

Young Moses

Exodus 1:1-2:25





Jacob and his 11 sons went down to Egypt to join Joseph. Joseph and all of his generation died, but the Israelites stayed in Egypt. There they grew into a great people.

Now a new Pharaoh who didn't know about Joseph and how he saved Egypt from the famine, came into power. He said to his people, "Look at how many Israelites there are. We must have a plan for them or they might join our enemies and defeat us."

So they set the Israelites to making bricks, working in the field, and building storehouses. Still their numbers grew, so Pharaoh kept increasing their burden.



Finally Pharaoh called the midwives to him and said, “If the Hebrews have a baby boy kill him.”

But, the women feared God more than Pharaoh, and did not kill the babies.

Pharaoh called them to him again, “Why haven’t you killed these boys?”

The midwives answered him, “These Hebrew women are too strong. By the time we get there the women already have their babies.”

God blessed the midwives because of what they did and they had their own children.

And so, Pharaoh ordered his soldiers, “Every boy who is born shall be thrown into the river.”



Now an Israelite family had a beautiful baby boy. They hid him for 3 months, but they could not hide him anymore.

So his mother wove a basket of papyrus reed and coated it with tar so it would float. Then she put the baby in the river among the reeds. His sister Miriam stayed and watched over him.

Pharaoh's daughter came down to the river to bathe. As she and her attendants were walking they saw the basket. She sent a slave to get the basket and found the baby in it.

She took him out and said, "This is a Hebrew baby! I will call him Moses because I drew him out of the river."



Then Miriam ran up and asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Do you want me to get a Hebrew woman to care for him?"

"Yes," said Pharaoh's daughter. Miriam went and got her mother.

Pharaoh's daughter said to Miriam's mother, "Care for this baby and I will pay you."

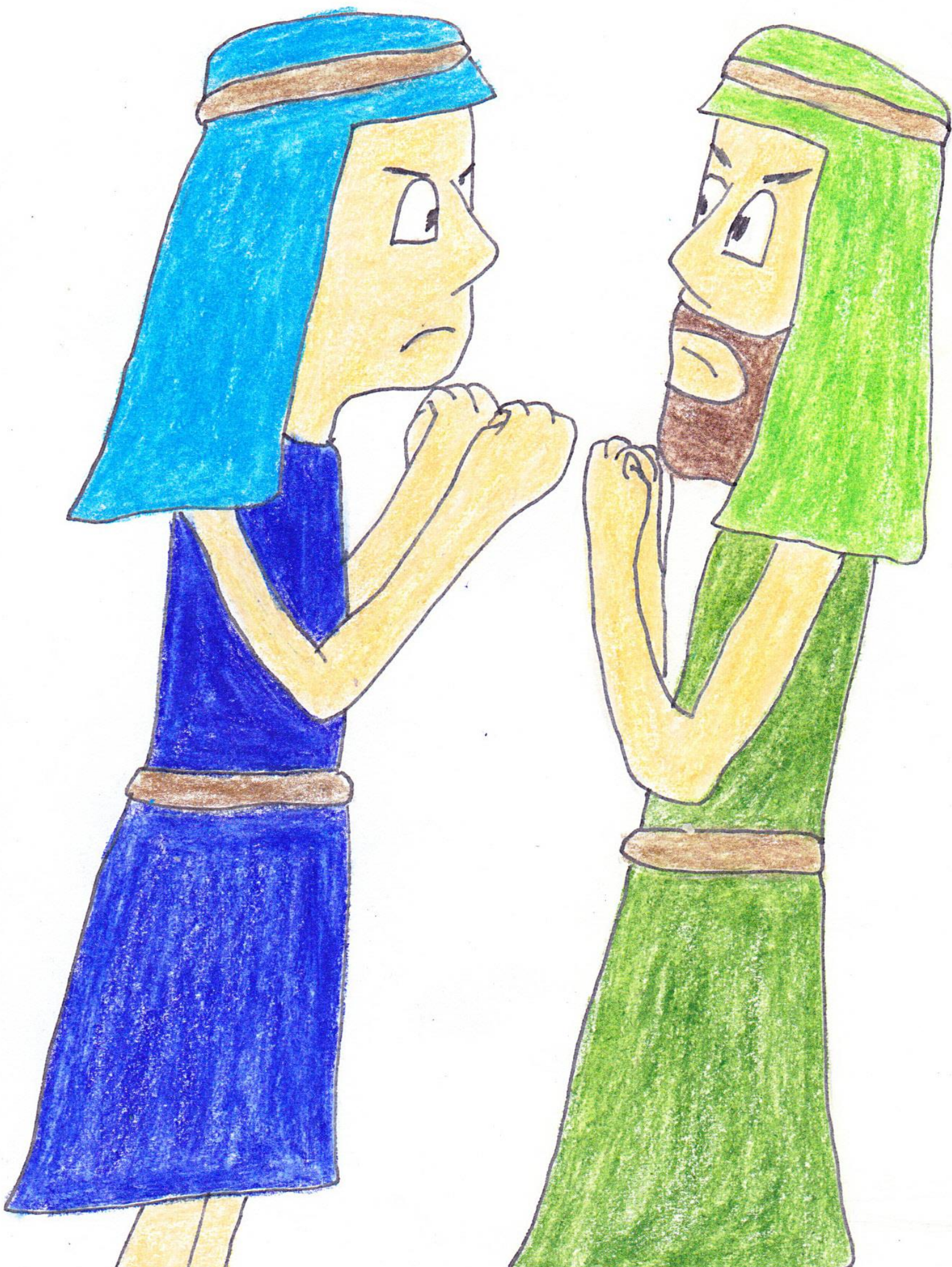
So Moses' mother cared for him and when he was older she took him back to Pharaoh's daughter to be raised.



One day, when Moses was about 40 years old, he went out and watched the Hebrews working.

As Moses walked around he saw an Egyptian beating one of the Hebrew workers. Moses saw this and he was angry.

Looking left and right to make sure no one would see him, Moses went up and killed the Egyptian. The slave ran away as Moses did this. Then Moses buried the Egyptian in the desert.



The next day Moses was walking around again and he saw two Hebrews fighting each other.

Moses went up and asked the man he thought started the fight, “Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?”

The man looked at him in confusion, “Who made you judge of me? Are you going to kill me like you killed that Egyptian yesterday?”

“Oh no!” Moses thought, “I’m going to be killed for what I did!” So, Moses fled from Egypt.

When Pharaoh heard what Moses had done he looked for him to kill him, but he could not find him.



Moses traveled for a long time and finally got to the land of Midian. As he was walking up to a well, he saw some shepherds keeping some girls from watering their sheep.

Moses couldn't believe these men would be so mean to the girls, so he went up and drove away the shepherds.

The girls went home and told their father, Jethro, all about the stranger, and he asked them, "Well, where is the man who rescued my daughters? Go invite him to come eat with us."

The girls ran to get Moses and he joined them. After some time had passed Moses married Jethro's daughter, Zipporah. Zipporah had a son and Moses named him, Gershom, saying, "I have become a stranger in a strange land.""

Questions

Younger Kids

1. How did God bless the Israelites during their enslavement?
2. How were the midwives brave?
3. Did Moses know he was doing wrong when he killed the man? What sins have you tried to hide? Have you ever broken something and then tried to hide it?

Middle Kids

1. Why did the midwives not obey Pharaoh?
What did they do that wasn't obeying him?
Read Exodus 1:17.
2. How did Moses' parents show courage? Read Exodus 2:1-3.
3. How did Miriam show initiative? Read Exodus 2:7-8. How can you show initiative for God?

4. What signs are there that Moses knew he did wrong when he killed the Egyptian? Read Exodus 2:12 and 14.
5. How did Moses solve the problem with the shepherds and the girl? Read Exodus 2:17.
6. How did the girls' father react to what happened? Read Exodus 2:20-21.

Older Guys

1. In Exodus 2:3; was Moses' mother intending for him to be found or was this a new hiding place?
2. Have you ever had great faith like the midwives or Moses' parents? Read Hebrews 11:23.
3. Look at the difference between how Moses reacted when the Egyptian was beating the Hebrew and how Pharaoh reacted. Were either of them administering justice? Was either of them revenge or anger? Read Act

7:23-28. Does this change how you view Moses' actions?

4. Look at how Moses reacted in both of these stories. How did Moses react to the Egyptian? How did Moses react to the shepherds? What are the similarities to the two stories? How are they different?
5. Read Exodus 2:23-25. How has all of Exodus so far been a set up for what is to come? How is this a pivotal verse?

Activities

1. Try making bricks outside using mud and grass, how hard is it?
2. Design a basket to carry one of your toys (one that can get wet). Try floating it in a local creek. What happens?
3. Cut out a single cup from an egg carton, then paint it to be a basket for a small doll.

4. Try carrying a full bucket of water, like a sand bucket or a mop bucket. How hard was it? Think about this being your job every day to go out and get the water for your family. Now think about how Zipporah and her sister felt when the shepherds kept her and her sister from getting water.

Online

1. M is for baby Moses-
<http://catholicblogger1.blogspot.com.au/2010/11/to-z-bible-story-lesson-letter-m.html>
2. Baby Moses in a walnut shell-
<http://artmama.blogspot.com/2012/01/b-is-for-bears-blueberries-and-baby.html>
3. Moses in the bull rushes diorama-
http://www.makingfriends.com/recycle/jar_moses.htm

4. Super cute craft of Miriam and baby Moses-
<http://www.dltk-bible.com/crafts/mmosesandmiriam.htm>
5. Baby Moses craft-
<http://www.christianpreschoolprintables.com/Pages/Moses/MosesCraft1.html>