LESSON 15

MOSES RETURNS TO EGYPT



Aim: **To show the children how the Egyptians learnt there is only one living God.**

Scripture Reading: **Exodus 6:28 – 10:29**

This is a very long reading and story. The lesson will be too long if you tell everything about the disasters. Focus on Exodus 7:1-13.

Memory Verse: **Psalm 105:7**

He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Make up a story about a family with a difficult problem. For example, there has been a very serious quarrel between two groups in the family. In African traditional religion the elders come in such cases and sacrifice an animal. This is because they believe such quarrels happen when the ancestors have been made angry; their anger has to be appeased.

MAIN POINTS OF TODAY'S TEACHING

1. The king of Egypt and all his people worshipped many gods, not the one true God who revealed himself to Moses and spoke to him from the bush that was not consumed. **Show picture 14. Let us say together last week's memory verse, Exodus 3:14.**
   Review Lesson 14 briefly by questioning the class. Remind them that God called Moses to return to Egypt to lead the people of Israel back to the land they had come from originally. Moses had to ask Pharaoh to let God's people go.
2. Moses and Aaron went together to see Pharaoh and ask him to allow the people of Israel to leave Egypt. God had told Moses that the king would be stubborn; he would refuse to let the people go. Many unpleasant things would happen in Egypt in order to show the king of Egypt who God really is (Ex 7:2-6). The things Moses and Aaron would do in the power of the God of Israel would force Pharaoh to realise that the things the Egyptians worshipped as gods were powerless, not gods at all. **Say the memory verse, Exodus 7:5.**
3. Moses and Aaron showed the king how powerful the true God is. Aaron threw his staff on the ground and it became a snake. **Show picture 15.** All the wise men of Egypt, the sorcerers and magicians, did the same. **Describe in your own words what happened (Ex 7:10-13).**

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4. Seeing that Pharaoh would not allow the people of Israel to leave, God sent many disasters to the king and the people of Egypt. The water of the River Nile changed into blood. The Egyptians worshipped the Nile as the river that brings life, as it was the only source of water for their crops. Aaron stretched his staff out over the river and the water turned blood red. All the fish in the river died (5:14-25). What the Egyptians had thought was a source of life now was a source of death. It was clear: The River Nile was not God.

Say the memory verse together.

5. **Say briefly what the other disasters were:** Frogs (fertility gods to the Egyptians), gnats, flies, deadly illness among the livestock, boils, hail, locusts and darkness. Egyptians worshipped the sun. The darkness sent by the almighty God whom Moses spoke of snuffed out the sun like a candle!
6. After three days of complete darkness the king called Moses to him. He was very angry. He said he never wanted to see Moses again. "Just as you say," Moses replied, "I will never appear before you again" (10:29).

Our Response to the Story

Those angry words of Pharaoh came true. In the end he learnt that dead gods, like dead ancestors, cannot help us. Help comes only from the living God, the Almighty who made us and wants us to worship him alone. We saw how the king hardened his heart against God's warnings until nothing could save him from disaster and death. This should be a warning to us.

Instil the Memory Verse



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