

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:

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

SO WHAT:

Children will learn it pleases God when we obey.

NOW WHAT:

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



People Needed

Teacher, Helper

Supplies

(Labeled visuals below can be found in the Lesson 5 Visual folder on the Fall Quarter CDs.)

- CD player
- Music for singing
- Sound effects CD #1
- *The Beginner's Bible*
- Backpack
- Small bush or tree
- Red and orange tissue paper to simulate fire
- Stuffed animal
- Elephant (*Lesson 5 LG 9*)
- Zebras (*Lesson 5 LG 10*)
- Giraffe (*Lesson 5 LG 11*)
- Box of crayons
- 9" x 12" envelope
- For each child:
 - 1 Paper steering wheel (*Lesson 5 SG 13*)
 - 1 Obey story sheet (*Lesson 5 SG 14a, Lesson 5 SG 14b*)
 - Key Concept sticker (*Lesson 5 SG 15*)
 - Take-home coloring sheet (*Lesson 5 SG 16, Lesson 5 SG 17*).
 - Snack

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Activity Stations

(20 MINUTES)

Choose which Activity Stations you will use from the list included in the Activity Stations folder.

Creative Bible Teaching



(15 MINUTES)

[Play upbeat music as children transition to the teaching area. Encourage kids to clap their hands along with you. Clap in a variety of styles, like overhead, on your knees, on your belly, etc.]

TEACHER:

Hi, everyone! I'm trying something a little bit different this week. Today, I'm going to be Scott-E [or Suze-E], the Safari Expert. I'm really excited to be here, since we're going on safari! We get to keep reading from the Bible and learning more about God.

First, let's remember two rules so we can have the most fun. Rule number one: be kind. What is it? [Kids respond, "Be kind!"] We can be kind by sitting down so everyone can see and by being very quiet so everyone can hear. Rule number two: be safe. What is it? [Kids respond, "Be safe!"] You can be safe by keeping your hands to yourself. Good job!

Today's Bible story is about going on a journey to a new place to live. And I thought it would be fun if we went on our own trip with a safari. So, prickly porcupines! Let's start our safari. We can take my jeep. Pretend to drive with me!

[Sit in or behind your "jeep."] First, let's turn on the engine like this. [Pretend to turn a key in the ignition.] Everybody do that with me. [Repeat with kids.]

[SFX 27: Engine running—extended.]

[Helper: begin the engine sound effect loud and slowly taper it down so the Teacher can easily speak over it. End it when the Teacher hits the brakes to stop the jeep.]

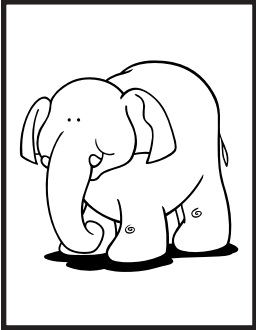
TEACHER:

Next, we should buckle our seat belts. [Demonstrate.] Grab that strap and pull it over to the buckle. Click! Now, put your hands on the steering wheel like this: one [first hand], two [second hand]! Let's put it in gear [pretend to move gear shift with right hand] and get ready for adventure! Drive with me, friends!

[Shade eyes.] It looks like the road curves up ahead. [Dip sharply with each turn.] Everyone, turn right! Whoa! Now turn left! Whoa! Now turn right again! Whoa!



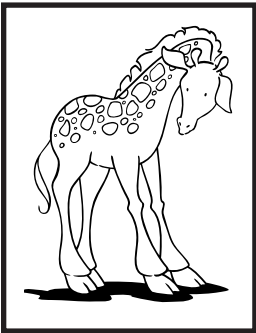
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Lesson 5 LG 9



Lesson 5 LG 10



Lesson 5 LG 11

[*Point to elephant picture.*] What's that big animal over there? It's an elephant! Did you know elephants are the quietest walkers? If you were standing in the jungle and an elephant walked up behind you, you wouldn't hear him.

[*Look ahead.*] Oh, wow. There's a big hill up ahead! All right, everybody. Lean back! [*Lean way back in the seat.*] Whoa! [*Look around.*] We're pretty high up here. But now we're going down. Everybody lean forward. [*Lean forward in the seat.*] Whoa!

[*Point to zebra picture.*] Whew! Friends, I think these are zebras! Did you know no two zebras are the same? Each zebra has a different pattern of stripes!

[*Look ahead.*] It looks like the ground gets a little bumpy up ahead! Hold on, friends! [*Bounce around in the jeep.*] Whoa!

[*Point to giraffe picture.*] Hey! What's that? It's not another zebra. It's a giraffe. Did you know that giraffes have black tongues? And their tongues are a foot-and-a-half long! [*Take hands off wheel to demonstrate the length.*] Whoa. [*Pretend to swerve and grab steering wheel.*]

Fantastic ferns! Here we are. Hit the brakes, everybody. [*Slam forward in jeep.*] Let's get out and take a look around, shall we?

[*End engine sound effect.*]

TEACHER:

Friends, look at all these animals. Did you know I've learned a lot about animals by reading books? I love to read. If you love to read and look at books, flap your wings like a parrot! [*Flap your arms like a bird.*] That is so great!

You can learn a lot from reading. And when we want to learn more about God, we can read the Bible. Terrific tigers! The Bible is a great book. I brought my Bible along today so we can read a story . . . [*take out Bible*] . . . and learn about God!

Today's Bible story is about a man named Moses. I'm going to have my special story-telling friend help. [*Pull stuffed animal out of the backpack.*] This is Sam. He's going to be Moses in the story.

Let's get ready to hear the Bible story by putting on our safari listening ears. We're going to make monkey sounds when we put on our ears. First this one [*point to left ear*]: Ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh! Now this one [*point to right ear*]: Ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh! Now, let's put on our safari glasses to see the Bible story. We're going to roar like a lion. Ready? [*Bring left hand to eye.*] Rrrr! [*Bring right hand to eye.*] Rrrr! Good job. Now, listen to find out if Moses obeyed or disobeyed.

[*Make Sam act out Moses' lines and use a different, deeper voice for the Moses lines.*] One day, Moses was walking out in the wilderness. He was watching his family's sheep.

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MOSES:

Here I am walking out into the wilderness to watch the sheep.

TEACHER:

Moses walked far out into the wilderness to watch his family's sheep. Pat your knees and walk deep into the wilderness with Moses. [*Pat hands on knees to demonstrate. As kids continue to pat their hands, walk Sam around the room.*] We're walking, we're walking, we're walking to the wilderness. We're walking, we're walking, we're walking to the wilderness. And stop.

[*Place crumpled red and orange tissue paper in and around the bush like fire.*]

TEACHER:

As he was walking, Moses saw a bush that was on fire. But it wasn't burning up! As Moses walked closer to the bush, he heard a voice say . . .



[SFX 28: *God voiceover: Moses! Moses!*]

TEACHER:

Moses couldn't see anyone there!



[SFX 29: *God voiceover: Do not come any closer.*]

TEACHER:

Moses asked who was talking.



[SFX 30: *God voiceover: I am God.*]

TEACHER:

Moses heard God's voice. God told Moses He wanted Moses to lead all the people who were called the Israelites to a new home. But Moses was afraid. He didn't think he could do it.



[SFX 31: *God voiceover: I will be with you, Moses.*]

TEACHER:

Even though God promised to be with Moses, Moses still didn't think he could lead the Israelite people to their new home. He didn't think they would believe him.



[SFX 32 *God voiceover: Tell them that God sent you.*]

TEACHER:

[*Remove the "fire" from the bush.*] Friends, what do you think Moses did? Do you think he led the people to a new home? Or do you think he ran away from God? [*Kids respond.*] You're right. Moses said He would do it. He would obey God and lead the Israelites to their new home. Let's pretend to be the Israelites and follow Moses all the way to a new home. Stand up everyone. Now line up behind me.



[SFX 33: *Traveling music.*]

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[Lead the children in a circle around the room during the following lines. Hold Sam up high as you speak the Moses lines.]

TEACHER:

The people followed Moses.

MOSES:

Follow me to our new home!

TEACHER:

And the people followed Moses...

MOSES:

Keep following!

TEACHER:

And followed Moses...

MOSES:

Are you following?

TEACHER:

And followed Moses...

MOSES:

We're almost there!

TEACHER:

And followed Moses for a long, long time. Friends, let's sit down.

[End traveling music if it's still playing. Kids return to their seats.]

TEACHER:

Do you know how long it took them to get to their new home? [Kids respond.] Forty years! Moses obeyed God.

It was hard for Moses to obey God, but he did, and that made God happy. Moses showed love to God by obeying Him, and we can, too. Today we're learning that **we can love [hug yourself] God by obeying [thumbs up] Him.**

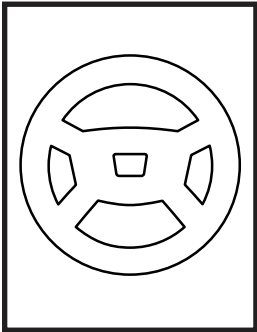
Say that with me. **We can love [hug yourself] God by obeying [thumbs up] Him.** Say that in your low voices. **We can love [hug yourself] God by obeying [thumbs up] Him.** Say that in your quiet voices. **We can love [hug yourself] God by obeying [thumbs up] Him.** I'm so happy we can love God by obeying Him.

[Hold up Sam again and have him wave.]

SAM:

'Bye, friends! See you soon.

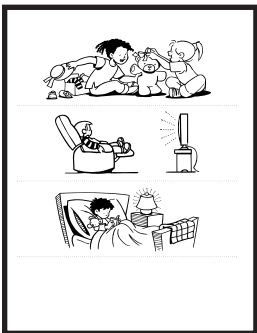
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Lesson 5 SG 13



Lesson 5 SG 14a



Lesson 5 SG 14b

TEACHER:

[Put Sam back in backpack.] Let's stand up and sing, everyone.



MUSIC

Song suggestion: "I Can Obey"

TEACHER:

You sound fantastic, friends. Let's sing another song.



MUSIC

Song suggestion: "Dance, Shout & Sing"

[Invite kids to sit down in a circle.]

Life Application Activity

(10 MINUTES)

TEACHER:

Today we learned a Bible story about Moses. Did Moses obey God? [*Kids Respond, "Yes."*] How did Moses obey God? [*Call on a few kids and allow them to answer.*] What did we learn today? **We can love [hug yourself] God by obeying [thumbs up] Him.**

Now we're going to pretend to drive our safari jeeps, and remember ways we can obey God. We are going to take a trip. [*Place envelope with Obey pages in the middle of the circle, but don't open it. Teacher and Helper give each child a pretend steering wheel.*]

TEACHER:

Let's drive our jeeps.

[*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.*]

TEACHER:

We made it! [*Show the envelope.*] Let's put our steering wheels away and see what we've found.

[*Teacher and Helper collect the steering wheels and pass out an Obey story sheet and a crayon to each child.*]

TEACHER:

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.

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[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 **we can love [hug yourself] God by obeying [thumbs up] Him.**

[When the activity is finished, review the Bible story by reading the story of Moses and the burning bush from The Beginner's Bible.]

TEACHER:

[After reading the story.] Did Moses obey God right away? [Kids respond, "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.** 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.]

Dear God,
Thank You for the Bible Story
about Moses.
Please help us to obey.
Thank You for our snack.
In Jesus' Name,
Amen.

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Lesson 5 SG 15



Lesson 5 SG 16

Snack and Coloring Activity

(15 MINUTES)

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.

ASK each child a question or two about themselves:

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