

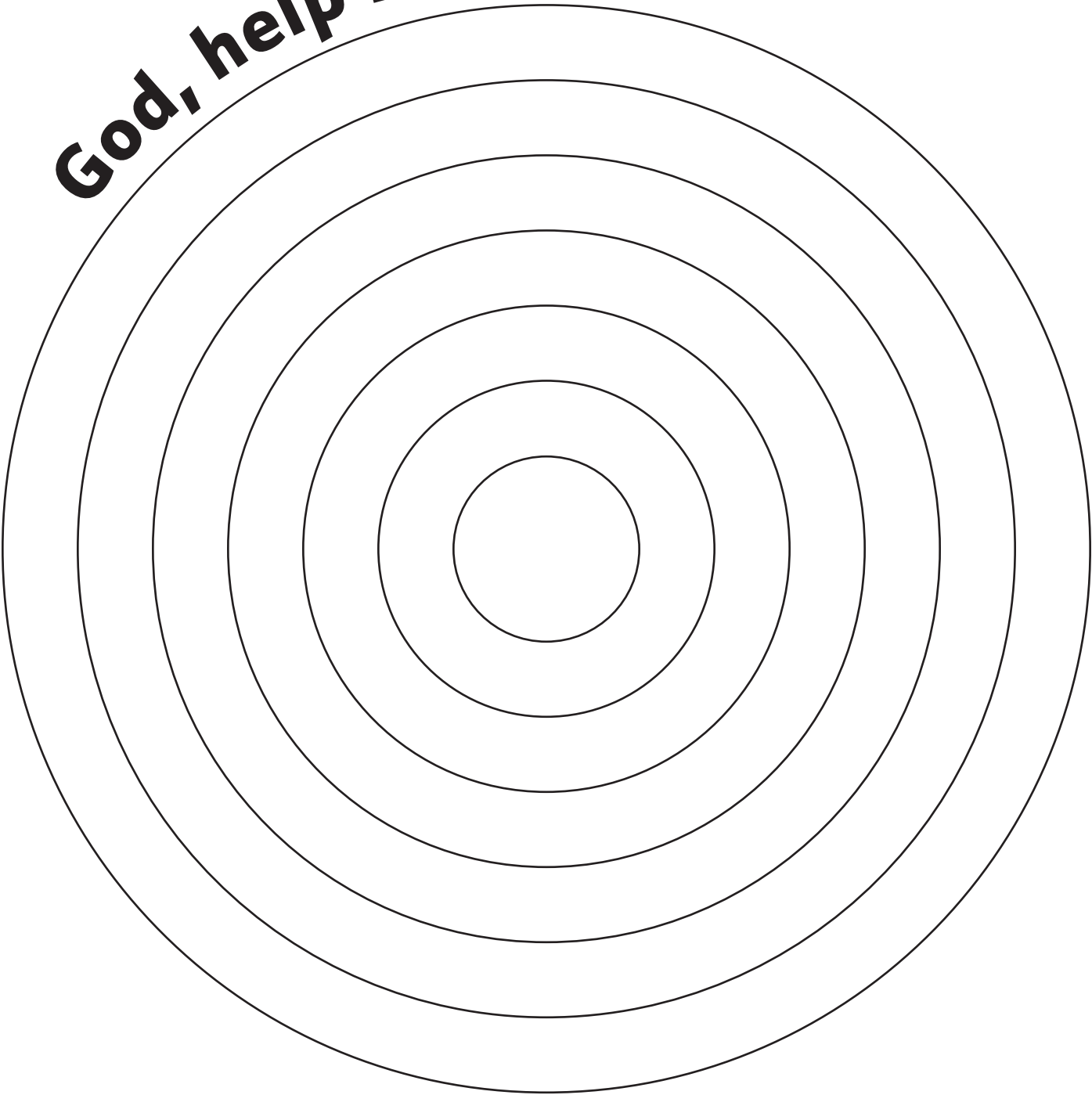
Teaching Aids

SESSIONS 1-6

Supplication Prayer Circle

Make copies for use during Connect to God.

God, help me...



SESSION 1

Heart/Soul/Might

Use the information here to enhance the discussion during Explore (Words to Live By).

HEART: We think of a heart as the organ that pumps blood through our bodies or a shape for Valentine's Day. But people who lived during the time and place of Abraham and later of Moses thought of the heart as what makes one human. To love God with all your heart was to love God with all your personality (what makes you unique and special), intellect (what you think about and remember), and will (the decisions you make and actions you take).

SOUL: The Hebrew word for soul, *nephesh*, means “the one who breathes.” To love God with all our soul is to love God with everything that gives us life, to love God with each breath in and out, and to love God from the center of our energy and being.

MIGHT: Might is more than physical strength. In the Bible, the word *might* means “abundance.” It means loving God with the best and greatest of all we have—not just with the time, energy, or resources we have left over after doing other things.

SESSION 2

Reading Guide: Isaac, the Promised Child

Genesis 17:1–8, 15–19; 18:1–15; 21:1–7

Make one copy for each youth to use during Encounter (The Story).

Nine years after God promised to give Abram many descendants, he was 86 and still didn't have any children. How could God give the land to Abram's descendants if he didn't have any children? Abram's wife Sarai had an idea: "I am too old to have children," she said. "Have a child with my servant Hagar [HAY-gar] instead." So, Abram did. Hagar gave birth to a son, and Abram named him Ishmael [ISH-my-ale].

When Abram was 99 years old, God appeared to him again. God's covenant was this: Abram was to obey and be trustworthy, and God would give him many descendants. God said:

"I promise that you will be the father of many nations. That's why I now change your name from Abram to Abraham. I will give you a lot of descendants, and in the future they will become great nations. Some of them will even be kings."

God promised to give Abraham the land of Canaan, where they had been living as immigrants. God also promised to be their God forever and said,

"Abraham, your wife's name will now be Sarah instead of Sarai. I will bless her, and you will have a son by her. She will become the mother of nations, and some of her descendants will even be kings."

Abraham bowed with his face to the ground and thought, **"I am almost 100 years old. How can I be a father? And Sarah is 90. How can she have a child?"** So he started laughing. Then he asked God, **"Why not let Ishmael inherit what you have promised me?"**

But God answered: **"No! You and Sarah will have a son. His name will be Isaac, and I will make an everlasting promise to him and his descendants."**

One hot summer afternoon God appeared to Abraham again. Abraham looked up to see three visitors standing near his tent which was at the oaks of Mamre. Abraham ran to meet them, bowed, and said,

"Please come to my home where I can serve you. I'll have some water brought, so you can wash your feet, then you can rest under the tree. Let me get you some food to give you strength before you leave. I would be honored to serve you."

"Thank you very much," they answered. **"We accept your offer."**

Abraham hurried to find Sarah, and together they prepared a wonderful meal. They served one of their best calves, with yogurt and milk, and fresh bread. While they were eating, one of the guests spoke to Abraham. Abraham realized the guest was the Lord. The guest said,

"I'll come back about this time next year, and when I do, Sarah will already have a son."

Sarah heard all of this and began to laugh. She thought she was well past the age for having children.

The Lord asked Abraham, **"Why did Sarah laugh? Is anything too difficult for the Lord? I'll come back next year at the time I promised, and Sarah will already have a son."**

The Lord kept his promise. Even though Abraham and Sarah were very old, they had a son and Abraham named him Isaac.

Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born, and Sarah said, **"God has made me laugh. Now everyone will laugh with me. Who would have dared to tell Abraham that someday I would have a child? But in his old age, I have given him a son."**

SESSIONS 2, 3

Creating a Group Covenant

Use these instructions to create a group covenant during Explore (Collaborate) of session 2 and 3. Consider reviewing it during session 12.

Creating a covenant takes time. Devote a fair bit of time in session 2 to this activity, and continue to work on it in session 3. Once completed, the Group Covenant will be displayed in your meeting space and can be used to help guide and redirect class behavior. Use whatever time you need for this foundational activity to build group identity and trust.

When making a covenant, it is important that the group develops it collaboratively. These aren't rules made by an adult but guidelines shaped by the whole group. Everyone should have an opportunity to provide input, and only those things that the whole group agrees upon should be included in the covenant. The covenant should be authentic and reflect what the group hopes the group will be like. The health and strength of the community is the responsibility of all the members of the group, and a covenant provides the framework for healthy and strong relationships.

Beginning the Covenant (Session 2)

Begin brainstorming by asking what kind of group your youth want to be. For example, I might say that I want the group to be a place where I can be myself and be accepted. Another person may share that they want it to be a place full of laughter. Invite them to share the words that would describe their ideal group. Then work to select three to five characteristics to summarize the ideal group environment.

Once the group has done this, move on to identifying the behavior and ground rules that will foster building that community. Ask them what they think are important ground rules for the group. What expectations or boundaries do they think would lead to becoming the ideal group they defined?

Enhance the conversation by giving another option rather than talking. You might give each youth sticky notes to write ideas on. Then post all the ideas on a wall or whiteboard. Next have the youth work together to group similar ideas, step back and assess if anything important is missing, and check to see if there is anything more they want to add.

Once all ideas are shared, ask these questions:

- Are there any ground rules/expectations you disagree with or do not want included?
- Are there any that you have questions about or need more information about?

Encourage the youth to think about this over the coming week. Return to this activity next session. At that time, make any desired changes, welcome input (especially of those who were absent in session 2), finalize, sign, and display the Group Covenant.

Finalizing the Covenant (Session 3)

Give a quick review of what a covenant is and why the group is making one. Have the youth help remind one another of what they came up with last week. Then open up a time for discussion. What ideas do people who were not present last session have? Are there changes to suggest or thoughts and reflections to share from the people who have had time to think about this?

Once everyone who would like to share has had an opportunity, ask if the group is ready to start writing the covenant on a poster to be displayed in the room. Make the poster. Allow room for everyone to sign their names. Display it and let it shape your group's relationships!

SESSION 3

Reading Guide: Jacob and Esau

Read the summary segments in between readings of scripture passages. Have youth volunteer to read as indicated below.

Introduce the scripture reading to the youth, offering the following summary:

The last few sessions we have been hearing the story of Abraham, who was chosen by God to receive God's blessings, including land and many descendants. We learned that God's promises would be passed down through the generations to Abraham and his wife Sarah's descendants. The promises weren't just for them but were for all the generations of their family. We also heard in the story how God kept the promises made to Abraham and Sarah, and they had a son, Isaac, in their old age. Today, the main characters of the story change. Abraham and Sarah have now died, and we focus on the next two generations of this family. Isaac is now married to Rebekah, and they have twin sons, Esau and Jacob.

Have a youth read Genesis 25:22–26a.

When the boys grew up, Esau became a skillful hunter while Jacob preferred to stay at home. Isaac loved Esau because he enjoyed eating the game he hunted, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Have a youth read Genesis 25:29–32.

So Esau sold his birthright to his brother for some bread and lentil stew.

Have a youth read Genesis 27:1–4.

Rebekah wanted Jacob to have the blessing, not Esau. So she told Jacob to bring some goats so she could make the tasty food that Isaac loved. Jacob could take the food to his father and get the blessing. Jacob didn't think this was a good idea. His skin was smooth, and his brother's skin was hairy. Wouldn't his father know the difference between his sons, even though he had no eyesight in his old age? But Rebekah insisted. She told Jacob to put on Esau's clothes so he would smell like him. She put animal skins on his arms to make them hairy. Rebekah made the food, and Jacob took it to his father.

Have a youth read Genesis 27:25–35.

Esau hated Jacob for stealing his blessing. He was so angry that he planned to kill Jacob. When Rebekah heard this, she told Jacob to run away and go stay with her brother Laban. Jacob left right away and ended up staying with his uncle Laban for 20 years. He got married and became very rich. But after 20 years, Jacob wanted to come home. He set out with his family and his entire household, but then he heard that Esau was coming toward him with 400 men! Was Esau coming to kill Jacob?

Have a youth read Genesis 32:7–15.

Jacob sent the animals ahead with his servants, hoping that seeing such a generous gift from his brother would pacify Esau and help them avoid violence. The next morning, Jacob went ahead of his family. In the distance, he saw Esau with the 400 men.

Have a youth read Genesis 33:4–9.

Then they went their separate ways in peace. Jacob took his family and household to Shechem, bought land, and set up his home and an altar where he could worship God.

SESSION 6

Story Script: Joseph and His Family Reconcile

Use during Encounter (The Story). The Bible story is divided into four scenes with a variety of speaking parts and options for nonspeaking roles. Let youth do a quick review and determine staging prior to presenting each scene. Make three copies of the script; each scene has three speaking parts.

Scene 1: *Jacob's home in Canaan*

Narrator: Now in the land of Canaan, there was a severe famine. Jacob enters to find his 11 sons just sitting around doing nothing.

Jacob: Why are you just sitting here, staring at one another? I heard there is grain in Egypt. Go. Travel to Egypt and buy some so we don't starve to death!

Narrator: The brothers pack their bags to leave for Egypt. But first, Jacob goes to speak with his youngest son, Benjamin.

Jacob: Don't go with them, Benjamin. I'm afraid something bad will happen to you.

Narrator: So Jacob's other 10 sons joined other travelers going to Egypt in search of grain.

Scene 2: *Egypt*

Joseph sits with a lot of people lined up to speak with him and buy grain.

Narrator: Joseph's brothers arrived in Egypt and joined the line to speak with the governor of Egypt. They did not recognize that their brother Joseph was the governor! But Joseph recognized them.

Joseph: (*speaking to himself as he continues dealing with the people in line*) Could it be? Yes, it is! But there are only 10 of them. Who is missing? I see Reuben . . . and Simeon . . . and Levi . . . and Judah . . . and Dan . . . and Gad . . . and Asher . . . and Isachar . . . and Zebulon . . . but where is Benjamin? Oh no! They didn't throw him in a pit too, did they?

Joseph's brothers get to the front of the line.

Joseph: Where have you come from?

Reuben: We're from Canaan. We've come to buy grain.

Joseph: No, you haven't! You're spies! You've come here to try and find out where our country is weak so you can attack us!

Reuben: No sir, we're your servants. We have only come to buy grain. We're honest men, brothers from the same family, not spies.

Joseph: That isn't so! You've come here to find out our country's weakness!

Reuben: No, sir. We come from a family of 12 brothers. Our youngest brother is still with our father in Canaan, and one of our brothers is dead.

Narrator: Joseph was angry with his brothers. He agreed to give them grain but only if they returned with their youngest brother Benjamin, leaving one of the older brothers behind in jail to ensure that they would come back. The brothers were afraid but did as they were told.

SESSION 6

Story Script: Joseph and His Family Reconcile (continued)

Scene 3: *Back in Egypt*

Narrator: When they ran out of grain back in Canaan, they returned to Egypt with their brother Benjamin. When Joseph saw Benjamin and his other brothers, he could not control his emotions and sent his servants out of the room.

Joseph: (*to his steward*) Fill each of these men's sacks with food. Then put the money they gave for the grain back in them. Put it on top of their sacks of grain. In the youngest one's sack of grain put my silver cup too.

Narrator: The steward did as he asked. The next morning the brothers left to return home. But Joseph sent his men after them. When Joseph's men caught up to them, the men accused the brothers of stealing. The brothers opened up their bags of grain and were caught with the evidence Joseph had planted there. Joseph's men brought his brothers back to him, and the brothers fell at his feet.

Judah: What can we say? How can we clear ourselves, for God has seen our guilt? Here we are. We will be your slaves.

Joseph: Only the one who had the cup will be my slave. He must stay here. As for the rest of you, go in peace.

Narrator: But Judah pleaded with Joseph.

Judah: O my lord, please let me speak with you first. Do you not have a father or a brother? For we have a father, an old man, and we have this youngest brother who was the child of our father's old age. Our father loves him dearly; he is the last child of our father's beloved wife. If we do not bring him home to our father, our father will be devastated. Please let me stay in his place. I will be your slave instead of him. I can't bear to see my father suffer.

Joseph: (*crying out*) I am Joseph!

Narrator: Then he cried so loudly that the Egyptians heard him and began talking about it throughout the palace.

Joseph: Tell me, is my father still alive?

Narrator: But they were too frightened to answer. Joseph told them to come closer to him.

Joseph: Yes, I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt. Don't worry or blame yourselves for what you did. God is the one who sent me ahead of you to save lives. This famine is going to last another five years, brothers. Return to Canaan and bring father, and your families and livestock. Pack up your home and come back and live with me in Egypt. You will not starve here with me.

Narrator: Joseph and Benjamin hugged each other and started crying. Joseph kept crying as he kissed each of his brothers.

SESSION 6

Story Script: Joseph and His Family Reconcile (continued)

Scene 4: *Jacob's home in Canaan*

Narrator: Joseph's brothers left Egypt and arrived in Canaan.

Benjamin: Father, Joseph is alive! And he is a powerful governor in Egypt!

Jacob: What? I can't believe it!

Narrator: But they insisted and showed him the wagons full of grain, and he believed.

Jacob: Now I can believe you! My son Joseph must really be alive, and I will get to see him before I die.

(Benjamin and Jacob move toward the Egypt side of the room.)

Narrator: Jacob and his entire family left for Egypt. They took along everything they owned and returned to their brother. Joseph came out in his chariot and met them. He hugged his father and wept for a long time.

SESSION 7

Readers Theater: Courageous Women in Egypt

Make four copies and use during Encounter (The Story).

Reader 1: Now a new king came to power in Egypt who didn't know Joseph. He said to his people,

Reader 2: The Israelite people are now larger in number and stronger than we are. Come on, let's be smart and deal with them. Otherwise, they will only grow in number. And if war breaks out, they will join our enemies, fight against us, and then escape from the land.

Reader 1: Wanting to wear out their bodies and break their spirits so they would not rebel, the Egyptians oppressed the Israelites with more and more labor. They were forced to work hard day and night to build cities where Pharaoh could store all his wealth.

Reader 3: But the more the Israelites were oppressed, the more they grew and spread. God's promises to expand Abraham's family kept coming true, so much so that the Egyptians started to look at the Israelites with disgust and fear.

Reader 4: So the Egyptians enslaved the Israelites, whose lives were made miserable by hard labor. The Israelites had to labor in the fields and make mortar and bricks, and they were forced to do all kinds of other cruel work.

SESSION 7

Readers Theater: Courageous Women in Egypt (continued)

Reader 1: Yet still their numbers continued to grow. So the king of Egypt spoke to two midwives named Shiphrah and Puah:

Reader 2: When you are helping the Hebrew women give birth, kill all the boys but let the girls live.

Reader 3: Now the two midwives respected God, so they didn't obey the Egyptian king's order. Instead, they let the baby boys live. So the king of Egypt called the two midwives and said to them,

Reader 2: Why are you doing this? Why are you letting the baby boys live?

Reader 1: The two midwives said to Pharaoh,

Reader 4: Because Hebrew women aren't like Egyptian women. They're much stronger and give birth before any midwives can get to them.

Reader 3: So God treated the midwives well, and the people kept on multiplying and became very strong. And because the midwives respected God, God blessed and took care of them. Then Pharaoh gave an order to all his people:

Reader 2: Throw every baby boy born to the Hebrews into the Nile River, but you can let all the girls live.

Reader 4: Now a woman descended from Jacob's son Levi became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She saw that the baby was healthy and beautiful, so she hid him for three months. When she couldn't hide him any longer, she took a reed basket and sealed it up with black tar. She put the child in the basket and set the basket floating among the reeds at the riverbank.

Reader 1: The baby's older sister stood watch nearby to see what would happen to him. When Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe in the river, she saw the basket among the reeds and sent one of her servants to bring it to her.

Reader 2: When she opened it, she saw the child. The boy was crying, and she felt sorry for him. She said,

Reader 3: This must be one of the Hebrew children.

Reader 1: Then the baby's sister came out of her hiding place and said to Pharaoh's daughter,

Reader 4: Would you like me to go and find one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?

Reader 1: Pharaoh's daughter agreed,

Reader 3: Yes, do that.

Reader 4: So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her,

Reader 3: Take this child and nurse it for me, and I'll pay you for your work.

Reader 2: So the woman took the child and cared for him while he was a baby. When he got older, she brought him back to Pharaoh's daughter, who adopted him as her son. She named him Moses,

Reader 3: Because I pulled him out of the water.

Reader 1: After a long time, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned under the burden of their slavery, and cried out for help.

Reader 4: God heard their groaning, and God remembered God's covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God saw the Israelites, and God took notice of them.

SESSION 7

"Time for Courage" Role-Play

Use during Explore (Wrestle). You may choose to cut apart and assign different scenarios to small groups of youth, or to do each one together as a large group.



Scenario 1

You are taking a test in math class when you notice your good friend cheating. The teacher doesn't catch your friend. What do you do?

SHINE

Scenario 2

You have a big family and they all love riding roller coasters. Every year, your family plans a big trip to an amusement park as vacation. But you are super afraid of roller coasters. All the family is looking forward to having fun riding the new roller coaster together. What do you do?

SHINE

Scenario 3

You are eating lunch with your friends at school when a new student comes out of the lunch line. The student clearly doesn't know where to sit. You saw the person in class earlier that day and heard the family moved to town from really far away. You hear your friends making fun of the person's hairstyle as you watch the new student try and find a seat. What do you do?

SHINE

Scenario 4

You've been waiting for the coach to put you in all season, and now it is your chance. But before sending you in, the coach tells you to foul a player on the other team intentionally. The coach wants you to hurt the player just enough so the player has to leave the game. What do you do?

SHINE

SESSION 8

Readers Theater: Moses, God's Chosen Leader

Make one copy for each youth to use during Encounter (The Story). Instruct them to draw a box around the verbs/ action words. A few have been done for them.

Narrator: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, in Midian. He led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him out of a bush which was blazing but not consumed.

Moses: I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up.

Narrator: When the Lord saw he had turned aside to see, he called to him out of the bush,

God: Moses, Moses!

Moses: Here I am.

SESSION 8

Readers Theater: Moses, God's Chosen Leader (continued)

God: Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Narrator: Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

God: I have seen the misery of my people enslaved in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.

Moses: Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?

God: I will be with you. This shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.

Moses: If I come to the Israelites and say, "The God of your ancestors has sent me to you," and they ask, "What is this God's name?" what shall I say?

God: I am who I am. Tell them, "*I am* has sent me to you."

Moses: But suppose they do not listen to me and instead say, "The Lord did not appear to you."

God: Take your staff and throw it on the ground.

Narrator: So he threw the staff on the ground, and it became a snake.

God: Reach out your hand and seize it by the tail.

Narrator: Moses did this, and it became a staff again.

God: That sign is so that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their ancestors, has appeared to you. Now put your hand inside your cloak.

Narrator: Moses put his hand into his cloak. When he took his hand out, it was diseased.

God: Put your hand back into your cloak.

Narrator: So he put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was healed.

God: If they will not believe you or the first sign, they may believe the second sign. If they will not believe even these two signs, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water will turn into blood.

Moses: O my Lord, I have never been a good speaker. My tongue is slow and I stutter.

God: Who gives speech to people? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak.

Moses: O my Lord, please send someone else.

Narrator: Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses.

God: What of your brother Aaron? I know that he can speak fluently, and even now he is coming out to meet you. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth; and I will be with your mouth and his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. He shall speak for you to the people. Now pick up your staff, with which you shall perform the signs, and go.

SESSION 9

Readers Theater: Moses Confronts Pharaoh

Use during Encounter (The Story). Make three copies, one for each reader.

Reader 1: The Lord said to Moses and Aaron,

Reader 2: When Pharaoh says to you, “Do one of your amazing acts,” Aaron should take the shepherd’s rod and throw it down in front of Pharaoh. It will turn into a cobra.

Reader 3: Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the Lord commanded. Aaron threw down his shepherd’s rod in front of Pharaoh and his officials, and it turned into a cobra.

Reader 2: Then Pharaoh called together his wise men and wizards, and Egypt’s religious experts did the same thing by using their secret knowledge. Each one threw down his rod, and they turned into cobras. But then Aaron’s rod swallowed up each of their rods.

Reader 1: However, Pharaoh remained stubborn, his heart hardened. He wouldn’t listen to them, just as the Lord had said. So, God sent Moses with a message.

Reader 2: Because Pharaoh would not let the Israelite people go, God would cause Egypt’s waters to turn into blood.

Reader 3: Aaron raised his shepherd’s rod and hit the waters of the Nile River and it turned to blood. The fish died and the Nile began to stink so the Egyptians could not drink its water.

Reader 1: But Pharaoh remained stubborn, his heart hardened, and he would not let the people go. Then the Lord said to Moses,

Reader 2: Go to Pharaoh and tell him: This is what the Lord says: Let my people go so that they can worship me. If you refuse to let them go, then I’ll send a plague of frogs over your whole country. The Nile will overflow with frogs. They’ll get into your palace, into your bedroom and onto your bed, into your officials’ houses, and among all your people, and even into your ovens and bread pans. The frogs will crawl up on you, your people, and all your officials.

Reader 1: Even when this happened, Pharaoh’s heart was hardened. He remained stubborn and would not let the people go.

Reader 3: So, God sent lice,

Reader 2: Then gnats and flies that covered animals, people, and houses;

Reader 3: Then a deadly disease that killed all their livestock;

Reader 2: Then skin sores and blisters that made people miserable;

Reader 3: Then hail that beat down everything growing in the fields and stripped every tree;

Reader 2: Then locusts that ate what little the Egyptians had left after the hail.

Reader 3: Then darkness that covered the entire land, all day and night.

Reader 1: Each time, Moses and Aaron asked Pharaoh to let God’s people go so they could worship God, but each time Pharaoh refused. Then, God told Moses that God would bring one final plague upon Pharaoh and Egypt. God said,

Reader 2: This time, he will not only let you go, he will drive you away.

Reader 3: God gave one final warning to Pharaoh. If he would not let the people of Israel go, the oldest offspring of every person and animal in Egypt would die.

SESSION 9

Readers Theater: Moses Confronts Pharaoh (continued)

Reader 1: But Pharaoh *still* did not free the Israelites.

Reader 2: God gave the people of Israel very specific instructions so they would be protected. First, they were to prepare a meal of lamb. They should roast the meat over the fire and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Then they were to take some of the lamb's blood and place it on the two doorposts and on the beam over the door of their houses.

Reader 1: The blood would be a sign for God to pass over them so no death would come to their homes. Then God said to Moses:

Reader 2: This day will be a day you should always remember. You will observe it as a holy day in every generation for all time. When you enter the land that the Lord has promised to give you, be sure that you do what you are doing tonight, every year. And when your children ask you, "What does this ritual mean to you?" you will say, "It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, for the Lord passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt. When he struck down the Egyptians, he spared our houses."

Reader 3: The people bowed down and worshiped. And at midnight, the plague struck, and all the first offspring in the land of Egypt died, including the oldest child of Pharaoh. Then Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron and said,

Reader 2: Get up! Get away from my people, both you and the Israelites! Go! Worship the Lord, as you said! You can even take your flocks and herds, as you asked. Just go! And bring a blessing on me as well!

Reader 1: The Egyptians urged the people to hurry and leave the land. So, the people picked up their bread dough before the yeast made it rise. They took the Egyptians' silver and gold jewelry, as well as their clothing. Hundreds of thousands of Israelites left Egypt, in addition to a huge number of livestock. Some Egyptians who wanted to leave joined them too.