

UNIT 2:

The Great Safari

LESSON 5:

Moses and the Burning Bush

Bible Summary

Exodus 3–4

Moses was tending to his sheep, when he saw a bush burning. He walked towards the bush and saw the bush did not burn up. As Moses got closer, God called out and told Moses He wanted him to go back to Egypt and tell Pharaoh to let the Israelite people leave. Moses was afraid and questioned why God would choose him to lead the Israelites. God told Moses to throw down his rod. When the rod hit the ground, it turned into a snake. When Moses picked up the snake, it turned back into a rod. God told Moses He would use signs like this to show Pharaoh that He was with Moses. Then Moses went back to Egypt and led the people out of Egypt to a new land.

Bible Verse

“This is love for God: to obey His commands.” *1 John 5:3*

Key Concept

We can love God by obeying Him.

KEY CONCEPT MOTIONS:

We can love (*hug yourself*)
God by obeying (*thumbs up*) Him.

Objectives

KNOW WHAT (LG):

Children will hear the story of God speaking to Moses through a burning bush.

SO WHAT (LG):

Children will learn it pleases God when we obey.

NOW WHAT (SG):

Children will participate in an activity that helps them identify times they can obey and reminds them these are ways we show love to God.

Spiritual Formation

Obedience

Leader's Prep

READ EXODUS 3–4. The NIV Life Application Bible says:

Moses made excuses because he felt inadequate for the job God asked him to do. It was natural for him to feel that way. He was inadequate all by himself. But God wasn't asking Moses to work alone. He offered other resources to help (God himself, Aaron, and the ability to do miracles). God often calls us to tasks that seem too difficult, but He doesn't ask us to do them alone. God offers us His resources, just as He did Moses. We should not hide behind our inadequacies, as Moses did, but look beyond ourselves to the great resources available. Then we can allow God to use our unique contributions.

Friends, God does not ask us to go anywhere or do anything without providing His help. God asks us to obey and go where He leads, trusting Him to provide everything we need. When we do, God does great things through us and for us.



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Supplies and Visuals

Per Small Group:

- 9" x 12" envelope
- 1 set of safari animal charade cards
- *The Beginner's Bible*
- Box of crayons

Per Child:

- 1 Paper steering wheel
- 1 Obey story sheet
- Key Concept sticker
- Take-home coloring sheet
- Snack

In Advance

(DONE BY YOUR ADMINISTRATOR)

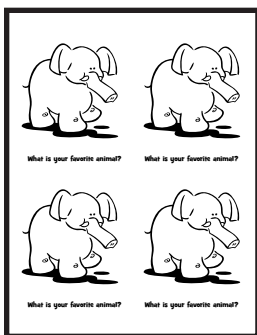
- Prepare one copy of *The Beginner's Bible* per Small Group by inserting a bookmark in the story of Moses and the burning bush.

The following visuals can be found in the Lesson 5 Visual folder on the Fall Quarter CDs.

- Print and copy the eight safari animal charade cards and cut them apart; there are four to a page. Each Small Group should receive one set of cards (*Lesson 5 KC 1 – Lesson 5 KC 8*) in a bag.
- Print, copy onto cardstock, and cut out the paper steering wheels, one per child (*Lesson 5 SG 13*).
- Print and copy the two parts of the Obey story sheet—one per child (*Lesson 5 SG 14a, Lesson 5 SG 14b*). Copy the pages side-by-side on 11"x17" sheets of paper. Place the folded pages in a 9" x 12" envelope.
- Print and copy the Key Concept stickers onto Avery label sheets #5294—one sticker per child (*Lesson 5 SG 15*).
- Print and copy the take-home coloring sheet (two-sided)—one per child (*Lesson 5 SG 16, Lesson 5 SG 17*).
- Place the above-mentioned items in a bin for each Small Group leader.

Shepherding Tip:

If any children have a hard time acting out the animal on the card, you can act it out with them. Or ask every child to act out every card together.



Lesson 5 KC 1
 (1 of 8)

Kid Connection

(10 MINUTES)

WELCOME the children to your Small Group.

SAY, "I'm your Small Group Leader and my name is *Mr./Mrs./Miss* _____. I am so glad each one of you is here today! Let's tell each other our names. We will go around the circle and you can say your name."

GO around the circle and have each child say his or her name.

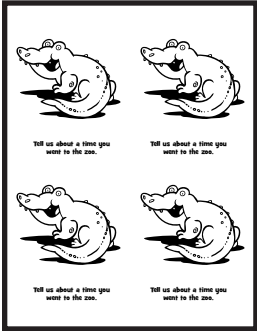
SAY, "Today is a great day, because we are going to go on a safari trip to the jungle. I even brought my safari bag so we can play a special safari game."

SHOW the safari bag and the charade cards inside the bag. Tell the children that all the charade cards are animals we might see in the safari. Each card has a special question to answer.

SAY, "We will take turns pretending to be the different safari animals on the cards. When it is your turn to pretend, you can pick one card out of the bag. If there is a question, you can answer it. Then you will pretend to be the animal on the card with your body. You will act out the animal and we will try to guess what animal you are pretending to be."

MODEL for the children how to play by choosing a card and acting it out.

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Lesson 5 KC 2
 (2 of 8)

SAY, “Let’s play the game.”

CHOOSE one child to pick a card.

SHOW the child the picture on the card, keeping it hidden from the other kids in the group.

CHARADE CARDS:

Elephant: What is your favorite animal?

Alligator: Tell us about a time you went to the zoo.

Snake: Tell us about a trip you went on.

Lion: What is an animal you don’t like?

Monkey: Do you have any pets at home?

Tiger

Bird

Frog

WHISPER an action in the child’s ear to help him or her act out the animal.

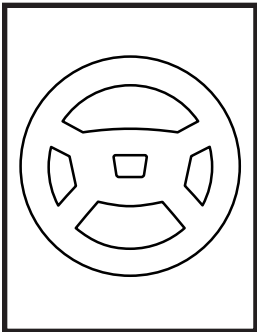
ENCOURAGE the other children to guess the animal.

ASK the children the question on the card, if there is one.

CONTINUE playing until each child has had a turn.

Transition to Large Group

SAY, “Today when we go to Large Group, we are going on a safari trip. We will see lots of animals and hear a Bible story about Moses. God asked Moses to obey. Let’s go hear the Bible story and see if Moses obeyed God.”



Lesson 5 SG 13

Small Group

(20 MINUTES)

Activity

The purpose of this activity is to reinforce the Bible story and identify times we can obey God.

SAY, “Today we learned a Bible story about Moses. Did Moses obey God? (*Yes.*) How did Moses obey God? (*Led Israelites to new home.*) What did we learn today? **We can love (hug yourself) God by obeying (thumbs up) Him.**”

SAY, “Today in our group, we’re going to pretend to drive our safari jeeps, just like in Large Group, and remember ways we can obey God. We are going to drive to the monkey tree.” (*Place envelope in the middle of the circle, but don’t open it.*)

GIVE each child a pretend steering wheel.

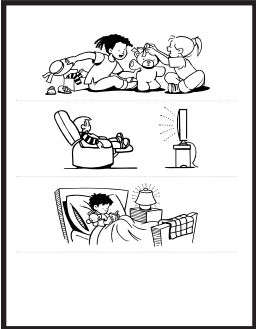
SAY, “Let’s drive our jeep to the monkey tree.”

1. **PRETEND** to drive with the paper steering wheels. Use some of the following suggestions to create an interesting trip for the kids: make a “Vroom, Vroom” noise; lean back and drive slowly up a hill; lean forward and drive fast down a hill; pretend to listen to the radio and sing a song; move up and down as you drive over bumps; roll down the window and feel the wind; honk the horn; or swerve to miss safari animals. Pretend to screech the brakes when you arrive at your destination.



Lesson 5 SG 14a

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Lesson 5 SG 14b



2. **SAY**, “We made it to the monkey tree. (*Show the envelope.*) Let’s put our steering wheels away and see what is at the monkey tree.” (*Collect the steering wheels.*)
3. **OPEN** the envelope. Give each child an Obey story sheet and a crayon. (*The story sheet includes six pictures: child sharing toys/child fighting; child raking leaves/child watching TV; and a child going to sleep/child reading a book.*)
4. **SAY**, “I’m going to read you a story. You will circle the picture on your paper that shows the person in the story obeying. Put an “x” on the picture that shows the child not obeying.
5. **READ** the following scenarios:

A. Jill has her friend Mindy over at her house. They are playing with a toy. Jill wants Mindy to play with a different toy so she doesn’t have to share, but Jill’s mom asks her to share her toy with Mindy. Look at the pictures in the first box. Circle the picture that shows Jill obeying. (*Color sharing the toy.*) Put an “x” on the picture that shows Jill disobeying. (*Put an “x” on the children fighting.*)

B. Cameron’s favorite show is on TV, and he wants to watch it. But Cameron’s dad asks Cameron to help him rake the leaves in the yard. Look at the pictures in the second box. Circle the picture that shows Cameron obeying. (*Color raking leaves.*) Put an “x” on the picture that shows Cameron disobeying. (*Put an “x” on watching TV.*)

C. Joe is reading a book in his bed. Joe is almost done reading the book, but his babysitter tells him to turn off the lights and go to sleep. Look at the pictures in the third box. Circle the picture that shows how Joe can obey. (*Color going to bed.*) Put an “x” on the picture that shows Joe disobeying. (*Put an “x” on reading the book.*)

D. How can you obey at home this week? (*Allow children to respond: make my bed, wash the dishes, brush my teeth, etc.*) Let’s draw a picture in the last box to remember how we can obey. (*Give children time to draw their pictures.*) When we obey, we make God happy. Today we learned that **we can love (hug yourself) God by obeying (thumbs up) Him.**

Review

READ the bookmarked story of Moses and the burning bush from *The Beginner’s Bible*.
ASK, “Did Moses obey God right away? (*No.*) But when Moses obeyed God, he led the people out of Egypt for God. What did we learn today? **We can love (hug yourself) God by obeying (thumbs up) Him.**”

Wrap-Up and Prayer

SAY, “Today we heard the Bible story about Moses and the burning bush, and learned that God loves when we obey. Let’s pray to God and thank Him for today.

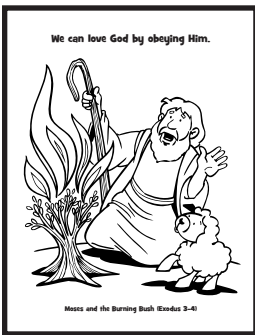
LEAD the children in the following finger play. Then have the children repeat after you as you pray.

- Open them. (*Open hands.*) Close them. (*Close hands.*)
- Open them. (*Open hands.*) Close them. (*Close hands.*)
- Give a little clap. (*Clap hands.*)
- Open them. (*Open hands.*) Close them. (*Close hands.*)
- Open them. (*Open hands.*) Close them. (*Close hands.*)
- Fold them in your lap. (*Fold hands in lap.*)

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Lesson 5 SG 15



Lesson 5 SG 16

Dear God,
We want to show You love.
Please help us to obey.
Thank You for our snack.
In Jesus' Name,
Amen.

Kid Connection

CONTINUES . . .

Small Group Leaders, use this time to continue building community and to learn more about your kids and their concerns. Listen closely so you are better equipped to pray for and reach out to each child.

GIVE each child a snack to eat.

GIVE each child a Key Concept sticker to put on their shirt while they are eating their snack.

GIVE each child a coloring sheet to color while they are waiting to be picked up.

QUESTIONS

- What did Moses see before God talked to him?
- Is it hard for you to obey at home? Why or why not?