

FORGETFUL MOSES

MOSES AND THE BURNING BUSH



HUH?



Forgetful Moses! (Moses and the Burning Bush)



Concepts Children Learn:

- God wants us to remember who he is.
- God is patient when we forget.
- God helps us even when we don't feel brave.

Supplies:

- Bible marked with verses
- Printed lesson/craft pages
- Craft supplies
- Activity supplies

Completed Craft Samples to Use For Lesson:

- Baby Moses (from Lesson 1)
- Moses puppet and sheep (from lesson 2)
- Aaron puppet
- Stand-up Burning Bush
- Moses Accessories: Staff, snake, hand, sandals
- Prep:** Make craft samples.

Key Verse: Exodus 3:12a. **Lesson based on verses:** Exodus 3:1 - 4:31. **Verses used in lesson:** Exodus 3:5-6; Matthew 10:29-31. **Reference verses:** Genesis 1:1-27; Revelation 1:8; Psalm 139:13-18.

Lesson Snapshot – Week 1 Lesson, Crafts, Activities (See Crafts and Activities for details)	
Help Me Feel Welcome Warm-up Activity	I'm Hungry Snack Time
Greet children as they arrive. Show children the Warm-up Activity. Give them choices for alternative activities such as coloring, toys, etc.	Refer to Activity page for snack ideas.
Intro: Review of Moses Bible Stories	Let me Share Talk Time
Pictures of baby and child Moses. Moses Shepherd puppet.	Children learn that we are a lot like Moses. We forget how precious we are to God, and we forget who God is. Children get a chance to share about when they are afraid.
Let's Play Activity: Bible Puppets!	Let Me Pray Prayer Time
Children see, first-hand, Moses the Bible Puppet at the burning bush.	Teacher or adult prays about the concepts of the lesson. Children can also take turns praying.
More Puppets! God Does Miracles for Moses!	Make My Own Craft Time
Children learn the miracles that God does for Moses: Turning the staff into a snake, and turning his hand white with leprosy.	Children get a chance to make their own Moses and the Burning Bush craft, puppets with stickers, or 3D burning bush.
Bible Time Sticker Activity: Forgetful Moses	Let me Rhyme Time
Children learn that Moses was forgetful just like we are. Moses is reminded in a funny way to take his staff and sandals.	A rhyme with actions for teacher to lead. Children follow the actions if they want to join in the fun.
Let Me Answer! Group Activity	Let's Play Puppets!
Children anticipate what will happen as Moses and Aaron perform the miracles that they already saw God do with Moses.	Encourage children to play with the puppets and act out parts of the Bible story using the puppets.

Review of Moses Bible Stories:

(A picture of baby Moses – Week 1) **The last few weeks we have been learning the true Bible story of Moses. First, we learned how God protected Moses as a baby. Then we learned how God helped Moses be brave when he helped the girls get water for their sheep at the well. (Moses and lamb Puppet – Week 2)**

Moses worked as a shepherd. He was doing o.k. But, back in Egypt, the Israelites were *not* doing o.k. They were still slaves; and they were still being treated very badly by the Egyptians who were in charge of them. But when the Israelites cried out to God, he saw their tears, and he heard their prayers. And, he had a great plan to help them. Let's see how God uses Moses in his great plan.

Let's Play Activity: Bible Puppets

(Set up burning bush). **One day when Moses was watching over his sheep on Mount Horeb, the mountain of God, he looked up and saw a bush that was on fire. Moses knew that when a bush burns, it gets black. But, this one wasn't turning black. Its leaves were still green! Moses was curious, so he went over to see what was going on. (Bring Moses puppet over to bush).**

But when he got there, he got a big surprise. An angel of the Lord appeared to him from the flames! Moses heard his name being called: "Moses! Moses!" It was God calling out to Moses. (Make Moses jump up and down). So Moses answered, "Here I am! Here I am!" God spoke again. (Read Exodus 3:5).

Let's help Moses take off his sandals. (Take off Moses' sandals).

(Read Exodus 3:6)

Moses didn't feel brave any more, so he hid his face from God. (Bend Moses' arms at the shoulder so his hands covers his face).

God spoke from the bush. He said, "I have heard the cries of my people in Egypt! They are being treated very badly. I don't want them to suffer! I want to bring them out of Egypt, and take them to a better place – to a land rich in milk and honey! So, I am sending *you* to bring them out of Egypt!"

Uh-oh. Moses didn't feel brave. Moses forgot who he was. He forgot that he was *also* one of God's precious children. Moses forgot how God had saved him as a little baby, and how God helped him be brave enough to help the girls at the well. So Moses said, "Who am I? Why should I go"? God knew how Moses felt. He was patient with Moses and told him, "I'll be with you."

O.k. Great. God's going to be with him. But Moses had more questions. He asked, "If I go to the Israelites and tell them, "God has sent me to you," they'll want to know who you are. What should I tell them?"

Moses forgot who God was too. He forgot that God is the same great God who made the *whole world*, the God who saves, and the one who does miracles!

God answered, "I am who I am. Tell them I AM has sent you – the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. When you go to the king and ask him to let you and the Israelites go, he'll say 'No!' But I'll perform many miracles. Then he'll let you go."

Bible Puppets – God Does Miracles for Moses

Oh. I see. O.k. But Moses *still* didn't feel brave enough to do this *really big job* that God wanted him to do. He wanted to be sure, so he asked God, "What if they don't listen to me?" The Lord was patient once again with Moses. He would show Moses what he would do. He said, "What's in your hand?" "It's my staff." Moses answered. The Lord told Moses, "Throw it on the ground." So Moses threw it on the ground. (Lay staff on ground). Yikes! And all of a sudden it became a snake. (Replace staff with snake. Make Moses run away from snake). The snake scared Moses, so he ran from it! Then God said, "Grab it by its tail", so Moses did, and it became his staff again. (Replace snake with staff). Whew! I'm glad we don't have to deal with the snake any more!

Then God said, "Put your hand inside your coat." So, Moses did. (Place hand inside pocket slit. Put white hand sticker over hand from the back).

And when he took his hand back out, (Take hand out) it was white! Yikes! He had leprosy, a terrible disease! God said, "Put your hand back in your coat". So Moses did.

(Put hand back inside pocket slit, take off sticker, pull hand back out). Then his hand was back to normal. Whew! I'm glad Moses doesn't have leprosy any more! Then God said, "If they still don't believe you, take some water from the Nile river and pour it on the ground. It will become blood". I'll do all these things for you so that they will believe that I really appeared to you.

Bible Time Sticker Activity: Forgetful Moses

Now Moses knew God could do all these great things, but Moses still didn't feel brave enough to lead the people and stand up to Pharaoh. (Bend Moses' arm to make him touch his mouth). He said, "Excuse me. I'm not very good at speaking. I talk slow and I have trouble saying words sometimes." God was patient once again. God asked Moses, "Who made your mouth?"

I guess Moses forgot that God *made him* and knew all about him too. Once again God was patient with Moses and told him, "I will help you speak to the people. And I will tell you what to say".

O.k. But...Moses *still* didn't feel like a brave leader! He said, "Excuse me, God. Couldn't you please send somebody else?"

God answered and said, "Aaron your brother speaks well. He will go with you, and I will help you both! He is already on his way here!" (Bring the Aaron puppet in from far away).

But God knew how forgetful Moses was, so he said, "Uh, Moses...don't forget your staff. You need it to perform the miracles!" (Moses): "Oh, yeah." Moses grabbed his staff. (Stick Moses' staff in his hand).

Now Moses is all ready to do the big job God asked him to do. He has his brother to help him. (Bring Aaron up front). He has his staff. (Point to staff). And best of all, he has God – (Point up) the one who helps him remember everything, and the one who helps him with everything else too. Oh, and Moses, Um...Don't forget your sandals. You'll need those too. Moses: "Oh, yeah." (Put sandals on Moses).

So Moses took his wife and his sons, put them on a donkey and went back to Egypt, just like God told him to do. Aaron went out to meet Moses on the mountain of God. Moses told Aaron everything the Lord had said, and showed him the miracles God had done with his staff and his hand.

Let Me Answer! Group Activity

When they got to Egypt, Moses and Aaron brought together the leaders of the Israelites and told them everything God had told Moses, and showed them all the miracles God had done for Moses. Just like before, when he threw his staff on the ground, what did it do? (Throw staff on table. Let children answer). **Right! It turned into a snake!** (Replace staff with snake).

When Moses put his hand in his pocket, what did it do? (Place hand sticker over Moses' hand like before. Let children answer). **Good! it turned white with leprosy, just like before. And, when he put it in his pocket again, what happened then?** (Pull hand out, without sticker. Let children answer). **Very good. It went back to normal.**

Then all the Israelites believed. Now they knew God was concerned about them, and so they bowed down and worshipped God!

(Transition: Break for snack).

Let Me Share Talk Time: We're a Lot Like Moses

Let's talk about the story! When Moses came to the mountain of God, God told him he was standing on holy ground. That's because God is Holy. That means God never sins. He never does anything wrong. But Moses knew that he did sin, and *did do* wrong things. That's why he was afraid and hid his face from God. But did Moses really need to be afraid of God? No. Not if he remembered who God is.

After God told him about the big job he had planned for Moses, Moses forgot how special he was to God, and he became afraid. He asked God, "Who am I...that I should go?" Moses forgot how God saved him as a little baby. Sometimes we don't feel brave when we forget how precious we are to God. Jesus told us about how much God cares for us. Let's listen: (Read Matthew 10:29:30-31). God knows every little thing about us; And, we are each worth so much to him! So we don't have to be afraid to do what he asks us to do. God will help us be brave even when we don't feel brave.

Moses also forgot who God was. Moses asked God, "Who should I tell the people that you are?" God said, "I AM." He just wanted Moses to trust that he is the God who always was, the God who is, and the God who will be there forever! He is the God who made the whole world and the one who even made him! That's why Moses got afraid and told God he couldn't speak well. So, God said to Moses, "I'll be with you!" And, he sent his brother Aaron to speak for him and help him.

Who can tell us a time when they were afraid? (Let children answer). **It's ok to ask God for help when we don't feel brave, just like Moses did. God is patient with us. God promises to be with us and help us. It doesn't matter if we feel brave or not. God just wants us to remember who he is, and how precious we are to him. He just wants us to trust him. He'll do the rest.**

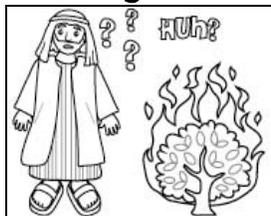
Be sure to come back next week! We will see how God uses Moses in some great ways to do everything he wants to do for his people.

Let Me Pray Prayer Time

Prayer Sample: (This is just an example of what you could say. Listen to the Holy Spirit and say the words he gives you)

Dear God, Thank you for being our great God who made everything, and even made us. Please help us to remember how great you are, and how much you care for us. In Jesus' name.

Forgetful Moses! (Moses and the Burning Bush)



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Children anticipate what will happen as Moses and Aaron perform the miracles that they already saw God do with Moses.	Encourage children to play with the puppets and act out parts of the Bible story using the puppets.

Review of Moses Bible Stories:

(A picture of baby Moses – Week 1) **We have been learning about Moses. First, we learned how God protected Moses as a baby. Then we learned how God helped Moses be brave at the well.** (Moses and lamb Puppet – Week 2)

Now Moses was a shepherd. Do you remember what a shepherd does? (Let children answer). **Yes. A shepherd watches over the sheep. Moses was doing o.k. But, back in Egypt, the Israelites were *not* doing o.k. They were slaves; and they were being treated very badly by the Egyptians who were in charge of them. But when the Israelites cried out to God, he saw their tears, and he heard their prayers. And, God had a great plan to help them. Let's see how God will use Moses to help the Israelite people.**

Let's Play Activity: Bible Puppets

(Set up burning bush). **One day Moses was watching over his sheep way up high on a mountain. Moses looked up and saw a bush that was on fire. The bush was burning, but it didn't get black. This one was still green! Moses went over to see it close up.** (Bring Moses puppet over to bush).

When he got there, he got a big surprise! Moses heard his name being called: "Moses! Moses!" It was God calling out to Moses. (Make Moses jump up and down). **So Moses answered, "Here I am!" God spoke again.** (Read Exodus 3:5). **Let's help Moses take off his sandals.** (Take off Moses' sandals). (Read Exodus 3:6) **Moses didn't feel brave any more, so he hid from God.** (Bend Moses' arms at the shoulder so his hands covers his face).

God spoke from the bush. He said, "I have heard the cries of my people in Egypt! They are being treated very badly. I don't want them to cry any more! I want to bring them out of Egypt, and take them to a better place – to a land full of milk and honey! I am sending *you* to lead!"

Moses was afraid. He didn't feel brave. Moses asked God, "Why me?" God knew Moses was afraid, so he was patient with Moses. He told Moses, "I'll be with you." Moses asked God, "If I go to the Israelites, what should I tell them?" God answered, "Tell them I AM has sent you – the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

Bible Puppets – God Does Miracles for Moses

But Moses *still* didn't feel brave, so he asked God, "What if they don't listen?" Now God showed Moses what he would do. He said, "Throw your staff on the ground." A staff is a stick that shepherd's use to guide their sheep. So Moses threw his staff on the ground. (Lay staff on ground). **Yikes! And all of a sudden it became a snake!** (Replace staff with snake. Make Moses run away from snake). **The snake scared Moses, so he ran from it! Then God said, "Grab the snake by its tail", so Moses did, and it became his staff again.** (Replace snake with staff).

Then God said, "Put your hand inside your coat." So, Moses did. (Place hand inside pocket slit. Put white hand sticker over hand from the back). **And when he took his hand back out, (Take hand out) it was white! Yikes! He had leprosy, a terrible disease! God said, "Put your hand back in your coat". So Moses did.** (Put hand back inside pocket slit, take off sticker, pull hand back out). **Then his hand was back to normal. I'll do all these things for you so that the people will believe that I really appeared to you.**

Now Moses saw that God could do all these great things, but Moses still didn't feel brave! (Bend Moses' arm to make him touch his mouth). **He said, "I don't speak very well. I talk slow." God was still patient with Moses. God told Moses, "I will help you speak to the people." But...Moses *still* didn't feel brave! He said, "Couldn't you send somebody else?"**

Bible Time Sticker Activity: Forgetful Moses

God answered and said, “Aaron your brother will go with you! I will help you both! He is coming now!” (Bring the Aaron puppet in from far away). **But God knew how forgetful Moses was, so he said, “Moses...don't forget your staff. You need it to do the miracles!”** (Moses): **“Oh, yeah.”** **Moses grabbed his staff.** (Stick Moses' staff in his hand).

Now Moses is all ready! He has his brother to help him. (Bring Aaron up front). **He has his staff.** (Point to staff). **And best of all, he has God –** (Point up) **the one who helps him with everything!** **Oh, and Moses, Don't forget your sandals. You'll need those too.** Moses: **“Oh, yeah.”** (Put sandals on Moses).

So Moses and his family and went to Egypt, just like God told him to. Aaron, his brother, went out to meet Moses on the mountain. Moses told Aaron everything the Lord had said, and showed him all the miracles God did!

Let Me Answer! Group Activity

When they got to Egypt, Moses and Aaron went to the leaders of the people. They told the leaders everything God had told Moses. Then they showed the leaders all the miracles God had done for Moses.

Just like before, when Moses threw his staff on the ground, what did it do? (Throw staff on table. Let children answer). **Right! It turned into a snake!** (Replace staff with snake). **When Moses put his hand in his pocket, what did it do?** (Place hand sticker over Moses' hand like before. Let children answer). **Good! it turned white with leprosy, just like before. And, when he put it in his pocket again, what happened then?** (Pull hand out, without sticker. Let children answer). **Very good. It went back to normal. Then all the Israelites believed. Now they knew God loved them, and so they bowed down and worshipped God!** (Transition: Break for snack).

Let Me Share Talk Time: We're a Lot Like Moses

Let's talk about the story! After God told him about the big job he had planned for Moses, Moses became afraid. He asked God, “Why Me?” Sometimes we don't feel brave when we forget how precious we are to God. Jesus told us about how much God cares for us. Let's listen: (Read Matthew 10:29:30-31). **God knows everything about us; And, we are each worth so much to him! So we don't have to be afraid. God will help us be brave even when we don't feel brave.**

Moses forgot who God was. God wanted Moses to trust him. He is the God who made the whole world and the one who even made Moses! But Moses was afraid because he couldn't speak well. So, God said to Moses, “I'll be with you!” And, he sent his brother Aaron to speak for him and help them both.

Who wants to tell us a time when they were afraid? (Let children answer). **It's ok to ask God for help when we don't feel brave. God is patient with us. God promises to be with us and help us. It doesn't matter if we feel brave or not. God just wants us to remember who he is, and how precious we are to him. He just wants us to trust him. He'll do the rest. Be sure to come back next week! We will see how God helped Moses lead the people out of Egypt!**

Let Me Pray Prayer Time

Prayer Sample: (This is just an example of what you could say. Listen to the Holy Spirit and say the words he gives you)

Dear God, Thank you for being our great God! Thank you that you made everything! You even made us. Please help us to remember how great you are, and how much you care for us. In Jesus' name.

Moses and the Burning Bush Preschool / Toddler Activities	
Warm-up- Let's Make Playdough Snakes!	
Items Needed:	Instructions:
Playdough	Show children how to take a little playdough, make it into a snake shape, and roll it to make it smooth. Tell children today's lesson will have a snake in it. Ask children what sound a snake makes. (Hiss-s-s).
Trays or waxed paper	
Prep: Give children trays or waxed paper to work on.	
Snack ideas	
Option 1: Serve pretzel sticks (These are Moses' staff) Option 2: Gummy snakes. http://www.nuts.com/chocolatessweets/gummies/gummy-novelty/snakes.html http://store.offbeat treats.com/HISSEEFIT.html http://www.amazon.com - search gummy snakes	
Action Rhyme: The Bush That Didn't Burn	
God led Moses to the mountain top.	Put hands together to make a point.
God and Moses needed to have a talk.	Open and close hand like talking mouth.
There Moses saw very strange sight!	Make circles with fingers, place over eyes.
A green burning bush – It didn't look right!	Shake head "no".
A burning bush should be turning black.	Wiggle fingers like flickering flames.
Moses went closer. He didn't stay back.	"Walk" with two fingers.
Then Moses heard, God calling his name!	Cup ear.
Moses! Moses! From the bush, the sound surely came!	Place hands by mouth, as if calling out.
Here I am! Moses answered, a little scared,	Point to yourself.
As the burning bush still flickered and flared.	Wiggle fingers like flickering flames.
"Moses take off his sandals, you're on holy ground",	Pretend to take off sandals.
God told Moses. He wasn't fooling around.	Shake head no.
God spoke. Moses listened to God's great plan.	Place hands by mouth, as if calling out.
God would free his people, and Moses was 'The Man'!	Point to yourself.
From the cruel slave owners, God would free his own.	Point up.
God would help Moses. He wouldn't be alone.	Shake head no.
God showed Moses the miracles he'd do!	Point up, then to yourself.
God had his brother Aaron help him, too.	Hold up one finger, then another.
God turned his staff into a slithery snake!	Move arm like snake.
And gave him leprosy, then healed him – Great!	Hold up hand, then turn hand around.
Now Moses was ready. He had everything he'd need.	Point to yourself.
After all that, Moses finally agreed.	Shake head "yes".
But Moses didn't have to be scared or afraid.	Shake head "no".
For God would be with him. He could just pray.	Point up, then to yourself. Place hands together in prayer.
See Lesson Page for Question and Answer Time - Group Activity	

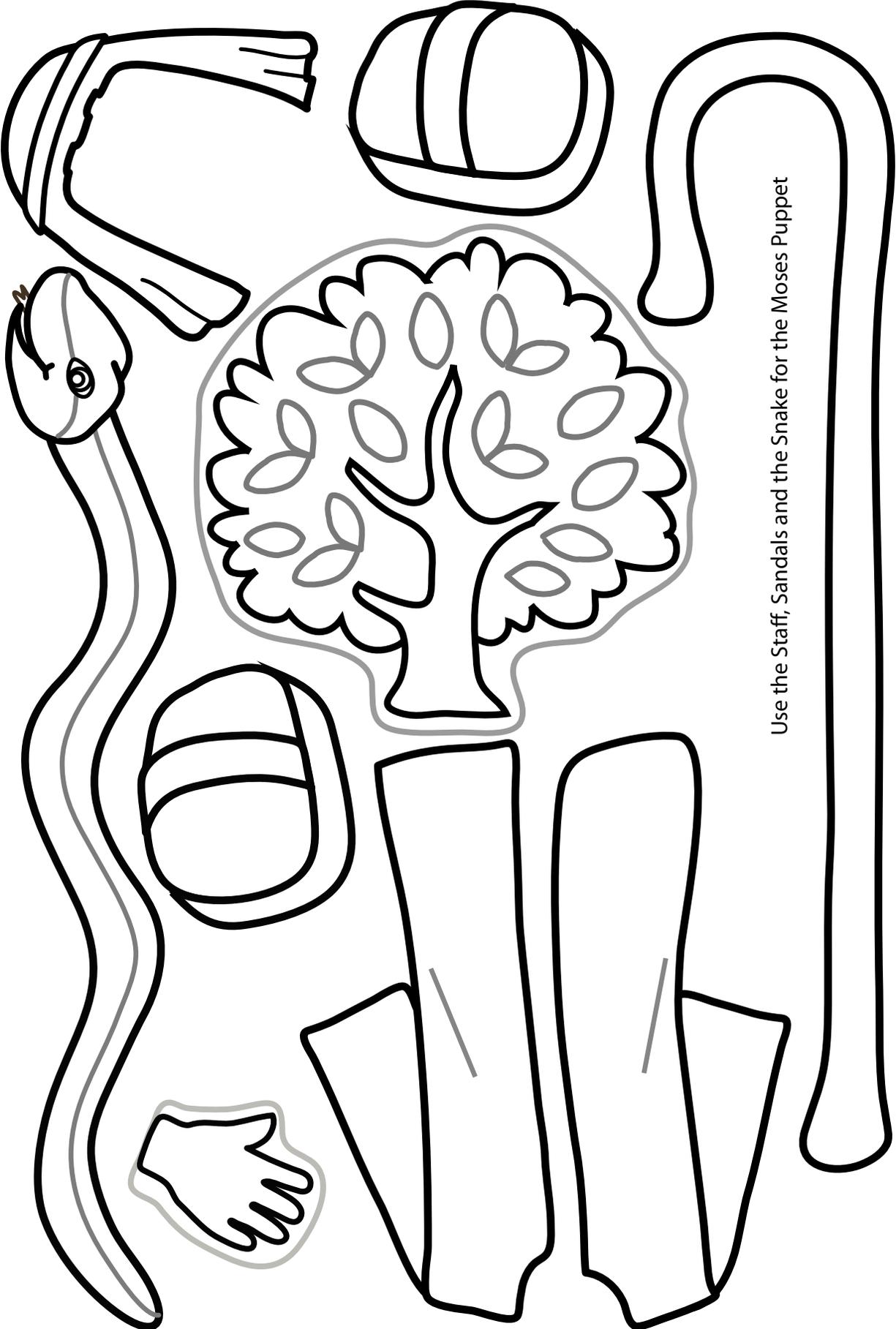
Moses Burning Bush Preschool and Toddler Crafts

Safety Tips: Keep scissors out of reach of children. Keep all glue caps, marker caps and other small items out of reach of children age 3 or under, as they are a choking hazard. Use nontoxic washable markers only. Watch young children when they are using crayons, to be sure they don't put them in their mouths. Have an emergency plan in place in case of injury, ie. personnel trained in First Aid procedures

 <p>See larger craft photos on free part of website.</p>	<p>Moses bush craft page</p> <p>Accessories craft page</p> <p>Orange, yellow, red-orange tissue paper</p> <p>Scissors (adult only)</p> <p>Glue sticks</p> <p>Crayons</p> <p>Instructions, cont'd: tissue paper to make wads. Glue wads to Moses' hat and coat (on craft page). Glue hat and coat accessories pieces on top. For 3D effect.</p>	<p>3D Burning Bush Craft – Age 3+.</p> <p><u>Prep:</u> Print craft pages. Make copies of craft pages onto card stock. Cut hats, coat and bush loosely from page to use with this craft. With several layers together, cut 5 X 1-1/2” strips of tissue paper, making one end pointed. <u>Craft:</u> Children color craft pages. Show children how to scrunch up tissue paper strips, fold bottom under so that it's the correct size. Children place glue on fire (on craft page) and place scrunched up tissue paper on top. Glue bush on top of tissue paper “fire”. <u>3D hat and coat:</u> Scrunch up little bits of</p>
	<p>Accessories craft page</p> <p>Copy paper</p> <p>Card stock</p> <p>Craft knife (adult only)</p> <p>Scissors (adult only)</p> <p>Restickable or repositionable glue sticks</p> <p>Scissors (adult only)</p> <p>Crayons</p> <p>Instructions, cont'd: Moses puppet. Fold feet up, and back part of sandals down to place sandals on feet.</p>	<p>Stickers for Moses – Age 2+ <u>Prep:</u> Print craft pages. Make copies onto card stock. Cut apart sandals, staff and snake to use with Moses Puppet. Carefully cut slits across top and bottom of strap of sandals (big enough to fit on Moses' foot) with craft knife. Cut out sandals. (Leave knife at home, out of reach of children). <u>Craft:</u> Children color sandals, stickers. Cut out stickers for children. Help children place restickable glue on the back of each sticker. Allow to dry before sticking to</p>
	<p>Aaron/Moses craft pages</p> <p>Large bush craft page</p> <p>Copy paper</p> <p>Card stock</p> <p>Jumbo craft sticks</p> <p>Scissors (adult only)</p> <p>Crayons</p>	<p>Aaron & Moses Puppets – Age 2+.</p> <p><u>Prep:</u> Print pages. Make copies onto card stock. <u>Craft:</u> Children color puppets. Cut out puppets for children. Help children glue craft stick to back of puppet. Show children how to bend arms at elbows, and Moses' feet at ankles. Stand-up Burning Bush: <u>Prep:</u> Cut out bush for children. <u>Craft:</u> Children color bush. Help children fold back tabs to stand up bush.</p>

	<p>Green felt sheets or polar fleece fabric (9 X 12")</p> <p>Corrugated cardboard pieces from box</p> <p>Used paper to wad up</p> <p>Black construction paper</p> <p>Clear packing tape</p> <p>Extra-strength glue sticks</p>	<p>3D Burning Bush Craft – Age 4+. Prep: Cut 7" X 4" rectangles out of corrugated cardboard. Tear full-size paper in half or newspaper into small pieces. Wipe off craft tables. Craft: Fire: Place sheet of Press-n-Seal, sticky-side-down, on table in front of child. Show Children how to color red and orange squiggly shapes right on sheet of Press-n-Seal to make it look like fire Bush: Children wad up a 4-5 scraps of paper and place on felt/fabric sheet. Help children gather up ends and tape on the back to form a roundish bush shape. Push in pointy ends and tape again. Remove Press-n-Seal sheet from table, and help children cover bush with it, placing Press-n-Seal a few inches above the top, press down around the bush, and up the back. Make pointy pieces stick up to look like fire. (It works better if its not</p>
	<p>Crayons - yellow and orange, red-orange</p> <p>Scissors - adult only</p> <p>Glad Press-n-Seal*</p> <p>Black marker</p> <p>* Press-n-Seal is purchased by kitchen plastic wraps.</p>	
	<p>Instructions, cont'd: handled too much; have extra on hand if it gets too crumpled). Trunk: Roll up corrugated rectangles; tape closed in back. Pinch bottom of bush to make a fold. Cut hole (big enough to insert trunk) through both layers of felt on a fold. Insert trunk. Squish and re-arrange bush. Balance on trunk to stand it up.</p>	
		

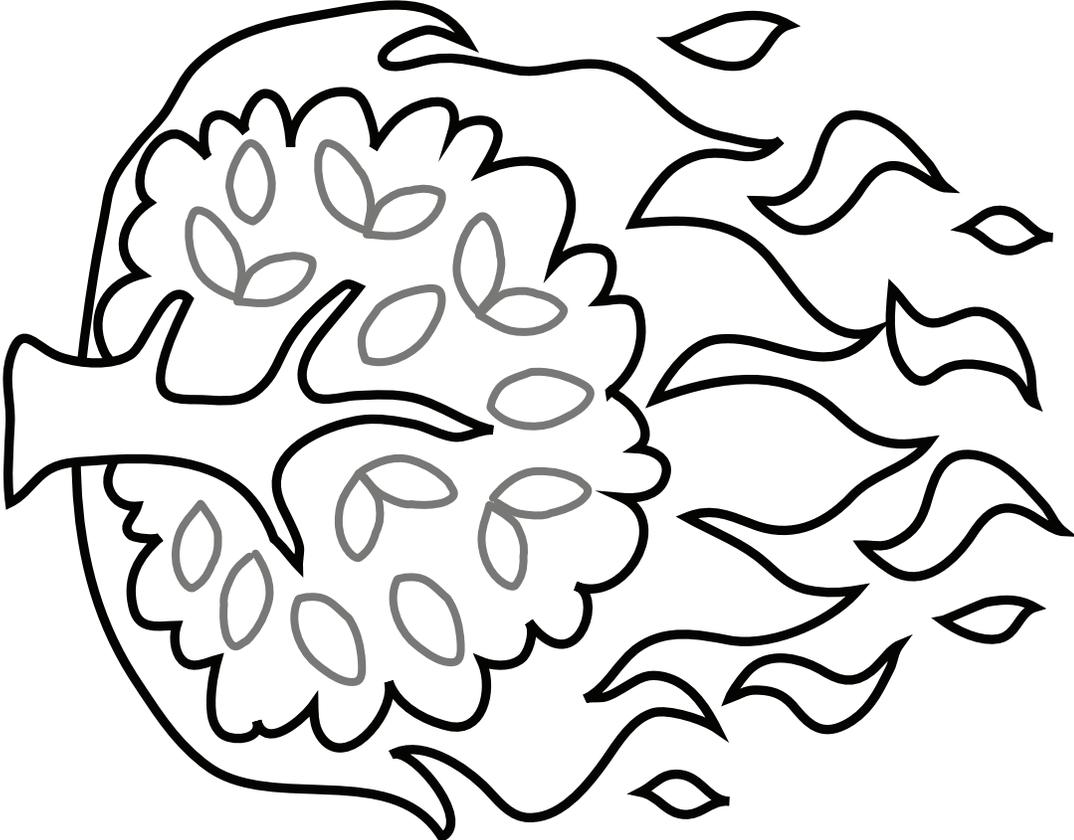
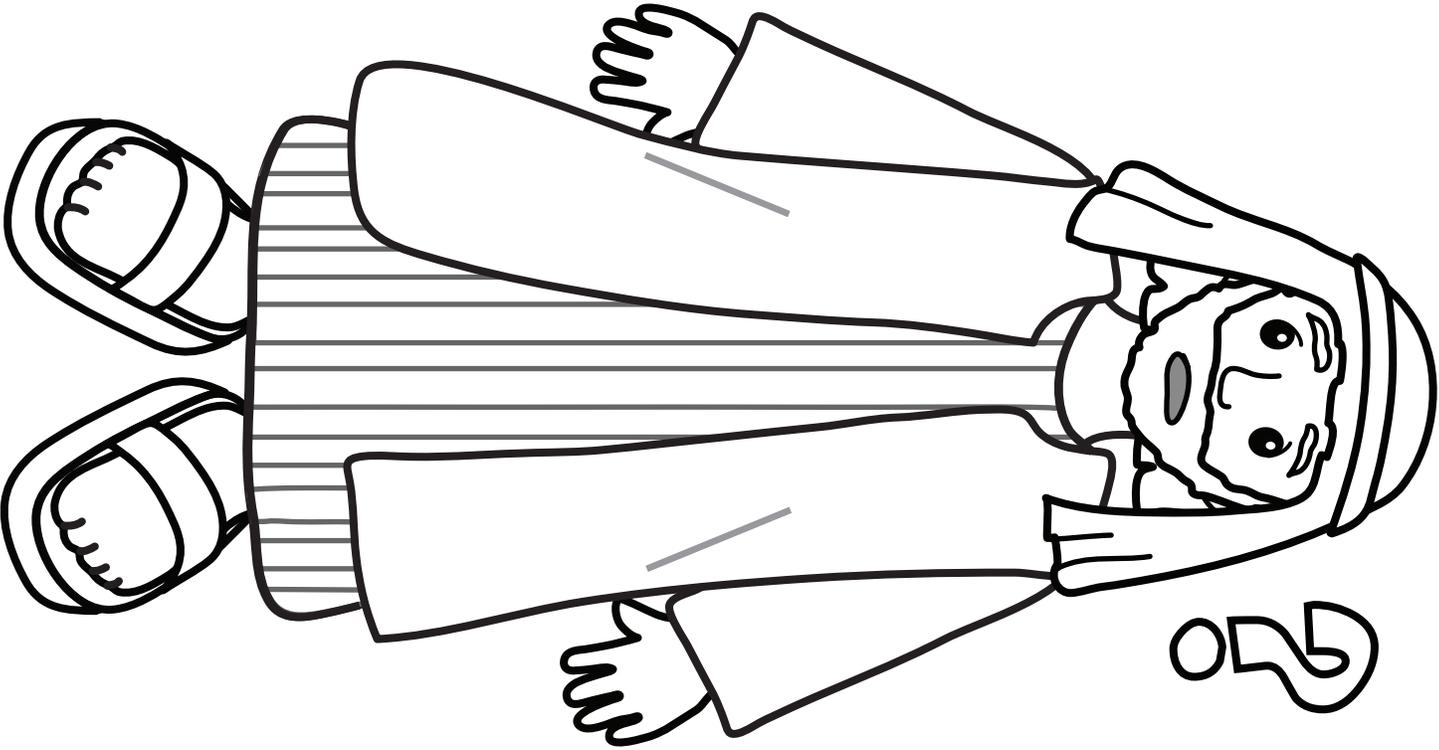




Use the Staff, Sandals and the Snake for the Moses Puppet

Aaron Puppet with Bendable Arms





Stand-up Burning Bush

