Baby Moses and Pharaoh's Daughter

A child loved and protected

Ages about 7-11 | Video 3:26 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth Every child is precious to God. Courage and compassion lead us to protect and care for others.

Learning goals Recall how Jochebed, Miriam and the princess helped Moses; explain compassion; choose one safe act of care.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online Open this video on Servus Dei

Before watching | 2 minutes

Recall how Joseph helped his family settle in Egypt. Ask: What does a baby need from the people who care for him?

Watch and notice

Notice how Jochebed, Miriam and Pharaoh's daughter each help protect the same child.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. Why did Jochebed hide her baby?
Pharaoh had ordered Hebrew baby boys killed. She was trying to protect his life.

2. Where did she place the basket, and who watched?
She placed it among the reeds near the riverbank. His sister Miriam watched nearby.

3. How did the princess respond when she found him?
She felt compassion for the crying Hebrew baby and wanted to protect him.

4. How did Miriam help her brother return to his mother?
She offered to find a Hebrew nurse and brought Jochebed to the princess.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

Baby Moses and Pharaoh's Daughter

Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Read the prompts aloud. Children may draw, point or tell their response to an adult.

Read & Write Invite short written or dictated answers. Use the story details before moving to a safe daily-life choice.

Adapt by readiness

Younger or emerging readers: emphasize the three caring women and accept pictures or spoken answers.

Older children: discuss why a cruel command is wrong and how compassion can lead to courageous action.

A circle of care | Optional 4 minutes

Draw a child inside a circle. Around the circle, add trusted adults and ways they help children stay safe. Choose one small action, such as helping a younger sibling with an adult nearby or inviting a lonely classmate to join a game.

Look for understanding The child names one person who protected Moses and one safe, concrete way to care for someone.

Closing prayer Loving God, thank you for every child. Give us courage to notice who needs care and wisdom to help safely. Amen.

At home Tell someone at home how Miriam helped her baby brother. With an adult, choose one kind action for this week.

Handout answer notes Remember: Miriam watched the basket and fetched Jochebed. Explain: the princess recognized a vulnerable child and chose compassion. Apply: accept a specific, safe act of care.

Teach with care

Preview the story and discuss the frightening background in calm, simple words. Have a Bible, pencils and crayons ready. The opening mentions slavery and a ruler's order to kill baby boys. No child is responsible for rescuing someone from danger alone. Do not reenact hiding or abandoning babies, and do not place baskets or children in water. Explain that Moses' basket rested among reeds near the bank. Jochebed and Miriam are named elsewhere in Scripture; the sister is unnamed in Exodus 2. The princess is not named in this passage.

Words to explain Compassion: noticing suffering and wanting to help. Reeds: tall plants growing near water. Papyrus: a plant used to make baskets. Pitch: sticky material used to keep water out.

Sources for the leader

Scripture: Exodus 1-2:10 - USCCB

Scripture: Moses is drawn from the water - Exodus 2

Family names: Numbers 26:59 - USCCB