

WEEK 1 | YOUNGER ELEMENTARY

Need to Know: God Cares About My Life

Bible Story: Moses Grows Up

Bible Reference: Exodus 1-2



CIRCLE UP

- DO**
- Welcome kids to church and tell them who you are.
 - **Sanitize** kids' hands. Have each child share his/her first name and initials. Then use the **Western Name Guide** to tell each child his/her cowboy/cowgirl name based on what was shared.

SAY *I'm so glad you're here today, and it was so much fun hearing all of our western names! We're starting a new series called, "Way Out West," where we'll discover that God has a special purpose for each of our lives.*

Today we are going to talk about how God cares about our lives. So let me hear you say this after me:

God Cares (both hands point up)

About My Life (point to self)

READ THE BIBLE

- DO** Read the **Bible Story Sheet** aloud to the group, and play "Pictionary" using the **dry erase marker**, **dry erase board**, and **paper towel** as prompted.

- SAY**
- What was Pharaoh's rule for the Israelites: that all baby boys had to be thrown into the river or that all baby horses had to be lassoed? (Baby boys had to be thrown into the river)
 - Who found baby Moses in the basket by the river: a sneaky bandit or Pharaoh's daughter? (Pharaoh's daughter)
 - True or False: God had a special plan for Moses to lead His people out of Egypt. (True)
 - God cared for Moses as a baby by keeping him safe, and God continued to care for Moses as he grew up. We know that God cares about our lives, too!

LET'S PRACTICE

- DO**
1. **Sanitize** kids' hands. Divide kids into two teams, and place the **Way Out West Cards** in the center of the group, logo side up.
 2. Alternate teams, allowing each child to take turns using their team's **sticky cactus** to turn over a Card. Then do the following for each type of Card:
 - Good Sheriff - Read the Card aloud and give the team 1 point for answering correctly.
 - Footprint - Sneaky bandit got away! Put Card in discard pile.
 - Sneaky Bandit - Allow the team to keep the Card and give them 2 points.
 3. At the end of the game, count each team's points to see which team wins!

SAY *No matter what happens in our lives, we can remember that God cares for us. Let me hear you say this after me:*
God Cares (both hands point up)
About My Life (point to self)

LET'S PRAY

SAY *Hey God! Thank You for helping us see that You care about everything in our lives. Help us to show Your love to others by caring for them, too. We love You! Amen.*

MEMORIZE IT

SAY & DO *There's a verse in the Bible that tells us God is always working things out for our good. Let me teach it to you! Say this after me:*
"We know that (both hands point to head)
God is always at work (pound fists)
for the good (thumbs to chest)
of everyone who loves Him. (cross arms over chest)
They are the ones (both hands point out)
God has chosen for His purpose." (hands out, palm up)
Romans 8:28 (make book with hands)

Use the **snake** to play "Hot Potato," allowing kids to say one word of the verse as they pass the snake. The person holding the snake when the group says, "28," is out. Continue playing until there is one child left.

Place **coloring utensils** in the middle of the group, and give each child a **Memory Verse Coloring Sheet**. Remind kids to memorize this verse so they can win a prize!