

# MOSES IS BORN

Exodus 2:1-10

## MEMORY VERSE

PSALM 145:18

The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

As many small prizes (stickers, pencils, erasers, etc.) as the number of children in your class.

One deck of playing cards.

As many “ark” patterns (that you draw before class and copy onto card stock) as the number of children in your class, and scissors, glue, cotton balls and crayons.

## ATTENTION GRABBER!

### **You're Hot! You're Cold!**

Hide a few small prizes somewhere in your classroom. Pick a volunteer to try to find the prizes by following your hints of “you're getting colder; you're getting warmer.” When the student finds the prizes, have him pass it out to the class.

Explain that today you will be learning about a family that drew near to the Lord and trusted in Him. Explain that **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

## LESSON TIME!

It has been said, that from Adam to Christ, there is none greater in between than Moses. He is one of the few people in the Bible whose life is followed from his birth until his death. The calling in his life from God leads Moses to be a prophet, advocate, intercessor and leader. Most of God's early dealings with Israel were through Moses. In these ten verses that we will look at today we will see a brief account of Moses' infancy.

At the time of Moses birth the children of Israel are still living in Egypt. As we looked at last week, they are in enslaved. The current Pharaoh (or king of Egypt) does not remember Joseph or the good he did for the nation of Egypt; so the people have cried out to God for deliverance, and the Lord has heard their prayers. He is about to send deliverance through a simple man by the name of Moses.

These were very troubling times for the Israelites. God blessed his people and they continued to multiply in number. However, Pharaoh was worried about the population growth of the nation of Israel. He determined to kill all of the babies who were born to the Israelites.

At first Pharaoh had God's people placed under taskmasters who were told to "afflict them with their burdens." This did not go as Pharaoh desired, for "the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew" (Exodus 1:12). Pharaoh's next step was to order the Hebrew midwives to kill every male child that was born. But the midwives feared God "and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive" (Exodus 1:17).

Finally Pharaoh commanded that all the male babies born to Israelite families were to be thrown into the Nile River and the girl babies saved. It was during the time of this murderous decree of the king that the future deliverer of Israel was born. Sometimes

God does His greatest work in the most impossible situations. **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

### EXODUS 2:1-2

And a man of the house of Levi went and took as wife a daughter of Levi.

So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months.

In Exodus 6:20 we have more details on the couple spoken of in verse one. "And Amram took him Jochebed, his father's sister, in marriage; and she bore him Aaron and Moses; and the years of the life of Amram were a hundred and thirty and seven years." So we see that Moses was from the tribe of Levite both by father and mother.

In verse two we see that his mother hid him for three months because he was a beautiful child. We are told in Hebrews 11:23 that it was faith that caused her to hide Moses: "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child, and they were not afraid of the King's commandment."

Their faith was evidenced in the fact that they did not fear the command of Pharaoh but fulfilled, without the fear of man, their obedience to God. **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

The Bible speaks very clearly that we need to respect and obey all those who are placed in authority over us. We need to respect our president, our governors, our congressmen, our police and fire men and anyone else that God has called to that place of leadership in our communities. However, there is one exception that the Bible allows--that is when we are asked to do something that is in direct violation to God's Word or His command. God had sent Moses to

deliver His people, but the king wanted him dead. Moses' parents obviously did the right thing in hiding him.

#### EXODUS 2:3-4

But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river's bank.

And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.

After the three months, she realized that she could hid him no longer. So she then made an ark of bulrushes, put the baby in it, and laid the ark in the reeds by the river's bank. Again we see Amram and Jochebed's faith in placing Moses in the very spot where the babies were drowned. They trusted God to take care of and protect their precious baby. **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

What seemed by sight to be the death of Moses, was actually God's plan of protection, training, and preparation for the deliverer of His people. The sister of Moses mentioned was probably Miriam who is frequently mentioned in the Bible.

How we need to trust in God's plan for our lives even when everything else around us looks impossible. God's plan will always work out if we will only put our trust in Him. We need to draw near to Him and trust Him for everything. **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

#### EXODUS 2:5-9

Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river. And her maidens walked along the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it.

And when she had opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."

Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?"

And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the maiden went and called the child's mother.

Then Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him.

Now we see Pharaoh's daughter going down to the river to bathe. We know that it was no coincidence that she went down to that very spot, at that very time, to see a basket. We know that it was God who put it into the heart of this Egyptian princess to go to the river at that time and place, and that it was the Lord who moved her heart with compassion for the crying child.

It was the Lord who caused the princess to yield to the suggestion of Moses' sister, making the princess willing for the child's own mother to care for him. Pharaoh's daughter thought it convenient that Moses should have a Hebrew nurse. What a blessing for Jochebed and for her son, for who better to nurse and care for the child than his own mother. What a special blessing the Lord gave to Moses' mother. **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

Now she could care for and enjoy her son freely, without fear. How glorious and wonderful to trust the Lord with everything, and to know that He sees each of our situations and uses them for our good.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28).

## All's Well That Ends Well

Have your class sit in a circle and pass out a playing card to each student. Have them look at their card and remember the suit and value. Then have them pass the cards around according to your instruction.

Tell your class to pass the cards three times to the right, then one time to the left; then four times to the right; then five times to the left; then seven times to the right; then three times to the left; then one time to the right; then seven times to the left; then one time to the right.

Each child should have the card he started with. Explain that as they passed their cards around they really had no idea where it would end up or whether they would get it back, just like Moses' mother. She sent her baby son in a basket on the Nile never knowing whether she would see him again, but God is so good that not only did she see him again, she got to take care of her own baby until he was weaned. **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

### EXODUS 2:10

And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, "Because I drew him out of the water."

When the child had been weaned, the mother, who had been his nurse, brought him back to the Pharaoh's daughter, who then adopted him as her own son, and called him Moses, for she said "Because I drew him out of the water." As the adopted son of

Pharaoh's daughter, Moses received a thoroughly Egyptian training, and was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, as Stephen states in Acts 7:22.

Pharaoh had wanted to eliminate the Israelites, and yet, God compels him to give bread, lodging and education to the very man which God had chosen to accomplish the very thing that Pharaoh was trying to prevent. Pharaoh's wisdom was turned to foolishness, and Satan's devices defeated. Isn't the ways of the Lord amazing? **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

As we look at these ten verses, we can truly see that God had His fingerprints all over the lives of Moses and his parents, and most assuredly, He has His fingerprints all over our lives. We can know **the Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

As we study the entire history of Israel it is amazing how God has directed, blessed, loved, and taken care of His people. From Abraham to Isaac, to Jacob and Joseph and now Moses, God's hand is upon His people. God's hand is upon all those who call upon Him.

Have you called upon the name of the Lord? You can have a relationship with Him today and see what He will do in your life. **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

Teachers: Use this as an opportunity to share the gospel with your students.

## **The Ark in the Bulrushes**

Draw a simple template of a baby basket. Make as many white cardstock copies of the "ark" pattern as the number of children in your class. Have your students color their sheets and draw a baby in the ark.



Cut out their arks and babies. Around the babies have the children glue cotton balls so it looks like the baby is lying in something soft. Glue the ark onto a sheet of white construction paper. Have the children decorate a river scene around the ark.

## **PRAYER**

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for the nearness of the Lord and for His protection and providence. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.