



UNIT 4 | SESSION 2

GOD DELIVERED HIS PEOPLE

EXODUS 5-12

KEY PASSAGE:

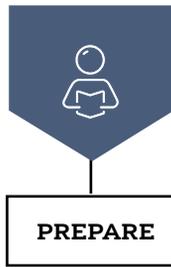
Numbers 23:19

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Does God keep His promises? Yes, God always keeps His promises because He is faithful.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

By His grace, God spared the Israelites from judgment by requiring the blood of a lamb. Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. His death was the ultimate sacrifice, and those who trust in Jesus are under His saving blood and will be passed over in the final judgment.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



LEADER Bible Study

God’s heart is for His people. When the Israelites cried out to the Lord, He heard them and had a plan to rescue them from their suffering.

That’s why God called Moses back to Egypt. Though Moses had been raised among the royal household in Egypt, his heart was for his own people too. God chose Moses to deliver the enslaved Israelites after a series of plagues

God’s purpose in sending the plagues was not only to get His people out of Egypt; the plagues would put God’s power on display and stand as acts of judgment against the Egyptians. (See Ex. 7:4-5.) The plagues made life in Egypt uncomfortable. In some instances, the people suffered terribly.

The plagues did convince some of Pharaoh’s officials to take God’s word seriously, but other Egyptians—including Pharaoh—refused to humble themselves. It was the tenth plague, the death of the firstborn, that finally got Pharaoh to send the Israelites out of his land.

The heart of the gospel is found in the story of the Passover. The Israelite people were sinful; they deserved death just as much as the Egyptians did, but God graciously provided a way out to keep the promises He made to Adam and Eve in Genesis 3 and to

Abraham in Genesis 12 and 15.

At the Passover, the Israelites killed a lamb instead. By marking their doorposts with the blood of a lamb, the Israelites were spared from the judgment and death they deserved.

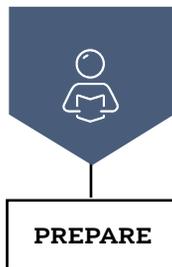
God kept His promise to rescue His people from the power of the Egyptians. Each year, the Israelites remembered this miraculous event by observing the Passover festival.

Jesus never sinned, but He was crucified for our sins. We too are deserving of death, but the blood of Jesus—the Lamb of God—covers all who trust in Him and sets us free from sin and death.

God is faithful to keep His promises. He calls us to remember that Jesus has freed us from slavery to sin so we are free to live for His glory.

TERMS TO KNOW

Passover feast: Hebrew feast to remind the Israelites of how God delivered them from slavery in Egypt. Passover was celebrated by Jesus and His disciples and is still celebrated by Jewish people today.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



WELCOME

Activity Page

- "A Lamb of Love" activity page

Session Starter (Option 2)

- index cards, 10
- dry erase board or chalkboard
- dry erase marker or chalk
- eraser



LEARN

Introduce the Session

- Countdown video

Big Picture Question

- Big Picture Question Poster

Review the Timeline

- Giant Timeline

Tell the Bible Story

- "God Delivered His People" video
- Bible Story Picture Poster

Questions from Kids

- "Unit 4, Session 2" questions from kids video

Missions Moment

- Printable: "McDonald Family Photo"
- world map

Key Passage Activity

- Key Passage Poster
- sticky notes
- "Unchanging God (Numbers 23:19)" song
- worship song of your choice (optional)



LOVE

Discussion & Bible Skills

- Small Group Timeline and Map Set (optional)



LIVE

Activity Choice (Option 1)

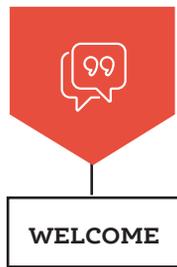
- play money or plastic coins
- bowls or buckets, 1 per team
- cups, 1 per kid
- stopwatch or timer

Activity Choice (Option 2)

- index cards, 10

Reflection and Prayer

- Bible Story Coloring Page (optional)



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “Can you think of a time something wonderful was delivered to your house? What does it mean to be delivered? Today we will learn about a different kind of delivery, where God delivered people out of slavery and into freedom.”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete the “A Lamb of Love” activity page.

SAY “It may have seemed odd at first to think that the word lamb could be transformed into the word love, but changing one letter at a time makes it more obvious. In some ways, that points to our story today. We will see how God used lambs to show His love for the Israelites.”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: PHARAOH, MAY I?



Select one kid to be Pharaoh. She will stand apart from the other kids. The rest of the kids will take turns requesting to move some number of steps toward the far side of the room. Pharaoh will decide which requests to grant, which to deny, or which to change. Whoever reaches the far side of the room is free. Play additional rounds as time allows, choosing a different Pharaoh each time.

Example: “Pharaoh, may I take 5 giant steps toward freedom?”

“No, but you may take 5 baby steps toward freedom.”

SAY “Some of you were pretty stingy with allowing the other kids to cross the room. Today we will hear about a time the real Pharaoh in Egypt refused to allow the Israelites to be free. We’ll also learn what God did to free His people from Pharaoh.”

OPTION 2: PLAGUE PICTURES

Write select plagues on separate index cards (Nile River turned to blood, frogs, gnats, flies, death of livestock, boils, hail, locusts, darkness).

Select a kid to choose a card and draw on a dry erase board or chalkboard a picture representing the plague on the card without saying anything or making any noises. Whoever guesses the plague can draw the next plague.

SAY “A plague is a great disaster that affects a nation. It can be a disease that causes illness or something like a famine, when there isn’t enough food. Today we will learn why God sent plagues to Egypt.”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “ Hey there, kids! It is always great to see you here. Raise your hand if you brought a Bible. [Allow responses and distribute a classroom Bible to any kids who need one.] We study the Bible to learn what is true about God and ourselves, so it’s good to have access to a copy of it. The Bible is God’s Word and everything in it is true. It tells us everything we need to know to have a relationship with God.

Those of you who have been coming each week will know that our journey through the Bible is well underway. We started at the beginning with Genesis, which actually means beginnings. We have gotten to the second book of the Bible, called Exodus. Exodus means ‘exit’ or ‘escape.’ Today, you’ll learn the story that gives the book its name. ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

SAY “ But first, let’s see if we can remember the big picture question and answer. Our big picture question helps guide our learning as we study the different stories that make up the one big story God is telling. Can anyone say it from memory? [Allow responses.] Well done! Let’s all say it together: **Does God keep His promises? Yes, God always keeps His promises because He is faithful.**

It’s important for us to know that God is faithful. Faithful means that you can depend on someone or something to always come through for you. God is perfectly faithful. He always comes through for us when we need Him. Through the Holy Spirit, He is always with believers and fills us with His power. God has proven His faithfulness again and again. If God promised something, and it hasn’t happened, that just means He isn’t finished yet. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “ Speaking of promises, we learned last week that God had promised to rescue His people from slavery. God called Moses and told him that he would be the one to lead Israel to freedom. Moses made excuses, but God promised to be with him and give him power.

This week, we are going to continue with the story to learn what God did to prove His power to Egypt and force Pharaoh to let the Israelites go free. Our story is called ‘God Delivered His People.’ ”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Exodus 5–12. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “God Delivered His People.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

GOD DELIVERED HIS PEOPLE

“**God’s people**, the Israelites, **were slaves in Egypt**, and God called Moses to rescue them. **Moses and his brother Aaron went to Pharaoh**, the king of Egypt **and told him**: “This is what **the LORD**, the God of Israel, **says: Let My people go.**”

But Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD? Why should I obey Him? **Israel may not go!**” **So God sent ten plagues** to punish the Egyptians.

First, **God turned the water in the Nile River into blood**. **But Pharaoh would not let the people go.**

God sent frogs into Egypt. Pharaoh said, “Ask your God to take away the frogs. Then I will let the people go.” **But** when God removed the frogs, **Pharaoh refused to let the people go.**

So **God sent gnats** that bit the people and animals. **Then** God sent **flies**, and **He caused all the livestock to die**. **Still, Pharaoh did not let the people go.**

God sent boils that covered the people, but Pharaoh’s heart was hard. Not even **a terrible hailstorm** changed Pharaoh’s mind. **Locusts** ate up the plants, **and then darkness** covered the land for three days. **But still, Pharaoh said no.**

God told Moses, “**I will bring one more plague**. After that, Pharaoh will let My people go.”

Moses warned Pharaoh: Every firstborn son in Egypt will die, but the Israelites will be safe. **Pharaoh ignored Moses.**

So **God told the Israelite families to kill a lamb and put its blood on the doorposts of their houses**. **This would be a special mark that God would see** and “pass over.” **The Israelites’ families would be safe.**

At midnight, **God struck every firstborn in the land of Egypt**. There was a great cry because there wasn’t a house without someone dead. **Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. “Go!” he said.**

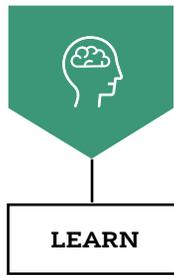
The Israelites were ready. All of them—600,000 men and their families—**left Egypt quickly**. They took bread and their animals. The Egyptians gave them gold, silver, and clothing.

God led His people out of Egypt. He was preparing a place for them in a land called Canaan (KAY nuhn). For 430 years, the Israelites had been slaves in Egypt. They were finally free!

STORYTELLING TIPS

Show pictures: Draw an icon for each plague (river, frog, gnat, fly, cow, sore, hail, locust, darkness, death). Point to the icons as you tell about the plagues.

Use hand motions: Encourage kids to give a thumbs up whenever someone in the story obeys God and a thumbs down whenever someone disobeys.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Christ Connection: By His grace, God spared the Israelites from judgment by requiring the blood of a lamb. Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. His death was the ultimate sacrifice, and those who trust in Jesus are under His saving blood and will be passed over in the final judgment. ”

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ One thing I always find fascinating about this story is all the different ways God showed His power over Egypt. You see, Egypt worshiped many false gods. Some were supposed to be in charge of the Nile, or the animals kept as livestock, or the sun. Each plague affected a different part of Egypt that was supposed to be protected by the Egyptian gods. But false gods have no power and can’t do anything to stop the real God of the universe.

God planned to save His people from slavery, and nothing can stop God’s plans. Generations before Moses, God had made a promise to Abraham to bless his family to bless the world, and to give them a land of their own. **Does God keep His promises? Yes, God always keeps His promises because He is faithful.** Because God is always faithful, it was only a matter of time before God fulfilled His promise to Abraham.

It’s important to remember though, that Israel didn’t earn God’s favor. It wasn’t because Israel was really good and holy that He chose to judge Egypt and rescue Israel from slavery. In fact, before the last plague, what did Israel have to do to be passed over? **[Allow responses.]** That’s right! They had to sacrifice a lamb and cover their door with its blood. The Israelites weren’t spared because they were better than the Egyptians, they were spared because God showed them mercy, allowing a lamb to die in place of their sons. ”

3 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ By His grace, God spared the Israelites from judgment by requiring the blood of a lamb. Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. His death was the ultimate sacrifice, and those who trust in Jesus are under His saving blood and will be passed over in the final judgment. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the guide provided to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

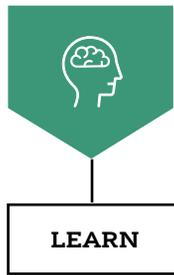
4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 4, Session 2” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Why did Pharaoh keep changing his mind about letting the Israelites go?
2. What can we do if we have a hard, stubborn heart toward God?

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Display the photo of the McDonald family. Ask the kids what they remember about them.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

SAY “ In our story today, God judged Egypt and freed His people. Missionaries all over the world take the gospel to unbelievers who need freedom from sin, and they do so with help from generous offerings. The hospital where Eric McDonald works is supported by churches.

Remember Larry and Sally Pepper? The McDonalds moved to Tanzania to work with them. Larry is a doctor, too. The hospital where he worked needed some changes. A church in Alabama helped them build a pediatric wing, which is a special part of the hospital that’s just for kids. By giving to missions offerings, we can help missionaries like the McDonalds and the Peppers get what they need to help people. And when they help people, they can also tell them about Jesus! ”

Show the kids where Tanzania is on a world map, and note how far it is from Alabama.

SAY “ Not everyone will go to Africa like the McDonalds. But anyone can support missions through giving. ”

Close in prayer for the McDonalds, Peppers, and any missionaries your church supports.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Numbers 23:19 together. Use sticky notes to cover a few words of the key passage. Challenge the kids to say it again, filling in the missing word from memory. Continue covering words until the kids are saying the whole verse from memory.

SAY “ Our key passage contains an important reminder: God is not like people. He is completely, 100 percent trustworthy. Even when a trustworthy person makes a promise, there’s at least some small chance she won’t be able to keep it. God is all-powerful and always keeps every promise He makes. If you find a promise in Scripture that God hasn’t upheld, it only means that we need to wait longer to see His plans unfold. ”

Lead kids to sing “Unchanging God (Numbers 23:19).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

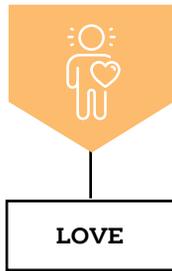
7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning from **LEARN** to **LOVE**.

SAY “ Lord, we love You and praise You. Your kindness and mercy to us never ends. We know that we cannot earn Your favor, and yet You offer it to us freely through Jesus. Help us to trust You. Give us hearts that want to follow You. Amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles. Guide boys and girls to open their Bibles to Exodus 5–12. Remind the kids that Exodus is the second book of the Bible, and is part of the Law division of the Old Testament. Ask a kid what the other four books of the Law are. (Genesis, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) The Law records the beginnings of God’s people and the rules God gave them for how to live and worship Him.

Choose a volunteer to read aloud Exodus 6:6-8. If there are no strong readers in your group, ask the kids to follow along as you read the verses aloud. Consider pointing out Egypt and Canaan on the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. (H7, G9)

SAY “ God knew that the Israelites would face punishment and additional hardships from Pharaoh before they were set free. God was showing His glory and power to the Egyptians.

God reminded Moses of the promises He had made to Abraham long ago. He had already grown them into a large nation, and He would use Egypt to make them wealthy and powerful before leading them toward the promised land. **Does God keep His promises? Yes, God always keeps His promises because He is faithful.** ”

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

| **SAY** “ Why did God send 10 plagues, instead of just the last plague? ”

Point out that we can’t fully understand all of God’s reasons, but the plagues were about more than just freeing His people. The plagues also demonstrated to Egypt that their false gods had no power. Even in the instances where Pharaoh’s magicians could copy God’s plagues, they could only copy it, not overcome it or undo it. God was showing His power to people who had built their entire culture on worshipping false gods.

| **SAY** “ Why did the Israelites have to sacrifice a lamb to be protected from the last plague? ”

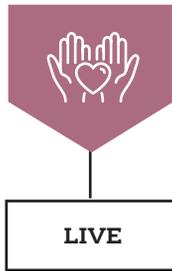
Remind the kids that everyone is guilty of sin. Everyone deserves God’s wrath because we all rebel against Him. God’s choice to give the Israelites a way to be saved shows His mercy and love. God was also showing a beautiful picture of the way He would eventually save everyone who believes. The blood of the lamb pointed forward to Jesus, the Lamb of God who died to take away the sins of the world.

| **SAY** “ How does this story show God’s faithfulness to keep His promises? ”

God showed His faithfulness in many ways. He was faithful to pass over the houses marked by blood. He was faithful to free His people. He was faithful to judge the Egyptians for their sin. God always keeps His promises. Any time you think about a promise of God that hasn’t happened—like the promise to send Jesus again—it means He isn’t done working yet.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: RACE TO GIVE



Form two or more teams of kids. Give each team a bucket of play money or plastic coins. Give each kid a cup and challenge kids to use their cups to take the money from their team's bucket to another team's bucket. Set a timer for three minutes. At the end of that time, the team with the least amount of play money in their bucket wins. Open your Bible and read aloud Acts 20:35.

SAY “ Through the sacrifice of lambs, God gave His people two incredible gifts: protection from the tenth plague and freedom from Egypt. God’s generosity can inspire us to live generously too. Giving to missions is a great way to support missionaries. The church in Alabama raised enough money to build a new wing on the hospital in Africa by giving generously. ”

Encourage kids to place their cups in their rooms to collect money for missions. Pray and ask God to help the kids be cheerful givers.

OPTION 2: PLAGUE CHARADES



Write each plague on a separate index card. Invite the kids to take turns drawing a card and acting out the plague depicted on the card. Play until each kid has had a chance to act out at least one plague.

SAY “ The plagues were a judgment on Egypt. Egypt worshiped many false gods and had treated the Israelites, God’s chosen people, very harshly. But it is important to remember that Israel wasn’t a nation of perfect people either. God spared them from judgment not because they were good and righteous, but because they trusted Him and obeyed His instructions regarding the lamb.

We are also sinners who can only be saved by faith in God. When God saves a person, it is because she has faith in Jesus, trusting that God will keep his promise to save sinners, not because she is righteous or does enough good things. **Does God keep His promises? Yes, God always keeps His promises because He is faithful.** ”

2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.