

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Leaving Egypt

THE TEN PLAGUES

Exodus 7:1-12:36

Elementary Lesson

Year One, Quarter Two, Lesson Eleven

[0240]

AIM: to use the story of the ten plagues to teach my class that it is a scary thing to say “no” to God

OBJECTS TO HAVE: Try to have a picture or an object to illustrate each of the ten plagues

A stick to represent Moses’ rod

A crown to put on Pharaoh’s head

Your Bible

POINT OF CONTACT: Have you ever tried to get somebody’s attention? When somebody can’t see you, can’t hear you, or maybe is just ignoring you, you have to work extra hard to get them to pay attention to you. Kids are experts at having to get the attention of an adult, because you have so many important things to say, like “I need a drink of water,” or “I don’t feel good” or “Guess what, I got a new puppy!”

Today we are going to learn about somebody who had to do some incredible things to get another person’s attention. In fact, he had to do 10 miracles to get that person’s attention, because he had a very important message from God.

LESSON: Last week we learned about how God called Moses to deliver the children of Israel from slavery. Does anybody remember what God used to get Moses’ attention? That’s right, a burning bush that was on fire. God told Moses to go to the wicked King of Egypt with an important message. Can anybody tell me the name of the wicked King of Egypt? That’s right, Pharaoh. God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and give him an important message from God. The message was this: LET MY PEOPLE GO! Moses would be telling Pharaoh that God wanted him to let the children of Israel leave Egypt, and go to their own land. But God told Moses that he would have to give Pharaoh that message over and over before he would get Pharaoh’s attention, so that Pharaoh would let the people of Israel go free.

This morning I want to tell you what Moses did to get Pharaoh’s attention, and I want you to help Moses tell Pharaoh that message. Say those four words with me: LET MY PEOPLE GO! Good. Say it again. Very good. Now every time Moses goes before Pharaoh I need you to help Moses tell Pharaoh “Let my people go.” So I’m going to point to all of you when it’s time to say the message. What’s the message? _____. Very good.

I am also going to choose one person to be the wicked king Pharaoh. You are going to sit over here with the crown on your head, and when I point to you, you are going to say, “NO!” Now let’s tell the story.

1. Moses went to Pharaoh the first time and said, “God said, _____.” (Good job). But Pharaoh said “NO!”. So God told Moses to raise his rod over the land, because God was going to do something to get Pharaoh’s attention. God was going to **turn all of the water in Egypt to blood for seven days**, to get Pharaoh’s attention. That’s exactly what happened, and for a whole week the people could not draw water from the river, because the rivers had turned to blood. When it was over, Moses went back to Pharaoh and said, _____. But Pharaoh said “NO!”

2. So next God told Moses to raise his rod, and **God sent frogs all over the land**. There were frogs in the houses, in their beds, in their bathtubs, in their yards...everywhere. When they finally asked Moses for help, he raised his rod and all of the frogs died. Then the dead frogs made the whole land of Egypt to stink for days. Moses went back to Pharaoh and said, _____. But Pharaoh said “NO!”

3. Next **God turned all of the dust in the land to lice**. The lice were everywhere. When it was over Moses went to Pharaoh and said, _____. But Pharaoh said “NO!”

4. Next **God sent swarms of flies** all through the land. The people could not go anywhere to get away from the flies. They were about to go crazy from the flies. Moses went back to Pharaoh and said, _____. But Pharaoh said “NO!”

5. God had sent four plagues to get the attention of Pharaoh, but Pharaoh still said no. So next **God sent a disease on all of the cows** in Egypt. All of the Egyptian cows died of murrain, or a disease. That meant no more hamburgers, no more steaks, no more all beef hot dogs, no more milk. This was a huge problem for the people of Egypt. Moses went back to Pharaoh and said, _____. But Pharaoh said “NO!”

6. Moses raised his rod again, and **God sent boils, or sores, on every person and every animal** in Egypt. Ouch! That would be like everybody having chicken pox all at the same time, only boils don't just itch, they hurt really bad, too. Moses went back to Pharaoh and said, _____. But Pharaoh said **"NO!"**

7. Next **God sent hail, which is large chunks of ice that fall from the sky like rain**. Only this hail was mixed with fire! Can you imagine fire and large ice chunks falling from the sky? The houses were ruined, the plants were ruined, and people and animals were killed. Moses went back to Pharaoh and said, _____. But Pharaoh still said **"NO!"**

8. Next **God sent a plague of locusts**. If there were any plants, fruit or vegetables left by this time, the locusts ate it all up. Locusts are like big grasshoppers, and they eat every kind of plant. Moses went back to Pharaoh and said, _____. But Pharaoh said **"NO!"**

9. Next **God sent a plague of darkness**. It became so dark in Egypt that you could not see anything or anybody. If you waived your hand in front of your face you could not see it. And there were no lights, lamps, or flashlights, so the people could do nothing but sit in the dark, hungry, sick, worn out, stinky, cold and brokenhearted. But Pharaoh did not care, for when Moses went to Pharaoh again and said, _____, Pharaoh still said **"NO!"**

10. After all of this God said to Moses, "Now I am going to send one more plague, and after this one Pharaoh will let my people leave their slavery in Egypt." God gave Moses some very important instructions, because anybody who wanted to be spared from this plague had to follow these very important instructions. You see, on a certain night God was going to have the angel called *Death* pass through the land. The Death angel was going to visit every home in the land, and in every home someone was going to die. When the angel called Death came to the house, the oldest child in that house would be killed. Can you imagine what a horrible thing this was? The oldest of every family, and the oldest of every animal all over the land would be killed in one night.

But there was one thing that people could do to be spared from this awful death. Anyone who did not want his child to die on that night would have to follow the instructions that God gave to Moses. These instructions were very important, because they pictured what God would do some day to save all of us from eternal death in hell.

First, the person had to choose a lamb on the tenth day of the month. That lamb had to be a male lamb, because Jesus was a man. That lamb had to be perfect (no broken bones, sores, etc.) because it pictured Jesus who was perfect. That lamb had to be young, because it pictured Jesus, who died for us while He was still young. That lamb had to be kept separate for four days. On the fourteenth day of the month that lamb had to be killed. Then the person would have to take the blood of that lamb, dip a weed in that blood, and sprinkle that blood on the top of their front door, and on the doorposts, like this. Then the family would have to cook that lamb and eat it for dinner.

That night, the Death angel would pass through the land. The Death angel would be looking for one thing: the blood sprinkled on the front door. As soon as the Death angel saw that blood, he would keep going, and no one in that house would die.

You know, that is exactly what we must do to be saved. No, we do not have to kill a lamb; but Jesus is called the Lamb of God, and He died on the cross for our sins. Jesus' blood covers our sins when we receive Jesus as our personal Saviour, so that we can never be sent to hell for our sins. When you receive Jesus as your Saviour you never have to worry about what will happen to you when you die, because God promises you will go to heaven.

That night some people obeyed Moses, but most people thought it was silly. At midnight there was a great cry in the land of Egypt, for many homes had lost a child in death as the Death angel passed through the land. They died because they did not obey.

Because of this awful plague Moses finally got Pharaoh's attention. Pharaoh's own child had died, and Pharaoh cried as he said, "Yes, go, all of you, leave! And...please pray for me."

It's very important to obey the first time God calls you. All of the sorrow that came to Pharaoh and the people of Egypt came because Pharaoh said "NO!" to God. It is a scary thing to say "No!" to God. When God tells you in His Word that you ought to obey your parents, don't ever say, "No;" always say, "Yes" to God. When God tells you to stay away from sin and do right, don't ever say, "No;" always say, "Yes" to God. When God tells you to tell your friends about Jesus, don't ever say, "No;" always say, "Yes" to God. No matter what God tells you to do, it is always scary to say, "No" like Pharaoh did. You will be glad forever if you will always say "Yes" to God.

Let's learn our memory verse: **John 15:7 - If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.**

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Exodus 7:1-12:36

Teen and Adult Lesson

Year One, Quarter Two, Lesson Eleven

[0240]

Teacher, choose one of the following truths to expand upon in teaching this portion of Scripture to your teen/adult class. Teach and apply the truth that you choose using statements and illustrations that are most helpful and applicable to your students.

- I. **GOD HAS A PLAN THAT COVERS EVERY DETAIL.** 6:29-30. Moses had been following God's orders, and yet it seemed that he was getting nowhere with Pharaoh. God told Moses to go speak to Pharaoh again, and Moses responded by basically saying, "He's not going to listen to me!" But the plagues had not yet begun, and Moses did not realize the effect that the plagues would have on Pharaoh. God knew what He was doing all along, and He knew what the outcome would be. When God leads us to do His will, He always has a plan that covers every detail, even the details we do not foresee.

- II. **GOD CAN GIVE US POWER OR CREDIBILITY IN THE EYES OF UNBELIEVERS.** 7:1. Egypt was a polytheistic society, that is, they believed in many different gods; they had a god for practically everything. Appropriately then, God made Moses a god in the eyes of Pharaoh and the Egyptians. Moses may not have felt like he was viewed as a god in the eyes of Pharaoh; but since God said so, he could be assured that it was so. This is the same type of power that God gives the Spirit-filled believer as he witnesses to the lost. It does not guarantee that the lost man will listen, just as Pharaoh did not instantly listen; but it does mean that we have a God-given credibility when we follow His instructions.

- III. **WHEN GOD MUST JUDGE SIN IN THE LAND, HIS PEOPLE ARE UNDER HIS PROTECTION.** The Israelites, the descendants of Jacob, lived in a region of Egypt called "Goshen." Genesis 47:27. When God sent plagues upon the land and beasts to deal with the people of Egypt, those same plagues did not affect the Israelites in Goshen. Exodus 8:22, 9:26. There comes a time when God must deal with a nation or a city because of sin; but God's protection is always upon those who are in covenant with Him.

- IV. **GOD IS IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF WORLD EVENTS.** God has a plan, and earthly rulers have their plans. God's plans rarely, if ever, coincide with the plans of earthly rulers. God has given these rulers a free will, just as He has given the rest of us; however, God knows exactly what it takes to get the will of a ruler to contribute to His plan when He needs it to. Proverbs 21:1. A clue to how He does it is found in the phrase, "as the rivers of water." Even when the godliest people are in office, do not fear that God is no longer in control.

- V. **EVERY ONE OF US CAN AND MUST DECIDE WHICH SIDE OF GOD'S JUDGMENT WE WILL BE ON.** God's judgment is a horrible thing, and may seem unfair to the person who does not know God. However, God's judgment targets those who have chosen to rebel against Him; if we do not want to be the target of God's judgment, we must simply repent of our rebellion, and we will find His grace and mercy. Every one of us can and will choose on which side of His judgment we will stand.

The Ten Plagues

Exodus 7:1-12:36

[0240]

God Persuades Pharaoh to Let His People Leave Egypt

I. EXODUS 7:1-13 GOD MAKES MOSES AS A GOD BEFORE PHARAOH

1-5 God prepares Moses for how it all will happen

6-9 God instructs Moses and Aaron to turn the rod to a serpent

10-13 Pharaoh watches and hardens his heart

II. EXODUS 7:14-12:30 GOD JUDGES EGYPT WITH TEN PLAGUES

7:14-25 First Plague: The Water is Turned to Blood

8:1-15 Second Plague: The Land is Filled with Frogs

8:16-19 Third Plague: The Dust is Turned to Lice

8:20-32 Fourth Plague: The Land is Filled with Swarms of Flies

9:1-7 Fifth Plague: The Livestock of Egypt are Struck with a Deadly Disease

9:8-12 Sixth Plague: Man and Animals in Egypt are Covered with Boils

9:13-35 Seventh Plague: Fiery Hail Falls upon the Land of Egypt

10:1-20 Eight Plague: Locust Fill the Land of Egypt

10:21-29 Ninth Plague: Darkness Covers the Land of Egypt

11:1-12:30 Tenth Plague: All of the Firstborn of Man and Animals Die

III. EXODUS 12:31-36 PHARAOH SENDS ISRAEL AWAY

12:31-32 Pharaoh tells Moses and the Israelites to leave immediately

12:33-34 The Egyptians are in a hurry to get rid of the Israelites

12:35-36 God gives the Israelites favor in the eyes of the Egyptians

John 15:7

*If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will,
and it shall be done unto you.*

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Search the puzzle below to find the ten words in the wordlist from today's story. Words may be vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Circle each word that you find.

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

WORDLIST:

MOSES

FLIES

PHARAOH

BOILS

PLAGUES

HAIL

FROGS

LOCUST

LICE

DARKNESS

*If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will,
and it shall be done unto you.*

JOHN 15:7

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The answers to today's puzzle

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

WORDLIST:

MOSES

FLIES

PHARAOH

BOILS

PLAGUES

HAIL

FROGS

LOCUST

LICE

DARKNESS