

THE ISLAND

LEADER	DATE (am) 19 October 08
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

➤ **SERIES / LESSON:** Old Testament Heroes / Moses

➤ **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Exodus 5-15

➤ **CONCEPT:** God helps me to be patient

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To help kids realise that God has a special job for each one of us.
- To challenge kids to be patient and wait for the Lord.
- To lead kids into a prayer time and help them understand that God listens.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ DVD player / laptop / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Song DVD
- ✓ Moses graphic
- ✓ Map or globe
- ✓ Story:
 - walking stick
 - basin filled with water
 - Jug
 - blanket
 - Glass with a few drops of red food colouring already in it
 - Pillow
 - sweetie frogs
 - Handfuls of white paper dots made using a hole punch
 - A few plastic animals
 - red dot stickers
 - Styrofoam balls or packaging pieces
 - Lengths of red ribbon
 - drawing pins
 - tambourine
- ✓ Treasure Chest (empty)
- ✓ Prayer Net
- ✓ Prayer cards and pen
- ✓ Name tag box

<p>A. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together (<i>Supernatural / Everyday</i>). 3. Open in prayer. 4. Ask kids to lift a mat each and sit down. 	<p>You'll need ... <i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p>
<p>B. Message 15-20 minutes</p> <p>1. Set the scene When Baby Moses grew up to be a man, God had many special jobs lined up for him. One very important job that God had for Moses was to set His people free. You see, the Israelites, God's people, were living in Egypt as slaves. Can you find Egypt on our globe? (<i>Allow kids to find it in relation to their country</i>) The King of Egypt, the Pharaoh, was very cruel to the Israelite people. He ordered them to make bricks, lots and lots of bricks, to build up his kingdom. The Israelite people were not happy there.</p> <p>Moses and his brother, Aaron, went to speak to Pharaoh, the king. They told Pharaoh that God wanted His people to leave Egypt and be free. Pharaoh was not happy about this. He said, "I do not know the Lord and I will not let Israel go." (Exodus 5:2) Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites leave Egypt. In fact, he made life much more difficult for them. He wouldn't give them the straw they needed to make the bricks, but he still expected them to make the same number of bricks every day! If they didn't manage to make enough bricks each day, the Egyptian managers beat them and shouted at them. God's people, the Israelites, were sad, tired and they thought that God had forgotten about them. They were angry with Moses and Aaron – the people blamed them that life in Egypt had become worse.</p> <p>2. Tell the story Moses went to pray. He told the Lord, "... you have not rescued your people at all." (Exodus 5:23) God said to Moses, "I am the Lord, and I will bring you out ... I will free you from being slaves to them ... I am the Lord." (Exodus 6:6-8) God sent Moses and Aaron, his brother, back to talk to Pharaoh. Remember that Pharaoh didn't believe in God, so he asked Moses and Aaron for a sign so that he would know that they were really bringing God's message. "Perform a miracle," said Pharaoh to the two brothers. Aaron threw his walking stick down in front of Pharaoh, and it became a slithery snake! (<i>Set your walking stick on the floor and 'wiggle' it to emulate a snake</i>) Pharaoh called for his magicians and wizards, and they used magic to make their walking sticks turn into snakes too. But guess what? Aaron's snake swallowed up the magicians' snakes! Wow! God had given them a miracle ... but Pharaoh was a hard-hearted man and he would not listen to Moses and Aaron. Pharaoh would not let God's people go.</p> <p>God told Moses to meet Pharaoh at the River Nile the next morning. Aaron, Moses' brother, lifted up his walking stick and then hit the water of the River Nile, (<i>lift up your walking stick, then lower it to touch the water in the basin</i>) and all the water in the whole country was changed into blood. The fish died, and the</p>	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Moses graphic</i></p> <p><i>Map or globe</i></p> <p><i>Walking stick</i></p> <p><i>Walking stick</i> <i>Basin filled with water</i></p>

<p>river smelled so bad that the people could not drink the water. <i>(Take up some water from the basin into the jug. Pour it into the glass – the glass should already have a few drops of red food colouring in the bottom. The water should turn red as you pour it into the glass)</i> There was blood everywhere in Egypt. Pharaoh's heart was hard, and he would not listen to Moses and Aaron. He would not let Israelite people go.</p>	<p><i>Jug</i> <i>Glass (with a few drops of red food colouring in it)</i></p>
<p>A week later, Moses went back to Pharaoh and asked him to let the people go. Pharaoh said no. Aaron stretched out his walking stick over the waters of Egypt, <i>(stretch out your walking stick)</i> and hundreds and thousands of frogs came up out of the water and covered the land. The frogs were everywhere: in the houses, in the beds, in the ovens, in the cooking pots, all over the people <i>(pull back the blanket from the pillow to let the kids see the frogs you have hidden there)</i>. Pharaoh asked Moses to take the frogs away. Moses prayed and God let all the frogs die on the land ... but still, Pharaoh would not let the God's people go.</p>	<p><i>Walking stick</i></p> <p><i>Blanket, pillow, sweetie frogs</i></p>
<p>After that, Aaron stretched out his walking stick again and hit the dust on the ground <i>(stretch out your walking stick and then hit it on the floor)</i>. All the dust throughout Egypt turned into nasty little bugs called gnats. The gnats flew around everywhere <i>(throw handfuls of white paper dots from a hole punch over the kids)</i>, biting people and animals, making them itchy. Moses and Aaron tried to tell Pharaoh that this was how powerful God was, and that Pharaoh should let the Israelites leave Egypt. But Pharaoh's heart was hard and he would not listen.</p>	<p><i>Walking stick</i></p> <p><i>White paper dots (from a hole punch)</i></p>
<p>Then, God did something different. God's people, the Israelites, would be safe, but Pharaoh and the Egyptians would not! God sent swarms of buzzing black flies <i>(have kids make a buzzing noise and flap their arms like wings)</i> into the Egyptian houses, but there were no flies in the Israelite houses. The next day, God took the flies away, but Pharaoh would not let the people go.</p>	
<p>Moses and Aaron went back to Pharaoh with another message from God. If Pharaoh wouldn't let the Israelite people go, then God would send a terrible disease on the animals in the fields – on the horses and donkeys, the camels and cows, and on the sheep and goats <i>(set out a few plastic animals)</i>. The next day, God did it. All the animals belonging to the Egyptians died <i>(show the animals falling down dead and clear them away)</i>, but not one single animal belonging to the Israelites died. God was looking after His people. But still, Pharaoh's heart was hard and he would not let God's people go.</p>	<p><i>Plastic animals</i></p>
<p>Next, Moses scooped up some ashes from a fire and went to Pharaoh. Moses threw the ashes up into the air <i>(pretend to throw the ashes up)</i>, and, at that moment, a horrible skin disease broke out on all the Egyptian men and animals. <i>(Choose one child and stick red spots on their face and hands)</i> Big, red, sore spots called boils were all over the men and animals. Did Pharaoh give in and let the Israelites leave this time? No! Pharaoh still would not listen to Moses and Aaron.</p>	<p><i>Red dot stickers</i></p>

<p>God told Moses to go back to Pharaoh in the morning, and tell him to let God's people go, but Pharaoh said no. God sent an awful thunderstorm with hailstones – the worst hailstorm that the people of Egypt had ever seen! <i>(Throw Styrofoam balls or packaging pieces over the kids)</i> There was thunder and lightning and hailstones beating down on the people and the animals, and on the crops and trees growing in the fields. So much was destroyed, except for the fields and animals where the Israelites lived. Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and told them that he would let the people go because he could see how the hailstorm was destroying his country. Wow! He had changed his mind! Moses prayed to God to stop the hailstorm, but when it stopped, Pharaoh changed his mind again and he wouldn't let the Israelites leave. Uhhh! What was going to happen next?!</p>	<p><i>Styrofoam balls or packaging pieces</i></p>
<p>Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh again. They asked him again to let the Israelite people go. What do you think? Pharaoh said no. This time, Moses stretched out his walking stick <i>(stretch out your walking stick)</i>, and God made the wind blow all day and all night. The next morning, the wind had brought swarms of locusts. The sky was black with these creatures (they are something like grasshoppers). <i>(Have the kids make a humming noise)</i> Thousands and thousands of locusts came to Egypt and ate anything in the fields and the fruit on the trees that hadn't been destroyed by the hailstorm. There was nothing green left on any tree or plant in the whole country of Egypt! Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron and told them to pray to God to take these horrible locusts away. Moses prayed and God sent another strong wind to carry the locusts off into the sea. But still, Pharaoh's heart was hard and he would not let the Israelites go.</p>	<p><i>Walking stick</i></p>
<p>After that, Moses stretched his hand towards the sky <i>(stretch your hands upwards)</i>, and total darkness covered Egypt for three days! <i>(show a completely black screen)</i> No one could see anyone else or leave their house for three whole days. But where the Israelites lived, they had day and night as usual. Again, Pharaoh would not let God's people leave. <i>(change the screen back to Moses)</i></p>	<p><i>Black screen</i></p> <p><i>Moses graphic</i></p>
<p>Soon after that, God told His people, the Israelites, to get ready for the last thing He was going to do in Egypt. All God's people took blood from a lamb and painted it over the top and down the sides of the doors of their houses. <i>(Pin lengths of red ribbon along the top and sides of the puppet box and pretend to paint it on)</i> They made a special supper and packed up their things, ready to leave quickly. That night, God sent an angel to Egypt. The angel moved through the country of Egypt and killed the eldest child in every family, and the eldest child in every animal family. Pharaoh and all the Egyptians woke up during the night, and there was loud crying in the country, because in every Egyptian house, the eldest child was dead. Even Pharaoh's son had died. However, God kept His promise to His people, the Israelites. They had the blood of the lamb on their doorposts, so the angel of death knew that they were God's people and none of the Israelite children died.</p>	<p><i>Lengths of red ribbon</i></p> <p><i>Drawing pins</i></p>

Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and shouted at them to go. "Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the Lord ... Take your flocks and herds ... and go." (Exodus 12:31-32) That day, Moses and Aaron led God's people, the Israelites, out of Egypt! They were free! The Israelite people would remember this special day every year because God had not let them die by the angel who killed the Egyptians, and He had set them free from being slaves in Egypt.

When Pharaoh let the people go, God led them through the desert towards the Red Sea. God guided them by a pillar of cloud during the day, and by a pillar of fire at night so that they always knew where to walk and what to follow.

Back in Egypt, Pharaoh was thinking about everything that had happened. He realised that with the Israelites gone, he didn't have enough workers in his country. He wanted them back again! Oh no! Pharaoh had changed his mind, AGAIN! Pharaoh called for his army. They got all their chariots ready with all the horses and soldiers, and rode out of Egypt to chase the Israelites and bring them back. The Israelites looked up and saw Pharaoh and the Egyptians coming towards them. They were terrified! Moses told the people, "Do not be afraid ... The Lord will fight for you ...". (Exodus 14:13-14) Moses stretched out his walking stick over the sea. (*Stretch out your walking stick*) The Lord sent a strong wind that divided the sea so that there was a dry path through the middle and the Israelites were able to walk through the Red Sea, with a wall of water on the right and a wall of water on the left! The Egyptians chased after them, all the horses and soldiers and chariots riding into the sea. Oh no! Were they going to catch the Israelites?

Walking stick

Moses stretched out his hand again over the Red Sea, (*stretch out your hand*) and the waters flowed back over the Egyptians and their chariots and their drivers. The whole army drowned in the Red Sea! Not one of them survived! But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. That day the Lord saved His people from the hands of the Egyptians, and the Israelites saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. God had saved His people again!

3. Explain

God took care of His people. He helped them when Pharaoh was so cruel to them. God set His people free, but He didn't do it as quickly as the people thought He should have. God could have done it differently, but He chose to send the plagues on Egypt to show everyone that He is the only true God of the world, and that He is awesome and powerful.

When the Israelites saw how the Lord God had saved them again from the Egyptians by making a way for them through the Red Sea, they all put their trust in Him. They understood that He is mighty and powerful. In fact, they were so happy and joyful that Moses and his sister, Miriam, helped the people sing a song of praise to God. Miriam took a tambourine (*shake the tambourine a few times*) and all the girls followed her, singing

Tambourine

<p>and dancing to thank God for saving them.</p> <p>Moses and Aaron and the Israelite people had to learn to be patient, and to wait for God to help them in <i>His</i> timing, not when <i>they</i> thought they should be set free. When they trusted God's promise, He was good to them and saved them, and then they were able to praise Him for His goodness. We have to remember to be patient too. Sometimes when we pray, God doesn't do what we ask straight away. He makes us wait. God always has a reason, and He always knows best. When He helps us, then we can praise Him, just like Moses and Miriam did.</p> <p>Let's put the walking stick by the treasure chest, and we'll look at it next week again and see how much you can remember about today's story of Moses, God's hero.</p>	<p><i>Treasure chest / walking stick</i></p>
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<p>C. Prayer Net</p> <p>10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask a child to explain what it means when we <i>pray</i> – We talk to God and He listens. 2. Explain that prayer / talking to God is very important because that's how we get to know Him. 3. Choose a child to retrieve the prayer net. Lift out the prayer cards you put there last week (two weeks ago if you did not use the prayer net at last week's family service). Ask the kids for updates on those situations. 4. Explain that when we have worries or things to be thankful for, like Moses and the Israelites when they were slaves in Egypt, we need to tell God about those things. Remember that He hears all our prayers and He will answer us – maybe not with the answer we want, but He always knows best. 5. Tell kids that we are going to make a note of some special prayers today and put them in the prayer net. Next week they will tell us what happened in those situations. 6. Ask a few kids if they have a prayer to put into the net. As they tell you, write their name and the topic of their prayer on a small card. Ask the child to say a prayer aloud (help them to do so) before they place their card into the prayer net. 7. Finish by leading a prayer for the whole group. 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Net (with last week's prayer cards)</i></p> <p><i>Small cards / postcards</i></p> <p><i>A pen</i></p>
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<p>D. Conclusion (with puppets)</p> <p>5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Challenge kids to remember to be like Moses – ready to do the job God has for you, patient enough to wait for God's timing, and happy to praise Him. 2. Remind kids to come back this evening. 3. Sing a closing song. (Everyday) 4. Ask kids to put their mats away and put their name tags in the box before they leave. 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>DVD player / projector</i></p> <p><i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p> <p><i>Name tag box</i></p>
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THE ISLAND cont'd

LEADER	DATE (pm) 19 October 08
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To reinforce today's Bible concept by learning a related Scripture verse.
- To consolidate today's Bible story by making Miriam's tambourine to take home.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Song DVD / DVD player / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Bible
- ✓ Memory Verse Activity: Slide (Psalm 27:14)
Paper plate
Feather
- ✓ Activity: tables
Pre-made model of Miriam's tambourine (see photos below)
paper plates (staple 2 together, right sides facing so that there is a space between them, leaving a small opening to insert dried peas during the activity. Punch a few holes around the edge of the plates with a hole punch.)
colouring pens / crayons
selection of stickers
dried peas
stapler(s) and staples
curling ribbon (a variety of colours, cut into lengths to be tied through the holes in the paper plate tambourines)
scissors
- ✓ Small prizes (selection of bookmarks, stickers, pencils, etc.)
- ✓ Name tag box

<p>E. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together. (<i>Supernatural / Everyday</i>) 3. Open in prayer. 4. Kids should remain standing for the following activity. 	<p>You'll need ... DVD player / projector Song DVD (<i>Hillsong Kids – Supernatural</i>)</p>
<p>F. Memory Verse (with puppets) 10 minutes <i>"Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord." Psalm 27:14</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remind kids about today's story – how Moses and the Israelites suffered ten plagues before Pharaoh would let them leave Egypt. Encourage kids to imagine how impatient the Israelites may have been, and how Moses must have wondered about God's plan. But Moses trusted God. God said He would set His people free. Moses and the Israelites had to learn to wait and be very patient ... and God set them free! 2. <i>Explain:</i> Maybe you have a problem that doesn't seem to be getting better; maybe you're having a hard time at school; maybe you know someone who has been sick for a long time; maybe you wish that life could be easier and better for you ... remember to talk to God about those things, and, like Moses, wait and be patient. God will do the right thing at the right time! 3. <i>Explain:</i> Remember David? The shepherd boy who played his harp for King Saul? David wrote many songs. We can read them in the Bible, and sometimes we sing them in church too. Our verse today is from one of David's songs. Let's read it together. <i>Display verse on screen.</i> 4. Have all kids repeat the verse a few times as a group. 5. Divide kids into two teams. Send the teams to opposite ends of the room. Have the kids line up, one behind the other, so that the first kids of each team are facing each other. 6. Give the first child in one team a paper plate with a feather on it. <i>Explain:</i> When I say 'Go!' the person with the plate must walk (not run!) across the room to the other team line, say the memory verse, pass the plate with the feather on it to the first person in the other team line, and then join the back of that team line. The person with the plate must then do the same, walking across the room to the first team line, saying the verse, passing the plate, and then joining the back of that team line. You must say the verse! You must not drop the feather! At the end, when everyone has been across the room and said the verse, the two teams should finish up at opposite ends of the room from where they began. 7. Remind kids to be patient and to wait for God to answer their prayers. 8. Finish with a group repetition of the verse. <p>Idea: After the session, you could write the memory verse onto a sheet of card to make a poster for your room. This will add to your decoration as well as reminding kids of the Bible concept. Then you can also refer to it in later sessions of this series.</p>	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Memory verse slide (Psalm 27:14)</i></p> <p><i>Paper plate and feather</i></p>

