

LETTERS & DEVOTION

Bible: Out of Egypt, a First Grade Year in Exodus and Joshua

Free sample: Unit 1, Lessons 1 to 8

These are 8 lessons from *Bible: Out of Egypt, a First Grade Year in Exodus and Joshua: Grade 1*, a Grade 1 year a parent runs at the kitchen table. Each lesson is a short script for you, a page to read together, and a practice sheet you may copy for your household. Answers are at the back.

Bible: Out of Egypt, a First Grade Year in Exodus and Joshua: Grade 1. Sample edition.

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Letters & Devotion is a Christian curriculum: a Bible course in every grade from the King James text, and science taught as scientists teach it, including an old earth. Standards references: Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards.



BIBLE · UNIT 1

Moses

Nine weeks in Exodus 1 to 10: a family that became a nation, a king who was frightened of them, a baby in a basket, a shepherd at a burning bush, and the ten warnings that Pharaoh refused.

In this unit

1. God's people in Egypt
2. The baby in the basket
3. Moses runs away
4. The bush on fire
5. The God who is
6. Moses makes excuses
7. Let my people go
8. It got harder first

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 1

God's people in Egypt

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “God's people in Egypt” (Exodus 1:1-14), and say Psalm 121:2 by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: God's people in Egypt

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Exodus 1:1-14, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Joseph's family came to Egypt when they were hungry, and they stayed. Over many years they grew into an enormous family.

Then a new king came who did not know anything about Joseph. He looked at all those people and got frightened of them.

So he made them slaves. They made bricks in the hot sun, and they were not allowed to stop and they were not allowed to leave.

They cried out for help. God heard them, and he had not forgotten one word of what he promised their grandfathers.

LEARN BY HEART (Psalm 121:2):

My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

ASK:

1. What is the hardest work you have ever done?
2. The king was scared of people who had not done anything to him. Why do people do that?

3. Who do you call when something is too hard for you?

DO: Make bricks. Mix mud or play dough with cut grass or straw, press it into an ice cube tray, and dry it in the sun. Count how many one person could make in a day, then imagine being told to make more.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: God's people in Egypt

1. Why did Joseph's family come to Egypt in the first place?
 - ☐ A They were hungry.
 - ☐ B The king of Egypt sent for them to build him a city.
 - ☐ C An army chased them out of their own country.
2. What work did the new king make God's people do?
 - ☐ A Sail the king's boats on the river.
 - ☐ B Look after the king's sheep.
 - ☐ C Make bricks in the hot sun.
3. The week says God's people were slaves. What does that mean here?
 - ☐ A They worked for one week and then went home again.
 - ☐ B They worked very hard every day and were still paid a fair wage for it, same as anyone else.
 - ☐ C They had to work, and they were not allowed to stop or to leave.
4. Finish this week's verse. My help cometh from the ...
 - ☐ A king, who made Egypt great.
 - ☐ B LORD, which made heaven and earth.
 - ☐ C river, which waters the land and grows the crops every year.

The baby in the basket

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “The baby in the basket” (Exodus 1:22-2:10), and say Exodus 2:10 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The baby in the basket

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Exodus 1:22-2:10, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Pharaoh gave a terrible order: throw the Hebrew baby boys into the river.

One mother hid her baby for three months. Then she made a basket, painted it so the water could not get in, and set it in the river among the tall reeds.

His big sister Miriam stood a little way off and watched to see what would happen.

Pharaoh's own daughter came to the river, found him and felt sorry for him. Miriam ran over and offered to fetch a woman to feed him, and the woman she fetched was his own mother.

LEARN BY HEART (Exodus 2:10 (part)):

And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

ASK:

1. Why do you think Miriam stayed and watched?
2. The baby's own mother got to look after him and get paid for it. Do you think that was an accident?

DO: Float a basket. Make a small boat from foil, a tub or woven grass, seal the seams with petroleum jelly or tape, and see if it holds a doll without sinking. Try it once unsealed first.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The baby in the basket

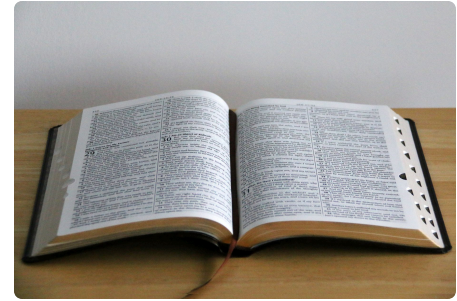
1. Where did the mother put the basket with her baby in it?
 - ☐ A In the river, among the tall reeds.
 - ☐ B On the roof of her house, where it would be safe and dry.
 - ☐ C In a cave out in the desert.
2. Who stood a little way off and watched to see what would happen?
 - ☐ A One of Pharaoh's soldiers.
 - ☐ B His big sister Miriam.
 - ☐ C His mother.
3. Why did the mother paint the basket?
 - ☐ A So the water could not get in.
 - ☐ B To make it a pretty color so somebody would notice it.
 - ☐ C So the birds would stay away from it.
4. This week's verse tells why the baby was called Moses. What reason does it give?
 - ☐ A Because she drew him out of the water.
 - ☐ B Because he cried louder than the other babies.
 - ☐ C Because he was the smallest baby in Egypt.

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 3

Moses runs away

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “Moses runs away” (Exodus 2:11-25), and say Exodus 2:24 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Moses runs away

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Exodus 2:11-25, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Moses grew up in the palace, but he always knew who his people were.

One day he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew slave. He looked around, lost his temper, killed the man and hid him in the sand.

When people found out, he ran. He went to a country called Midian, married, and looked after sheep for forty years.

All that time the people in Egypt kept crying out. God heard them, and God remembered his promise.

LEARN BY HEART (Exodus 2:24 (part)):

And God heard their groaning.

ASK:

1. Moses did something very wrong when he was angry. What should he have done instead?
2. Forty years is a long time to wait. What is the longest you have ever waited for something?

3. When you are sad and nobody sees, who hears you?

DO: Take care of one living thing every single day this week without being reminded: a plant, a pet, a jar of seeds. On the last day, say out loud that Moses did that job for forty years.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Moses runs away

1. Moses saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew slave. What did Moses do?
 - ☐ A He lost his temper, killed the man, and hid him in the sand.
 - ☐ B He asked the Egyptian to stop and then walked away.
 - ☐ C He ran all the way back to tell Pharaoh exactly what he had seen happen.
2. Where did Moses go when he ran away?
 - ☐ A To a country called Midian.
 - ☐ B Back to the palace in Egypt.
 - ☐ C Into the desert to live all on his own.
3. What job did Moses do for forty years?
 - ☐ A He made bricks.
 - ☐ B He looked after sheep.
 - ☐ C He built houses for the king of Midian.
4. This week's verse says God heard their groaning. What is groaning?
 - ☐ A The sound people make when they are hurting.
 - ☐ B A secret whispered quietly so that nobody else could ever hear it.
 - ☐ C A happy song people sing together.

The bush on fire

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “The bush on fire” (Exodus 3:1-6), and say Exodus 3:5 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The bush on fire

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Exodus 3:1-6, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Moses was out with the sheep near a mountain when he saw a bush that was burning and burning and not burning up.

He said: I will turn aside and see this great sight. He stopped and went to look.

God called his name out of the bush. Moses, Moses.

Take off your shoes, God said. This ground is holy. And Moses covered his face, because he was afraid to look.

LEARN BY HEART (Exodus 3:5 (part)):

the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

ASK:

1. What would you have done if you saw a bush like that?
2. God said the ground was holy. Holy means it belongs to God and is not ordinary. What could make a place holy?
3. Is there anywhere you go that feels quiet inside?

DO: Take your shoes off and sit outside somewhere quiet for two full minutes without talking. Then each say one sentence to God out loud. Two minutes is longer than it sounds.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The bush on fire

1. What was strange about the bush Moses saw?
 - ☐ A It was made of gold, shining so brightly that it was hard to look at.
 - ☐ B It was burning and burning and not burning up.
 - ☐ C It walked across the desert in front of him.
2. What did Moses do when he saw it?
 - ☐ A He ran home to fetch somebody else.
 - ☐ B He kept walking with the sheep and did not stop.
 - ☐ C He turned aside to go and look.
3. What did God tell Moses to take off?
 - ☐ A His coat, because it was cold out in the desert that morning.
 - ☐ B His shoes.
 - ☐ C His hat.
4. The verse says the ground was holy. What does holy mean here?
 - ☐ A It belongs to God, and it is not ordinary.
 - ☐ B It is very old, older than anything else Moses had ever seen.
 - ☐ C It is far away and hard to reach.

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 5

The God who is

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “The God who is” (Exodus 3:7-15), and say Exodus 3:14 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The God who is

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Exodus 3:7-15, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

God said three things in a row: I have seen how my people are hurting, I have heard them, and I know.

Then he said: I am coming down to bring them out. And I am sending you.

Moses said: who am I, that I should go? God did not tell him he was great. He said, I will be with thee. That was the whole answer.

Moses asked what God's name was. God said: I AM THAT I AM. Nobody gave God that name. It means he simply is, always, right now.

LEARN BY HEART (Exodus 3:14 (part)):

I AM THAT I AM.

ASK:

1. Which did God say first: seen, heard, or known?
2. Moses asked 'who am I?' and God answered 'I will be with you'. Did that answer the question?

DO: Play a name game. Say every name in your family and who chose it. Then write I AM THAT I AM on a card and talk about a name that nobody had to give.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The God who is

1. God said three things in a row about his people. Which one did he say first?
☐ A I know. ☐ B I have seen how my people are hurting.
☐ C I have heard them crying out for a very long time now.
2. Who did God say he was sending to Egypt?
☐ A An army of angels. ☐ B Aaron. ☐ C Moses.
3. Moses asked, who am I, that I should go? What did God answer?
☐ A You are the strongest man in Egypt. ☐ B I will be with thee.
☐ C You grew up in the palace, so you will know what to say.
4. God's name is I AM THAT I AM. What does the week say it means?
☐ A God simply is, always, and right now. ☐ B God was here a very long time ago.
☐ C God is still deciding what to call himself.

Moses makes excuses

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “Moses makes excuses” (Exodus 4:1-17), and say Exodus 4:12 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Moses makes excuses

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Exodus 4:1-17, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Moses had a reason ready for why he could not go, and then another, and then another.

What if nobody believes me? So God gave him signs: a stick that turned into a snake and back, a hand that went white with disease and then well again.

I am not a good speaker, said Moses. God said: who made your mouth? I will be with your mouth and teach you what to say.

Send somebody else, said Moses. God was angry with him, and still sent his brother Aaron along to help. And Moses went.

LEARN BY HEART (Exodus 4:12 (part)):

and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

ASK:

1. How many excuses did Moses make before he went?
2. God got cross with him and helped him anyway. What does that tell you about God?

DO: Make an 'I can't yet' list of three things. Pick one and practice it four times this week, badly, on purpose. Add the word 'yet' out loud each time.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Moses makes excuses

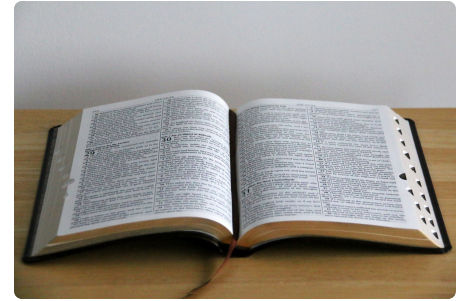
1. God gave Moses a sign with his stick. What did the stick turn into?
☐ A A tree. ☐ B A snake. ☐ C A river, flowing right there in front of him.
2. Who did God send along to help Moses?
☐ A His brother Aaron. ☐ B His sister Miriam. ☐ C Nobody. Moses had to go alone.
3. Moses said he was not a good speaker. What did God say back?
☐ A Practice for forty days and then come back.
☐ B Then stay at home and I will find somebody better.
☐ C Who made your mouth? I will be with your mouth.
4. Finish this week's verse. And I will be with thy mouth, and ... thee what thou shalt say.
☐ A carry ☐ B teach ☐ C send

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 7

Let my people go

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “Let my people go” (Exodus 5:1-9), and say Exodus 5:1 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Let my people go

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Exodus 5:1-9, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Moses and Aaron walked into the palace of the most powerful man in the world and said exactly what God told them to say.

Pharaoh said: who is the LORD, that I should obey him? I do not know him, and I will not let them go.

Then he made the work worse. Go and find your own straw, he said, and still make the same number of bricks.

The people who had been so glad about Moses the week before were now furious with him.

LEARN BY HEART (Exodus 5:1 (part)):

Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.

ASK:

1. What did Pharaoh say about God?
2. Have you ever done the right thing and had it turn out badly?

DO: Practice saying one true thing out loud, standing tall, in a big voice. Pick a real sentence your child needs this week: please stop, I am sorry, may I have a turn.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Let my people go

1. What did Moses and Aaron say to Pharaoh in the palace?
☐ A Let my people go. ☐ B Make us soldiers in your army. ☐ C Please give us more food.
2. What did Pharaoh say about the LORD?
☐ A I have always obeyed him.
☐ B I will obey him starting today, and I will let all of them go free.
☐ C I do not know him, and I will not let them go.
3. How did Pharaoh make the work worse?
☐ A He told them to build a whole new palace from nothing in a single day, with no help at all.
☐ B They had to find their own straw and still make the same number of bricks.
☐ C He made them work in the river all day.
4. Finish this week's verse. Let my people go, that they may hold a ... unto me in the wilderness.
☐ A house ☐ B fight ☐ C feast

It got harder first

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “It got harder first” (Exodus 5:19-23 and Exodus 6:1-9), and say Psalm 118:6 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: It got harder first

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Exodus 5:19-23 and Exodus 6:1-9, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

The Israelite foremen were beaten because the bricks were short, and they went straight to Moses and blamed him.

So Moses went straight to God and complained: why have you treated these people badly? You have not rescued anybody.

God did not tell him off for saying it. He answered with promises: I will bring you out, I will rescue you, I will take you to be my people.

Moses went and told them, and they were too tired and too sad to listen to a word of it.

LEARN BY HEART (Psalm 118:6 (part)):

The LORD is on my side; I will not fear.

ASK:

1. What did Moses do first when everything went wrong?
2. God did not tell Moses off for complaining. Why is that good to know?
3. What do you want to tell God about right now, exactly as it is?

DO: Pray a complaint. Draw or write the hardest thing about this week and say it out loud to God without making it sound nicer than it is. Then leave it on the table until Sunday.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: It got harder first

1. Why were the Israelite foremen beaten?
☐ A They had tried to run away. ☐ B They had asked Pharaoh for food.
☐ C The bricks were short.
2. When the foremen blamed Moses, who did Moses go to?
☐ A Straight to God. ☐ B To his brother Aaron for advice. ☐ C Straight back to Pharaoh.
3. How did God answer when Moses complained?
☐ A By saying nothing at all, and leaving Moses standing there without any answer for a long while.
☐ B By telling Moses off for being rude.
☐ C With promises: I will bring you out, I will rescue you, I will take you to be my people.
4. Finish this week's verse. The LORD is on my side; I will not ...
☐ A sleep ☐ B fear ☐ C run

Answer key

Bible

Lesson 1 1. A 2. C 3. C 4. B

Lesson 2 1. A 2. B 3. A 4. A

Lesson 3 1. A 2. A 3. B 4. A

Lesson 4 1. B 2. C 3. B 4. A

Lesson 5 1. B 2. C 3. B 4. A

Lesson 6 1. B 2. A 3. C 4. B

Lesson 7 1. A 2. C 3. B 4. C

Lesson 8 1. C 2. A 3. C 4. B

Unit 1 check-up 1. C 2. A 3. C 4. A 5. B 6. B 7. A 8. A 9. B 10. C 11. B 12. C 13. C 14. A 15. A 16. C

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The same lessons, with a teacher who talks back

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