

When she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile.

- Exodus 2:3

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you are all going well and have found ways to keep your little ones busy during this time at home. This week as we continue with our series of Characters of the Old Testament, we are learning about how God cared for baby Moses.

We have already covered the promises that God made and kept with Noah and Abraham and how God cared for Joseph. As you disciple your children during the week it is always helpful to go over these stories again to help solidify them in your child's memory. If these stories are covered in your child's Bible they can be great bed time stories. You can also discuss what happened in them over meals or on walks.

If you have children in more than one age group, can I please encourage you to pick one program that you feel works best for all your children's ages and complete that together as a family.

Blessings,
Jess

Supplies

- Children's Bible
- Baby Doll or Soft Toy and baby blanket
- Basket
- Blue piece of fabric, towel, or scarf

Worship

Please spend some time listening and singing to your family's favourite worship songs. This may have already been done in the worship period of Oaktree's service. Below are a few suggestions but if your child has a favourite song which isn't listed feel free to sing that.

- Oh Hallelujah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Br-0-QJptCs>
- Everybody, Everywhere <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=er8xLZ6AyKg>
- Love the Lord <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdMlxCdly-c>

Story Time

Settle into a comfy spot in your home with your children. Read the story of baby Moses from their children's Bible or watch the below animated video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vf-4x4iefQE>

Before you start have your blue fabric or towel down on the floor representing a river. A baby doll or soft toy, a blanket and a basket/box for the baby.

The land of Egypt was filled with God's people called the Israelites. The king of Egypt was called Pharaoh. He was worried that there were too many Israelites and that they would be too powerful. He didn't treat God's people very nicely.

Pharaoh made it a rule that all the Israelite baby boys had to be killed. But there was one mum who hid her baby boy from Pharaoh.

But the mum found it too hard to keep hiding the baby from the King. Babies are noisy, it would be hard to hide one.

Children use their doll or soft toys to act out trying to keep a baby quiet.

The baby's mum put him in a special basket and then placed the basket in a big river called the Nile. The baby floated down the river safely in his basket – God was watching and looking after the baby.

His sister was also watching him as he floated down the river.

*Children place the baby in the basket or box and tuck him in with a blanket. Move the basket down the river and children watch the baby to make sure he is safe. Just like his sister did. ****Remind children that God was also watching over baby Moses***

Pharaoh's daughter was near the river and she heard the baby crying. The baby's sister came out and asked the princess if she would like someone to care for the baby. The princess did, so the sister went and got her mum to look after the baby. *Have children make the sound of a crying baby and then pick the baby up from the basket, they can even give it to you for a cuddle.*

When the baby was older he went and lived in the palace and the princess looked after him. She called the little baby Moses.

God had big important plans for Moses. When he got older he was going to be the one who rescued all of God's people from the nasty king.

Prayer

During your week how do you and your children spend time in prayer together? Do you give thanks to God for your food before a meal or do you say prayers with your children when you are putting them to sleep?

This week I want to encourage you to continue or to find a way for daily prayer that works for your family. This could be very simple, such as giving thanks for the best thing that has happened in the day or helping children say sorry to God when they do something that would make God sad.

If you would like some more ideas on how to introduce daily prayer with young children I am happy to speak with you.

Dear God, we love you very much. Thank you that you kept baby Moses safe. Please keep our family safe as well.

Amen

Craft

As you create your craft together, to help ensure that children remember this story, recap the main points. Recapitulation is helpful for young children as well as experiencing the story in different formats (eg: from a book, acting it out, or creating the scene).

Please pick one of the below crafts to complete with your children.

Play Doh baby Moses.

If you have play doh or some form of modelling clay. Help your children to create a small basket and a little baby to go inside.

Floating Baby Moses.

Help your children to create a baby Moses. The materials used to make Moses need to be light so the basket doesn't sink. Help your children create a basket out of aluminium foil. Fill a small container with water and see if your basket creation will float.

Playing out the Story

Some children may like to continue the story by playing with the doll. They can add in more characters and continue to decorate the space to make it look like Egypt and the river. As they take care of their baby it is a good chance to reinforce that God too looked after baby Moses and he cares for us as well.