LESSON 14

MOSES AND THE BURNING BUSH



Aim: **To teach the children that God called Moses to be a leader and gave him the power to do the work.**

Scripture Reading: **Exodus 2:11 – 3:21; 4:1-20**

Memory Verse: **Exodus 3:14**
"I am who I am … say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.'"

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

In front of the class, carefully light a piece of paper and let it burn up completely. (If you put the burning paper on the lid of a cooking pot, the class can see it and it will be safe.) Show the children that when something is burnt very little is left.

MAIN POINTS OF TODAY'S TEACHING

1. Moses was in the desert when he saw a bush that was on fire, but did not burn up. Briefly show picture 14.
   Why was Moses in the desert? The last time we talked about him he was being cared for in the king's house! God had saved and protected him as a baby. **Briefly show picture 13. Review the story and memory verse of Lesson 13.**
2. Moses grew up in Pharaoh's house, but when he visited his own people he could not bear the cruelty and injustice they were enduring. He tried to put things right in his own way and as a result had to flee for his life (2:11-14).
3. In this other land Moses married and lived for 40 years. As he was looking after his father-in-law's sheep in the desert near Mount Sinai, God taught him how to be a leader (2:21-22).
   Moses' people, the Israelites, were still slaves in Egypt. They cried out to God in their suffering (2:23-25).
4. One day Moses saw a strange thing. A bush was burning without being destroyed!
   Moses went closer to have a better look. **Show picture 14 again.** God spoke to Moses from within the fire (3:1-3).
5. When Moses approached the bush God told Moses that he had to remember God is holy (3:4-6).
6. God told Moses he was chosen to lead the Israelites out of Egypt to a new land (3:7-10).
7. Moses made many excuses. He did not want to take on this task!
   Moses said:
   a) He was an unimportant person (3:11).
   b) He did not know what to tell the Israelites about God (3:13; 4:1).
   c) He was not a good speaker at all (4:10).

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8. God answered every excuse Moses offered and taught Moses about himself. God's name, he said, is I am who I am (3:14). This name shows that God is always present, he is always active and he always stays the same. God gave Moses three signs he could use to convince the people that he was God's messenger (we shall come to this in the next lesson; 4:2-9). Aaron, Moses' brother, was to be his spokesman as he was a better speaker.
9. Moses returned to Egypt ready to do God's work (4:18-20).

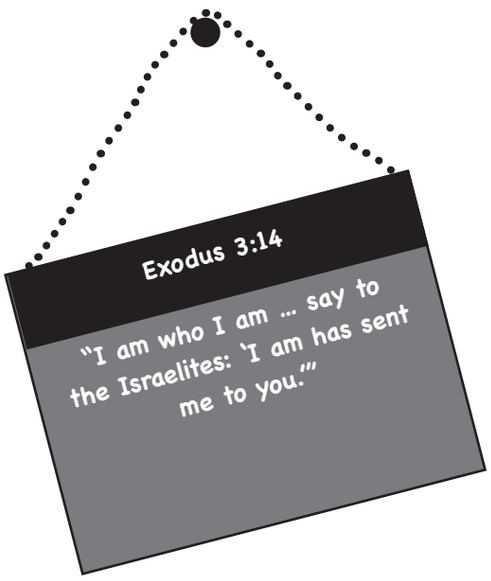
Say the Memory Verse

Our Response to the Story

When God asks us to do something for him he never leaves us without the power and skills to do it. If you talk to your friends about who God is, God will help you to say the right things.

Note to the teachers: The Egyptians called Moses' people the Hebrews. The Hebrews called themselves the children of Israel or Israelites. Israel was the new name God gave to Joseph's father, Jacob, later in his life.

Instil the Memory Verse



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