

God's care and protection

**Object:** Several baby items (bottle, blanket, sleeper, pacifier, etc)

Good parents will do everything they can to keep their baby (**Pause.**) safe. Our Bible lesson today is about a little boy baby (**Pause.**) who was born in a very dangerous time.

Let's review the story up to now.... Jacob, whose name God changed to Israel, had 12 sons. 11 of these sons sold their brother, Joseph, into slavery in Egypt. Joseph, with God's help, saved the lives of all the Egyptian people through 7 years of famine. (no food). Hooray for Joseph!! Now 400 years later, all of Israel's descendants were made slaves in Egypt. Sooo sad! But now, in this story, God chooses a **baby** to save His people and take them to a new land of their own. Hooray!

*Before you begin, explain that you will be talking about a baby in your lesson. Instruct kids that when they hear the word "baby" say "Ahhhh soooo cute"*

*Show and explain the different baby items to care for a baby. When we begin this part of the story the Israelites are now called Hebrews.*

There was a new King in Egypt who saw that the Hebrew slaves were very strong, and they were **growing in number**. The King in Egypt was afraid that the Hebrew slaves were going to take over his country. So he issued a command to all of his people: "Take every newborn Hebrew boy and throw him into the Nile River, but let the girls live."

During this time, a woman had a boy baby (**Pause.**). When she saw what a fine, handsome baby (**Pause.**) he was, she hid him for three months.

As the baby (**Pause.**) got older, she couldn't hide him any longer, so she made a basket of tall grass and covered it all over with tar to make it watertight. Then she put the baby (**Pause.**) in the basket and hid it in the tall grass at the edge of the river. The baby's (**Pause.**) sister stood some distance away to watch and see what would happen to him.

A little later, the king's daughter came down to the river to bathe. Suddenly she noticed the basket in the tall grass. The princess looked in the basket and saw a baby (**Pause.**). He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," (**Pause.**) she said.

The baby's (**Pause.**) sister asked her, "Shall I go and call a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby (**Pause.**) for you?"

"Please do," she answered. So the girl went and brought the baby's (*Pause.*) own mother. The princess told the woman, "Take this baby (*Pause.*) and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the mother took him home.

Later, when the child was old enough, the mother took the boy and gave him to the king's daughter, who adopted him as her own son. The king's daughter said to herself, "I pulled him out of the water, and so I name him Moses."

What an amazing story of two mothers who loved their child and God's protection and care. Moses grew to be one of the greatest leaders the people of Israel has ever known. And it all started with a little baby (*Pause.*) hidden in the tall bushes down by the river.

Dear God, just as the mother of Moses watched over her son and protected him, You love and care for Your children. We thank You for Your love and protection. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

## Baby Moses by the River Group Activities

Sermon Title: ["A Baby By the River"](#)

Scripture Reading: Exodus 1:8-2:10

### SING A SONG:

#### MY GOD IS SO GREAT

My God is so great                      *stretch arms out to your sides*

So strong and so mighty                      *Bend your elbows and show your muscles*

There's nothing my God cannot do.                      *Wag your finger to show the word no*

Repeat;

The mountains are His                      *Touch fingers of both hands and raise up high*

The Valleys are His                      *Now point those fingers down to make a valley*

The stars are his handiwork too                      *Wiggle your fingers up in the sky*

My God is so great so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do – for you and you and you. *Use the above actions then point to other people around you*

## HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS

He's got the whole world in His hands,

He's got the whole wide world in His hands.

He's got the whole world in His hands. He's got the whole world in his hands. *Hold out your hands, palms up.*

*Replace "the whole world" with 1. Itty bitty babies. 2. Mothers and the fathers 3. Brothers and sisters. 4. Your choice eg gramas and grandpas, itty bitty bugs, etc.*

## MOSES LESSON:

In all of the games today that use dolls, make sure to call the dolls, "MOSES."

## BABY RELAY:

Divide children into teams and run relays to a small tub of water with a small baby doll in it. Each team player will take the baby out of the water, dry off with a little washcloth or small towel, wrap baby in a blanket and place doll baby back in the water for the next player and run back to the team to tap the next classmate to run the same relay.

## PJ RELAY:

The children will divide into teams and run a relay to put the doll's pajamas on the baby as quickly as possible, run the baby doll back to the next team member, who will run to the table and take the pajamas OFF the doll and lay the doll and pj's back on the table and run back to the next player who will run to the table and quickly put the pj's back ON the doll baby. Continue until all the children have had either put the pj's ON or OFF the doll baby.

## WHO IS CRYING:

The children can sit in a circle with one blindfolded child in the middle, or a teacher or leader blindfolded in the middle of the circle. Then the children will take turns "crying like a baby" for the blindfolded person to guess WHO IS CRYING. Let all children get a chance to CRY for a blindfolded person. If the blindfolded person guesses who was crying, then they will change places and continue to play as time allows.

### **BABY RUN:**

Children will take turns as teams to find the hidden baby dolls and RUN as quickly as possible to the hidden baskets, wrap the doll baby and place in the basket and back to the teacher as fast as they can with the basket and the baby doll.

### **BABY GUESSING GAME:**

Place as many baby items on a tray as desired, such as a pacifier, bottle, baby food jar, spoon, blanket, clothing, etc. Cover the tray until all the children are sitting in a circle or around a classroom table with paper and colors or pencils. Then show the tray of items to the children for a few minutes and tell them to try and memorize as many of the items on the tray, and then take the tray away. The children can either write the names of the items (older children), or draw small pictures of all the items that they can remember on the tray. Then give the children a red crayon or pencil to place an X over the top of all the ones that they see on the tray as the teacher shows them the tray again! See who remembered the most items. All the rest of the players will make a BABY CRY sound as the game is over!

### **CLAY BASKET AND BABY ART:**

Give children modeling clay or play dough to form a basket and a baby to put inside the basket. If the baskets are big enough, give children a toothpick to write MOSES on the clay baskets!

### **BASKET WEAVING:**

Give children thin strips of colored construction paper and let them weave the strips of paper over and under the other strips of paper to form a woven mat. Tape the edges to keep the strips in place and then curve the outside of the woven basket and tape or staple a small handle to the sides to keep the form of a basket. Children can cut out a round circle to be a baby's head, and tape a small piece of material to the bottom of the circle as a blanket to be placed in their woven basket, to represent Moses.

### **MOSES ACROSTIC:**

Children can be given a piece of paper and markers with M-O-S-E-S written down the left side of their paper. Use a different colored crayon or marker for each letter, and thinking of words that would talk about God's LOVE and PROTECTION for Moses or for us today.

### **CRYING CONTEST:**

Let children cry like a baby after telling today's story or during the story part. Make sure to have this taped for children to listen to later!!

### LOVE AND PROTECTION COLLAGE:

Children will each have a large piece of paper, or a poster board if the class works on this together. The teacher or a child will write in very large and bright letters -- GOD'S LOVE PROTECTS US in the middle of a circle on the paper. Then children will draw or write words about God's love and protection for us or for Moses -- words that they will think about to describe or show how God's love protects us.

### HAND COVERINGS:

Children can each color a picture of Moses in the river inside a basket. Then children can trace and cut out their hands out of brown or green construction paper. Place the cut out hands over the picture of baby Moses and tape or glue the bottom part of the hands to form the bulrushes in the river.

### SHARE A SNACK OPTION 2:

Wrap each child's snack or treat in a paper muffin cup, to represent a baby in a basket from today's story of Moses. Put a teddy graham cookie inside with a snack treat with today's Bible verse "God protects us" on it for the children to remember today's lesson.



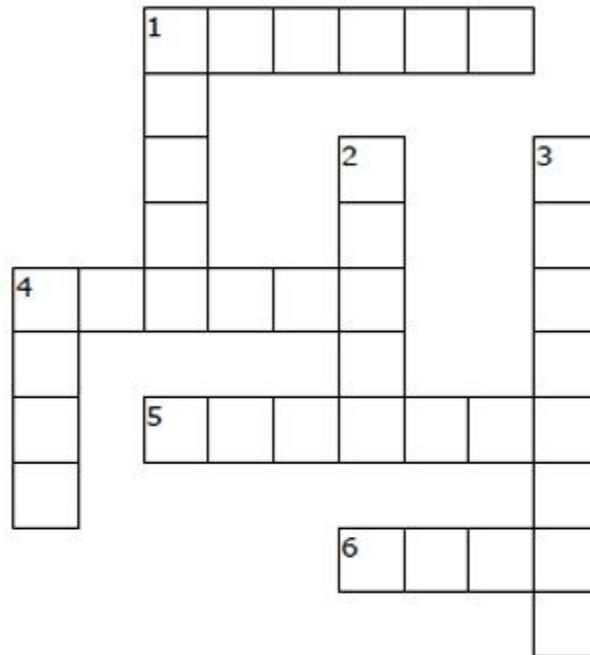
# A Baby by the River

When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water." Exodus 2:3 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Exodus 2:1-10



## Baby Moses



### ACROSS

1. A woman who has given birth to a child
4. A container that is usually woven of straw and has handles
5. A king of Egypt
6. The world's longest river

### DOWN

1. An Old Testament Hebrew prophet
2. A clear, colorless, odorless, tasteless liquid (H<sub>2</sub>O)
3. A female human offspring
4. A very young child (up to 1 year old)

BASKET  
BABY

MOTHER  
NILE

MOSES  
PHARAOH

DAUGHTER  
WATER

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## Baby Moses

Y T C O N A M E D R W R B V I  
M W V W Q B I R T H E N S R C  
O S O G Q A T X C T O M Y O L  
S T S M R Y M B A R G C A R N  
E B E K A Z G W L C Y H T N O  
S S A T N N K B J A B I X S R  
V I F B U M N S P Z U L N E Y  
N U B G Y A L I R N T D T G Q  
J E F G M R B Y L Q Z H L U Y  
M P E B A R A A H E G Z Z L L  
O M R V C I S L N U P F U J Q  
T R F Y I E K I A A H H Z D L  
H T X J P D E D U L F I J X K  
E Z V Q G P T P P U X D S K N  
R F C S M E W N A X W H Q N X

SON	DAUGHTER	MARRIED	WATER	MOSES
NILE	CHILD	BIRTH	CRYING	MAN
BASKET	BABY	WOMAN	MOTHER	NAMED

