

## Lesson 1: Moses –the Rock and the Amalekites

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Exodus 17 and see the Israelites complain, Moses obey, and the fight with the Amalekites
- 2) See that we should turn to God and ask Him for help
- 3) See what happens to a nation that tried to fight the wandering Israelites

**Supplies:** Coordinator will ensure these supplies are ready for you in advance. If not discuss with him/her.

### **Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Moses Moving Picture Activity Sheet – one per student
- Scissors to share
- Amalekites Verse Sheet – one per student
- Map of Israel’s wandering in the desert – one per class to share

### **Optional:**

- Storybook or visuals of this story to show kids (if available)

### **Snack:**

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| - Trail Mix (check for nut or gluten allergies first) | handful for each child |
| - Napkins for snack                                   | one per child          |
| - Juice or water and cup                              | one per child          |

### **Lesson:**

#### **1) Introduction to Lesson**

**2-5 minutes**

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming.

Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Once children are seated say:

**We are starting a new quarter today. I will be your teacher and you can call me \_\_\_\_\_. You have been studying the book of Exodus from Chapters 1-16 and this quarter we will continue to study the book of Exodus – Exodus means the parting or exit. Last quarter you studied the 10 plagues and how God provided for the Israelites so they could leave Egypt. This quarter we will have a special focus on the 10 commandments – why they were important then and what does Jesus say about the commands for our lives today?**

**But first, this week we will continue to study the Israelites as they wander and see that even though God showed them again and again His power to save and protect – they still complained and were not learning the lesson of trusting in God. We will also study a group of people – the Amalekites – and see what happened to them because of their violence towards innocent people.**

## 2) The Israelites Complain.....Again

10 minutes

**Optional:** Storybook or visuals of this story to show kids (if available)

Ask children to get their Bibles and turn to Exodus 17. Ask for a volunteer to read from **Exodus 17:1-7** or read yourself. Then, ask the following:

**What happened at Rephidim?** There was no water for the Israelites to drink.

**What did the Israelites do?** Complained to Moses instead of praying to God.

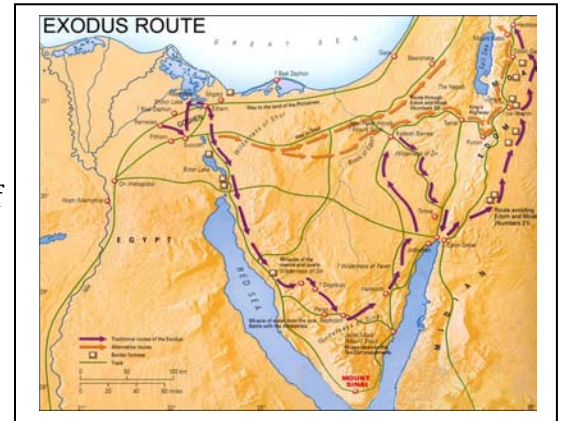
**What did Moses say to God about the Israelites?** They were ready to stone Moses.

**What did God tell Moses to do?** Take his rod with the elders and go to the rock, strike it with the rod and water will flow.

**In verse 7 what does it say about the Israelites and what they did to God?** They tested the Lord and wondered if He was among them or not – forgetting that He was the one leading them with cloud and fire and the one who had protected them so far along the way!

**How can we be like the Israelites?** Let the students come up with ideas

**How should we be and what should we do in situations like these?** Pray to God and ask for His guidance – He WILL provide!



Show children the map of where the Israelites travelled.

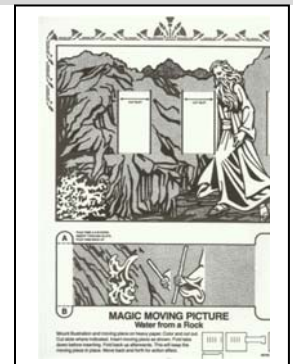
Ask the students if they have any questions before moving on to the next activity.

## 3) Moses and the Rock Moving Picture Sheet

15 minutes

Hand out one page to each child of the Moses and the Rock Activity Sheet along with pencil crayons and scissors. Ask them to listen as you read the instructions aloud. Then, have them color the two parts of the page and then cut out the black lines on the sheet – don't cut out the white parts – they will be covered by the bottom sheet that will slide overtop of the white parts. Only cut the black strips where indicated. Help them students slide the bottom part through the main sheet – it will show Moses hitting the rock and then water coming out as they slide it. Remind them of how difficult that is to make water come from a rock, just by hitting it! This proves God provides!

Have student clean up the scrap pieces and put the supplies away before moving on.



## 4) The Israelites and Amalekites Fill in the Blanks Activity

10-15 minutes

**Optional:** Storybook or visuals of this story to show kids (if available)

Ask children to get their Bibles and turn to Exodus 17:8-16. Ask for volunteers to take turns reading, or you can read **Exodus 17:8-16** yourself. Then, hand out one Amalekites fill in the blank sheet to each student with pencils.

Read the instructions on the page and as a class go through each verse by looking it up in the Bible– find the verses, read them aloud and fill in the blanks. For younger students they can listen if they are too young to write in the answers.

**Answers:**

Attacked them

Esau

Blot out their memory (destroy and kill them); fear

Remaining

**Discussion Questions:**

**How were the Israelites able to defeat the Amalekites?** Moses stood with his hands and rod in the air.

**What happened if Moses put his hands down?** The Amalekites would start to win.

**Who fought the Amalekites?** Joshua

**Who stayed with Moses?** Hur and Aaron

**How did Hur and Aaron help?** They gave Moses a rock to sit on and propped up or held up his hands all day.

**Who won the battle?** The Israelites thanks to God's help!

**What did God say He was going to do because of the sin of the Amalekites?** Destroy them

**What did Moses do after the victory?** Built an altar called the Lord is my Banner!

**What can we learn today about this account?** Don't be violent – God will be angry. Give God thanks and praise when He helps you as Moses did. And, trust in the Lord.

**5) Optional – Snack: Trail Mix**

**5 minutes**

Hand out some trail mix to each child along with a glass of water or juice to each child. \*Ensure no child has a nut or gluten allergy beforehand. Explain that, **"Today we learned that God guided the Israelites to safety and protected them from the Amalekites. We saw that Moses was smart and talked to God instead of complaining to others like his fellow Israelites did and because of that God blessed Moses with water to drink. God took care of them and He will take care of us too! Let's remember what it is like to wander or go for a long hike while we eat our trail mix and think about how weak and tired the Israelites probably felt. But even being weak and tired is not an excuse to complain!"**

Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss any questions while snacking.

**6) Optional – Songs**

**5 minutes**

Have children sing songs with you; choose from the songs from the front of your binder.

**7) 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. Remember to also ask God for help in studying the Old Testament. Thank God that He took care of the Israelites and that He takes care of us too!