

Crossing the Red Sea

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

Main point: God takes care of me when I am afraid.

Bible passage: Exodus 14. Read Exodus 13:17–14:31 and 15:1 yourself before class.

Memory verse: "The LORD shall fight for you" *Exodus 14:14 (KJV)*

You need: a Bible, a blue bedsheet or two blue towels, a white paper cloud (cut from paper), a flashlight, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.

Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Exodus 14. Ask a helper to hold one end of the sheet during the story.

1. Opening game: Follow the Cloud (5 minutes)

Hold up the paper cloud and walk slowly around the room. The kids follow you in a line. When you stop, they stop. Then turn off the lights (or dim them), turn on the flashlight and say, "Now it's night!" The kids follow the light. Say: "God led His people with a big cloud in the day and with fire at night. Today we will hear a true story about how God took care of them."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Exodus 14. 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's people left Egypt. They walked and walked (Exodus 13:18). *(Walk in place.)*

God led them with a cloud in the day and fire at night (13:21). *(Hold up the cloud, then the flashlight.)*

They came to the big sea (14:2). *(Spread the blue sheet on the floor.)*

Pharaoh's army came after them in chariots (14:9). *(Pat your knees fast like horses running.)*

The people were scared (14:10). *(Make a scared face.)*

Moses said, "Fear not! Stand still!" (14:13). *(Freeze!)*

Say it with me: "The LORD shall fight for you!"

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea (14:21). *(Stretch out your arm.)*

God sent a strong wind all night (14:21). *(Blow: whoosh!)*

The sea opened up! *(You and your helper lift the sheet high and pull it apart like two walls.)*

God's people walked through on dry ground (14:22). *(Kids walk between the "walls.")*

The water was like a wall on each side (14:22). *(Hold your hands up flat on each side.)*

God kept His people safe (14:30). **Say it with me: "God takes care of me!"**

They sang to God (15:1). *(Clap and sing "Thank You, God!")*



3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Who chased God's people? (*Pharaoh's army, Exodus 14:9*)
2. What did God do to the sea? (*He opened it up with a strong wind, 14:21*)
3. What did the people walk on? (*Dry ground, 14:22*)

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Moses said, 'The LORD shall fight for you.'" Teach the motions: point up high for "The LORD," make two strong arms for "shall fight," and point to a friend for "for you." Say the verse with the motions three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Exodus 14:14" 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: Path Through the Sea (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them color blue water on the left side and on the right side, and leave a path in the middle. Then they draw God's people walking on the dry path. While they color, ask: "Who opened the sea? Who takes care of you?" Kids who finish early can walk through the blue-sheet "sea" again.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:

"Thank You, God, for taking care of me.

When I am scared, help me trust You. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: keep the story moving and let every child walk through the sheet "sea." Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again.

If a child asks about Pharaoh's army: answer simply and gently. The army was chasing God's people to hurt them, so God protected His people (Exodus 14:25). God is always good and fair, and He wants everyone to come to Him.

