



PLAGUES & PASSOVER

Preschool-K • #OT11 • August 18, 2024

Concept

God takes care of everyone who trusts Him.

Goal

Children will learn about the plagues and Passover as a picture of Christ's sacrifice for us. They will learn that Jesus died for their sins and God takes care of everyone who puts their trust in Him.

Passage

Exodus 5-13

Key Verse: "I will strike Egypt with many miracles. After that the King will let you go." Exodus 3:20

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p>Activity Station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Rhyme Bible, L.J. Sattgast</i> • <i>The Big Picture Story Bible, David Helm</i> <p>Lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>10 Laminated Circles with Plagues, 1 set/class</i> 	<p>Learning Activity #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printed doors, 1/child • Key verse stickers, 1/child • Brown construction paper (1/2 sheet/child) • Glue sticks • Scissors • Crayons/markers (red in color) <p>Learning Activity #3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small marshmallows, several/child

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the italicized areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

Background Information/Teacher Helps

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The story of the first Passover contains rich images of the saving work of Christ. The Hebrew people had to smear the blood of a lamb on their doors to protect all those inside the house. This symbolized the action that all must take to be saved from destruction. We must accept the blood of Christ as payment for our sin to be passed out of judgment.

"God and Pharaoh

In chs. 4:29-12:36 a drama is enacted the parties of which are God, Egypt, and Israel. The object of it is three-fold: to reveal the power of God over His enemies; to demonstrate that Israel belonged to God and not to Pharaoh; and to establish the faith of Israel in God.

...6:14-10:29 is a series of plagues, which were a clash between two Powers, one Divine, and one human; a conflict between two religions, one true, and one false; a struggle for the supremacy of heaven, or of earth; of a Saviour or of a 'Serpent' (4:1-5).

The struggle was protracted and the battle swayed to and fro, but the devil was defeated by the Deliverer. These plagues were something more than devices to reduce Pharaoh's power of resistance; they were attacks upon the religion of the Egyptians, and upon their many gods. They are in a trinity of triplets, with a final movement which is both a curse and a blessing, a plague and a passover. The details of the plagues are summarized in Chart 31, which should be carefully studied."¹

1 W. Graham Scroggie, *The Unfolding Drama of Redemption*, © 1994, Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, Michigan, pp. 153-155.

CHART 31: THE PLAGUES ON EGYPT

SERIES	No.	PLAGUE	REF.	ATTACK	FEATURES	EFFECT
I Inflicted by Aaron. 7:19; 8:5; 8:16	1	BLOOD	7:14-25	On the Idol River	Announced	Hardened
	2	FROGS	8:1-15	On the Goddess Hekt (with frog head)	Announced	Hardened
	3	LICE (GNATS)	8:16-19	On Seb, the Earth God	Unannounced Defeat of Magicians	Hardened
II Inflicted by Jehovah 8:20-24; 9:3-6 On Egyptians only 8:23; 10:23 Inflicted by Moses 9:8, 10	4	BETTERLES (FLIES)	8:20-32	On the Sacred Scarabaeus	Announced In the morning	Compromise
	5	MURRAIN (Livestock Disease)	9:1-7	On the Apis, the Sacred Bull	Announced	Hardened
	6	BOILS	9:8-12	On the Typhon, the Evil Genius	Announced Defeat of Pharaoh	Hardened
III Inflicted by Moses 9:22, 10:23 On Egyptians only 8:23, 10:23 Protection for God-fearing Egyptians 9:20, 21	7	HAIL & FIRE	9:13-35	Oh Shu, the Atmosphere	Announced In the morning	Hardened
	8	LOCUSTS	10:1-20	On Serapia, protector from locusts	Announced Unannounced Defeat of Pharaoh	Compromise
	9	DARKNESS	10:21-29	On Ra, the Sun God	Announced Defeat of Pharaoh	Compromise
IV Birthday, and Doomsday	10	DEATH OF FIRST-BORN	11:1-12:36	On all Gods	THE PASSOVER	CAPITULATION

Set Up

The day of class: For Learning Activity #2 – Cut out a few doors for children who may not use scissors well, then cut the rest of the door pages into quarters. Cut brown construction paper in half if not already cut. Pull out red crayons and markers and put in trays.

Incorporation Lg. Group

Activity Stations:

- **Read Aloud – "Out of Egypt"**
 - **Instructions:** Read the story on pages 116-127 of The Rhyme Bible.
- **Read Aloud – The Big Picture Story Bible**
 - **Instructions:** Read pages 112-131

Introduction Lg. Group

Last week we learned about a baby. Does anyone remember that baby's name? Do you remember what happened to baby Moses? (Put into the river in a basket.) Well, just like you, Moses grew. And then he grew some more. When Moses was a man, God told him about the job He had for him to do. Moses' job was to take care of God's people. God said to him, "I will strike Egypt with many miracles. After that the King will let you go." Let me tell you about it.

Lesson Lg. Group

Instructions: As you tell about Moses and the plagues, put each laminated plague circle on the board as directed. Divide the class in half. One half will be Pharaoh and one half will be Moses. When you say, "Pharaoh said," the pharaoh side will say, "Oh NO, go away." When you say, "Moses said," the Moses side will say, "Let God's people go!"

Moses was one of God's people and there was a big problem. God's people were slaves in Egypt. Slaves are people who are owned by other people. They always have to do what they are told. Some slaves are treated cruelly, like God's people were in Egypt. They had to work very hard and it didn't matter if they were too tired or sick. So God told Moses to go to the pharaoh to tell him to let His people go. But God knew the pharaoh wouldn't do it! God's plan was to show everyone in the world that God takes care of everyone who trusts Him.

The first time Moses went to Pharaoh, Moses said, "Let God's people go!" And Pharaoh said, "Oh NO, go away."

- 1. So God told Moses to strike the Nile River with his staff. (Put the first laminated circle on the board.) And this is what happened. All the water in all the land turned to blood! Yuck, what a mess. Do you think the people could drink the water? NO! Do you think they wanted to swim in the water? NO!
- 2. But Pharaoh said the people could not go. Guess what happened next. (Put the second laminated circle on the board.) There were frogs everywhere! I MEAN EVERYWHERE!

- 3. But Pharaoh did not change his mind. So look what happened next. (Put the third laminated circle on the board.) Bugs began flying and crawling all over the Egyptians. (Lead children, YUCK-YUCK.)
- 4. Pharaoh still did not change his mind. (Put the fourth laminated circle on the board.) This time beetles came and made a mess in everyone's house. So, what do you think happened?
- 5. Still Pharaoh did not let the people go. (Put the fifth laminated circle on the board.) This time all the farm animals got sick, but still Pharaoh would not listen to Moses.
- 6. (Put the sixth laminated circle on the board.) Even after the Egyptian people got terrible sores all over their bodies, Pharaoh would not let the people go.
- 7. (Put the seventh laminated circle on the board.) Then God sent balls of ice called hail. The hail and bad storms fell only on the Egyptians. But NO balls of hail or heavy storms fell on God's people.
- 8. Still Pharaoh wouldn't let the people go. (Put the eighth laminated circle on the board.) God sent grasshoppers to eat all the plants on the Egyptian farms. So all the plants looked like this without any leaves left.
- 9. And still Pharaoh did not let God's chosen people go. (Put the ninth laminated circle on the board.) Darkness covered all of Egypt except where God's people lived, but Pharaoh still wouldn't listen to Moses. Pharaoh asked his gods to help, but no help came. Do you know why? They couldn't help because they were made-up gods. The God of Moses is the only real God. And only the real God takes care of everyone who trusts Him.
- 10. Now we have just one bag left. This is the one that made Pharaoh change his mind and let God's people go. (Put the tenth laminated circle on the board.) God told Moses that He was ready to show the pharaoh that God takes care of everyone who trusts Him. He said, "Moses, go tell all the people, all My people and all the Egyptian people, that they must paint the blood of a perfect lamb over their door because I will go through the land and kill the first child of all the families and animals." Then God promised, "When I see the blood, I will pass over you."

So, the people who believed that God takes care of everyone who trust Him painted the lamb's blood around the doors of their houses. Then just as God said, it happened—at about midnight the angel went through Egypt. And just as He promised, God passed over all the houses that had the lamb's blood on their door. God took care of everyone who trusted Him! It was a very sad day for Pharaoh. Because he didn't believe in the real God and didn't put the blood around his door, his son died. Pharaoh told Moses to take God's people out of Egypt. God's people were set free!

Let's get into small groups to find out how God wants to take care of us.

Learning Activity#1 Sm. Groups

- God took care of everyone who trusted Him! How did the people show that they trusted God? (They put the lamb's blood on the door.) Do you know what? Even some Egyptian people put blood on their doors because they trusted the real God.
- God told His people to always remember that they put the lamb's blood on the doorframe of their house and He passed over them. God wanted the people to remember because it showed them what Jesus would come to do. What very special thing did Jesus come to do? Jesus was killed on the cross so that God can pass over our sins. We show that we trust Jesus when we tell Him that we want Him to pass over our sins.

Let's pray and thank God that He takes care of everyone who trusts Him. Let's pray that we can learn to trust Him every day.

Transition

Let's make a craft that will remind us that God takes care of everyone who trusts Him.

Learning Activity#2 Lg. Group

Craft – Bag of Plagues

- **Instructions:** Give each child a door to cut out and glue to the brown paper. Give each child a key verse sticker. Encourage the children to color above and around their door with red. This represents the death of the lamb and its blood protecting them from death as the angel of death passed over. They can remember that God took care of everyone who trusted Him. While the children work, talk about all the ways that God provided for His people. Ask them to think of ways that He has provided for them.

Learning Activity#3 Lg. Group

Snack/Review

- **Instructions:** Have the children sit down for a snack. Tell them that there was also a Passover meal that had special food in it to remind people that God saves everyone who trusts him. The people ate matzo bread that wasn't soft and puffy like the bread we often eat, but flat and hard since they had to leave in a hurry (so the bread didn't have time to rise). Other foods remind them of their hard work (the Haroseth) and how sad and unhappy (bitter herbs) they were before God rescued them. Although we don't have time to eat a big Passover dinner, we have some other special treats to remember that God saves everyone who trusts Him. Give them marshmallow "hailstones" while you remind them of what God saved the people who trusted him from! See who can name the other plagues.

Optional Activity

Let's Pretend

Instructions: Put up on the board all ten laminated plague circles. Have a teacher stand in front and call out the plagues one by one for the children to act out. Older classrooms can have the children choose and could also add movement across the room. For example, instead of saying, "everyone jump like a frog, now everyone pretend there is a swarm of flies around your head," say "now all the frogs jump from this wall to that wall, now have the swarms of flies chase you from that wall back to me," etc. Be sure to pretend to paint over the wall and talk about Jesus again.

Skit - Passover/Trust in God

Cast: Squeaker, Lucy

Squeaker enters with a loud flair

Squeaker: Hello Everyone. How are you today? Is everyone having a good time? I've had a great summer. Have you? What's your favorite summer food?

Listen to the kids; be prepared to ask different kinds of food to get a response

Do you know what I like? I like liver and onions.

wait for response

Just kidding, no I like what some of you like. Do you thank God for what you have to eat? That's important isn't it? God loves us a whole lot and gives us what we need, doesn't he?

Oh, that reminds me, I heard that you were talking about Passover and the plagues of Egypt today. I wonder what that was all about?

Enter Lucy, loudly shouts Squeaker's name, drawing out the length of his name; she is very energetic the whole skit

Lucy: SQUEEKER! Hi Squeaker, I was trying to find you.

noticing the kid

Oh! Hi guys. Squeaker I wanted to find you this weekend. I just did something at the pool and wanted to try it with you.

Squeaker: *a little nervous about that*

Well... okay. But first I want to ask you a question. Do you know anything about Passover and the plagues of Egypt? I think I saw a movie about it but I don't remember.

Lucy: You don't remember. Yeah there was a movie that showed it. We watched it together. Don't you remember, we also read about it in the bible? The Jews were slaves in Egypt, God wanted to take them out of Egypt, He sent Moses to get them out but Pharaoh didn't want to let them go. So God sent the plagues to Egypt to teach them that He is God and when he says something people should listen. Passover was set up to protect the Jews from the last of the 10 plagues.

Squeaker: *double take*

What do you mean protect? I thought the plagues were against Egypt.

Lucy: They were but God had the Jews perform Passover so that they would learn to trust that He would save them. If the Jews wanted to be saved, they had to trust God and follow His instructions and put lamb's blood on their doors. That way the plague would "pass over" their house. Get it?

Squeaker: Oh I remember now. Yeah, I get it. Thanks. So what was it that you wanted to show me from school?

Lucy: Oh yeah, I almost forgot. It's called a Trust Fall. It's where you fall backwards and trust me to catch you. Do you trust me?

Squeaker: Not as much as I trust God. Are you sure you'll catch me.

Lucy: Sure I will. Have I every not caught you before?

Squeaker: I don't know, you've never had the chance. How do we do this?

Lucy: Turn around and when I say, "Fall backward", go ahead and I'll catch you.

Squeaker: Okay, here goes.

turns to the audience

You know, it's a good thing I'm a puppet, because if she drops me it won't hurt. All the same maybe I should say good-bye to you now, just in case.

Lucy: Don't be such a worrywart. You know I'm stronger than you. Look. My arms are much bigger than yours. Okay. Fall backward.

Squeaker: Good-byeeeeeeee!

This is said as he falls backward. Both puppets exit by sinking below the stage.