

Baby Moses

Sunday School Lesson for Kindergarten to 2nd Grade, 45 minutes

Main point: God watches over His people and has a plan, even when things look scary.

Bible passage: Exodus 1:22–2:10. Read Exodus 1 and 2 before class.

Memory verse: "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." *Psalms 91:11 (KJV)*

You need: a Bible, 7 green paper strips, a marker, tape, a small basket, a baby doll wrapped in a cloth, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child. If you have one: a blue blanket or towel for the river.

Before class: write the memory verse on the 7 green strips (see part 4). Put a bookmark in your Bible at Exodus 2.

1. Opening game: Hide the Baby (5 minutes)

Send one child out of the room (or have them cover their eyes). Hide the baby doll in the basket somewhere in the room. The seeker comes back and looks while the class whispers "warmer" or "colder." Take turns. Ask: *Was the baby easy to find?* Say: "Today we will meet a real baby whose family had to hide him, and we will see how God was watching over him the whole time."

2. Bible story: God Watches Over Baby Moses (10 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Exodus 2, so the kids can see the story comes from God's Word. Tell it in your own words:

God's people, the Hebrews, lived in the land of Egypt. There were so many of them! A new king, called **Pharaoh**, was afraid of them (Exodus 1:8–9). He made them slaves. They had to work very hard making bricks all day (1:11, 1:14). Then Pharaoh gave a cruel order: every Hebrew baby boy had to be thrown into the river (1:22).

A Hebrew man and woman from the family of Levi had a baby boy. His mother saw that he was a fine, healthy baby, and she **hid him for three months** (2:1–2).

When she could not hide him any longer, she made a little basket-boat out of **bulrushes**, tall plants that grow in the water. The Bible calls it an **ark**, which means a box that floats. She covered it with slime and pitch, sticky tar, so no water could get in. She put her baby inside and laid the basket in the **flags**, the tall reeds at the edge of the river (2:3). The baby's **sister** stood a little way off to watch what would happen to him (2:4).



The story continues: Pharaoh's daughter, the king's own daughter, came down to the river to wash, and her helpers walked along the riverbank. She saw the basket in the reeds and sent her maid to get it (2:5). When she opened it, she saw the baby, and **he was crying**. She felt sorry for him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children" (2:6).

Right then the baby's sister spoke up! She asked, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" (To **nurse** a baby means to feed him and take care of him.) Pharaoh's daughter said, "Go." And the girl went and brought **the baby's own mother** (2:7–8)! Pharaoh's daughter said, "Take this child and nurse him for me, and I will pay you" (2:9). God gave the baby back to his mother, and she was even paid to take care of him!

When the child grew older, his mother brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. **Read Exodus 2:10 from your Bible:** "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." Say: "That means she pulled him out of the water. God kept Moses safe, because God had a plan for him. When Moses grew up, God used him to lead His people out of Egypt (Exodus 3:10)."

3. Questions to ask (5 minutes)

1. How long did Moses' mother hide him? (*Three months, Exodus 2:2*)
2. What did she put him in? (*A basket-boat made of bulrushes, an "ark," 2:3*)
3. Who watched the basket from far away? (*His sister, 2:4*)
4. Who found the baby? (*Pharaoh's daughter, 2:5–6*)
5. Who did the sister bring to take care of the baby? (*The baby's own mother, 2:8*)
6. Why was he named Moses? (*Because she drew him out of the water, 2:10*)

4. Memory verse: Reeds by the River (5 minutes)

Write the verse on the 7 green "reeds," one part on each: *For he shall give / his angels / charge over thee, / to keep thee / in all / thy ways. / Psalm 91:11*. Explain the old words: **thee** and **thy** mean you and your, **charge over thee** means the job of watching over you, and **to keep thee in all thy ways** means to keep you safe wherever you go. Tape the reeds up in a row like a riverbank and read the verse together. Then "hide" one reed behind the basket and read it again. Keep hiding one reed each time until the kids can say the whole verse by themselves.

5. What this means for us (5 minutes)

Say: "God watched over baby Moses because He had a plan for him. God loves you very much, and He has a plan for you too. But everyone has done wrong things. The Bible calls that sin: 'For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23, KJV). That means none of us is as good as God. Jesus is God who came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins, He was buried, and He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us how to obey the gospel, the good news about Jesus: 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.' (Acts 2:38, KJV) To **repent** means we are sorry for our sin and we turn away from it. We are **baptized**, buried all the way under the water, in Jesus' name, so our sins are washed away (Romans 6:4; Acts 22:16). **Remission** means God takes our sins away. And God fills us with the **Holy Ghost**, His own Spirit, and we speak in other tongues, words God gives us, just like the believers did in the Bible (Acts 2:4)."

Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

This week: when something feels scary, say the memory verse and remember that God is watching over you. Thank someone in your family who takes care of you.

6. Activity (10–15 minutes)

Choose one: the **Baby Moses word search** (vbshq.com/puzzles/baby-moses-word-search), the Baby Moses coloring page or craft (vbshq.com/bible-stories/baby-moses), or **Basket in the Reeds**: kids stand in a line as the "reeds" and gently pass the basket with the doll down the line and back without dropping it. Choose one child to be the sister, who walks alongside and watches the basket the whole way. Give everyone a turn to be the sister.

7. Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for watching over baby Moses and for watching over us. Help us trust You when things are scary, and help us be brave helpers like Moses' sister. Thank You for loving us and coming to save us in Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen."

If a child asks why the king wanted to hurt babies: answer simply and gently. Pharaoh was afraid, and he made a very wrong choice (Exodus 1:9–10, 1:22). But God used brave people to protect the babies, like two women named Shiphrah and Puah who loved God (1:15–17), and God kept Moses safe for His plan.

Moses' sister's name: Exodus 2 just calls her "his sister." Later the Bible tells us her name was Miriam (Numbers 26:59).

