story who kept running away? (Moses)
2. Where did Moses grow up after the princess found him? (in the palace, like a prince)
3. But since he didn't belong in the palace, he went to find his own people. Did they want him? (No!)
4. What did Moses do when his people didn't want him? (ran away again)
5. When God talked to Moses as a burning bush, what job did God want Moses to do? (rescue God's family)
6. Moses didn't think he could do God's job because he didn't belong anywhere. He didn't think anybody loved him. But where DID he belong? (In God's family!)
7. Who loved him? (God)
8. Who ELSE does God love? (Me and you!)

*After question #8, practice the sign language from large group together.

ACTIVITY

SAY: Remember, God loves all of us even when people are mean to us or we don't win a trophy. We can join his family, just like Moses, even when we're not perfect.

Hand out the **mirror board** to every kid. Ask every kid to look in the mirror. Remind them that God loves them just as they are. Have some fun:

- Ask them to make a silly face. God still loves you!
- Make a sad face. God still loves you!
- Make a confused face. God still loves you!
- Stick out their tongue. God still loves you!
- Close one eye. God still loves you!

Anytime of day, no matter how they feel, they can look in this mirror and remember that God loves them.

Then, we're going to use **stickers** to make a fun frame for the mirror. Every time they feel sad or think somebody is mad at them, they can look in the mirror and remember God loves them.

As kids decorate, apply a **heart tattoo on each of their hands. Tell them that this is a special reminder to look at their mirror and remember that they belong in God's special family!

QUESTIONS

A large, empty white rectangular box intended for writing questions.

ACTIVITY

Act It Out!
(OPTIONAL IF TIME PERMITS)

Feeling creative? Have the kids act out today's story. At this age, they love dramatic play—and it helps them remember what happened. You can even hone in on certain actions.

Since Moses found belonging in today's story, here's one idea:

1. Have everybody sit in one place
2. Decide you don't belong
3. Get up and go to a new place,
4. Repeat until you realize you belong in God's family!

Or you can have a group of kids pretend to be the burning bush and other kids pretend they are Moses. It's up to you. Be creative to make the story fun!

special notes

We want kids to walk away knowing God loved Moses and God loves them. They may not feel like they are striving for approval now, but they will encounter that sometime in their lives. Hopefully, when they do, they'll have a foundational trust in God's unconditional approval.

presenter tips

Find ways to keep kids engaged by having them repeat a word or phrase, act something out, make a face, or a motion... every couple of minutes give them a way to engage verbally or kinesthetically. Double bonus - It will actually help them remember what you're saying, too!

script

Presenter: Hi Friends! Welcome to _____ (your ministry's name). I'm _____ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend, HOPS. She's going to remind us of the kind of choices we can make today in _____ Kids' Club.

Video: HOPS 3: Put Your Listening Ears On. (approx. 1 minute)

Presenter: (holding up the **Bible** for kids to see) ...This is God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this story is the most important story. This is God's story—it's God's Rescue plan.

REVIEW

Remember the beautiful Garden we learned about last week? (**Play the loop** and keep it up in the background until you talk about leaving the garden.) What are some of the things God created? (Allow kids to respond.) What is his most special creation? (Allow kids to respond.) Yes, you are!

But then the snake convinced them that God didn't really love them and they made a bad choice. Does anybody remember what they did? (Allow kids to respond.) That's right, they disobeyed God. They had to leave the garden (**change to blank slide**). Then all the wrong things in the world began, like sadness and getting hurt and being mean.

Does anybody remember what God did to show us he loves us? If you remember, stick both of your hands high in the air (let kids respond and call on one kid). Yes, he created a great rescue plan so that everybody could join his family. Let's see if we can find something in the **box** to show us something else about God's family.

Video: The Attic / Week 3 (approx. 30 seconds)



script continued

GOD LOVES US JUST AS WE ARE

Wow, we have a **graduation cap**, a **report card**, and a **trophy**. These are all things we work hard to get. If you've ever seen a trophy before, give somebody close to you a high five (let kids respond). Wow, a lot of you guys have seen trophies. How do we get a trophy? (Let kids share examples—guide them toward saying “win” at any particular game.) Yes, you win something. But you know what, these trophies aren't worth anything. They sometimes break. And guess what? God doesn't care if we *ever* win a trophy (set trophy aside). He loves us just the way we are. Give yourself a hug if God loves you just the way you are! (Let kids respond.) Yes, God loves ALL of you!

MOSES DIDN'T KNOW GOD LOVED HIM

Today, we're going to hear a story about a guy from God's Special Family, the Israelites, who felt like he didn't belong anywhere. He didn't know God loved him. That was sad. Can I see your best sad face? (Let kids show sad faces.) So he kept running away from places to try to figure out where he belonged. His name is Moses. Can you guys say, “Moses”? (Let the kids respond.) Let's say it again: “Moses.”

From now on, every time I say Moses, move your arms like you're running really hard. Let's practice. Ready? ...Moses! (Model “running” in place without moving legs because kids should stay seated, but pump their arms.) Well, when Moses (pump) was a baby (hold up the **baby doll**), he couldn't stay at home because the ruler of Egypt had made a law that there were no more baby Israelites allowed. Well Moses lived near a big river (**show picture of the Nile**). So Moses' mom (pump arms) put him in a basket and hid him in the water (set baby in **basket** and set basket in **tub of water**).

MOSES RAN AWAY...TWICE

A little later, the princess of Egypt (put on **crown**) found Moses (pump arms), and guess what? She adopted him as her own son (take **baby** and rock it). He grew up in a palace (take off **crown**). But Moses (pump arms) didn't feel like he belonged there. So he ran away to find the Israelites.

Well, the Israelites didn't want Moses (pump arms) either. So guess what he did? He ran away again! Moses (pump arms) lived far away for a long, long time. Finally, Moses (pump arms) found a place to belong! And it didn't matter where he was born or where he grew up or what he did. We're going to watch a video about Moses (pump arms). As you watch, see if you can figure out where he belonged.

Video: God's Story / Moses (approx. 4 minutes)

MOSES JOINED GOD'S FAMILY

So if you figured out where Moses belonged, pat the top of your head. (Let kids respond). Where was it? (Let kids respond) Yes, it was a part of God's family! We don't have to move our arms anymore because Moses stopped running away and trying to fit in different places. He had a special job from God and belonged in God's family. And guess what? God wants ALL of us to be a part of his family because he loves us so much.



script continued

WE CAN JOIN IN GOD'S FAMILY

Now, we're going to learn some sign language to remember that God loves us! (See *images at end of lesson for visual representation.*) GOD (Point up then draw hand down and push fingers up) LOVES (cross hands across chest) ME (point to self). (Altogether): God loves me!

You guys try (model for the kids as you all say together): "God... loves... me!" (Practice the motions and the phrase two more times.) God... loves... me! God ...loves... me! God (sign) loved (sign) Moses (pump arms) and God (sign) loves (sign) me (sign)! We all belong in God's family! Wow, this is exciting news. Give somebody next to you a high five!

Now let's all pray and thank God. (Pray, breaking the prayer into small, repeatable phrases.)

Pray: Hi God! Thanks for loving Moses! Thanks for loving me! Thanks that we can join your family! I love you! Aaaaaa-men!

Let's sing and celebrate God's love for us!

Sing: ***Thank You, Lord
Be Strong***

Dismiss kids to small groups. (Be creative as you dismiss them. Ask them to come give you a high five first, or maybe tiptoe or hop to their groups.)

**Here's the sign language for today:

GOD (point up and then draw hand down while pushing other fingers in same direction)

LOVES (cross arms over chest)

ME (point to self)



script continued

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name



PREP needs



small group supplies

1. Coloring page
2. 1 piece of mirror board (full 5x7 inch squares:
<http://www.discountsschoolsupply.com/Product/ProductDetail.aspx?product=16589&keyword=mirror%20board&scategoryid=0&CategorySearch=&Brand=&Price=>)
3. 4-8 stickers per child: heart and star mix (OT: IN-12/1975 and OT: IN-12/1885)
4. 1 heart tattoo per child: (OT: IN-32/898)
5. Small bowl for water
6. Sponge or paper towels to apply tattoo

large group supplies

1. Jesus Storybook Bible
2. Suitcase/treasure chest Trophy
3. Report card
4. Graduation cap
5. Baby doll
6. Waterproof basket (any type of basket with lining will work)
7. Clear tub filled with a couple inches of water
8. Princess Crown

a/v needs

1. Video: HOPS 3 Put Your Listening Ears On
2. Video loop (please cut off the first 14 seconds that have text on screen):
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vsg7hTRX9jI&feature=BFa&list=PLF7B8CA6C8E0851E4>
3. Blank slide
4. Video: The Attic / Week 3
5. Image: the Nile River (jpeg in curriculum folder)
6. Video: God's Story / Moses
7. Song: Thank You Lord
8. Song: Be Strong

special room set-up

None

connect questions

- Tell me about Moses.
Where did Moses belong?

parent page

Today's story is all about Moses and how he didn't feel like he belonged anywhere. God asked him to do a special job, but Moses didn't think he was special enough to do it. Finally, Moses realized he was loved by God and found belonging in God's family. You can read the story together in Exodus 2-4. Kids are also taking home a decorated mirror to remind them that God loves and approves of them.

You can also watch a video of today's story together on Facebook. Just search for "Crossroads Kids' Club."