

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

THE BURNING BUSH

Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

Key Verse:

God heard their groaning, and God remembered the covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
Exodus 2:24

The Point:

God blesses reluctant messengers and uses them to bless others.

Making Connections:

God Provides Blessings

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

The Exodus Story

Spiritual Practice:

Worship



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

Today we continue in our lessons on the theme God Provides Blessings. Moses felt ill-equipped to deal with the tasks that God put before him. Yet God blessed Moses and worked through him to provide freedom for the Israelite people.

Story Summary:

The Burning Bush

God asks Moses to lead and then equips him for the task. God's desire for Israel is to move them out of slavery to become a free people of God, but to accomplish that, God must find a spokesperson to confront the mighty Pharaoh and lead the people to an unknown land. God picks Moses. The passage shows us a very timid Moses, who presents several arguments against God's plan to use him. God patiently responds to each argument, and promises that God will give Moses everything needed to accomplish God's will.

Moses is afraid but still agrees to serve God. Moses is not presented as a courageous hero, but as a regular person who doubts his ability to do great things. Like many of us called to serve God, Moses does not see himself as a worthy vehicle of God's grace. His doubts notwithstanding, he still agrees to God's request. This reminds us that it is not necessary for us to have certain gifts or strengths to serve God. It is only necessary that we have a bit of faith.

The Point

God blesses reluctant messengers and uses them to bless others. Moses is another example of the humanness of God's chosen people. He was unsure about his ability to be effective for God's mission, so instead of relying on God's help, Moses makes excuses. God hears his fear and,

instead of demanding obedience, simply keeps reminding Moses that God is greater than all of Moses' excuses. The simple reminder that God is the great I AM is enough to convince Moses to be a part of the work of freeing God's people.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

The Exodus Story

We have moved from Genesis, the Beginning, to Exodus, the great "Moving Out" story. God's promise to Jacob has been realized. Generations of Jacob's family have grown into a huge family, the nation of Israel. However, this nation had no real home of its own and had settled within the borders of Egypt during a famine. Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, became intimidated by the rapid growth of the people of Israel and decided to enslave them, hoping this would weaken their numbers. God continued to prosper the people during their 400 years of enslavement, and in our story today, calls on Moses to lead the people to freedom. The exodus, then, is the people moving into freedom to find a new homeland. It is as the people of Israel moved into freedom that they fully recognize themselves as a people of God, and flourish in that identity.

Spiritual Practice: Worship

Learning to share our faith can be difficult. Moses struggled with what God had called him to do, just as we might struggle with talking about what we believe. A simple prayer card may open the door to faith conversations.



MOSES

THE BURNING BUSH



Discover the hidden words.

lush word search.pdf

S	S	Z	B	W	H	C	V	U	K	J	K	C	P	P
J	S	U	J	L	G	G	P	H	D	F	W	I	Z	S
C	S	E	F	O	U	Q	A	F	U	Z	I	N	L	N
H	N	O	N	A	M	U	W	M	B	B	D	B	N	A
S	M	Q	A	R	S	E	Z	Z	V	A	E	X	S	K
F	H	R	R	J	E	H	B	U	Q	O	B	R	R	E
O	O	E	A	O	B	D	S	T	A	F	F	U	O	Y
N	M	C	P	I	Q	F	L	C	Z	G	H	F	Q	H
O	O	I	B	H	O	F	E	I	H	Z	U	I	F	B
B	Z	B	Y	T	E	U	K	W	W	F	C	R	T	G
F	W	K	U	G	Z	R	M	O	S	E	S	E	P	R
S	H	E	E	P	J	Q	D	Z	U	K	N	L	H	N
P	F	I	U	X	D	C	E	V	H	B	W	G	Y	O
L	M	I	K	Z	X	H	C	P	H	Q	X	Y	C	B
O	N	B	F	W	K	H	C	L	O	R	D	S	K	Y

Word Bank

- | | | |
|-------|-------|------------|
| FIRE | SHEEP | SHEPHERD |
| BUSH | STAFF | LORD |
| MOSES | SNAKE | JACOB |
| HOREB | AARON | WILDERNESS |





Moses and the Burning Bush

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Exodus 3:5 (NIV)

Complete the sentences by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the page.



1. _____ was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law.
2. Moses saw a _____ that was on fire, but it did not burn up.
3. God told Moses to take off his _____ because he was standing on holy ground.
4. God said, "I am the God of your _____, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."
4. Moses hid his _____ because he was afraid to look at God.
5. God was concerned about his people suffering in _____.
6. God wanted his people to go to a land flowing with _____ and _____.
7. God told Moses to tell _____ to let his people go out of Egypt.
8. God _____ Moses that he would be with him

MILK
BUSH

FACE
EGYPT

HONEY
SANDALS

PROMISED
FATHER

PHARAOH
MOSES

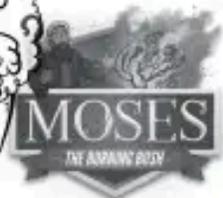
MOSES

THE BURNING BUSH

Guide Moses and his flock through the canyon.

END

START





THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story

Narrative Lectionary, Year 4 (2025-2026)

Lesson #4-4

Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

LAST WEEK

Isaac himself had two sons: Esau and Jacob. Jacob tricked his father into giving him Esau's blessing (Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17).

THIS WEEK

God hears the cries of the Israelites enslaved in Egypt and sends Moses to lead them to freedom (Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-14).

STORY SUMMARY

The Burning Bush

God desired to free Israel from enslavement, but to accomplish that, God must find a spokesperson to confront Pharaoh and lead the people to an unknown land. God picks Moses. A very timid Moses presents several arguments against God's plan. God patiently promises that God will always be with Moses. Moses is not a courageous hero but a regular person who doubts his ability to do great things. Like many of us, Moses does not see himself as worthy of God's grace. It is not necessary for us to have special gifts to serve God but only to trust God.

PRACTICE WORSHIP

Moses struggled with what God had called him to do, just as we might struggle with talking about what we believe. Help your child find a way to share their faith with someone, and watch for ways that you can open the door to faith conversations in your own life.

NEXT WEEK

After being freed from the Egyptians, the Israelites complain about the lack of food. God provides manna and quail for them to eat (Exodus 16:1-18).

THE POINT

God blesses reluctant messengers and uses them to bless others.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

The Exodus Story

We have moved from Genesis, the Beginning, to Exodus, the great "Moving Out" story. Generations of Jacob's family have grown into a huge family, the nation of Israel. However, this nation had no home of its own and had settled in Egypt during a famine. The Pharaoh became intimidated by the people of Israel and decided to enslave them. God continued to prosper the people during their 400 years of enslavement, and in our story today, calls on Moses to lead the people into freedom. The exodus is the people moving out of enslavement to freedom and recognizing themselves as the people of God.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below—or any you have—to discuss this lesson’s Scripture reading with your family.

- † Did you find anything in this reading that was surprising?
- † What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- † What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God’s message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

God equips Moses for leadership in spite of Moses’ objections. What do you wish you were better at? Pray for God to work through you even though you have weaknesses.

Monday—Read Exodus 5:1-13

Pharaoh makes the Israelites’ work even more challenging. Have one person try to build a tower with blocks while someone else tries to take it apart. Talk about things that are difficult or frustrating.

Tuesday—Read Exodus 7:14–8:15

The first plagues: water turned to blood and frogs. Get a glass of water and drink it. Imagine your water suddenly turning to blood. How would you react? If someone told you that this was God at work, what would you think?

Wednesday—Read Exodus 8:16–9:12

God sends the plagues of insects, disease, and boils. Pharaoh is a stubborn man. Think of a time when it was hard for you to change your mind. What finally convinced you to change?

Thursday—Read Exodus 9:13–10:29

God sends the plagues of thunder, hail, locusts, and darkness. God continues to try and convince Pharaoh to set the Israelites free. Which of these plagues is the most frightening to you? Would you have freed them yet?

Friday—Read Exodus 12:1-32

The final plague takes the lives of the firstborn sons, though God protects the Israelites. On paper, draw a door and color red lines over the top of it and down the sides. Talk about ways that God protects us today.

Saturday—Read Exodus 13:17–14:25

God leads God’s people to freedom. Fill a pan or sink with water and try to divide it into two parts. Thank God for God’s miracles.