

# OUT OF EGYPT

**Bible Basis:** Exodus 1:1–2:10; 3:9–10; 12:31–33; 13:21–22

**Key Verse:** Moses answered the people. He said, “Don’t be afraid. Stand firm. You will see how the Lord will save you today.” —Exodus 14:13, NIV

**Bible Point:** God watched over Moses and his people. God watches over me, too.

**Resource:** *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 4: “Out of Egypt”

## STEP 1: COME TOGETHER

Gather the children together and ask if any of them have babysat or watched younger brothers and sisters. Allow the children to tell stories about watching over younger children. After a few stories, ask:

- What does it mean that you’re watching over someone or something?
- Tell me about a time when someone was watching over you.
- How does it feel to watch over someone or something?

Say, **In our Bible story today, we’ll see how God was watching over his people and running interference for them.**

## STEP 2: HEAR THE STORY

**Stuff You Need:** copies of *The Story for Kids*, Bibles, *The Story Elementary Trading Card 4*

**Optional:** drum

Tell the story from *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 4. You can also have the children find Exodus 2 and mark it in their Bibles. Either you or a child in your class can read the Scripture passages listed throughout the story.

### Watch Out Hike

In today’s Bible story, the children will pretend they’re on a hike and have to watch out for danger ahead. Warm up by having the group use thumbs and forefingers to make rings around their eyes and look around the room. Ask a student volunteer to lead the hike by calling out, “Hut, two, three, four; hut, two, three, four” while the group marches in place in rhythm. You may want to give another volunteer a drum to beat the rhythm. On your cue the marching stops. Continue with the next story segment. Whenever children hear you say, “Uh-oh, watch out!” they should look around the room through their finger glasses. Then resume marching until you give the signal again to stop.

God's people lived in Egypt—but it wasn't always a great life. They were slaves and had to work hard to serve the Egyptians. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, thought there were too many Israelites, so he gave an order to throw all the Israelite baby boys in the river. Uh-oh, watch out!

A baby boy was born to a family who trusted God. God was watching over this baby. His mother kept him safe for three months. *Read Exodus 2:3–4.* Here comes somebody! Uh-oh, watch out!

*Read Exodus 2:5–9.* God was really watching over him. The baby's name was Moses.

When Moses grew up, God spoke to him. "I have seen the way the Egyptians are beating down my people," God said. *Read Exodus 3:9–10.* Uh-oh, watch out!

Moses was nervous about this big job from God! Pharaoh was a powerful king, and God's people were a big group. How was Moses going to get everyone out of Egypt? What would happen when Pharaoh got angry? Uh-oh, watch out!

Moses talked to Pharaoh, but Pharaoh didn't want to let the Israelites go. Who would do all the work if the slaves left? But God had a plan. He made a lot of scary, nasty things happen in Egypt. The river turned to blood. Icky bugs and frogs popped up everywhere. The animals all got sick. Hail pounded the whole country. It was dark even in the daytime. Pharaoh was stubborn through everything and wouldn't let God's people go. Finally, God decided to take away the oldest son from every Egyptian family. He told the Israelites to paint a special stripe over their doors so this awful plague wouldn't happen to them. That did it for Pharaoh. He decided to let the Israelites go. Uh-oh, watch out!

*Read Exodus 12:31–33.* So that night, all God's people left Egypt. While they traveled, God was always with them. During the day, the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud. At night, he guided them with a pillar of fire. God never left his people.

After you have told the Bible story, give each child a copy of *The Story Elementary Trading Card 4*. Ask children to look at the picture and tell you about what happened before and after the event in the picture. As a class, read the key verse from the back of the card or from the Bible. Ask:

- What does it mean to stand firm?
- How did the people in the story stand firm in scary times?

Say, **God watched over Moses and his people, and he watches over you, too.**

Collect the cards for now. You'll send them home with the children later.

## STEP 3: EXPLORE MORE

Choose any or all of these activity options to help your class explore the lesson further.

### OPTION 1: JUMPIN' FROGS

**Stuff You Need:** Green index cards

Say, **One of the plagues that God sent to Pharaoh was the plague of frogs. There were frogs everywhere. Frogs in bed; frogs in bread; frogs on head! Today we are going to make a jumpin' frog to remind us that God watches over his people.**

Give each child a green index card. One at a time, fold both top corners to the opposite edge of the paper, then unfold. Fold the paper in half where the diagonal creases meet in the middle and then open. Fold the paper in at the sides, using the diagonal creases, making a triangle on the top of the card. Fold the uppermost triangles up to the top point. Fold the sides in to meet at the centerline. Accordion-fold the bottom in thirds. Rub your finger down the back of the frog to make it jump.

### OPTION 2: STAND FIRM GAME

**Stuff You Need:** variety of items that make loud noises, such as pots and spoons, wooden blocks, party noisemakers, bells; blindfolds

Say, **Our Bible verse today reminds us to stand firm in scary times because God is there with us. Let's play a game to see how well we can stand firm.** Remind children of the verse you read from the card. Practice saying it together. Then have children take turns wearing a blindfold and turning their backs to the group. Someone else in the group can choose an item that makes a sudden noise, creep up on the blindfolded player, and make a loud noise. See if the blindfolded player can stand firm and not be startled by the noise. Play as many rounds as you have time for. Let children be creative about using other items from around the classroom as long as no one will get hurt. After everyone has had a turn to be blindfolded, say:

- **Tell me about something that might happen to you that would make it hard to stand firm.**
- **Tell about a way that God saves you when you're scared.**

Say, **Moses was nervous sometimes. We all get scared. But God is always there, ready to help.**

### OPTION 3: EXODUS WORD SEARCH

**Stuff You Need:** Exodus Word Search Activity Sheet, highlighters

Give an activity sheet to each child. Briefly review the story of Moses and Pharaoh with the class. Talk about key words. Have them solve the puzzle.

**OPTION 4: MIRACLES**

**Stuff You Need:** construction paper, markers, decorating supplies

We hear so many stories about how people have been protected and survived accidents, bad storms, robberies, illness, or other disasters. People call these miracles.

Talk about some recent events such as the ones above.

- Why do you think that some people are kept safe while others are not?
- Tell me all the ways God watched over his people in this Bible story.
- Tell me some ways God watches over you.

Say, **God is always there to watch over us and guide us, just like he was with Moses and his people.**

On construction paper have each student write a thank-you prayer to God for watching over us. Decorate with art supplies and display.

**STEP 4: GOING HOME**

Thank God for watching over you. Encourage the children to thank God for a specific way he has watched over them. Make sure each child takes home a copy of *The Story Elementary Trading Card 4*, Activity Sheet(s)/Crafts, and the Parents' Page.