

Lesson 10: I Will Be Wise Like Miriam

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Learn that with God, we can make wise decisions even at a young age.
- 2) Learn the account of Miriam helping Moses. (Exodus 1:6-10, 22; and 2:1-10)
- 3) Understand that faith in God gives us courage to serve.

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students? See Lesson 1

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Lesson Review Visual Aids – one for teacher to share at the beginning of each class from lesson 2
- Miriam Visual Aids – one copy for class to share
- I Will Be Wise Activity Sheet – one per student



Optional:

- Who Am I Pictures – one set for class cut out before hand
- Tape – to share
- Scrap paper pieces (small) – 8; 4 for each team

Snack:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| - Cupcake Holders (Basket) | 1 or 2 per student |
| - Bananas (Baby Moses) | Cut in fourths – one for each holder |
| - Poppy Seeds or Chocolate Chips (Eyes) | 2 for each banana baby Moses |
| - Fruit Roll Up, Cheese Slice, or Cucumber Slice (cut as blanket) | 1 piece cut to size to cover Moses |
| - Napkin | one per student |
| - Water/Cup | one per student |

Lesson:

1) Introduction to Lesson

5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied).

*Have Bibles for those who need them and Lesson Review Visual Aid Sheet to show students.

Show the lesson review visual aid sheet.

Can anyone remember what we have studied so far? Look at the picture, name what happened for the lesson we have already studied, and what we learned from that lesson.



Lesson 1: We should stay focused on Jesus. We do so by 1) getting rid of things that stop us from focusing 2) we work in all things with Jesus in mind, and 3) we think of Jesus throughout the day.

Lesson 2: We need to put God first by loving Him with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Lesson 3: We need to seek God and we can do so like Jesus by taking some quiet time every day to pray.

Lesson 4: We are to love others as ourselves. Meaning we need to go out of our way to show love to others by our words, thoughts, prayers and actions.

Lesson 5: We can be brave like Esther and Mordecai who stood up and took responsibility to help others.

Lesson 6: We can be determined and persistent like the four friends who had enough faith to keep trying to bring their friend to Jesus.

Lesson 7: We can be daring by giving our all like the widow did when she gave all she had to live on to the Lord knowing He would care for her.

Lesson 8: We can be ready to serve and listen like Samuel who served God his entire life and was willing to act when called to serve.

Lesson 9: We can stand up for God like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego who would not worship a false image but stood up for God and won!

2) We Can Be Brave With Faith in God

5 minutes

Who are the heroes we have studied so far? Esther, Mordecai, Four Friends, the Widow, Samuel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

What were the things that made them heroes? Courage, faith, bravery, persistence, daring, giving, determined, ready to serve, listen, stand up for God and to do what was needed and right.

The important thing is that they all had a strong faith in God which gave them courage to make the right choices.

Today's hero helped save the life of a baby, even though she herself was very young. You, at your young age, can do great things for God too – today, right now!

God puts people in our lives to help us too. Who are some people in your lives that you feel are there to help you? Let students answer.

We can help others as well, when we make wise decisions. What is something helpful you have done for others? Let students answer.

Let's learn about this brave girl and how her wisdom helped save a child. Just like Samuel she served God and helped others even though she was very young. Just like you can serve today. Her name was Miriam and she lived in Egypt.

3) Miriam and Moses

10 minutes

*Have visual aids ready.

Have students turn to **Exodus 1:6**.

Read **Exodus 1:6-10, 22; and 2:1-10**. Provide visuals for students to look at while you or volunteers take turn reading.



Ask:

How do you think Miriam felt waiting at the river?

Do you think she was worried about her baby brother?

It must have been a very stressful time for Miriam and her family knowing the baby might die at any time.

How do you think Miriam felt when talking with the King Pharaoh's daughter the princess?

Do you think what Miriam did was wise? How come?

How was Miriam helpful?

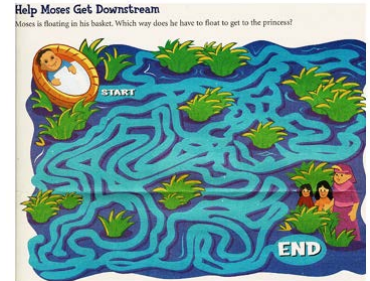
Moses' older sister Miriam dutifully watched over her baby brother and was wise in her actions when speaking to the princess of Egypt. No matter what we are asked to do, even if it is watching our little brother or sister, we can be brave, wise, helpful and reliable like Miriam. No matter what our station in life – rich, poor, young, old, etc. – we can be helpful to God by doing the work we are called to do. Like Miriam, we can save those around us too but in a different way. We can help save those who are lost because of sin, who need Jesus in their lives, by spreading the love of Jesus.

4) I Will Stand Up Activity Sheets

15 minutes

Hand out one set of sheets to each student along with pencils and crayons. Read the directions aloud, help as needed.

Discuss any questions and ideas as a class. Relate these to the lesson and to how: **Today we might not save a baby from a river, but you and I can help save people's souls by being willing to help, give, be wise, prayerful, concerned, and watching out for ways to reach out and serve. Not only could you end up helping to save one person – but MANY throughout your life as they serve God!**



5) Helping in Times of Need Discussion

5 minutes

In today's Bible story, many different people bravely helped Moses. Moses' mother bravely trusted that God would provide someone who would care for her baby when she put him in the basket. Miriam stayed and watched over him and was wise to know what to do when the Pharaoh's daughter arrived. Pharaoh's daughter was willing to help and rescue Moses even though her father was the one wanting the Hebrew babies killed.

On a large easel or piece of paper taped to the wall write a particular disaster (such as a hurricane or tornado) that has happened recently. Discuss briefly:

What happens during a disaster like this? High winds, water damage, homes destroyed, etc.

What help might people need following the disaster? Let students answer.

How can we help others when a disaster like this happens? Let students answer.

We can pray for them, help clean up if we live close by, send money through the church or to the church that has faced this natural disaster, donate food, clothes, books, supplies, etc.

How important is it to help during times like this? Let students answer.

How can we be brave and wise like Miriam in a circumstance like a natural disaster? Be prepared, be willing to help and serve if the disaster is nearby, pray to God before, during and after the disaster, save some money so that when things like this happen we can help immediately. Send cards, pray that God gives us an opportunity to help and be willing to do so, etc.

In times like this, when a natural disaster strikes. People need help. God uses people like us to help in those situations. Let's be ready, wise and willing like Miriam to help in all situations.

6) Lesson Review

5-10 minutes

Say: **There are many people who are like Miriam. Who help, are watchful, brave and wise. Let's give thanks for the people in our lives who have helped us. We will go around the room and each person will say: "I am thankful for _____" and say the name of someone you are thankful for.** You can go around the room several times, help as needed if students have trouble thinking of someone – Ex: grandma, mom, dad, aunt, teacher, preacher, etc.

What did we learn today? Let students answer.

How can we be like Miriam this week? Let students answer.

How was Miriam brave? Let students answer.

How was Miriam wise? Let students answer.

Even though we maybe young, God still has plans for us and knows we are able to help and serve others. Just like Miriam.

What did you like best about today's Bible lesson?

What questions do you have about today's lesson?

7) Optional: Who Am I Game

5-10 minutes

Before class: Print the "Who Am I Pictures". Have one picture for each student cut out along with tape.

During class: Say: **We are going to play a game. I am going to go around the room and tape a picture of someone on your back. You can't see the picture, but the other students will be able to. Each student will take turns asking "Yes" or "No" questions to each other to try and figure out who is on their back.**

For instance, if I had a picture on my back I could ask – Is it a person? Is it a woman? Is she from the Bible? Etc. Any questions? Answer questions if needed. Then let students pair up and ask questions to each other, if they figure it out. You can switch the pictures again and let students try to figure out "who am I" this time.



8) Optional: Name the Hero Game *If you did not play it last week

5-10 minutes

Before class: Have 8 small pieces of paper and 2 pencils – and divide them – one set for each team.

Split the class into two teams, ensuring older students are with younger students.

Explain that: **Each group is going to take turns to try and name the hero I am describing. I won't just be mentioning heroes that have been studied so far, but other heroes from the Bible as well. I will start with team 1 and give them a clue. They are to write down quietly the answer after discussing it. They should not say it out loud because if they get it wrong, the other team gets a guess and if they know what the other team guessed, it will help them win.**

I will look at the paper and see if the team is right. If they are right, I will let them say the answer out loud and they will get a point. If they don't guess it right, then team 2 gets to try and answer and name the hero quietly as well by writing it down. If they get it, then they get the point.

Ready? See list of clues below and the hero you are describing. Only mention the clue and not the name of the person until they have written down and given the correct answer. Keep track of score.

Stood strong for God by fasting, praying, and going to the king to save people	Esther
Stood strong for God by being obedient to God and died on a cross.	Jesus
Stood strong for God and gave all she had.	Widow
Stood strong for God by being determined to help their friend even though it meant being very persistent.	Four friends who helped man who was paralyzed

Stood strong for God by serving Him his whole life by being ready to serve and listen.	Samuel
Was wise and brave when asked to watch out for a family member.	Miriam
Stood strong for God by standing up to a giant who was saying bad things about God and His people.	David
Stood strong for God by going to the king and asking that God's people who were enslaved go free.	Moses

9) I Will Follow Songs

5-10 minutes

Choose songs from the I Will Follow Song Sheet and/or sing song below:

Rock-A-Bye Moses

To the tune of "Rock-a-Bye Baby".

Actions are in blue

Rock-a-bye Moses in your small boat.
 Rock pretend baby. Cup hands like boat.
 Made by your mother so it would float.
 Make wave motions with hands
 God planned you special, a baby dear.
 Point up
 Rocking and sleeping without any fear.
 Rest head on hands.

Rock-a-bye Moses in your small boat.
 Rock baby
 Miriam watches you as you float.
 God's loving care guides a princess your way.
 Walk 2 fingers
 And Miriam runs to get mother today.
 Run 2 fingers

10) Optional: Memory Verse

2-5 minutes

For this quarter, each week have the students go to **John 14:6** in their Bibles and read the verse allowed as a class 2 times. Other options include:

- You saying a word and having them repeat it as you go through the verse
- Have students repeat a small phrase ex: "*I am the way*" a few times before working on the next phrase.
- Have students repeat after each other
- Ask students to think of hand gestures. Ex: Point ahead when you say "the way", point to their Bibles when they say "truth", etc. and then go through verses as a class with gestures.

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

11) Optional – Snack: Banana Baby Moses

5 minutes

Before Class: Gather items needed. Either prepare snack beforehand, or have students make the snack during snack time.

Hand out a few pieces to each student of finished snack or pieces to make snack, ensuring you check for allergies first. Say, **this snack is to remind us about our lesson today. Raise your hand if you remember what our lesson was about?**

That Miriam was brave and wise and helped save baby Moses.

Explain: **Here is a basket for baby Moses**, show cupcake holder. **Here is baby Moses**, show banana slice that fits into holder. **Now Moses needs two eyes**, put poppy seeds or chocolate chips for eyes. **And now, baby Moses needs a blanket.** Cover him with fruit roll up slice cut to fit, a thin piece of cheese cut to fit, or take a vegetable peeler and shave a slice of cucumber length wise as a blanket for baby Moses.



As we eat our snack, let's think of ways we can be brave and wise in Jesus. Let students come up with answers.

Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands if needed. Review with students by asking them questions from the lesson again and discuss any questions they have while snacking. What did they like best about today's Bible reading? What questions do they have about today's lesson?

12) Close in prayer

*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Before praying say:

Miriam must have been concerned about what would happen to Moses. But she and her mother trusted in God and were willing to make a plan to save baby Moses. Miriam was brave and wise when speaking with the princess and knew what to say. Let's pray that we can be brave and wise like Miriam, willing to help and knowing how to.

God, You are powerful and wonderful. Thank You Lord for all You provide us. Thank You for Your Son who died so we can live for eternity with You in Heaven. Thank You for those in our lives who are ready to serve You and stand up for You.

Help us to take the time to devote and dedicate our lives to You, with all our mind, soul, heart and strength. For You are worthy, good, awesome, and loving towards us. Give us wisdom Lord, so we can serve and love others and You, even now at our young age. Help us be brave and stand strong. To take joy in working hard for You. Pray for those who could not be here today, and pray for those here who have special issues in their life. Be with them, guide, comfort, and bless them. Help us to stay focused on Jesus and be brave in making the right choices this week. In Jesus' name, amen.