

STORY: EXODUS: GOD SAVED MOSES (Exodus 1-2:10)

INTRODUCTION

God promised Abraham that his descendants will be as many as the stars and the sands, that they will become a great nation.

Even when Abraham was childless at 100 years old, he knew that if God made a promise, He would keep His promises.

Over the past few weeks, we've been going through the book of **Genesis** and seeing how God worked in Abraham's life and brought His promise to past.

We looked at: **Abraham** → **Isaac** → (Esau &) **Jacob** → 12 sons, including **Joseph**

Joseph was sold as a slave to Egypt. God raised him to become Governor of Egypt, and he saved the world from starvation.

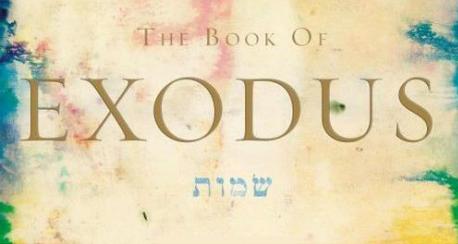
Because of Joseph, Jacob's whole family — about 70 in total — moved to Egypt to escape the famine, and they stayed there for many, many years.

We see how God's plan and promises continue even as we move on to the book of **Exodus**.

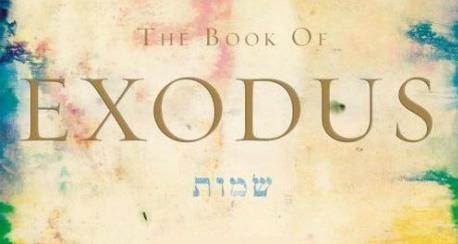
STORY

(Props may be used to make story-telling interactive)

- Joseph, his brothers, and all that generation died. But their descendants became exceedingly fruitful and increased greatly in numbers (like the stars in the skies and the sands on the shore).
- Then a new king who didn't know Joseph came to power in Egypt. He said, *"These Israelites are so numerous and strong that they are a threat to us. In case of war they might join our enemies in order to fight against us, and might escape from the country. We must find some way to keep them from becoming even more numerous."*
- So the Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves and subjected them to hard labour. But the more they oppressed the Israelites, the more they increased in number.
- Pharaoh also ordered the Egyptian midwives to kill the Israelites' baby boys. However, the midwives did not obey and told the king that the babies were born before they had a chance to do anything.
- Finally, the king ordered all of the Israelites' newborn baby boys to be thrown into the Nile river.
- One of the Israelite women — a descendent of Joseph's brother, Levi — had a baby boy. She tried to hide him for three months, but as he grew older, she knew she couldn't hide him forever.



- So she took a reed basket, covered it with tar to make it watertight, put the baby in and placed it in the tall grass at the edge of the river.
- The baby's sister stood at a distance to watch and see what would happen to him.
- The king's daughter came down to the river to bathe. Suddenly she noticed the basket in the grass and sent her servant to get it.
- She opened it and saw the baby crying, and felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said.
- The baby's sister asked her, "Shall I call a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby for you?"
- "Yes, please," said the princess.
- So the girl brought her mother to meet the princess, and the princess paid the mother to take care of the baby for her!
- When the child was older, the princess adopted him as her own son. "I pulled him out of the water, so I shall name him **Moses**." ("Moses" means "pull out").



LESSON

God promised to make Abraham's descendants a great nation.

He sent Joseph to Egypt so he could prepare for the famine.

He brought 70 of Jacob's family to Egypt to save them from the famine.

Even though the Pharaoh tried to oppress and kill the Israelites, it didn't stop them from multiplying and growing.

God saved Moses to accomplish His purposes

Despite Pharaoh's order to kill all Israelites' baby boys, God saved Moses in a miraculous way — allowing his own mother to take care of him and letting him be adopted into the princess' family!

Do you know ...

When Jesus was born, King Herod ordered all baby boys to be killed too. King Herod heard that there was a prophecy that a new king would be born, and he was afraid so he tried to get rid of all boys below 2 years old.

But an angel appeared to Jesus' father, Joseph, in a dream, telling him to bring Jesus and his mother to Egypt. So Jesus was brought to Egypt and hid there until it was safe to return. (Matthew 2:8-20)

It seemed like a hopeless and dark time — both when Moses and Jesus was born — but through the hopelessness and darkness, God was putting His plan in motion to raise up someone special to deliver His people from slavery.

As we study the life of Moses in the book of Exodus, we see how it's a picture (or foreshadow) of God's bigger and greater plan of salvation through the life and death of Jesus, many thousands of years later.

ACTIVITY SUGGESTION

Related Baby Moses **craft** or **activity** with the words:

“God protected baby Moses to save His people. God protected baby Jesus to save the whole world.”

