



LESSON 9

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: MOSES' BEGINNINGS

EXODUS 2:1-10, 23—4:17

THE STORY HOME

We read in God's Story that after Joseph and his family are redeemed, God continues to care for His people. Today we learned about how God protected a baby boy from the Egyptian Pharaoh who wanted to get rid of all Hebrew baby boys. God had a plan for baby Moses. Moses grew up in the palace and eventually went out on his own to see something amazing, a burning bush that never burned up! God spoke to Moses through that bush and called Moses to a special role in bringing freedom to the Hebrew people. Read the story to find out how Moses responded to God's plan for him.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- I wonder, how do you think God felt when He heard Moses doubt his ability to do what God wanted him to?
- Why do you think God didn't tell Moses about His plans earlier in his life?
- How you would feel if God asked you to do something hard or special for Him?

TOGETHER HOME

Read together Exodus 3:1-6. God calls Moses by his name. Then God told Moses to take his sandals off because he was on holy ground. The ground was holy because God was present. God invited Moses to talk with Him. Have you ever felt like you were on holy ground when you talked with God? Share your thoughts. Together come up with a place in your home or a time in your schedule that can be holy ground where you continue to read God's Word and claim it to be *holy ground* where your family can talk with God.

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

The memory verse for this month is Ephesians 3:20 NIRV. "God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. He does everything by his power that is working in us" The underlined portion is what the younger kids will learn. Print the verse on index cards for each family member. Encourage everyone to say the verse, read it daily, and memorize it.

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Lesson 9, Take-home



LESSON 10

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: PLAGUES ON EGYPT

EXODUS 5—6:1; 7—11

THE STORY HOME

Finally, it was over. The Israelites, the abused slaves of the Pharaoh in Egypt, had been set free. God's people were free to go back to their homeland and free to worship God. God sent the plagues to convince Pharaoh to let the people go, and finally he did. The Israelites left Egypt but they didn't get far before they ran into the Red Sea. But even water couldn't stop God. He parted the water and the people walked on dry land. Throughout the Bible we see how God hears and cares for His people. The people cried out to God and He heard them. God revealed His power in some unusual ways and showed that He is the one true God.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- What is freedom? I wonder, what does freedom mean to you?
- What was life like for the Hebrew people in Egypt?
- I wonder how our lives before we meet Jesus are similar to the Hebrew slaves in Egypt.
READ John 8:31-36.
- How did the Hebrew people escape slavery?

Just as God led the Israelites out of slavery, Jesus wants to lead us out of slavery to sin. The only path to freedom from sin is through Jesus' death for us on the Cross. Through Him, we can live in hope, knowing the joy and love available to His people.

TOGETHER HOME

I'm sure the Egyptians were scared each time a new plague came. Use this recipe to make some "Oh Brother" treats together and then talk about the story as you enjoy them.

Grease a 9x9x2 pan. Put 6 oz. chocolate chips, 1/2 cup corn syrup and 1/2 cup peanut butter in a sauce pan. Heat and stir until chocolate is melted. Remove from heat and stir in 1 tsp. vanilla and 1 cup of raisins. Now for the 'Oh Brother' part; stir in 4 cups of 'o' cereal. Press into the greased pan and refrigerate for 1 hour. Cut and serve.

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

"God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. He does everything by his power that is working in us" (Ephesians 3:20 NIRV). Practice the verse together as part of your devotional time.

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LESSON 11

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

EXODUS 20:1-17;
24:12-14; 32:15-16

THE STORY HOME

God gave Adam and Eve only one rule as they lived in the garden. He then later gave the Israelites and the rest of us 10 rules to help us live in a manner that would please Him. The 10 Commandments help us see how God would have us love Him and love others. As these 10 rules were good for the Israelites they still reign true for us today. God wants us to obey Him and these rules as we grow in relationship with Him.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- Why do you think God gave 10 Commandments?
- I wonder how God's people felt about having these new laws.
- I wonder how life changed for God's people after the commandments were given.
- I wonder what you think life might have been like without these commandments.
- How do the 10 Commandments influence your life today?

TOGETHER HOME

God's 10 Commandments teach us how to live and to treat others along the journey. His commandments also speak to our hearts. Read Matthew 22:37-38. Three things are mentioned in this verse: a heart, a soul, and a mind. Brainstorm and write down some ways to honor and love God with your heart... with your soul... and with your mind. Pray together asking God to help each of you to follow through on those ways you wrote down

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

The memory verse for lessons nine through twelve is Ephesians 3:20 NIRV. Have young kids learn the underlined portion of the verse. "God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. He does everything by his power that is working in us." Have everyone work together to create a poster of the verse. Display it where everyone can see it during the week and be reminded to learn it.

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LESSON 12

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: THE FALL OF JERICHO

JOSHUA 6

THE STORY HOME

God always keeps His promises and He continued to keep His promises to the Israelites when they came to a huge obstacle in getting the Promised Land. Jericho. Jericho was surrounded by massive walls and no one went in or out. However, God provided a way for His people to take the city. Though His instructions seemed odd (walk around the city and blow some horns?!?) Joshua and the people faithfully followed God's instructions. And God was faithful to His promises! Read this story together with your family to see how God showed His mighty power and once again fulfilled His promises for the Israelites.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- I wonder how the Israelites felt as they silently marched.
- Imagine what you might have thought as you were walking around the walls of Jericho.
- I wonder what the Israelites learned from waiting on God to do what God promised.
- I wonder what it's like to see God do something that seems impossible.
- I wonder how we are like the Israelites in this story. I wonder how we are different from them.

TOGETHER HOME

Gather some building materials from around the house and build two different walls. Place some different weighted objects on top of them to see which can withstand the most weight or pressure. Talk about why we have walls with your children. Do they protect or divide people? How does God encourage us to 'break down' walls or barriers that separate us? Read Joshua 1:9 and pray together asking God to give you the courage you need to help bring down walls and to remember that He goes everywhere with you

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

This is the last week for this memory verse. Can everyone in your family say it? Ephesians 3:20 NIRV, "God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. He does everything by his power that is working in us."

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LESSON 13

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: GOD AND GIDEON WIN THE BATTLE

JUDGES 7

THE STORY HOME

Today we learned about God's ability to do the impossible with almost nothing. God asks us to do our part and He makes it enough to accomplish the task at hand. The people of God were being treated badly by their neighbors. They called out to God and He heard their cry. God sent a solution that did not make any sense. He asked 300 soldiers to defeat an invading army too big to count. With the power of God, Gideon defeated the enemy and God rescued His people.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- Why do you think Gideon figured he was such an unlikely person to be used by God?
- Why do you think God chose such a small group of men to fight?
- How do you think those men felt when they were selected to be the whole army?
- Would you have had the courage to follow Gideon out in the middle of the night without weapons?
- Have you ever seen other times God worked using people who felt like losers?

TOGETHER HOME

This week find a household chore that would take a long time for one person to do. Have your entire family do the chore together and take the extra time saved and play a game together as a family. During the game, talk about how fun it is to be together as a family. Talk about how you are able to play together because everyone helped with the chore.

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

The memory verse for lessons 13 through 16 is Proverbs 3:5-6. Younger kids will learn the underlined portion of the verse. “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Write this verse on an index card for each family member who can read. Have them place it where they will see and read it often during the week.

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Lesson 13, Take-home



LESSON 14

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: SAMSON'S CHOICES AND CONSEQUENCES

JUDGES 16

THE STORY HOME

The story of Samson and Delilah is one of those classic stories from the Bible. We think of how Samson let it slip that his strength was in his hair. But the truth is that Samson allowed himself to get into the situation with a woman who did not know or honor God. The hair represented his covenant with God, so when his hair was shaved off the covenant was broken. God wants to have a covenant relationship with each of us. All we need to do is accept the gift of forgiveness that Jesus offers. When Samson had lost everything he cried out to God. Samson sought mercy and he reestablished his covenant vow with God. God once again showed that He is a merciful God and gave Samson back his strength for one last heroic event.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- How do you think it felt for Samson to be set apart at birth?
- How would you feel if you were told you had to live by different rules than all your friends?
- What was Samson's big mistake?
- Do you think that Samson should have dated Delilah?
- Do you think that Samson made it right in the end? How?

TOGETHER HOME

This week as you gather together as a family talk about your family's relationship to God and the church. Are there things that your family does that other families do not do? Or are there things that you choose not to do that other families at school or in your neighborhood choose to do? Discuss these things and the reasons your family does or does not do them. Samson had to live by a certain set of rules or expectations. As a family, make a list of rules and expectations that you could follow that would make your relationship with God stronger. Discuss these and find a way to make these part of your family's life.

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

The memory verse for lessons 13 through 16 is Proverbs 3:5-6. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Practice this verse together whenever possible, in the car, at the dinner table, during devotions, and so on.

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LESSON 15

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: RUTH AND BOAZ

RUTH 3—4

THE STORY HOME

This week we learned how God had prepared a way to rescue a young widow and make her into the great-grandmother of King David of Israel. When Ruth followed her mother-in-law to her home in Israel she found a new friend in Boaz. Boaz redeemed her from a life of utter poverty. He made her his wife and gave her a son to care for her in her old age.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- How would you feel if you moved to a foreign land where you did not know anyone?
- How do you think Ruth felt when she realized that Boaz was going to help her?
- What would you think if someone gave you unexpected gifts?

TOGETHER HOME

For the next month we will be collecting food to donate to a local food pantry. The students have been asked to bring non-perishable food items to their small groups. As a family, think about ways you could collect food. Talk as a family this week about ways you can help people who are in need. Pray for those in need.

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

The memory verse for this month is Proverbs 3:5-6. Have the younger kids learn the underlined portion of the verse. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Say the verse together and talk about what it means to trust God like it says.

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Lesson 15, Take-home



LESSON 16

TODAY'S EPIC STORY: HANNAH

1 SAMUEL 1:1—
2:11, 18-21

THE STORY HOME

Today's Epic story from the Bible was about a woman named Hannah. She was sad because she could not have a baby. Some made fun of her because she was without child. Hannah prayed to God and asked Him for a child. She promised God that if He were to bless her with a son that she would give that boy back to God. God heard her prayers and gave her a son she named Samuel. Hannah kept her promise and brought the boy to the temple and asked Eli the priest to look after and train Samuel. Her son would be in God's service all his life.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- How do you think Hannah felt when she was made fun of for not having a child?
- Have you ever had someone make fun of you?
- How did that make you feel?
- What did you do about it?
- What did Hannah do about it?
- When we have a need, who should we take that need to?

TOGETHER HOME

God heard Hannah's prayer and provided for her. As a family, think about God's provision in your lives. Make a list of all the good things God has blessed you with. Work on the list all week long. At the end of the week read through the list and give God thanks and praise for all His provision.

BIBLE MEMORY HOME

This is the last week for this memory verse, Proverbs 3:5-6. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Has everyone in your family learned this verse? Have each family member try to say the verse.

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