



This is a great [object lesson](#) to reflect with the children on the theme of God's guidance in our lives.

It is fun and easy to do with the children. If possible, they can take turns to try and move a cornflake over the water.

Memory Verse:

21 And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light.

CHAPTER 14: Crossing of the Red Sea

Servant's Preparation:

Read Exodus Chapter 14.

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. Camping before 'Pi Hahiroth' (1 – 2)
2. Pharaoh regrets having to let the children of Israel go (3 – 9)
3. The people murmur against Moses and Aaron (10 – 14)
4. The silent cry of Moses (15)
5. The crossing of the Red Sea (16 – 31)





EXODUS 14

Are we able to trust that God has a plan?

HELP HELP

WE ARE TRAPPED!
WHY DID YOU BRING US
HERE TO DIE???

the **LORD** will
FIGHT FOR
YOU
while you keep
SILENT

The People witnessed
God's Power

Plagues:
blood, frogs, lice,
flies, pestilence,
boils, hail, locusts,
darkness, death of
the first borns

Pillars:
cloud & fire

they still doubted
that God was
capable or
faithful enough
to do as He
promised.

*When people
today say
that they
would believe
if God made
Himself more
obvious... It just
is not true... He
has already
done that

we always try to take charge & do something when things look like they are going wrong

VS 14

MOSES STRETCHED OUT HIS HAND...
so the waters were divided

Pharaoh's army
was covered
by sea...

Lesson:

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

- Pharaoh regrets letting the Israelites go and pursues them with horses and chariots.
- The people are afraid and murmur and complain.
- Moses tells them to be still and to watch God's salvation.
- The pillar of cloud moves behind the Israelites and becomes between them and the Egyptians. It gives light to the Israelites but darkness to the Egyptians.
- God tells Moses to stretch his rod over the sea and it split and the Israelites passed.
- The Egyptians pursue the Israelites into the sea but God troubles their army and takes off their wheels.
- Moses stretches out his rod again over the sea and it covers the Egyptians and they drown.

Lesson Aim

God is a God of miracles. His power and might sustains us each day and we need to trust in Him.

Activities

PARTING THE RED SEA

After completing this lesson, the children will see that God is a God of miracles and that His power and might sustains us each day.

TOPICS

Moses, Miracles, Power of God, Protection

FIRST:

Discuss miracles with the children. What is a miracle? Have you ever seen a miracle? What is your favorite miracle from the Bible? You can also have some of the children look up the word miracle in a regular dictionary and in a Bible dictionary.

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION

Introduction:

Last time you will remember how the Pharaoh of Egypt finally let the Israelites go. However, it was only after God sent ten plagues on Egypt, and in the end, the Pharaoh's son was even killed. The Israelites obeyed God, and left right away. They followed the Lord's instructions and ate the Passover meal in haste. The bread they made did not contain yeast and is called unleavened bread. This type of bread is still used today by Jewish people to celebrate God's protection from that tenth plague. Now our story finds the Israelites once again in a predicament. Many people thought it was a trap. Let's read from our Bibles to see what happened.

Read Exodus 14:5-31 (The Crossing of the Red Sea)

Discussion Questions:

1. At first Pharaoh let the Israelite people go, why did he change his mind? *(He lost the services of the Israelite people who were used like slaves, and his heart was hardened.)*
2. What did the Israelites do when they saw the Egyptians? *(Complained and blamed Moses, said they would rather go back and serve the Egyptians than die in the desert.)*
3. Who did Moses say would fight for the Israelites? *(God.)*
4. What would the Israelites need to do? *(Nothing, just to be still.)*
5. How did God keep the Egyptians away from the Israelites before they crossed the Red Sea? *(He placed a pillar of fire between the two of them.)*
6. What happened when Moses stretched out his hand over the sea the second time? *(The waters returned and Pharaoh's entire army drowned.)*
7. How did the attitudes of the Israelite people change at the end of this story? *(Instead of being afraid, they trusted God.)*
8. How do we see God's protection in this story? *(By performing a miracle to stop an enemy from doing harm.)*

PARTING THE WATERS

A science object talk to show that God's miracles are truly miraculous.

TOPICS:

Miracles, Moses, Power of God

MATERIALS:

Red food coloring
Rubbing alcohol
Flat saucer (without cup indentation)
eyedropper, water
small glass



PREPARATION:

Before class, fill a glass with water and add a few drops of red food coloring. Use an eyedropper to gather a small amount of rubbing alcohol.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

During class, you will pour a small pool of red water into the saucer. Then using the eyedropper, squeeze out a few drips of rubbing alcohol into the center of the water. The water will separate, and form a dry spot in the middle. You will compare this trick to when God parted the Red Sea for His people to cross on

dry ground, but you will also explain how impossible it would be to part a huge sea using an eyedropper. The children will admit that only God can perform a miracle.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

How many of you are familiar with the story about God parting the waters of the Red Sea? Good, it is one of the most well known miracles in the Bible. God parted the Red Sea so Moses and the Israelites could cross on dry ground before Pharaoh's army. There were probably over a million people.

Would you believe it, if I said that I could part water? Well, let me show you I can. Here I have a glass of water; yes, it is red, like red sea water. Let me pour a little onto this saucer. Now watch carefully. I have a special ingredient in this eyedropper. Look what happens when I squeeze out a few drops. See, I parted the water; it is dry in the middle and has room for perhaps two ants.

Some people try to explain God's miracles with science. No wonder, science is quite remarkable. What I did was in no way a miracle. Can you imagine parting an entire sea in this way? Think of how big the eyedropper would have to be. Just picking it up would take a miracle. Only God can perform miracles. Science, no matter how remarkable, cannot explain how He does it. However, we know it is because He is an Almighty God.

THE HAMSTERS' GREAT ESCAPE

The exodus from Egypt, as told by one family's pets (Skit for two: Harry and George.)

TOPICS:

Believing, Courage, Faith, Moses, Protection, Power of God



MATERIALS:

2 animal puppets or you can just tell the story using two different voices or print the skit for the children and have two of them read and act it out.

(George rolls across the cage and slams into Harry)

Harry	What in the world are you doing George? I'm trying to sleep here! Now get back on your side of the cage.
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George Uhh I'm sorry Harry, uhuh I couldn't help it, uhh that little Israeli boy that owns us picked up our cage in such a rush, that I uhuh couldn't help it... sorry.

Harry George, ole boy, you're right. Why look, all of God's people are rushing around in a big hurry and it's the middle of the night! Something BIG must be going on! Hang on George, it looks like we're coming in for a rough landing.

George They must be in a hurry... that sure was a rough way to load us onto the camel... it looks like all God's people are leaving Egypt and we almost didn't get packed. See Harry we're on the last camel!

Harry Yeah, I see George.

George I.. I.. I.. I wonder where we're going?

Harry Settle down George, I'm sure God will watch over his people.

George I hope He watches over hamsters too! I'm worried.

Harry Pull yourself together kid, remember the scriptures. 'My shield is God Most High, who saves the upright in heart, Psalm 7:10' Look up ahead... God's people are following that pillar of fire.

George Oh yeah! And 'Psalm 9:10: Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you!' (*Plays with whiskers*) I bet God's showing them the way to go.

Harry Don't look now kid, but it looks like that mean old king of Egypt has changed his mind about letting the people go.

George What do you mean Harry?

Harry **Look behind us George, see the King's army is chasing us and God's people can't go forward any longer because of the Red Sea.**

George **Uhh, let's go to the right.**

Harry **We can't, there are mountain ranges!**

George **Uhh then let's go to the left.**

Harry **Open your beady little eyes George! There are mountain ranges there too!**

George **Aghhhh we're trapped like rats!**

Harry **How many times do I have to tell you? We are hamsters, not rats!**

George **Aghhhh we are trapped like hamsters!**

Harry **Shhh settle down George. Look God's putting a big thick pillar of cloud between His people and the Egyptian army. The army has stopped, at least for the time being. "The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise Him, my father's God and I will exalt Him." Exodus 15:2**

George **Boy, that sounds good. Someone should write that down. Harry, look, what's Moses doing?**

Harry **Why Moses is holding his staff and has stretched out his arm over the Red Sea. Look George! God is parting the water! We're on the move again! I knew God would protect His people.**

George **Hey Harry, uhh look the ground is dry. We are crossing on dry ground! Those walls of water look scary I'm worried!**

Harry Now, George, you need to remember what you just said and here's another one: "Know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself; the Lord will hear when I call to Him. Psalm 4:3!"

George Somebody better start calling! HELP!!!

Harry We've been traveling a while now, but look, we've finally made it across. Don't look now but the Egyptian army is coming after us again! Look the army is crossing the Red Sea and boy their chariots are fast!

George Can't this camel go any faster?

Harry *(Rings hands)* The army is starting to gain on us, they're already about half way across the Red Sea!

George Yikes! *(Looks surprised and jumps up and down)*

Harry Look George! Moses stretched out his arm and staff over the Red Sea again! The Lord has caused the walls of water to collapse and the Egyptian army has been drowned! We're safe, we're safe, praise God!

George "Your right hand, O Lord, was majestic in power. Your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy." Exodus 15:6

Harry That's a good one too. Somebody should write that down.

George Thanks be to God! Look Harry, all of God's people are praising Him and shouting glory to God!

Harry Do you think these people have learned to do what God says and trust Him?

George I sure hope so. I don't want to be around if they have to learn THIS lesson again!

Harry Me neither, George, me neither.

(Harry & George step forward, out of character, and recite the following verse together)

“The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise Him, my father’s God and I will exalt Him.” (Exodus 15:2)

APPLICATION

God's power is revealed in so many ways. No one but God could part a sea. God also does many powerful things for us every day. He brings the sun up in the morning, he showers the earth with rain, and makes the trees grow. He even created gravity to keep us from accidentally flying into outer space. He changes the bread and wine into Jesus’ body and blood during the liturgy, he can heal us and resolve the most difficult of problems if we truly have faith in Him. This week, everyone should spend some time in prayer, thanking God for his mighty power.

Memory Verse:

13 And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”

CHAPTER 15: The song of triumph

Servant’s Preparation:

Read Exodus Chapter 15.

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: