

Summer Children's Church
H2Oh! God Keeps His Promises
Walking through H2Oh! Crossing the Red Sea – Lesson 2 – Exodus 14

Bible Words:

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

Refuge is a safe place for you.

We are safe with God. He does not want bad things happen to us. He is strong, powerful, and helps us when we have troubles. He promises to be with us no matter what.

Deliver used in the bible is to rescue from harm or danger; to set free. "God delivers me from trouble."

God Speaks:

Today's story is from the Book of Exodus. It tells us about how God delivered His people from a bad king.

Let's act out the story today -- As the story is read pretend that you are God's people, the Israelites, and the reader will be Moses, the leader God chose for them. Actions will be in parentheses. Then read it a second time without mentioning the actions to see if you can remember or create your own actions.

The story begins in Egypt. God's people were slaves there. They worked hard every day for a bad king called Pharaoh. (people: wipe your brow) Pharaoh wanted them to work for him forever. But God had a different plan. God was going to deliver them from their troubles and set them free. First, God called a man named Moses to be their leader. (Moses: raise your hand) Then God sent lots of trouble of Egypt. Finally, bad King Pharaoh said, "Go!"

So God's people packed all their things. (people – pretend to pack) They gathered their animals. (People – baa like a sheep and herd animals) And they followed Moses. (people – walk in place) They didn't know where they were going, and they didn't have maps or a GPS. God led them in a special way. In the daytime, God led them with a large cloud. At night, the cloud was a bright fire and gave them light to see.

Lots and lots of people followed the cloud of God. They walked during the day. At night, they rested while the fire gave them light. Soon they came to the Red Sea. God's people were worried. "How will we get across all this water?" they asked. (people: move arms like swimming) "We will drown in the sea," they cried.

Moses said, "God is with us. He will deliver us. Let's camp here tonight and rest." (People: act like sleeping)

But the people heard a noise. It was getting louder and louder. Oh no, it was the Egyptian army! (people: slap hands on legs to make it sound like horse hoofbeats) King Pharaoh had sent his army to bring God's people back to Egypt. The people were afraid. They wanted to run away, but they had no place to go! The Red Sea was in front of them. The soldiers were behind them. (people: look afraid)

Moses knew nothing was too hard for God. "Don't be afraid", he said. "God will keep us safe. He will deliver us from the Egyptians." (Moses: show muscles)

The cloud moved between God's people and the Egyptian army. God was in the cloud over the army. It was dark and they could not see. The fire was over His people, the Israelites. It gave them light so they could see where to go. God told Moses, "Hold out your staff over the water." (Moses: hold out your arm like holding a staff/stick) A staff is a large stick that shepherds use to lead sheep. Moses did what God said.

Then God made a strong wind blow. (Moses: blow like the wind) The wind moved the water in the Red Sea, and it stood up like a wall! The people and their animals could walk through the water on dry ground. (people: walk in place) All night the people hurried through the sea on the path. The light from the fire showed them where to go.

When everyone was on the other side, they looked back. Oh no! Pharaoh's army was following them through the sea. (people: look scared, and slap legs)

God told Moses, "Hold up your staff over the sea again." (Moses: hold up your "stick" again) Moses held up his staff, and God made the wall of water rush down again. The Egyptian soldiers were stopped.

God had saved his people. God's people cheered and sang a song of thanks to God. (people: cheer and shout "Hooray! Thank you, God!")

God delivered His people from trouble. He saved them by holding back the water of the sea so they could walk through on dry land. He set them free from their enemies.

God is our deliverer too! He delivers us from trouble and sets us free. I wonder.... how does God do this?

God, our heavenly Father, keeps all His promises! When you are scared or worried, remember that God delivers you from trouble through Jesus.

Review the Story:

Who was the leader of God's people? (Moses)

How did God show His people where to go? (He led them with a cloud during the day and with a pillar of fire at night)

What was a big problem for them? (bad King Pharaoh's army was chasing them. They could not get away because the Red Sea was in front of them.)

How did God deliver His people? (He made a dry path through the sea for His people to cross over on dry land. When the army came through the sea after them, God made the water come down and stop the soldiers)

In the story today, God delivered His people from trouble. God loves you. He delivers you from trouble through Jesus, who paid for your sins on the cross.

Moses first commanded Pharaoh to let the Israelites go but he refused. Only after the 10 plagues then did Pharaoh give into Moses' command. Pharaoh soon regretted his decision and sent his army after the Israelites. Then God's people were faced by Pharaoh's army on one side and the red sea on the other. They felt like they had no place to go. The Israelites thought they were on their own and nothing was there to protect them. Until God makes it known. God makes this known to them in His presence of the cloud and fire. God stands between the Egyptian army and the Israelites, protecting His people. With Moses, God parted the sea so His people could get to safety. But because King Pharaoh and his army had hatred toward God and His Word, and they pursued the Israelites into the sea. God caused the waters to cover the Egyptians.

In the New Testament, this text is used to point us to Baptism. (1 Corinthians 10: 1-4) The Israelites are, in a way, baptized in the sea. Baptism delivers us from sin, death, and the devil, giving us new life. In the same way, this washing destroys Pharaoh's army and delivers the Israelites from trouble, giving them new life.

Key point in the scripture: Exodus 14:13-14 New International Version (NIV)

¹³ Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." Moses calms the fears of the Israelites by telling them God will fight for them just as He did in the Passover (12:12) Telling them it is not their battle; it is God's.

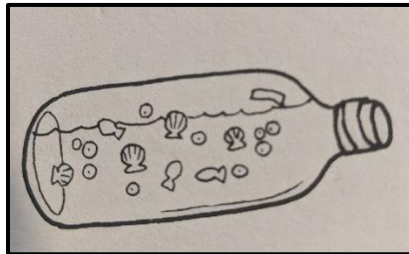
Craft:

Red Sea Bottle or Red Sea Picture

Red Sea Bottle

You will need: a clear plastic drink bottle, water, blue food coloring, markers or labels, duct tape, glitter or sequins and shells, plastic beads, or small objects to add to the water.

1. Remove the label from the bottle.
2. fill bottles about 2/3 with water. Add the blue food coloring.
3. Add sequins, shells, plastic beads, or small objects to the bottle.
4. Put glue around the bottle cap and close the bottle tightly
5. Seal the lid with tape
6. Add a label with the Bible words "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1



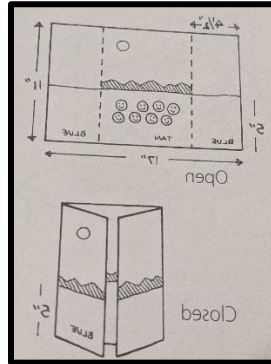
Extra step. Add some oil to the water mix. Shake the bottle when complete and watch it separate. You can use this as a reminder that God helped Moses part the Red Sea so the Israelites could get to safety.

Red Sea Picture

You will need: white construction paper, blue and brown/tan markers or crayons, mountain pattern cutout, circles (colored yellow or cut out of yellow paper), 8-10 smiley-faces (stickers or created and cut out)

1. With the long side of paper on the bottom, fold each side of the paper to the middle so the sides can be opened like doors
2. Across the folded page, draw a horizontal line about 5 inches from the bottom edge
3. Open the flaps and draw a 5 inch line across the bottom of the page
4. Use the blue marker/crayon to color the bottom part of the "doors" on the outside and inside (Just the "side panels" and not the middle of the inside)

5. On the inside, use the tan marker/crayon to color the middle 5-inch part
6. Cut out two mountain patterns strips and glue on the outside doors right above the blue water
7. Cut another mountain pattern strip and glue above the tan on the inside
8. Put a sun in the sky on the doors and on the inside
9. Glue smiley-faces on the middle of the inside in the tan/brown section. This represents the Israelites crossing the dry ground.



You can use the picture to tell the story to others, how God delivered his people out of trouble and into safety. You can tell your family and friends how God is with us and delivers us from our own troubles through Jesus.

Because we belong to Jesus, we don't have to be worried or afraid. God is stronger and mightier than any trouble. He delivered His people from King Pharaoh and brought them safely through the waters of the Red Sea. When we are scared or lonely, we can remember that God is with us and delivers us from trouble too. The cross reminds us that God sent Jesus to deliver us from our worst trouble – our sins. Because of Jesus, we have a home in heaven with God forever.

Prayer:

*Dear God,
 sometimes things scare us and make us afraid.
 Thank You for always being with us
 and taking care of us.
 Thank You especially for sending Jesus
 To save us from our sins.
 Amen*