Preschool–Grade 6

Moses and Pharaoh

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: God is greater than anything.
Bible passage: Exodus 7. Read Exodus 7:8–13 yourself before class.
Memory verse: "Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods" *Exodus 7:12 (KJV)*. A **rod** is a long walking stick.
You need: a Bible, a long stick or a yardstick (to show a rod), crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Exodus 7.

1. Opening game: Rod or Serpent? (5 minutes)

Kids stand up. When you say **"Rod!"** they stand up tall and stiff like a stick. When you say **"Serpent!"** they wiggle their arms like a snake. Mix them up, slow and then fast. Say: "Good job! A serpent is a snake. Today we will hear a true story about a rod that became a serpent!"

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Exodus 7. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

God sent Moses and Aaron to the king, Pharaoh (Exodus 7:1–2). *(Walk in place.)*
Moses and Aaron were brothers (7:1). *(Hold up two fingers.)*
They did what God told them (7:10). *(Nod your head yes.)*
Aaron threw down his rod (7:10). *(Hold up the stick, then lay it down.)*
It became a serpent! (7:10) *(Wiggle your arm like a snake.)*
Pharaoh's men threw down their rods too (7:11–12). *(Pretend to throw sticks.)*
Say it with me: "God is greater!"
Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods! (7:12) *(Open and close your arms like a big mouth.)*
But Pharaoh would not listen (7:13). *(Cover your ears and shake your head.)*
Say it with me: "I will listen to God!"

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3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. What did Aaron throw down? *(His rod, Exodus 7:10)*
2. What did it become? *(A serpent, a snake, 7:10)*
3. Who is greater than anyone? *(God! Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods, 7:12)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "The Bible says, 'Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.' That means it ate them all up." Teach the motions: hold one arm up straight like a stick for "Aaron's rod," and open and close both arms like a big mouth for "swallowed up their rods." Say the verse with the motions three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Exodus 7:12" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (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.

6. Activity: Aaron's Rod (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw a long rod, and then a wiggly serpent next to it. Color them. While they color, ask: "What did Aaron throw down? What did it become?" Kids who finish early can play Rod or Serpent? again.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for being so strong.
Help me listen to You and obey. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: keep the serpents friendly and the focus on God being greater. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

If a child is afraid of snakes: say, "God was in charge of that serpent. God is greater than anything, and He takes care of us."

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