

*Preschool Winter*  
*Lesson 8:*  
*Jesus' Family Moves*

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Recognize the importance of obeying God – Jesus' family moves at God's command **Matthew 2:13-23**
- 2) Do activities to reinforce the idea that Jesus' family moved according to the will of God

**Accommodations:** How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- See Lesson 1 for Ideas

**Supplies:** Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.

**Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Charts –from previous class – one per student
- Jesus' Family Moves Activity Sheet – one per student
- Jesus' Family Moves Stickers – one set per student – 4 sets on a page
- Pack for the Trip Suitcase – one per student printed on brown construction paper and folded in half then cut out before class
- Pack for the Trip Bible and Clothes Stickers – one set per student, 2 sets on a page, cut the page in half so each child gets a set – cut out stickers after students have colored them.
- Scissors for adult or older students to cut stickers and for suitcase
- Glue sticks to share

**Depending on time choose some optional activities to do and gather supplies**

- Jesus' Family Moves Color Page (or Visual Aid) – one per student
- Angel, Mary and Joseph Popsicle stick people – from lesson 2 (one set for each student while you share the account of Jesus' family moving)
- Jesus' Family Moves Color and Drawing Sheet – one per student
- Jesus is Born Action Figures (taken from Lesson 3 – see instructions in lesson for how to print and set up if you did not do so from lesson 3 – use Mary and Joseph travelling along with little Jesus for students to play with during pretend play time) \*You will need scissors and tape if making
- Play Dough – enough for each child
- Bibles – one per child
- Snack – Trail Mix (travel mix of nuts and dried fruit) – enough for each student to have some along with glass of water and napkin \*Check for nut allergies first!

**1) Introduction to lesson:**

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance charts from previous class). Let each child color a star in their attendance chart for this week, if a new child arrives put their name on a chart for them and let them color in a star.

Tell them, **“Last time we talked about two special people that when they saw Jesus they thanked God because they knew how special Jesus is. Can someone raise their hand and tell us what their names were?** Let student answer – Simeon and Anna

**That's right \_\_\_\_\_** (insert name of child) **Simeon and Anna thanked God for Jesus. Does that make God happy when we thank Him? Raise your hand if you know....** Let student answer.

**That's right \_\_\_\_\_(insert name of child) Yes, it makes God very happy when we thank Him and worship Him!**

**Sometime after Simeon and Anna saw Jesus, God tells Jesus' family that it is time to move!**

**Today we are going to talk about Jesus' family moving to a new country!**

**How many of you have gone on a trip somewhere? Raise your hand if you have.**

**Where did you go?** (Ask each student who raised their hand one at a time to share where they travelled)

**What did you take on your trip? Did you take clothes? Yes**

**Did you take toys? Yes**

**Did you take toothbrush and combs? Yes**

**What else did you take?** Let students answer

**Today we will see that Jesus' family needs to move because God told them too. They obeyed God and that makes God happy – we need to remember to obey God too! That will make God very happy when we follow and listen to Him and His Son Jesus!**

**Let's all say: "I will follow and listen to God"** (Help students repeat)

**Let's sing some songs to get us started!**

#### **If My Name is.....**

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

Jesus is my friend, Jesus is my friend.

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

\*Fill in name of each child in the room one at a time.

#### **God is Great**

Tune: London Bridge

God made all the stars above\*, stars above\*, stars above\*.

God made all the stars above\*.

God is great.

(\*lands and seas, fish and whales, dogs and cats)

#### **God is Happy**

Tune: Are You Sleeping?

God is happy. God is happy.

When we do right.

When we do right.

God is very happy.

God is very happy.

When we do right.

When we do right.

Repeat tune instead of "when we do right" fill in with different lines:

When we learn what's right

When we pray

When we worship Him

When we sing

When we give

When we obey

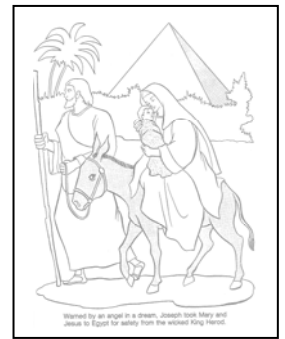
Hand out one Bible to each child. Say to students. **The Bible is VERY special. Do you know why? Because it is God's! God made the Bible for us and the Bible has all of God's Words in it for us to obey. Isn't that wonderful? God made the Bible for each and every one of us! God loves us very much and wanted each one of us to have a Bible to read, to use and to study His wonderful words. Today we are going to continue to learn from the Bible about Jesus' family moving to a new country!**

## 2) Optional: Jesus' Family Moves Color Page or Visual Aid

5 minutes

**\*Before class:** Print Color Page/Visual Aid to show class while you read the account of Jesus' family moving to Egypt. If allowing students to color print one per student instead.

Students can either color the picture while you read from the Bible, or you can choose to have them look at the picture while you hold it and read the account of Jesus' family moving. If allowing them to color, hand out crayons as well.



## 3) Jesus' Family Moves Bible Account Matthew 2:13-23

5 minutes

**Before class:**

**Optional:** Gather Joseph, Mary and Angel Popsicle Stick people that were used during lesson 2 – if you did not make them then, you can go to lesson 2 and read the instructions on how to make them to help during class to keep students focused while you read the account of Jesus' family moving.

**During class:** While showing the picture of the Jesus' family moving, or if you choose and let the students color the picture, or if using Popsicle stick people....

Read the following shortened account of Jesus' family moving to Egypt and then back to Nazareth.



**Taken from Matthew 2:13-23**

**An angel of the Lord** (show angel and hand one out to each student if using) **appeared to Joseph** (show Joseph) **in a dream. The angel said** (show angel) **“Get up and take Jesus and his mother** (show Mary) **to Egypt and stay there till God tells you.”**

**So when Joseph** (show Joseph) **woke up, he took Jesus and Mary** (show Mary) **by night and left for Egypt. After a while, an angel** (show angel) **appeared to Joseph again** (show Joseph) **and said, “Arise and take Jesus and Mary** (show Mary) **back to Israel. So Joseph** (show Joseph) **when he woke up, took Jesus and Mary** (show Mary) **back to Israel to the town of Nazareth and Jesus lived there with Joseph** (show Joseph) **and Mary** (show Mary). **Jesus' family moved to Egypt and back and obeyed God!**

**I am going to ask you all some questions. Listen carefully and raise your hand if you know the answer, ok?**

**Did Jesus' family move?** Yes

**Did Jesus' family listen to the angel that God sent?** Yes

**Should we listen to God by following what He says in the Bible?** Yes!

**Great job everyone!** Gather supplies before moving onto the next activity.

## 4) Jesus' Family Moves Activity Sheet with Stickers

10-15 minutes

**Before class:** Cut out one set of stickers per student and have activity sheet ready.

**During class:** Hand out one activity sheet to each child. Let them scribble-color with crayons. When done, hand out one sticker to each child and ask them what the sticker shows and where they think it belongs on the page. Help them glue each sticker in place.

Talk about the importance of listening to God – just like Joseph and Mary did – they obeyed God and went where He told them to go. We should obey God too!



### 5) Pack for the Trip Suitcase Craft

10-15 minutes

**Before Class:** Cut out one sticker page per student in half so each child gets one set to color. Print the suitcase onto brown construction paper. Fold the suitcase where shown and then cut the image of the suitcase out so that when you unfold it, you have both sides of a suitcase that opens and closes.

Gather stickers, scissors, crayons, suitcase and glue sticks.

**During Class:** Ask students:

**What do we take when we go on a trip?** Let students answer

**I have for you some things we need to color and prepare to help Jesus as his family moved from Israel to Egypt. What do you see on these stickers?**

Let students answer – Bible, socks, shirt....

**Let's all color our stickers, then we will cut them out and glue each piece into a suitcase!**

Show them a suitcase.



After students color their stickers. Cut the stickers out into rectangular shapes and let them pick a suitcase, open it and glue the items inside. When they are done, let them scribble-color decorate the outside of their suitcase while you help other students cut and glue their stickers.

When done say:

**Jesus' family obeyed God and moved when God told them to. Jesus family had to pack up their things like the clothes you put in your suitcase. Today we also should pack something even more important than clothes – our Bibles! And look – each one of you put a Bible into your suitcase! Good job everyone. That makes God happy when we take and read and listen to His Word the Bible! Joseph and Mary listened to God and we can too!**

Ask students to help clean up before moving onto the next activity.

Thank those students who choose to help and praise them for helping to encourage other students to want to help as well. Sing the following while you clean up.

#### Clean Up Song

Clean up, clean up  
Everybody everywhere!  
Clean up, clean up  
Everybody do your share!  
Repeat

Tune: Farmer in the Dell

A helper I will be, a helper I will be.  
There's work to do, there's work to do  
In my family.  
I love to help my mom; I love to help my dad.  
I love to help; it makes God glad.  
A helper I will be.

**A Helper I Will Be!**

## 6) Action Rhyme and Songs

5 minutes

Let's do some action rhymes about the Bible!

### Action Rhyme – Here is the Bible

Here is the Bible (hold hands out with palms together like a book)  
Let's open it wide (hold hands like an open book)  
God speaks to us (point upward)  
On the pages inside (hold hands like an open book)

### Action Play – The Bible Says

The Bible says, "Pray" I will obey.  
(Fold hands and bow head)  
The Bible says, "Listen" I will obey.  
(Cup hand to ear)  
The Bible says, "Give" I will obey.  
(Pretend to drop money in basket)  
The Bible says, "Go to church" I will obey.  
(Walk fingers along arm or step feet up and down)  
The Bible says, "Sing" I will obey.

### God is Happy

Tune: Are You Sleeping?

God is happy. God is happy.  
When we do right.  
When we do right.  
God is very happy.  
God is very happy.  
When we do right.  
When we do right.

Repeat tune instead of "when we do right" fill in with different lines:

When we learn what's right  
When we pray  
When we worship Him  
When we sing  
When we give  
When we obey

## 7) Optional: Jesus' Family Moves Color And Draw Sheet

10-15 minutes

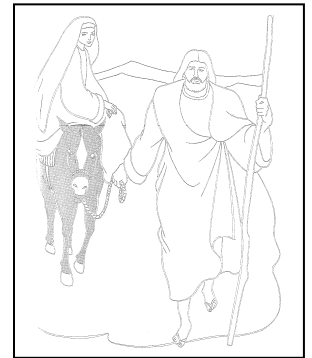
Hand out one sheet to each student along with crayons. Ask them:

**What do you see on the page?** Talk about how Mary and Joseph would have travelled way back then.

**What is missing in this picture?** Jesus!

**Let's all draw little Jesus in Mary's arms while they travel!**

Help students draw Jesus and then help them clean up crayons before moving onto the next activity.



## 8) Optional: Jesus is Born Action Figures Play Time

5-10 minutes

Before class: Gather little Jesus, Joseph and Mary on the donkey action figures from Lesson 3. If you did not do that activity you can prepare it now by printing the figures and then cut out templates and easels onto heavy white cardstock paper. One per student. Fold the easels on the dotted lines. Gather tape or glue. \*There is no need for the manger or the background figures for this play time.

Tell the students, "**We are going to make action figures of Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus to play with and move around. We can all help them travel to their new home!**" Hand out each picture with easel. Help students glue or tape the folded easel onto the back of each image if not already done. Each image should have a number that matches the number of the easel to know what easel goes with what image.

Help students stand up their figures that now have the easels.

Allow students to move their figures and help them "travel".



**9) Optional: Play Dough Play Time****10-15 minutes**

Hand out play dough to each student. Ask them to make a suitcase and fill it with things needed for traveling to help Mary and Joseph pack for their trip with little Jesus.

Talk about how Joseph and Mary obeyed God and traveled when they were asked to.

When done, ask students to help clean up. If any student doesn't want to destroy their "creation" have them take a pretend picture with a pretend camera so they have a copy of the creation they made to help them feel better about putting the play dough away.

**10) Optional: Jesus Says – Action Game****5 minutes**

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting anyone beside them.

Say to the students: **We are going to play a game about listening to Jesus. Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus is very special and we need to obey and follow Him just like we need to obey and follow God. To practice I want you to follow and do what I say. When I say, "Jesus says", I want you to do what He would tell you to, ok?"** The idea is you ask the students to do different things that would show honor to Jesus.

**Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job...**

Here are some ideas to get started, you can add your own as well.

- Jesus says go to church services (pretend to go to church services)
- Jesus says put your toys away (pretend to clean)
- Jesus says go to bed (lay down and pretend to fall asleep)
- Jesus says help your mother (act like they are helping mom with something)
- Jesus says say your prayers (practice saying prayers)
- Jesus says eat your supper before desert (pretend to eat)
- Jesus says obey your parents (pretend to listen to parents)
- Jesus says give a hug (pretend to hug)
- Jesus says - say thank you (say thank you)
- Jesus says - say I love you (say I love you)
- Jesus says read the Bible (pretend to read the Bible)

Thank class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.

**11) Optional: Snack – Trail Mix \*ensure no student has nut allergies****5-10 minutes**

Before class prepare snack by mixing small easy to chew nuts, raisins, and pretzels together or go purchase "trail mix" from a store. The idea is to eat something that one would take on a hike or long trip.

**"You've all done a great job this morning learning about how important it is to obey God just like Joseph and Mary did when they moved at God's request. To help us think about Joseph and Mary traveling we are going to enjoy some trail mix. Trail mix is used by hikers when they go on a long walk or hike as it is easy to snack on and it keeps easily in their back pack without going bad.**

Hand out snack to each child along with a glass of water.

Talk about obeying God and ways we travel today while eating the snack.

After snack have kids clean up. Then move on to the remaining activities.

**12) Sing****5-10 minutes**

Have children sing songs with you, you can sing from the Song Sheet provided.

### 13) Close in prayer

Tell students that **we are going to pray, to pray we need to put down everything and fold our hands and bow our heads like this** (show students). **This way we can hear and listen to the prayer and when we sit quietly and focus on God – it makes God happy! We learn this in God’s Word the Bible and we need to obey God.**

First: Ask if there are prayer requests that kids want to share. Make a list. Then give the list to the assistant or read yourself.

Second: Remind students to fold hands and bow heads then pray: **Thank You God that You created the world and gave us the Bible. Thank you God that we can know what You want us to do by reading Your special Words – the Bible. Help us to remember to make You and Jesus happy by coming to worship Him every Sunday. Help us to remember that it is important to obey Your Word the Bible. Thank you God for sending Your Son Jesus. Thank you for the evangelists and teachers that share the good news of Jesus’ and his life. Thank You God for everyone here today and for those that couldn’t be. In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

### 14) Remind students

To take home their sheets/crafts. Thank them for coming and ask them to help clean up before they leave.

### 15) Greet Parents at door

Ensure all students go to parents or if some students remain have teacher assistant help you take them to their parents.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!