

MY CHASE ADVENTURE MOSES

GRADES 6-8

Recommended Schedule

Introductions 10 min
Snack 5 min
Lesson / Story 10 min
Activity 1 OR 2 20 min

Materials

See Water Filter Experiment
and/or
Copies of worksheets below

This lesson is to be used in conjunction with the book, Wild Goose Chase by Mark Batterson.

Introductions

Have you ever been afraid to do something? Or were you ever afraid that someone would laugh at you or make fun of you?

In today's lesson we will learn about a leader who was afraid—but we'll see how God helped him go on a mission for God.

Introduce yourself and name a time when you were a bit afraid.

Story

Use God's Story Moses (video from Crossroads). Download from vimeo link or alternatively access with KIDS materials provided as part of the series

<http://vimeo.com/49018352>

OR

Lesson

Moses and the Burning Bush

(http://www.sermons4kids.com/moses_and_the_burning_bush.htm)

Theme: God speaks to Moses and he speaks to us. Proper 17 (22) Yr. A
Object: Several different types of shoes (dress, sports, sandals, etc.)
Scripture: "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Exodus 3:5 (NIV)

Shoes...they come in all types and sizes. There are dress shoes like the ones we wear to church, there are sports shoes like the ones we wear when we are playing, and there are sandals or flip-flops that we wear in the summer. Do you wear your shoes in your house? Did you know that there are some cultures where people take off their shoes and leave them at the door when they enter a house? We didn't have a rule that we take our shoes off when we came in the house, but it might have been a good idea if we had. I remember times when my mother got very upset when I left muddy footprints on the carpet or tracked dirt in where she had just mopped the floor.

In our Bible lesson today, God told Moses to take off his shoes! You may already know why God said that, but I think it might be good for us to take off our shoes during the lesson today to help us to think about why God told Moses to take off his shoes. I'm going to do that. If you wish, you may join me. (Take off your shoes.)

As our story begins, Moses is out in the field taking care of the sheep and goats of his father-in-law, Jethro. He led the sheep out into the wilderness near the mountain called Sinai. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to him as a flame from the middle of a bush. The most amazing thing was that the bush was on fire, but it wasn't burned up! "That's strange," Moses thought. "Why isn't the bush burning up? I'll go closer and see." As he came closer, God called out to him, "Moses! Moses!"

"Here I am," Moses answered.

"Don't come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your father -- the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

When Moses heard those words, he hid his face because he was afraid to look at God. God continued speaking to Moses. "I have heard the cries of my people in Egypt. I know all about their pain and suffering at the hands of the Egyptians. I have come to help them to be freed from Egypt and enter into a good land that flows with milk and honey. It's time for you to go back: I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the People of Israel, out of Egypt."

"Why me? What makes you think I could go to Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?" asked Moses.

"I will be with you," God said. "And this will be the proof that I am the one who sent you: When you have brought my people out of Egypt, you will worship God right here at this very mountain."

But Moses continued to offer excuses. "But, suppose I go to the People of Israel and I tell them, 'The God of your fathers sent me to you'; and they ask me, 'What is his name?' What do I tell them?"

God answered, "I-AM-WHO-I-AM. Tell the People of Israel, 'I-AM sent me to you.'"

What a story! Now, do you remember why God told Moses to take off his sandals?

Because, God said, "You are standing on holy ground." It was holy ground because God was there and wherever God is is surely "holy ground."

Is God here today? Jesus said, "Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." We are gathered here today in his name, so he is here with us. Surely we are standing on holy ground.

Father, we are gathered in your name. Just as you spoke to Moses long ago, speak to our hearts today. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to be holy (to be separate or apart from)?
2. Why is it important to understand holiness in our relationship with God?
2. How would you feel if God spoke to you from a burning bush? Would you be afraid?
3. Are there times in our lives when we are afraid to do what we think God is calling us to do? or afraid to live our lives according to God's commandments
4. How does peer pressure relate to being afraid to do the right thing?

PRAYER

Is God here today?

Jesus said, "Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." We are gathered here today in his name, so he is here with us. Surely we are standing on holy ground. Have a child volunteer to lead the group in prayer before beginning the science experiment.

ACTIVITY - Science Experiment OR Academic Pages Water Filter Experiment (NEXT PAGE)

Often in life we have to filter out much of the noise and activity in our life to see and hear God. Use this water filter experiment to filter out the dirt and talk about what this looks like in their everyday lives.

OR

Academic Pages are at the end of this document

ACTIVITY 1

Water Filter Experiment (<http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/sci/waterfilter.html>)

Often in life we have to filter out much of the noise and activity in our life to see and hear God. Use this water filter experiment to filter out the dirt and talk about what this looks like in their every day lives.



your results

Sent in by:

Jaban of Greene, ME and Cara of Maple Plain, MN

Hydro-neers wanted. Invent a filter to clean dirty water.

Materials ↓ needed:

- 2-liter soda bottle cut in half (by an adult)
- napkins or paper towels
- gravel, sand and cotton balls for your filter
- dirty water, you can make it by adding cooking oil, food coloring, pieces of paper, and tiny pieces of Styrofoam to water

Instructions: ↓

1. Put the top half of the soda bottle upside-down (like a funnel) inside the bottom half. The top half will be where you build your filter; the bottom half will hold the filtered water.
2. Layer the filter materials inside the top half of the bottle. Think about what each material might remove from the dirty water and in what order you should layer the materials. For an added challenge, use only two of materials to build your filter.
3. Pour the dirty water through the filter. What does the filtered water look like?
4. Take the filter apart and look at the different layers. Can you tell what each material removed from the water?
5. Wipe the bottle clean and try again. Try putting materials in different layers or using different amounts of materials.

OR ACTIVITY 2 (Academic activity)

A. THE BURNING BUSH - Fill in the blank

1. _____ Moses kept the flock of his father-in-law Jethro who was the priest of (3:1)
2. _____ He led the flock to the mountain of God called (3:1)
3. _____ The angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in a flame of fire out of a (3:2)
4. _____ The bush burned but was not (3:2)
5. _____ God called to Moses from the bush and told him to remove his shoes, for the ground was (3:4-5)
6. _____ The Lord had seen the affliction of his people in (3:7)
7. _____ He said that He would deliver them from the Egyptians and bring them to a land flowing with (3:8)
8. _____ He said that He would send Moses to Egypt to (3:10)

- a. milk and honey
- b. holy
- c. Midian
- d. Horeb
- e. Egypt
- f. Pharaoh
- g. bush
- h. consumed

3-1B. MOSES MAKES EXCUSES TO GOD

1. **Moses' first plea:** Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt? (Ex. 3:11)

God's answer: I will be with you, and when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God upon this _____ . (Ex. 3:12)

2. **Moses' second plea:** When I come to the children of Israel and tell them God has sent me, and they say, What is his name? what shall I tell them? (Ex. 3:13)

God's answer: _____ ...I AM has sent me to you...the Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. (Ex. 3:14-15)

a. Moses and the elders of Israel shall go to the king of Egypt and tell him that the God of the Hebrews met with them, now let the people go three days journey into the wilderness to _____ to their God. (Ex. 3:18) b. The king of Egypt will not let the people go until God strikes Egypt with all his _____ . (Ex. 3:19-20) c. When the children of Israel finally leave Egypt, the Egyptians will give them _____ . (Ex. 3:21-22)

3. **Moses' third plea:** They will not believe me or listen to me, for they will say the Lord has not appeared to me. (Ex. 4:1)

God's answer: God gave Moses the power to perform three signs to convince the Israelites he had been sent by God.

a. *The 1st sign:* Moses cast his rod on the ground and it became a _____; when he took it by the tail, it became his _____ again. (Ex. 4:2-4) b. *The 2nd sign:* Moses put his hand into his bosom, and when he took it out, it was _____; when he put his hand into his bosom again and took it out, it was _____. (Ex. 4:6-7)

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c. *The 3rd sign:* If the people do not believe these two signs, then Moses shall pour water from the river upon dry land, and it will become _____.

(Ex. 4:9) 4. **Moses' fourth plea:** I am not eloquent, I am slow of speech. (Ex. 4:10)

God's answer: Who made man's mouth? Now go and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall _____. (Ex. 4:11-12)

5. **Moses' fifth plea:** Oh, Lord, send someone else. (Ex. 4:13)

God's answer: The Lord was angry with Moses and told him his brother Aaron was coming to meet him, and he can speak well. Moses shall speak to Aaron and put the words in his mouth. God will be with Moses' mouth and with Aaron's mouth and teach them what to do. So Aaron shall be Moses' spokesman to the people. Aaron shall be as a _____ for Moses, and Moses shall be to Aaron as _____. (Ex. 4:14-16)

6. The Lord told Moses to return to Egypt, for the men who sought his life were dead. Moses and Aaron went to Egypt, told the people all the words of the Lord, and did the signs in the sight of the people. So the people believed and bowed their heads and _____. (Ex. 4:31)

<http://www.padfield.com/acrobat/booth/OT-Y1-Q3.pdf>