

## CHAPTER 2: Preparing Moses for ministry

### **Servant's Preparation:**

Read Exodus Chapter 2.

Read the interpretation of the chapter in Interpretation of the Book of Exodus by Father Tadros Yacoub Malaty:

<http://www.orthodoxebooks.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/Exodus%20-%20Father%20Tadros%20Yacoub%20Malaty.pdf>

### **Brief introduction:**

At the beginning of each lesson, please review book overview questions:

- ✓ *What is the meaning of Exodus?* Departure, going out. It refers to the departure of the children of Israel from Egypt.
- ✓ *Who wrote the Book of Exodus?* Moses the Prophet
- ✓ *What is the structure of the Book of Exodus?* It tells the story of bondage of the Israelites in Egypt, their exodus from Egypt to Sinai and the story of their journey in Sinai.

### **Main Points in the Chapter:**

1. Moses in the river (1 – 4)
2. Moses in the palace (5 – 10)
3. Moses ministers with human zeal (11 – 15)
4. Moses in the land of Midian (16 – 25)



# Exodus 2

A daughter of Levi... bore a son... and... hid him for 3 months. When she could hide him no longer, she got him a wicker basket... put the child into it and set it among the reeds by the bank of the Nile v1-3

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the Nile... and she saw the basket among the reeds.

She had pity on him... and he became her son. And she named him Moses v5-11



When Moses had grown... he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew... When he saw there was no one around, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. Moses was afraid and... fled... and settled in the land of Midian

v11-15



Now it came about, in the course of those many days, the King of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel cried out; and their cry for help because of their bondage rose up to God. So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac + Jacob

v23-24

GOD  
saw  
the sons of  
Israel



and  
GOD  
took notice  
of them  
v25

## Lesson:

Explain the main events of the chapter with a picture for each event, reading parts of the chapter.

### *Birth of Moses:*

- Amram and Jochebed of the tribe of Levi were married and had Miriam, Aaron and a newborn son. (The names of Moses' parents and siblings are not mentioned in this chapter, but the servant should mention them.)

### *Moses in the River:*

- Due to Pharaoh's orders to kill every Hebrew male newborn, Jochebed hid her baby for 3 months.
- When she could no longer hide him, she made a basket and covered it with pitch and laid it in the reeds by the river. The baby's sister stood afar to watch what would happen to him.
- Pharaoh's daughter came to bathe, saw the basket and told her maid to get it. When she opened it, the baby cried and she had compassion on him.
- Miriam asked Pharaoh's daughter if she'd like a nurse for the baby and she brought Jochebed, the baby's own mother. Pharaoh's daughter told her to care for him and bring him back to her when he's grown.

### *Moses in the Palace:*

- When he grew, Jochebed brought him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son and she called him Moses (which means "drawn out of the water").

### *Moses Ministers with Human Zeal:*

- Moses knew that he was a Hebrew. When he was grown, he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew and he killed the Egyptian.
- The next day, he saw two Hebrew men fighting and tried to stop them, but one of them asked him if he'll kill him like he killed the Egyptian.

### *Moses in the Land of Midian:*

- Moses was afraid and fled to Midian.
- He protected the seven daughters of Reuel (or Jethro), the priest of Midian, from the shepherds who were trying to drive them away when they came to the well to water their flock, and he also helped them water the flock.
- He married Zipporah, Reuel's daughter, and had a son, Gershom (which means "stranger there").
- Pharaoh died. The Israelites were groaning because of their slavery and cried out to God and God remembered them.

## Lesson Aim

1. When we trust in God like Jochebed did, He protects and delivers us.

2. When we rely on our own strength, we fail. But when we know we are weak and we rely on God's strength, He makes us succeed.

### **Activities:**

*The servant can focus on the lesson aim of trusting in God and of God's protection. Through this Sunday school lesson, the children will learn that God protects us and has a plan for each of our lives.*

### **TOPICS**

Moses, Protection

Draw the following chart on the board

Things that protect us	People that protect us
Examples: bicycle helmets, seat belts, gloves	Examples: firefighter, police, lifeguard, God

As the children arrive, give them a sheet of paper, and have them copy the chart from the board, or have copies already made up before class. Have them jot down as many things and people they can think of. When finished, discuss what everyone came up with and write unique items of the board for all to see. Or this activity can also be done together as a class.

## **Moses in the Nile (Skit for five children)**

*This skit shows Moses' humble beginnings and how God protected him from harm.  
(Skit for five: Mother, Miriam, Narrator, Maiden, Daughter.)*

### **TOPICS:**

Faith, Moses, Protection, Trust

### **MATERIALS:**

Basket with 10' rope or string fastened to one end  
Baby Doll  
Skit handout

### **PREPARATION:**

Tie rope to basket before class



*(The skit begins with Miriam and the mother holding the doll)*

**Mother** Pharaoh just did a mean thing, Miriam. He made a law that all of the Hebrew baby boys be killed.

**Miriam** Even my little brother? What can we do?

**Mother** We must hide him. I need your help.

**Narrator** They hid the baby in the house for a few months. But baby Moses grew bigger, taller and noisier all the time. It became impossible to keep him quiet and hidden any longer. Everyday the baby's mother prayed and asked God to spare Moses' life from Pharaoh's wrath. But God had even bigger plans for Moses. He was not about to let him perish in Pharaoh's hands. Instead God gave Moses' mother an idea.

**Mother** Miriam, we need to do something more than hide Moses. I know Pharaoh's daughter is without child. Maybe if she sees Moses, she will want to keep him for her own.

**Narrator** So they made a basket and put baby Moses inside it.

*(Miriam and the mother get the basket, put the doll inside, and place it on the floor)*

**Narrator** Soon, the Pharaoh's daughter came out to the pool with her maiden and the basket as if guided by an invisible hand, floated directly towards them.

*(Pharaoh's daughter and the maiden appear on the other side of the room. A volunteer pulls the basket towards the maiden)*

**Maiden** Oh, what is that! Oh My! A baby! Master, look here, what a beautiful little baby!

*(The maiden takes the baby out of the basket and gives it to Pharaoh's daughter)*

**Daughter** The gods have surely heard my cries. Now I will be a mother and this baby shall be my son.

**Narrator** Miriam saw how everybody was excited. God was working on His plan. Moses will not be killed. Instead he will grow up with wisdom in the Pharaoh's land. As if guided by God's own hand, Miriam went up to Pharaoh's daughter.

**Miriam** O kind daughter of Pharaoh, how blessed you are to have found a baby boy. Would you like me to find someone to take care of him for you until he is weaned?

**Daughter** He must be a Hebrew boy and you are a Hebrew girl. Please find someone from your people who can take care of him. When he is weaned, he shall be my son and I will name him Moses. But make sure no one finds out about this.

**Narrator** So Miriam took Moses to his own mother, who took care of him until he was weaned. Then she gave Moses back to Pharaoh's daughter. God protected Moses from Pharaoh's wrath.

## Harm Removed (Object Talk)

*Always trust in the Lord. This Object Talk will show the kids how God keeps us safe from the grasp of the devil in miraculous ways.*

### TOPICS:

Miracles, Protection, Trust, Worry

### MATERIALS:

1/4 teaspoon salt

Pinch of pepper

Small cup saucer

Plastic spoon



### WHAT YOU WILL DO:

You will pour a small mound of salt (about 1/4 of a teaspoon), representing God's people into the middle of the saucer. Then you will drop a very small amount of pepper over the mound of salt. The pepper represents the devil's many tricks and lies that he uses to deceive God's people. Next, you will rub a plastic spoon vigorously over a piece of clothing to create static electricity. Then, you will wave the spoon over the mound, and the pepper will attach itself to the spoon, thus being removed from God's people.

### WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Today, I will show you how we can always trust in our Lord to protect us, even when circumstances seem hopeless. This saucer represents the world, in which we all live. I am going to take some salt and place it on the world. This salt represents God's people. Now, as we know, the world is full of evil. The devil is always trying to deceive God's people. Let me take some of this pepper, and put it on top of the salt. This pepper represents the tricks and lies used by the devil, and they are right on top of God's people.

How can we avoid these tricks and lies and remove them from God's people? *(Allow for responses and explain how most suggestions would be hopeless or take forever.)*

It is impossible for us, but God can do miraculous things. Let me show you. This spoon represents our loving God. *(Take the spoon and rub it to create static electricity, and then lift off the pepper.)*

You see, sometimes we may have no clue of how to escape the grasp of the devil, but God is always there for us. He will keep us safe in His arms no matter what the devil tries to do.

### APPLICATION

We use many things to protect us for instance helmets, gloves and heavy coats in the winter. People also protect us from harm, such as firefighters, police and lifeguards. God's protection is always there, even when we don't know it. He has a plan for us just as He did for Moses. Although things may seem difficult at the time, God is always working in us for the good.

The Bible says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

This week, everyone should spend some time in prayer, thanking God for His protection. Remember, our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

**Memory Verse:**

*10 And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, "Because I drew him out of the water."*

## CHAPTER 3: The burning bush

**Servant's Preparation:**

Read Exodus Chapter 3.

Read the interpretation of the chapter in Interpretation of the Book of Exodus by Father Tadros Yacoub Malaty:

<http://www.orthodoxebooks.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/Exodus%20-%20Father%20Tadros%20Yacoub%20Malaty.pdf>

**Brief introduction:**

At the beginning of each lesson, please review book overview questions:

- ✓ *What is the meaning of Exodus?* Departure, going out. It refers to the departure of the children of Israel from Egypt.
- ✓ *Who wrote the Book of Exodus?* Moses the Prophet
- ✓ *What is the structure of the Book of Exodus?* It tells the story of bondage of the Israelites in Egypt, their exodus from Egypt to Sinai and the story of their journey in Sinai.

**Main Points in the Chapter:**

1. The burning bush (1 – 4)
2. Taking the sandals off (5)
3. Calling Moses for ministry (6 – 10)
4. Moses tries to find excuses (11 – 13)
5. God's name (14 – 17)
6. The secret of the three days (18)
7. The mighty hand of God (19 – 22)