

Lower Elementary

Moses and Pharaoh

Checklist

- ☐ Sponge
- ☐ Large pan
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Rock
- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Green and pink or red markers
- ☐ Green paper
- ☐ template

Introduction:

Sit on the floor in a circle.

Have one child go in the middle and say, "Let My people go!" to another.

The person addressed must try to keep a straight face, frowning and folding their arms.

The person speaking can make faces to try and make the other laugh.

If they laugh, they trade places, if not, the person in the middle can try with another child.

The pharaoh was like the children who could keep a straight face.

He heard a plea to be kind to the foreigners in his land, but he felt nothing.

It's hard to feel nothing when someone says that to you.

Not only Pharaoh, but all the Egyptians had hardened themselves.

They were willing to ignore how badly the Israelites were being treated in order to get richer off of their hard work.

After hearing from God on Mount Sinai, Moses was joined by his brother Aaron. The two of them returned to Egypt together, and walked straight into the palace of the Pharaoh. Moses had been away from that place for many years. His life had changed so much...how strange it must have felt for him to return. “The Lord God says, ‘Let my people go into the desert, so they can honor me with a celebration there,’” they told the Pharaoh. But he simply retorted, “Who is this Lord and why should I obey him? I most certainly will not let all my workers take a vacation in the desert!”



Then Moses did what God had told him to do when the Pharaoh refused. Aaron struck the Nile River with his walking stick. The Pharaoh and everyone there gasped as the river turned into blood.



After seven days of having no water source and smelling the rotting fish coming from the Nile, the Pharaoh was still stubborn. So, Moses warned him that God would send all the frogs out of the river to invade the land if he did not let the Hebrews go. But Pharaoh did not give up, and so there were more frogs than the river could contain, and they spread into the royal palace, even into the king's bedroom and his bed. Frogs were found inside of ovens and in the bowls of bread dough. Frogs were crawling on every single citizen of Egypt...but not on the Hebrews.



But the Pharaoh was still stubborn. So, Aaron hit his walking stick on the ground and the sky was filled with gnats, swarming on people and animals.



The following day Pharaoh and Moses met each other at the river, but he still would not give up when Moses warned him about the next punishment he would get from God. So, the Lord sent swarms of flies to attack Pharaoh, his officials, and every citizen of Egypt. Houses were full of flies, and the ground crawled with them.



Again, Moses told Pharaoh,
“The Lord God of the Hebrews
commands you to let His
people go, so they can worship
Him. If you keep refusing, he
will bring a terrible disease on
your horses and donkeys, your
camels and cattle, and your
sheep and goats.”
But Pharaoh was stubborn, so
the Egyptian animals got sick,
while the animals that
belonged to the children of
Israel remained strong.



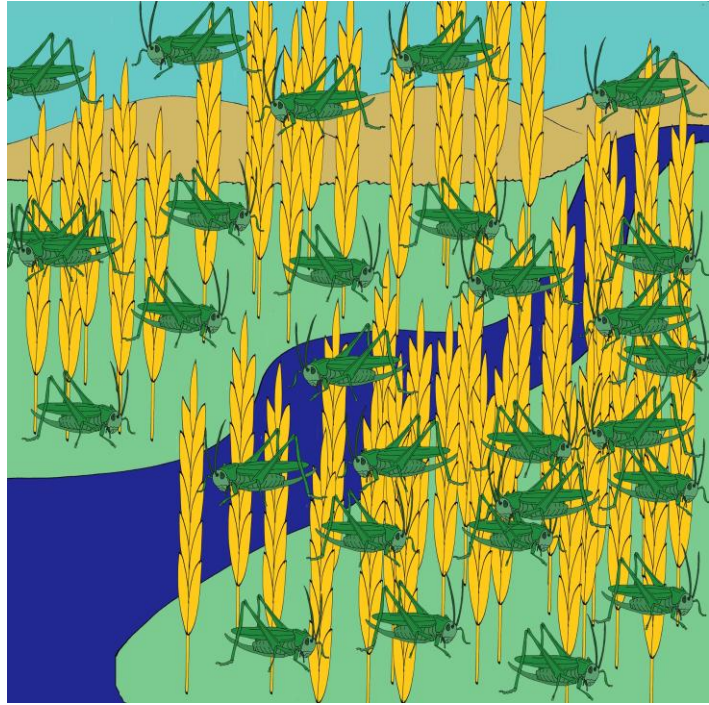
God commanded Moses and Aaron to take a few handfuls of ashes from a stove. Moses threw them into the air while Pharaoh watched. As the ashes blew across the land of Egypt, sores broke out on the people and animals.



After Pharaoh still refused to let God's people go, Moses pointed his walking stick toward the sky, and hailstones started falling everywhere. Thunder roared, lightning flashed and everyone ran for cover.



Again, Pharaoh would not listen to the word of the Lord, and again Moses warned him what would happen. He held out his walking stick, and God sent a strong wind from the East that blew across Egypt all day and all night. The wind brought giant grasshoppers with a never-ending appetite for the little grain that was left. Egypt was covered in them.



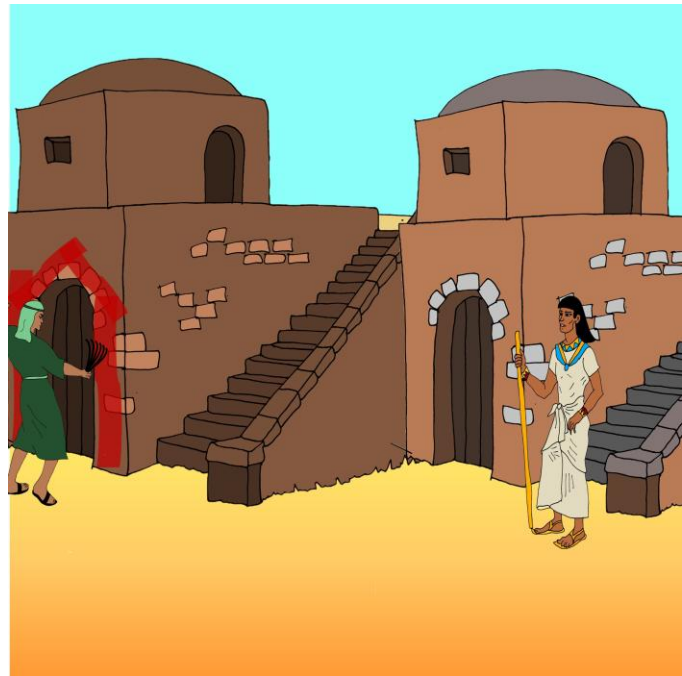
But because of Pharaoh's hard heart, the Lord told Moses to stretch his arm toward the sky. As he did the land of Egypt was covered with a darkness so intense it felt like you could actually touch it. The darkness lasted three days and made it impossible for the Egyptians to do anything. But even this was not enough for Pharaoh to risk losing his workers.

At last God grew tired of Pharaoh's stubbornness. He would have to teach him a lesson that would stick.



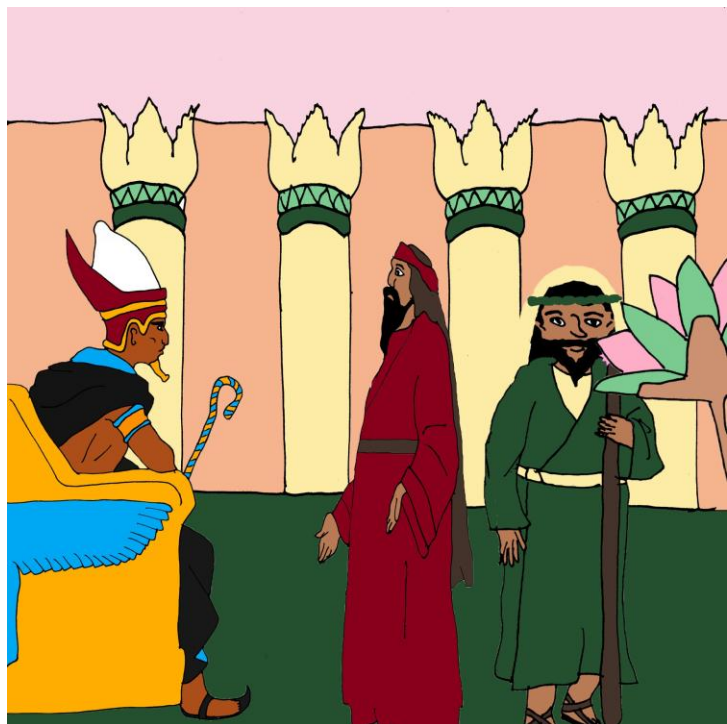
“Tell My people that on the tenth day of this month the head of each family must hold a feast with lamb and mark their doorposts to show Me they are preparing for me to deliver them. I am about to send the worst disaster of all to Egypt. But when I see the doorposts that have been marked, I will pass over those homes.”

The Egyptians did not have the lamb's blood on their doorposts and so God brought sorrow to their homes, but not to the homes of the Israelites. After all, it was not just the pharaoh who was hard-hearted. All the Egyptians had grown rich from the free labor of the Israelites. All were guilty of not standing up for what was right.



That night every Egyptian, from the humble farmer all the way up to the mighty Pharaoh, found themselves crying bitterly. Every Egyptian home had lost someone. In the middle of the night the Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron.

“Get out of my country!” he yelled at them. “You and all your people. Just leave!” At last, he was broken. But even this disaster would not soften his heart for long.



Closing Discussion:



Which would have been your least favorite of the plagues? Why?

Why do you think Pharaoh did not believe?

Would you have believed Moses? Why or why not?

When you are given a warning to do something (or stop doing something) do you always obey right away? Have you ever kept doing it until you got a really bad punishment?

Do you remember the story of Jacob and Esau? Esau was the firstborn son, even when he was an adult. This meant he had a special job as head of the family. God told the heads of families (the adult firstborn sons), to make a sacrifice as a way of showing faith in His power.

When the Israelites made the Passover sacrifice, they showed their faith in God. Many years later, Jesus took the place of the Passover sacrifice when He died for our sins. How do we show faith in Him? (asking Him into our hearts, obeying His commands, showing love to others, letting Him be in charge of our decisions, etc.)

Craft:

Paper Plate Frogs

Closing Activity:

Pass the sponge around to all of the children and let them feel it.

You can bend it and squeeze it because it is soft.

Pass around the stone.

The rock is hard.

Put the stone and sponge in a pan and show children a glass of water.

This glass of water is like God's word. God wants to pour His word into people's hearts.

Pour water onto the rock.

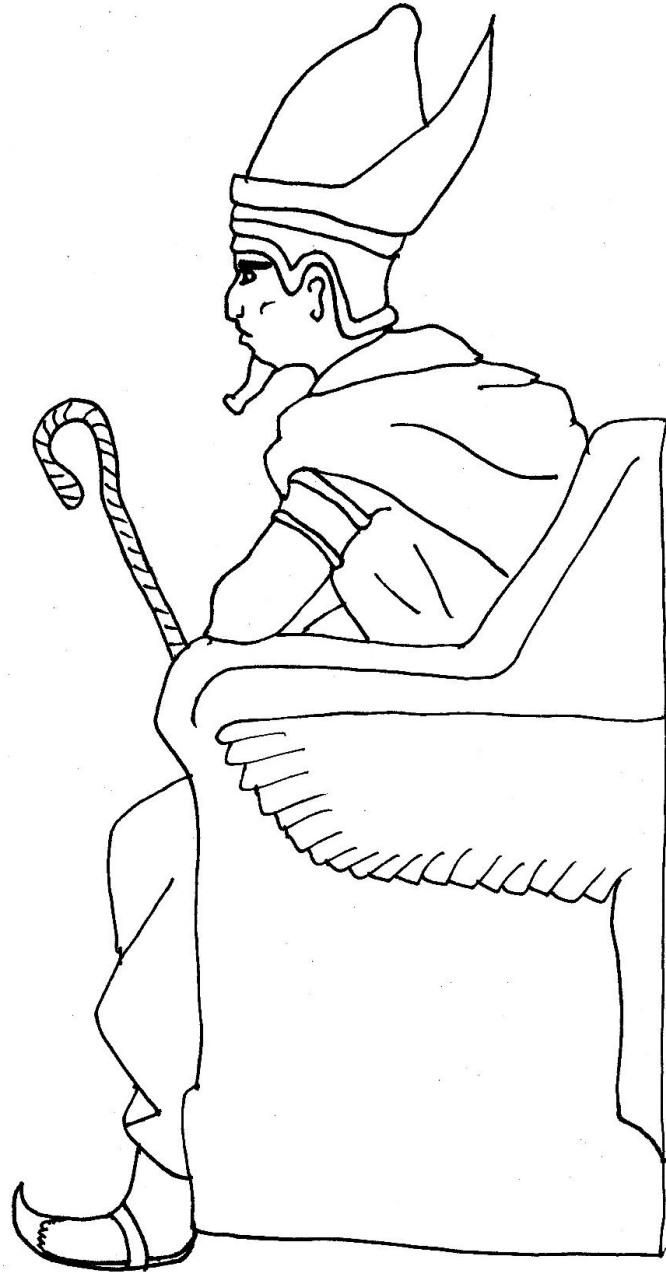
It spills right off because the rock doesn't want to let it in. Pour water onto the sponge very slowly.

The sponge absorbs the water and becomes full of it.

What kind of heart do you want to have? One that won't let God's word in, or one that is filled with love for God?

Moses and Pharaoh

Name: _____



God rescues people and sets them free by working great miracles. ~ Daniel 6:27a

- ❖ Teacher folds paper plate in half
- ❖ Children color outside of plate green and inside red or pink
- ❖ Children color and cut out tongue and feet
- ❖ Children glue on googly eyes
- ❖ Teacher rolls tongue around pencil to make it curl
- ❖ Optional: print tongue and feet on colored paper



