

Vol. 4 No. 1

Primary Bible Teacher⁺

WINTER QUARTER

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Dear Primary Teacher,

Welcome to *Primary Bible Teacher**! As witnesses for Christ in a changing world, we have to think creatively about how we minister, while still holding firmly to the Word of Truth.

Our Plus Series contains robust Bible lessons and background information that have been clearly crafted to help you excite your students to learn God's Word.

Primary Bible Teacher⁺ features:

- **Introductory pages** for each unit will connect the units to one another and point toward the quarter's major themes.
- The **Big Idea** is the main point of the lesson. This helps you focus your lesson on the one thing you want your students to take away about God and His Word.
- **Prepare Your Mind** and **Prepare Your Heart** will ready you to teach with background information and a short devotional.
- Supplies, Suggested Song, and Prepare the Room give you all the practical information you need to prepare for class time.
- A **glossary** section keys you in to words in the lesson that may be difficult to understand for young students.
- The **Conversation Starter** is an interesting question or object lesson that helps you kick off your class and get your students invested in the lesson. It will always tie in with the first part of the Bible Lesson.
- **Teacher Tips** in the lesson will give you quick tips to involve your students or deal with difficult subject matter.
- **Just Curious** prepares you to respond to questions students might ask about the lesson.
- **Prop Prompt** symbols notify you when to use a prop listed in the supply list at the beginning of the lesson. All props and supplies are in **bold** the first time they appear.
- **Action** symbols help you see opportunities to invite your class to take part in the lesson.
- **Truths to Stress** are underlined in the Bible Lesson so that you can see the main points at a glance.
- **Activities** get your students' wiggles out while thinking about the lesson.
- **Next Steps** help your students apply the lesson to their lives.
- **Prayer Points** give teachers some prompts for ways to pray for the students.
- The **Christ Focus** encourages thought about how the Scripture passage and lesson point to our loving Savior.
- **Bonus pages** for you and your students will be included each quarter as supplements in the back of this book.

KEY:

Teacher Tips



Just Curious

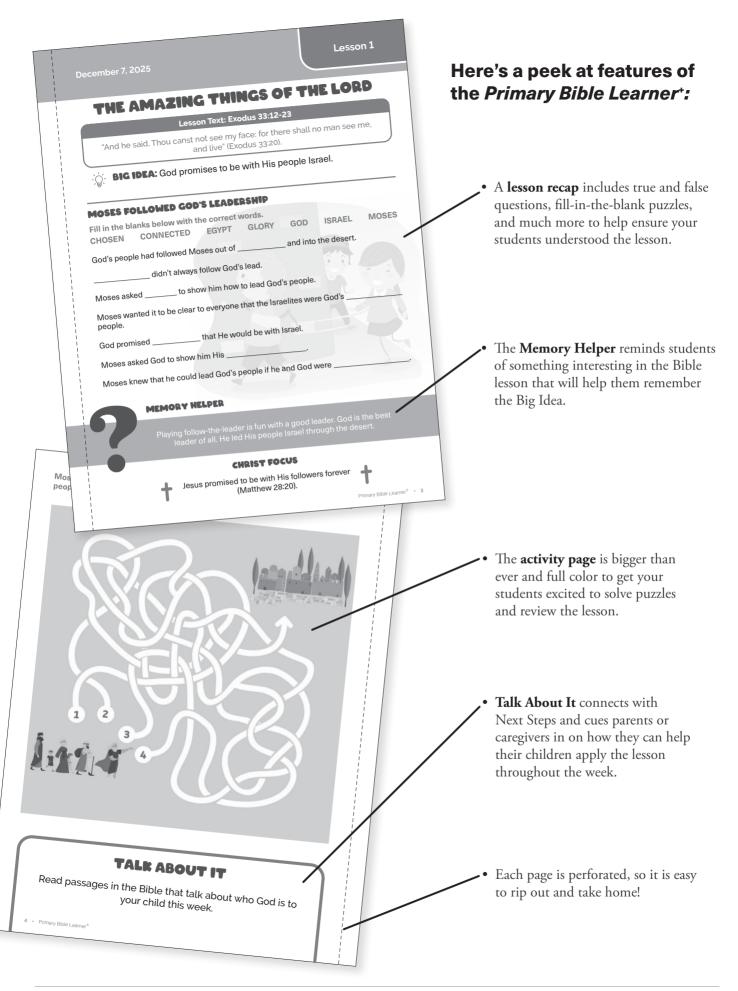


Prop Prompts



Actions





UNIT 1:

His Holy Presence

Lesson 1: Exodus 33:12-23

The Amazing Things of the Lord

Lesson 2: Exodus 40:1-11, 34-38

God Fills the Tabernacle

Lesson 3: Isaiah 9:1-7

God's Glory in the Coming Savior (Christmas)

Lesson 4: Isaiah 40:21-31

No One Is like God

This unit emphasizes the holy presence of God, but children need to simply realize that God is present all the time. Encourage them to invite Him into their day by praying and spending time with Him. Moses spent time in God's presence, even though he was not permitted to look at His face. The Jews worshipped in God's presence when they met in the tabernacle, and God wanted them to obey specific instructions. Jesus, the ultimate sign of God's presence with us, was foretold by Isaiah several years before He came to bring salvation to all. Be sure to help children ask Jesus for salvation if they want to do so.







The Amazing Things of the Lord

Lesson Text: Exodus 33:12-23



And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live (Exodus 33:20).





Big Idea: God promises to be with His people Israel.

EXODUS 33:12 And Moses said unto the LORD, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight.

- 13 Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.
- 14 And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.
- 15 And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.
- **16** For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in that thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that *are* upon the face of the earth.
 - 17 And the LORD said unto Moses, I will do this thing also

that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name.

- 18 And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.
- 19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.
- 20 And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.
- 21 And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock:
- 22 And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by:
- 23 And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.

Prepare Your Mind

This week's lesson text finds Moses feeling despondent and confused. He wanted to do what God had asked him to do, which is to lead the Israelites to the Promised Land of Canaan, but trouble abounded. The Israelites had just rebelled against God by creating and worshipping a golden calf. Worse yet, Moses' brother and right-hand man, Aaron, had taken part in it! Moses did the right thing, though, by turning to God and conferring with Him. He told God what he needed. He sought God's assurance, and God did not let him down.



Supplies

- · historical map showing Canaan
- · masking tape
- whistle
- crayons
- · construction paper
- scissors

Prepare Your Heart

It is easy to sympathize with the position that Moses found himself in. He wasn't sure whether he was capable of accomplishing the task God set before him, and he was responsible for the people God asked him to lead. So much hung in the balance. We also may feel that way as we live our lives trying to carry out the Great Commission. We may feel unsuited to spread the gospel, yet this work is of the greatest importance, and people's souls are at stake. Feeling overwhelmed would be a natural response to this, but we need not despair. In Exodus 33:14, God gave Moses assurance and comfort just as Jesus does for us in Matthew 11:28.



"There Are Promises" (Wideman Richmond)



mercy: not getting the punishment that one deserves, compassion

Conversation Starter

Have you ever played follow-the-leader? Have you had a leader do some things that were hard to follow?

Bible Lesson 5 15-20 min

Not everyone makes a good leader in the game. It is more fun to play when your leader does things that you can do too, right? God is the best leader of all. Sometimes He asks His followers to do hard things, but He's always there to help them along the way.

God's people had followed Moses out of Egypt and were in the desert. They were not sure when they would reach the new home God had promised to them. God had told Moses that He'd go before them and lead them. But the Israelites didn't always follow God's lead. They often went their own way. That led to trouble.

Moses asked God whether God would send him help to lead the people of Israel. (Aaron had shown that he could not be counted on.) ① Moses asked God to show him how to lead God's people. God quickly answered that He would be with Moses. Moses would not need any other helper. God would give Moses rest.

But Moses wanted more. He wanted to be sure that God would go with him and the people of Israel as they traveled to the land in Canaan that God promised to give them. (Show students Canaan on map.) ① Otherwise, if God wasn't with them, Moses worried no one would understand that the people of Israel (also called the Israelites) had found favor in God's sight. Moses wanted it to be clear to everyone that the Israelites were special to God and that they were God's chosen people.

God quickly answered Moses. God promised to do all that Moses asked for because Moses had found favor in God's sight. God knew Moses by name. How wonderful!

But Moses wanted to know everything there was to know about God. He asked God to show him His greatness. God told Moses that He, the Lord, would lead the Israelites in His goodness. God told Moses that He alone decided who would receive His mercy and forgiveness. God also said that no one can see His face and live. Instead, God would protect Moses as He passed by and would show him only His back. Then Moses would live.

Having a close relationship with God was important to Moses. The Israelites showed that they would be difficult to lead. They had not obeyed God. Moses was a good leader, though.

(Have students cheer for Moses.) Moses knew that the only way he could lead God's people was if he were connected to Him. He asked God to not only be with him but also with the Israelites. Even though the Israelites gave Moses so much trouble, Moses continued to be a good leader. He was faithful in doing what God gave him to do.

When playing follow-the-leader, you need to stay close to the leader to see what he or she is doing. Being as close as possible to God makes it easier for us to do what He does. The closer you are, the more you know and trust Him. That will allow us to keep following Him when He has given us a hard thing to do. We can always follow God because He is the best leader.



Remind students of Aaron's failure in the incident of the golden



Explain that Canaan is also called the Promised Land because God promised Canaan to Abraham and his descendants to be theirs forever.

Review Questions

- 1. What did Moses want known about the Israelites? (They were God's chosen people.)
- 2. Who decides who will receive God's mercy? (only God)
- 3. What did Moses need to lead Israel? (to be connected to God)

Explaining the Memory Verse

God had a special friendship with Moses. Because God loved Moses, God told him that if he looked directly at His face, he would die, for nobody can see God's face and



Activity: Follow-the-Leader 🕹 5-10 min

Tell students this activity will teach them about what it was like for Moses to lead the Israelites. Split the class into groups and assign a student from each group to be the group leader (Moses). Have the groups line up. When you blow the **whistle**, have each leader lead their group around the classroom. The leader can be creative. For example, they can have followers skip, hop, crawl, walk like a duck, or jump. When you blow the whistle again, have the leader lead the group back to the starting point and pick a new leader. Repeat until all students have been leader.

SUPPLIES:

- · masking tape
- whistle

PREP: Use masking tape on the floor to mark an area of the classroom as "Egypt" and another area as "Canaan."

Next Steps

Spend time with a grown-up, reading the Bible to begin to know God better. Then spend some quiet time with God, asking Him to help you understand more about what it means to be His friend. This will help you have a closer relationship with God.

Christ Focus

Jesus promised to be with His followers forever (Matt. 28:20).

Prayer Points

- Thank God for leading you. •
- Ask God to help you always follow His lead.



Handcraft: God's Hands 👲 10 min

Help children as needed.

Instructions:

- 1. **Trace** your hand with your fifth finger on the fold.
- 2. **Cut** on the traced line, leaving the fold intact.
- 3. Open the folded paper, and draw a group of people in the center of the unfolded hands.
- 4. Print "Israelites" beneath the people and "God's Hands" at the top of the hands.

SUPPLIES:

- construction paper
- crayons
- scissors

PREP: Fold construction paper in half like a card.