

Lesson #1
SAVED FOR PURPOSE (Moses is Safe)

Exodus 1:1 – Exodus 2:10



SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

1st reader repeat scripture 2x with congregation.

1 Peter 5:6-7

*“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God,
that he may exalt you in due time:
7 casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”*

GOD’S PURPOSE FOR ME

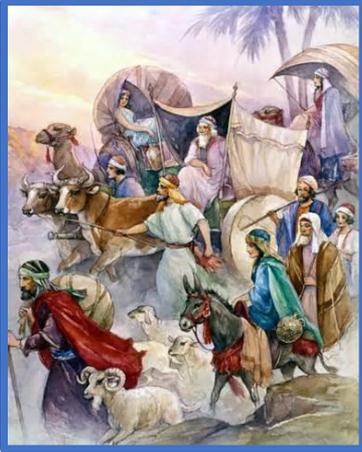
**JESUS SAVED ME AND WATCHES FROM ABOVE,
BECAUSE HE HAS A PLAN FOR EACH ONE HE LOVES.**

1. INTRODUCTION: Joseph was the favorite of Israel’s 12 sons who would become the nation of Israel. His brothers had sold Joseph into slavery, but by God’s favor he had risen up from prison to become the ruler of Egypt, second only to Pharaoh. But what Satan had meant for evil, God planned for good. God had told Israel his people would be in bondage for 400 years before God would deliver them. During that 400 years, the Israelites turned away from the true God of heaven to worship the sun and moon gods of Egypt. When the famine came, the Israelites traveled to Egypt to live near Joseph. So all Israel’s descendents, 70 in all, came to live as slaves in Egypt.

Objects to Bring: Clay to make Bricks & Trays, Whip

2. SLAVERY AND BONDAGE

So Jacob and his sons and their families made the journey to Egypt. And Jacob knew that because of the sins of their fathers, just as God had foretold, they would become slaves there.



Exodus 1:1-6 “Now these are the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt; every man and his household came with Jacob. ² Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, ³ Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin, ⁴ Dan, and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. ⁵ And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already. ⁶ And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.”

God’s people were called Israelites because their grandfather’s name was Israel. What is your grandfather’s name? Mr. Smith? Mr. Brown? That’s why your family is called the Smith’s, or the Brown’s. Perhaps your grandfather left a legacy of honor and faith for your family, or perhaps your grandfather left a legacy of sin and unbelief that led you into the slavery of sin like some of the grandfathers in Israel, but God in His mercy gave them a new start. Most of us have grandfathers who left us with a little of both. With the rest of our lives yet to live, what kind of legacy will you leave for the generations coming after you? A legacy of faith begins with praising the faithfulness of God.

Psalms 89:1 “I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.”

Sin will bring us into bondage even though we have given our hearts to Jesus. So stop sinning and come out from where sin is, then stand secure in the liberty that God has given you!

Galatians 5:1 “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.”

3. JOSEPH KEPT HIS FAITH IN A HEATHEN WORLD



From Psalm 81 we learn that Joseph's life was a testimony in the land of Egypt because he was faithful to keep the commandments and Sabbaths of his God, blowing the trumpet for God's appointed feast days. But Joseph did not convert the Egyptians to worship of the true God of heaven as some claim, because he

needed deliverance from the "burden" of slavery and the "pots" of unclean foods eaten in the temples of Egypt by heathen people who worshipped more than 80 gods centered around the sun and moon.

Psalm 81:1-7 "Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob. ² Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery. ³ Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day. ⁴ For this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob. ⁵ This he ordained in Joseph for a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: where I heard a language that I understood not. ⁶ I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots. ⁷ Thou calledst in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder: I proved thee at the waters of Meribah. Selah."

Joseph did keep his faith, and as we will see had great influence on those close to him, with **historical evidence that Joseph may have converted his foster mother, reflected in the change of her name from Hapshepsut to Hapshepeten**, to reflect the name of a God who was not of the gods of Egypt. We also know that this is true, because her memory was erased through defacing her statues by the reigning Egyptians who definitely maintained rule.

It is this heathen environment into which Moses was raised.

4. JOSEPH MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN IMHOTEP OF EGYPT, WHO BUILT UNDERGROUND SILOS TO STORE GRAIN.

*“Joseph is responsible for saving Egypt from a seven year famine and may have built the **massive underground silos** that can be found in many cities of Egypt. In particular, **he may have built the silos associated with the first pyramid built in Egypt.** (The Step Pyramid which is part of the Pyramid complex at Saqqara, designed by Imhotep). **There are many similarities between the profile of Joseph and Imhotep. Imhotep is also credited with saving Egypt from a seven year famine after hearing of the Pharaoh’s dream.** Imhotep, like Joseph, was a commoner with some divine connection and was placed second in charge of Egypt by the King (Netjerikhet). Joseph bought up all the land for Pharaoh by selling the grain he stored during the seven years that preceded the famine; a feat that could only have been performed once, early in Egypt’s history, and explains how the Pharaohs became so powerful and able to build the pyramids. Given that Joseph was one of the Patriarchs of Israel, and figures very early in the Biblical record, less than 1000 years after the flood of Noah, **it is quite possible that he may have figured in the early parts of Egyptian history,** namely the Third Dynasty of Pharaoh.*



*Until recently, the most compelling argument against Joseph and Imhotep being the same person, has been the discrepancy between the estimated times during which they lived. In the last 50 years, evidence has accumulated to suggest that Egyptian dynasties may overlap and may not date back as far as was once thought. Egyptian records are not chronological. Furthermore, the pyramids were probably constructed much later than many historians have estimated. **If this “modern alignment” of the Egyptian dynasties is correct, it is highly likely that Joseph and Imhotep were the same person and Egyptian History would be consistent with the Bible.**”*

7. N. G. Society, “The Step Pyramid of Djoser. Egypt’s first pyramid,” <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/pyramids>, 2009.

8. A. Kolom, “Is biblical Joseph the Imhotep of Egypt (famine-savior)? (Extra-biblical proof!),” 2009.

9. E. Sweeney, “Were Joseph and Imhotep of Egypt The same man?,” *THE GENESIS OF ISRAEL AND EGYPT*, B. E. Sweeney (Editor), 2001.

10. B. Rhodes, “Joseph and Imhotep,” <http://the-red-thread.net/>, 2009.

5. FEAR IS THE ROOT OF FAMINE AND BONDAGE

Exodus 1:7-10 “And the children of Israel...increased abundantly, ... and the land was filled with them. ⁸ Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph. ⁹ And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we: ¹⁰ come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply... and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.”

Know who you are in Christ and be a missionary to mean folks.



Exodus 1:11-14 “Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses. ¹² But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew....

¹³ And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour: ¹⁴ and they made their lives bitter with hard bondage...”

OBJECT VISUAL: Bricks & Whip.

Bring modeling clay and a tray for each child to make bricks to build a pyramid. Make a whip from 5 braided strands of yarn with tape for the handle, and dramatically whip the yarn whip against the table as you tell the children how cruel the Egyptians were!

- Here is clay for each of you to make bricks and build a pyramid like the Israelites who had to make bricks and build all day, while they were whipped whip the whip to make them move faster!
- **Why were the Egyptians so mean to the Israelites?** The Egyptians were afraid the Israelite’s would become more powerful than them, so they beat them to make them fearful.
- **Why are some kids so mean to other kids?** They are afraid they won’t be popular if they don’t take all the friends for themselves, so they beat some kids down with words to make them afraid, and make their own friends afraid to talk to them.
- **How can we stop abuse and fear?** Don’t be afraid of anyone, because Jesus lives in you & His perfect love is bigger than fear! Be a missionary and give Jesus’ love to those who hurt you.

6. DANGER IN BIRTHING

The worse the Israelites were treated the more they multiplied, so Pharaoh came up with another plan: He commanded all the nurses, called midwives, to kill all the baby boys as soon as they were born!

Exodus 1:15-22 “*And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiphrah, and the name of the other Puah: ¹⁶and he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live. ¹⁷But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive. ¹⁸And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive? ¹⁹And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them. ²⁰Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty. ²¹And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses. ²²And **Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.**”*



When God’s blessing comes and He births plans in your life, Satan still tries to kill the babies of God’s people. What has God birthed in you? What can we expect to happen if we refuse to bow to the threats of the enemy, by standing for God and choosing to honor Him? We can expect Satan to threaten, but God will keep us safe.

Psalm 31:20 “*You shall hide them in the secret place of Your presence from the plots of man; you shall keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.*”

Proverbs 18:16 “*A man’s gift makes room for him...*”

Strife will come, but God will make a place for you, and He is able to keep you safe for the plans He has until you are ready to launch!

7. DRIFTING IN DARKNESS.

Pharaoh's command to the midwives and armies, to throw the boy babies into the Nile River came just before Moses was born.

Exodus 6:20 "And Amram took him Jochebed his father's sister to wife; and she bare him Aaron and Moses: and the years of the life of Amram were an hundred and thirty and seven years."

Exodus 2:1-3 "And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. ² And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. ³ And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink."

Hebrews 11:23 "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment."

What would happen to baby Moses if Jochebed just waited on the Lord and trusted Him to take care of Moses? Her baby would die. What will happen to my baby dreams if I just sit and pray and trust God to work out all the details? Nothing! **Jochobed did something.** She sought the Lord, and He told her what to do. So she prepared a basket to put Moses in and pushed it out on the water.



James 2:17-20 "Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, 'You have faith, and I have works.' Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe – and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?"

Jochobed had to trust and **act** on what God put in her heart to do. If she didn't move quickly, her baby would die. She had to believe God, take action, and let go. You must act on what God tells you!

8. GOD SEES, AND HE ANSWERS WHEN WE CALL



When you are feeling abandoned how can you know if you are out on the water on your own or if God has put you there? Jochobed did not abandon Moses in the river, but she sent one who loved him, to watch over him, and God gives us His holy Spirit.

Romans 4:21 “*And being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform, and therefore it was accounted to him for righteousness.*” **Philippians 1:6** “*Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.*”

God puts His idea in your heart then lovingly watches over His word to perform it. The way you will gain confidence in God at work in you is to know Him through His word and through prayer, build your faith through hearing His word and acting on it.

Exodus 2:4-10 “*And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.⁵ And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river...the babe wept. And she had compassion on him...⁷ Then said his sister to Pharaoh’s daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?⁸ And Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child’s mother...¹⁰ And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.*”



Pharaoh’s daughter heard the cries of baby Moses and sent her maid to draw him out, and God is faithful to watch over you too!

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 “*And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.²⁴ Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.*”

9. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU AND ME

1. We need to let go of our troubles so Jesus can carry them!
2. When we pray and God shows us what to do, we must believe and take the action He says, for His answer to come to pass.
3. A legacy of faith begins with praising the faithfulness of God.
4. We leave our testimony of God to those around us when we keep the commandments of God and praise Him.
5. God wants me to come completely out of Egypt so His Holy Spirit can heal the famine places that brought me there.
6. God sends deliverance in baby visions He wants to grow up in me so I can grab hold of His plan to deliver not only myself but as many as will come with me.
7. God wants me to remember in hard times that His plan is always to prosper and not to harm me.
8. God wants me to stay close to Jesus in my prayers so that I will be able to discern His will.
9. God sees and He answers when I call.
10. Be still, and know God is God & praise Him until He opens the lid of His new call for you!

Jeremiah 29:11 *“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.”*

John 10:10 *“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”*

Dear Jesus, Thank you for the dreams you have birthed into my heart, and for the covering of your Holy Spirit that keeps me safe while you are at work in my life, until you have led me to the place where you will open the lid, to reveal your promise and plan for my life. Help me to walk through every hard time, knowing that you have a plan for me even when everything appears to be dark. I praise you Lord, and trust you with my life, in Jesus name, Amen.



10. CHILDREN'S STORY: Why can't we all carry the puppy?

On Friday after work, Connie and Dan's dad brought home the cutest little puppy! Mom said he could sleep in the house if they would take good care of him. Connie and Danny were positive they could, and took turns holding him all weekend! Mom saw it



was possible for only one person to hold the puppy at any one time, so she set the kitchen timer so they would not fight over whose turn it was to hold the puppy. When it was Dan's turn, Connie watched the timer until it was her turn. Then Dan watched the timer until it was his turn. No puppy ever had better care!

On Monday, Connie begged to take the puppy to school for show and tell, so Mom put the puppy in a travel crate and gave Connie special instructions to be very careful so the puppy would be safe. At school, Connie's classmates gathered around, grabbing at the crate because everyone wanted to carry the puppy and she told them to stop. Connie's friend, Betsy tried to help and said, "Why can't we all carry the puppy?" As a professional now, Connie said, "Because only one person can hold the puppy at a time, silly." So they took turns carrying the crate until they got to class. It was a fun day and even the puppy had a good time!

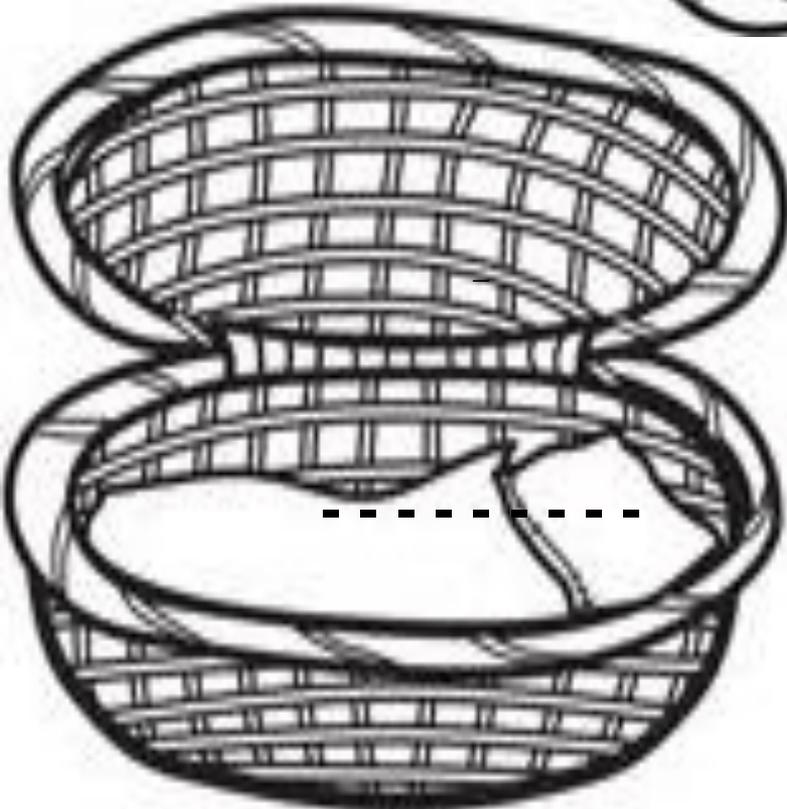
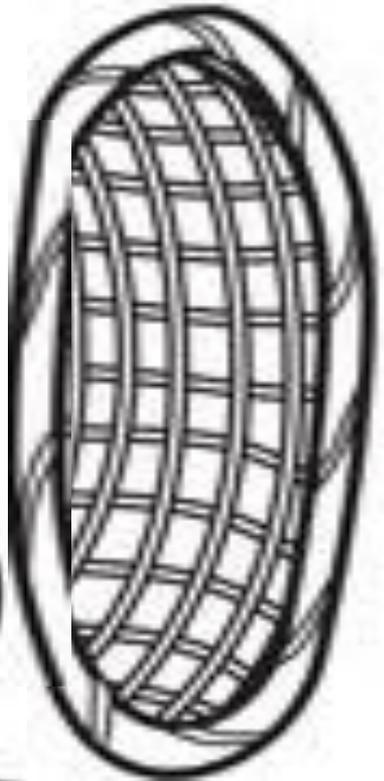
The next Sabbath in Sabbath School, Mrs. Brown asked, "*Who knows why Jesus wants us to cast our burdens on Him?*" Connie had learned a lot about carrying things, so she raised her hand and very excitedly said, "***I know, I know! It's because only one person can carry something at a time, and Jesus is stronger than us, so we should let Him!***"

Children, don't forget when your troubles are very heavy to carry, that Jesus wants to carry them for you because He loves you. So why not quit carrying all your troubles yourself? Just give all your troubles to Jesus in prayer, and let Him carry them for you!

11. GOSPEL CRAFT

DIRECTIONS:

Color baby Moses, Basket & Lids.
Cut out carefully; cut slot on dotted line.
Fold down basket & glue extra lid to top.
Slip edge of baby into slot and close.
Now baby Moses is safe in the basket.
But you can lift the lid to peek in!



12. TIME LINE COLORING PAGE



**June 1542 BC BABY MOSES WAS SAVED FOR A
SPECIAL PURPOSE AND SO AM I!**

1 Peter 5:6-7

*“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God,
that he may exalt you in due time:*

7 casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”