

January 24, 1999

Exodus 1-2

Early Childhood

1EXO01EC

Baby Moses Was Born.

Materials I Need:

Memory Verse:

God said, "I will be with you." Exodus 3:12

Attribute of God emphasized in this lesson: God cares about His people.

Aim Questions for 2's & 3's:

1. **Were the mean Egyptians hurting the Israelites?** *(Yes. The Egyptians didn't want the Israelites to keep growing.)*
2. **Did an Israelite mother put her baby son Moses in a basket so that he would be safe?** *(Yes)*
3. **Did the princess find the baby Moses in the basket?** *(Yes. The princess found Moses crying in the basket.)*
4. **Who took care of the baby Moses in the basket?** *(God)*
5. **Who cared for the Israelites when they were crying and groaning?** *(God cares for His people.)*

Aim Questions for 4's, 5's & K:

1. **Why did the new Egyptian Pharaoh make the Israelites slaves and make them work so hard?** *(The Egyptians didn't want the Israelites to keep growing in number.)*
2. **What did the mean Egyptian Pharaoh tell the Israelites to do with their baby boys?** *(The mean Pharaoh told the families to throw all the baby boys into the river.)*
3. **What did one mother do with her baby son?** *(She put her baby in a basket and floated the basket on the water.)*
4. **What happened to the baby in the basket?** *(The princess found the crying baby and asked his mother to take care of him until the boy was old enough to live in the king's palace.)*
5. **When Moses grew up, why did he run away to Midian?** *(When Moses saw how the Egyptians were treating his people, he became angry, killed an Egyptian, and ran from the angry Pharaoh.)*
6. **Who cared for the Israelite people who were groaning and crying out in their slavery?** *(God cared about His people.)*

Key for symbols:

- This box symbol represents ideas that can be used for two-year-olds through kindergarten. Please remember to slow down the pace for two-year-olds and keep the pace moving for five-year-olds.
- ② This symbol represents ideas that are best used for two- and three-year-olds.
- ④ This symbol represents ideas that are best used for four-year-olds through kindergarten.

Hook:

- Dress Up Center:** Bring crowns, shawls, scarves and jewelry for the children to dress up as kings, queens, and princesses. God protected baby Moses when his mother left him floating on the river in a basket. The king's daughter, a princess, found him and wanted to protect him. She was good to baby Moses.

Hiding from the Princess: Bring three large boxes, each big enough for a child to hide under. Have one child close his eyes while another gets quietly under one of the boxes to hide. Have the first child try to guess which box he is under. In the Bible Adventure, Moses' sister hid beside the river so the Egyptian princess could not see her.

Sink or Float: Provide a dishpan partially filled with water. Drop different objects into the water to see if they would make good materials to float on a river. Some materials could include cork, wood, rocks, feathers, sponges, plastic lids, baskets, and fruit. Moses' mother made a basket from things that she knew would float on top of the water. She wanted baby Moses to stay safely on top of the water while he was hiding from the Egyptians.

Finger Play:

Here is my mother. (*Wiggle your thumb.*)

Here is my father. (*Wiggle your index finger.*)

Here is my brother tall. (*Wiggle your middle finger.*)

Here is my sister. (*Wiggle your fourth finger.*)

Here is the baby. (*Wiggle your little finger.*)

Oh, how we love them all. (*Wiggle all fingers and hold them close to you.*)

② **Cardboard Bricks:** Build walls and towers with the large cardboard bricks. Today's Bible Adventure tells about God's people being slaves in Egypt. They were forced to make bricks from clay and straw to build great houses for the Egyptians. It was hard work and God's people were treated harshly.

② **Baby Doll Center:** Provide baby dolls, blankets, and baskets for the children. They can wrap "baby Moses" in a blanket, put him in a basket, and whisper, "Shh, little baby, don't cry." Moses' mother put him in a basket when he was just a baby and hid him in some tall grass along a river. She was afraid that the Egyptians would find him and hurt him.

④ **Housekeeping-Doll Center:** Provide dolls, clothes and blankets. Encourage children to be families caring for babies. They could pretend to be baby-sitters and care for the babies. Ask them to listen today and learn about a family who cared for a baby in a special way.

④ **Puppet Talk:** Have two puppets talk about their masters and how hard they have to work. Talk to the children about what it means to be a slave. They will hear about slaves in the Bible Adventure.

④ **Floating Tongue Depressors:** Using crayons, ask children to color their depressor to look like a person with a happy face and perhaps striped or floral clothes. Watch the depressors float and bounce around in a pan of water. The children will hear about a baby floating in a basket today.

④ **Jumping Across the Nile River:** Show the children the Nile River on a map. With two teachers holding the ends of two ropes about one foot apart and with children all lined up along one rope, ask them to jump across the river. Each time, the river gets wider and the children have to jump across and try to not get wet in the river! Tell the children to listen to what is going to happen in the Nile River in our Bible Adventure today.

④ **"Sometimes Tall, Sometimes Small" Game:** Place one blindfolded child in the middle of the circle of children. While standing tall and then crouching, the others chant, "I am sometimes tall. I am sometimes small. Sometimes tall, sometimes small. Guess what we are now?" If the child guesses right, another person is blindfolded and stands in the middle while it is repeated. The children will hear about a small baby that grows into a tall man.

④ **Action Rhyme:** Stand and crouch appropriately while saying the following:

God cares for me when I am very small,
And He cares about me when I am tall.
When I am little, God cares about me,
And when I am big as I can be,
God still cares about me!



Book:

Presentation Ideas -

- Treasure Box Object:** The curriculum team has chosen a treasure box theme for the book of Exodus. For the Treasure Box to be an integral part of the Bible Adventure time, show the children the decorated Treasure Box before the Bible Adventure. Tell the children that there are two treasures in this pretty box that are very special. One of the treasures (the Bible) will be taken out before the Bible Adventure, and one of the treasures will be taken out after the Bible Adventure. This first week of Exodus, speak lovingly of God's words in the Bible. This is the most important book in the whole world and every story in the Bible is true. Tell the children that each week the teacher will look in the box to discover that week's "treasure" from God's Word in the book of Exodus. Each week, the curriculum will provide an object idea to put in the treasure box. For this lesson, put a basket with a small doll in the box. The curriculum team has written two songs that tell the story of Exodus so that each week the teachers can add a new verse for the current lesson. (See the Song section.) One or both of these songs can be used throughout the morning to reinforce the story concepts. If the teachers want, they can sing the former weeks' verses as a review before telling the Bible Adventure for the current lesson. Each week, take the Bible out of the Treasure Box and let the children help you open it to the book of Exodus.
- Put a doll in a waterproof basket and float it in a pan of water when you talk about Moses' mother hiding Moses on the Nile River.
- Color and mount the **1EXO01ECGF1**, **1EXO01ECGF2**, **1EXO01ECGF3**, and **1EXO01ECGF4** pictures on construction paper. Show them as you tell the Bible Adventure. Save the pictures for review in the coming weeks of our study of Exodus.

Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's-

(Show the GF1 picture.) God kept His promise to make Abraham's family grow bigger into a big nation of people.

(If you haven't done so already, open your Bible to the book of Exodus.) In the Bible book of Exodus, we read that Joseph's family was growing and growing in Egypt. There were many Israelites living in Egypt.

In the Bible book of Exodus, we read that a new Egyptian king said, "There are too many Israelites. They must become our slaves."

(Show the GF2 picture.) Pharaoh made the Israelites work very hard building bricks. (Hold up a large cardboard "brick" and place it on top of several others.)

Pharaoh was very mean to the Israelite slaves and beat the men if they didn't work hard all of the time. The Israelites groaned and cried out to God, "Please help us, God!" (Have the children groan.)

God was with His people and they had many children. The Pharaoh was angry and said, "There are too many Israelites! Throw every Israelite baby boy into the river!" (Make a sad face.) That was a very bad thing to say.

The Israelite families were more sad than before. They loved their babies very much. They groaned and cried out to God, "Please help us, God!" (Have the children groan.)

One Israelite mother hid her new baby, named Moses, in her house and kept him very quiet so that no one would hear him. (Say, "Shhh!" with your finger to your mouth. Speak quietly as you say...) When Moses began to cry, his mother would say, "Shhh, little Moses, don't cry." Can you say "Moses" with me? (Repeat several times.)

(Show the GF3 picture.) When Moses got older, his mother could not hide him any longer. She made a soft bed for him in a basket and floated the basket on the river. The baby's sister hid in the bushes to watch the basket and make sure that the baby was safe.

The king's daughter, the princess, went walking by the river and heard a baby crying. The princess looked in the basket and felt sorry for the baby. She said to her friends, "This is one of the Israelite babies. He's hungry."

Just then the baby's sister hurried up to the princess and said, "Shall I get one of the women to feed the baby for you?" Guess who came to nurse the baby--the baby's mother!

Moses' mother took him home. How happy she was to have her baby safe at home. He could cry and no one would hurt him. She held him tightly in her arms as she fed him.

When the baby was old enough to live in the king's palace, Moses' mother took him to the princess. God had a very special plan for Moses in Egypt.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for the Bible book of Exodus that tells us how You cared for baby Moses. Thank You, in Jesus' name, amen.

Bible Adventure for 4's, 5's & K-

(Show the GF1 picture.) God kept His promise to make Abraham's family grow into a big nation of people. In the Bible book of Exodus, we read that Joseph's family was growing and growing in Egypt. There were many Israelites living in Egypt.

(Open your Bible to the book of Exodus.) In the Bible book of Exodus, we read that the new Egyptian Pharaoh said, "There are too many Israelites. We will make them our slaves. We will make them work very hard so that they will not have so many children." Slaves had to do everything their masters told them to do.

(Show the GF2 picture.) Pharaoh gave the Israelites the hard job of making bricks from straw mixed with clay to build cities in Egypt. *(Hold up a large cardboard "brick" and place it on top of several others.)*

The Egyptian masters were cruel to the Israelite slaves and beat the men if they didn't work hard all of the time. The Israelites groaned and cried out to God, "Please help us, God!" *(Have the children groan.)*

God blessed His Israelite people and they had many children. The Pharaoh was angry and said, "There are too many Israelites! From now on, every Israelite baby boy must be thrown into the river!"

The Israelite families were very sad. They loved their babies very much. They groaned and cried out to God, "Please help us, God!" *(Have the children groan.)*

One Israelite mother hid her new baby, named Moses, in her house and kept him very quiet so that no one would know that she had a baby. *(Say, "Shhh!" with your finger to your mouth. Speak quietly as you say...)* When Moses began to cry, his mother would say, "Shhh, little Moses, don't cry." Can you say "Moses" with me? *(Repeat several times.)*

(Show the GF3 picture.) When Moses was three months old, his mother could not hide him any longer. She made a basket out of reeds and coated the reeds with tar and pitch so that the basket would float on the water. She made a soft bed for her baby in the basket and floated the basket on the Nile River. The baby's sister hid in the bushes to watch the basket and make sure that no one hurt the baby.

The king's daughter, the princess, was walking down by the river when she heard a baby crying. The princess sent her slave girl to bring the basket to her. When the princess looked in the basket, she saw the Israelite baby crying and felt sorry for him. She said to her friends, "This is one of the Israelite babies. He's hungry."

Just then the baby's sister hurried up to the princess and said, "Shall I get one of the women to nurse the baby for you?" The princess said, "Yes," and the sister ran to get someone to feed the baby. Guess who came to nurse the baby--the baby's mother!

The princess said to the mother, "Take this baby and nurse him for me and I will pay you. Bring him to me when he is old enough."

Moses' mother took him home. How happy she was to have her baby safe at home. He could cry and no one would hurt him. She held him tightly in her arms as she fed him.

When Moses was old enough, he went to live in the king's palace. God had a very special plan for Moses in Egypt.

(Show the GF2 picture again.) When Moses was a grown man, he went out from the king's palace to see where his own Israelite people lived. Moses watched the Israelite slaves at their hard labor. When he saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite, it made Moses so angry that he wanted to kill that mean Egyptian. Moses looked all around to see if anyone was watching him. He looked this way and that way. He couldn't see anyone around so he went over and killed the Egyptian slave driver. Moses buried the Egyptian in the sand and went home.

Someone told the Egyptian Pharaoh about what Moses had done. The king became very angry and even though Moses had grown up in his palace, the king wanted to get rid of Moses. Moses ran away from the palace to a land far away, called Midian.

(Show the GF4 picture of Moses at a well.) Moses sat by the watering well, wondering what to do and where to go. A priest of Midian invited Moses to stay with him in his house. Moses was glad to have a place to stay.

Moses stayed in Midian for many years--forty years. He married a wife and had a son.

During that long forty years while Moses was away from Egypt, the Israelites were groaning in their slavery. They cried out to God, "Please help us, God!" (*Have the children groan.*)

God cared for His people and had a plan to help them. Next week in the book of Exodus, we will hear more about Moses and God's plan to help the Israelites.

(If you took the Bible from the Treasure Box before the Bible Adventure, lovingly place it back in the box. Tell the children how much you love to learn about God's true words.)

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for the Bible book of Exodus that tells us how You cared for baby Moses. Thank You for caring for me, too. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.



Look:



"Moses in the Basket" Paper Plate Craft Center: (1EXO01ECGF5) Fold a paper plate in half. Draw a line 1 1/2 inches from the folded edge. Cut out the edges as shown to look like a baby. Draw the face with a pen. Use a small square of sponge dipped in tempera paint to stamp the side of the basket. (Torn pieces of paper sack could be glued on the basket boat.) Glue blue yarn on the bottom for waves and fabric over the baby for a blanket. Rock Moses back and forth while talking about the basket floating in the river until he was found by the princess and cared for by his own mother. God took care of Moses and God takes care of us.



Clothespin Baby: Using round clothespins, ask children to draw a face on the baby with a fine point pen. Color the body with crayon and wrap him in a strip of cloth. Review the story.



Snack: Give each child a twelve-inch square of foil. Serve a one-fourth cup of chocolate pudding on each child's foil. Let them create pictures by finger-painting on the foil, lick, and repeat as long as the pudding lasts. The Israelites worked hard to make bricks from mud.



2 Baby Moses Finger Play:

"Get rid of all the baby boys!"	<i>(Shake finger.)</i>
The naughty Pharaoh said.	
But Moses' family loved him lots,	<i>(Hug yourself.)</i>
So Mom kept Moses hid.	<i>(Hide fist behind other hand.)</i>
But Moses wiggled and laughed.	<i>(Giggle and wiggle.)</i>
They couldn't keep him hid.	
And his mother prayed for help.	<i>(Fold hands in prayer position.)</i>
Then this is what she did:	
She made a little basket bed,	<i>(Hands shape a basket.)</i>
She covered it with tar.	<i>(Wipe hand in circles.)</i>
She made it like a little boat,	
To take her baby far.	<i>(Point far away.)</i>
Then in the river Moses went;	<i>(Hands move over waves.)</i>
His sister watched nearby.	<i>(Hands cupped around eyes)</i>
Just then, the princess came to bathe,	<i>(Rub arms and face.)</i>
And baby Moses cried!	<i>(Wipe tears from eyes.)</i>
The princess took the basket boat.	<i>(Scoop arms.)</i>
She opened it and said,	<i>(Open hands.)</i>
"I'll keep this baby; he's so cute!"	
And kissed him on the head.	<i>(Kiss.)</i>



Get Moses into the Basket!: Have a leader stand in the center of an open area holding a larger-sized basket in the air. Each child should have a soft ball or small stuffed animal. On a starting signal from the leader, each child tries to throw his ball into the upraised basket. Help them retrieve the balls so they can continue to throw and try to get them into the basket. If one is successful, the leader takes that ball out of the basket, congratulates the child, and lets him continue to play. The leader can help by raising and lowering the basket.



4 Finger Play:

There were so many Israelites!	<i>(Open fingers many times.)</i>
They worked as slaves both days and nights.	<i>(Digging motion)</i>

The Egyptians made them build bricks.	<i>(Mold bricks with hands.)</i>
They called to God, "We're in a fix!"	<i>(Shake fist toward sky.)</i>
Since the Israelites continued to grow,	<i>(Open arms wider and wider.)</i>
The King said, "Drown every baby boy you know!"	<i>(Shake finger.)</i>
But one mother put her son in hiding,	<i>(Hold babe in arms.)</i>
And in a basket he did go riding.	<i>(Move hands over waves.)</i>
His name was Moses and he would be,	
The one to rescue God's family.	<i>(Say "Moses" together.)</i>

- ④ **Review Questions:** Let children pull a question out of a basket. Use six copies of the questions and place them in the basket so you can ask them in order. For variety you could place each of the numbers one through six in a basket floating in a pan of water. Ask a child to come up and find the first number, etc.

- ④ **Crayon Rubbings:** For each table of children, cut a set of letters out of lightweight cardboard that says, "God cares for you." Glue them on another sheet of lightweight cardboard. Give each child a piece of construction paper and a crayon with the paper taken off. The children can take turns placing the letter sheet under their plain sheet of paper and rubbing it with the side of the crayon to reveal the words. Show the children what each word says as you point to it. Tell them that it is not a secret or hidden thing that God cares for us. He loves and cares for every one of us just like he loved Moses and cared for him.

- ④ **Bingo Board Review: (1EXO01ECGF6)** Have children color their own GF6 picture sheets of the Bible Adventure today. Provide another set of pictures that have been cut apart and placed in the middle of the table with the picture sides down. As a child turns over a picture and tells what is happening in the picture, each child gets to place a fruit loop on that picture. They all get a "bingo" at the same time, but it is still fun to review the story and eat the fruit loops when done.

- ④ **Verse Review Game:** To the tune of "London Bridge," sing the following words, catching several children at the end and saying their names.
 God said, "I will be with you,
 Be with you, be with you."
 God said "I will be with you,
 Johnny, Jill, and Erica."

- ④ **Acting Review:** "Guess what part of the story am I acting out (without words)?" After discussing the answer, let the children imitate you and then go on and guess the next action.
 Point to Exodus in your Bible. *(This Bible Adventure was from the book of Exodus. It is true because it is God's words in the Bible.)*
 Pretend to be digging and forming block bricks with your hands. *(The Israelites were slaves and working very hard making bricks.)*
 Hold hands together as if praying and looking up to God mouthing the word "Help!" *(The Israelites groaned and asked God to help them.)*
 Hold an imaginary baby in your arms and rock him. *(The Israelites had babies and loved them very much.)*
 Hold your index finger to your mouth as you say "shh--shh." *(Moses' mother, Jochebed, hid her baby for three months and kept people from hearing his cries.)*
 Pretend to be weaving a basket and place a baby in it. *(Moses' mother made a basket boat for her baby and put it on the Nile River.)*
 Make a sad face and pretend to be crying. *(The crying baby was found by the princess.)*
 Run in place. *(Miriam ran back to get his mother to feed and take care of him.)*
 Point to heaven while holding and rocking a baby. *(God cared for Moses and made sure that his mother got to feed and care for him.)*
 Hold hands together as if praying and looking up to God mouthing the word "Help!" *(The Israelites continued to be slaves, groaning and asking God to help them.)*

- ④ **Marble Painting:** Cut construction paper to fit inside the lid of a box. Squirt liquid tempera paint onto the paper. Let the children put marbles on the paint and roll them around. The marbles go in all different directions. The Israelites lived in different places but God was with them wherever they went. Glue the memory verse on each child's sheet. Sing "Exodus 3:12," the memory verse song, together several times.

Songs:

Exodus 3:12, Memory Verse Song (tune: "Mary Had a Little Lamb")
God said, "I will be with you,"
"Be with you, be with you."
God said, "I will be with you,"
Exodus three, twelve.

I Open My Bible Book
I open my Bi-ble book and read
God's book of Ex-o-dus for me.

Treasure Box (tune: "Muffin Man")
We open up the treasure box, the treasure box, the treasure box.
We open up the treasure box to learn about the Lord.

Exodus Song (tune: "Oh, Dear What Can the Matter Be")
Look, look, here in our treasure chest,
Look, look, here in our treasure chest,
Look, look, here in our treasure chest
And we'll learn more about God.

God heard the Israelites crying, oh,
God heard the Israelites crying, oh,
God heard the Israelites crying
And so the Lord answered their prayers.

Action Song: (tune: "Farmer in the Dell")
March in place while singing.
God cares for you and me. (Point to others and then to yourself.)
God cares for you and me.
He loves us and He keeps us safe. (Hug yourself.)
God cares for you and me.



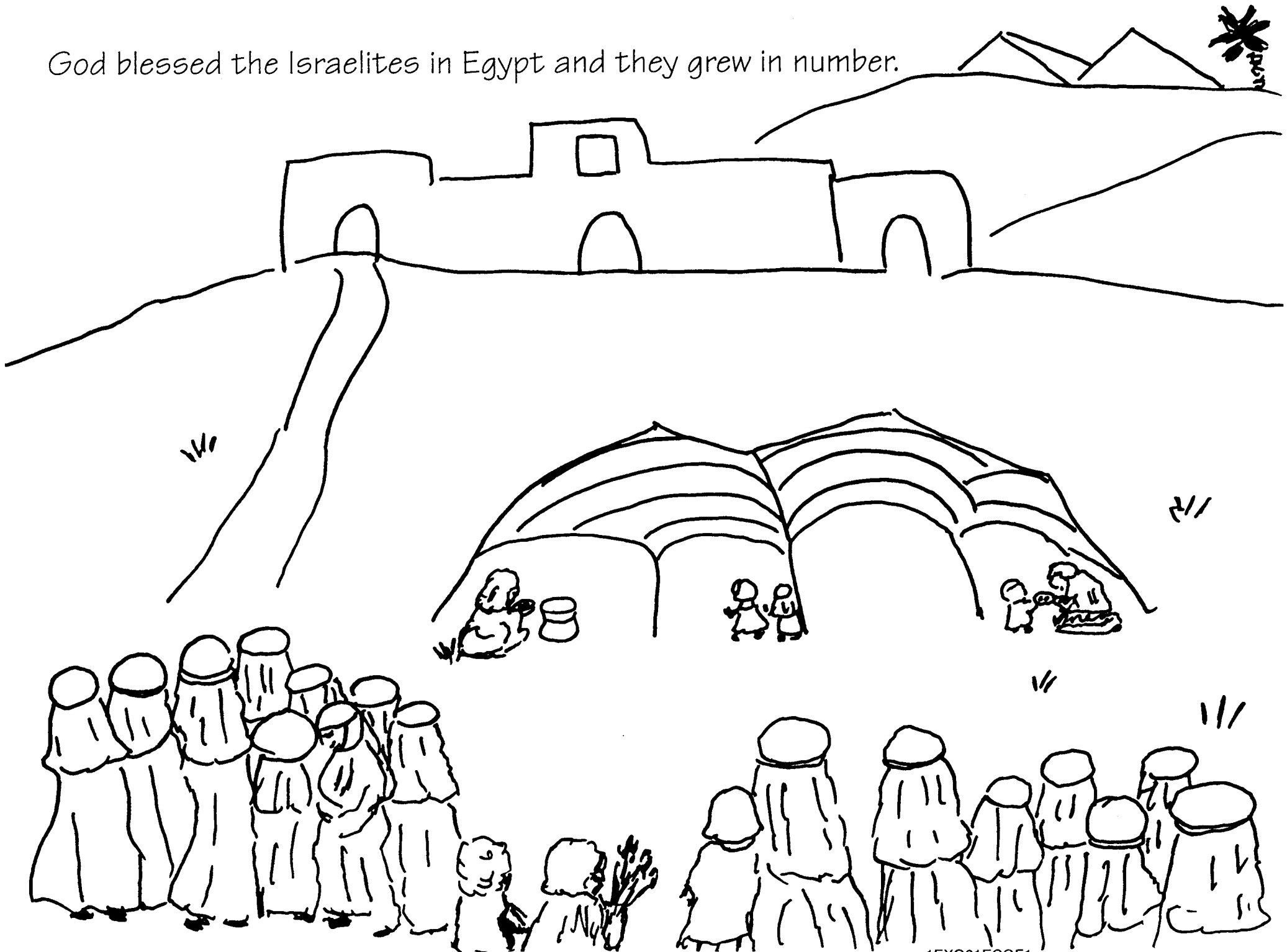
Took:

Moses' Basket: (1EXO01ECGF3) Using the GF3 picture, have the children put some ticky tacky clay (poster mounting) over the basket portion of the picture and push straw, twigs or sphagnum moss into the clay to cover the basket. Sing "Exodus 3:12," the memory verse song, as the children work.

Stitch Craft Center: (1EXO01ECGF7) Before class, cut out Moses in the basket and glue it to a piece of light cardboard. Punch holes in the basket with a paper punch. Let the children color the baby Moses in the basket and weave the basket with a shoestring or long piece of brown yarn (ends covered with melted wax or tape).

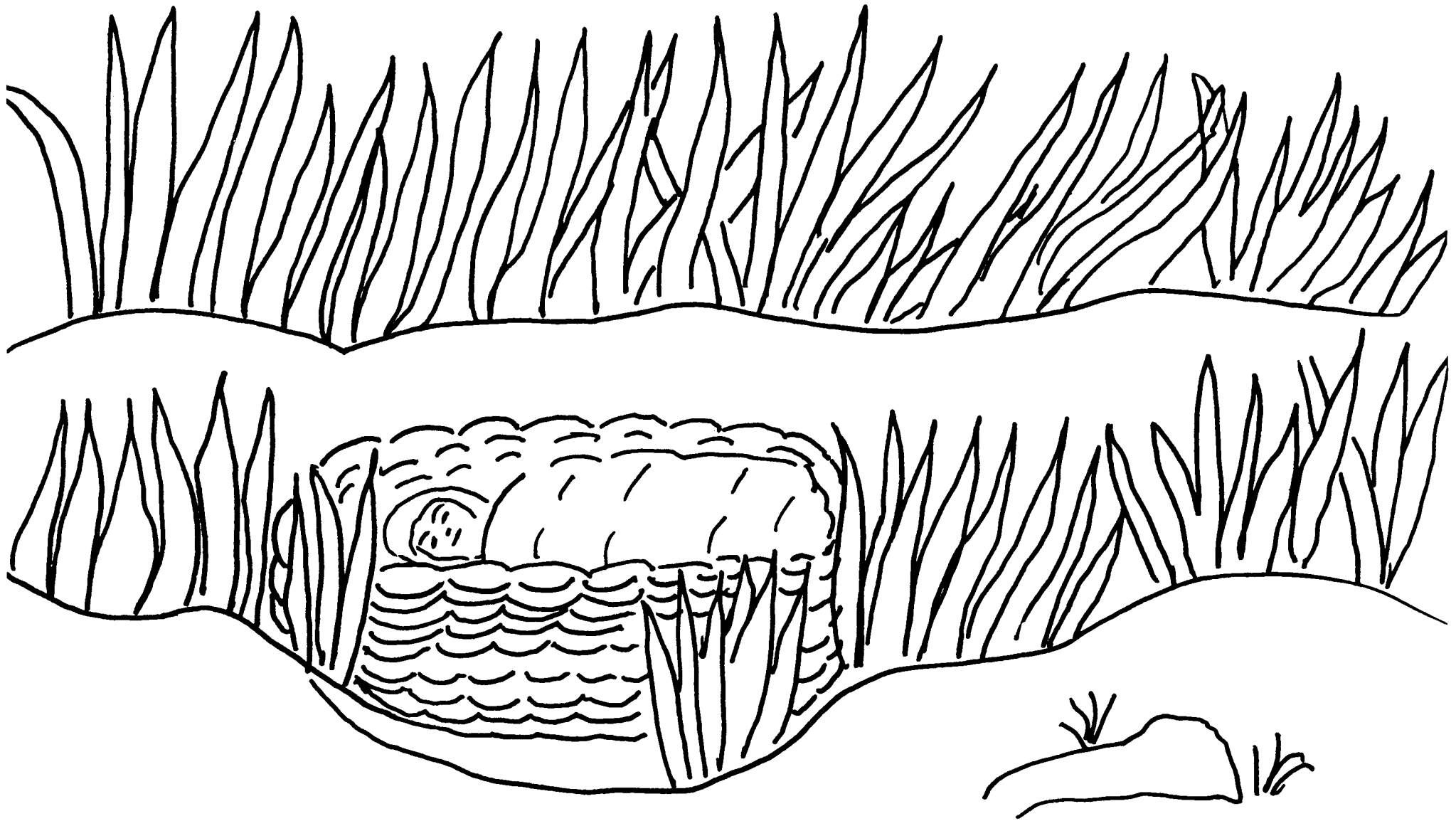
Bible Verse Review: (1EXO01ECGF8) Let the children color their pictures and glue or tape the basket on the river. Then they can glue or tape the baby in the basket. Talk about the Aim Questions as the children work. After their pictures are complete, hide some of them around the room. Designate one or more children to go find "baby Moses." Sing "Exodus 3:12," the memory verse song, together several times. Talk about how God takes care of us when we are sad or afraid.

God blessed the Israelites in Egypt and they grew in number.

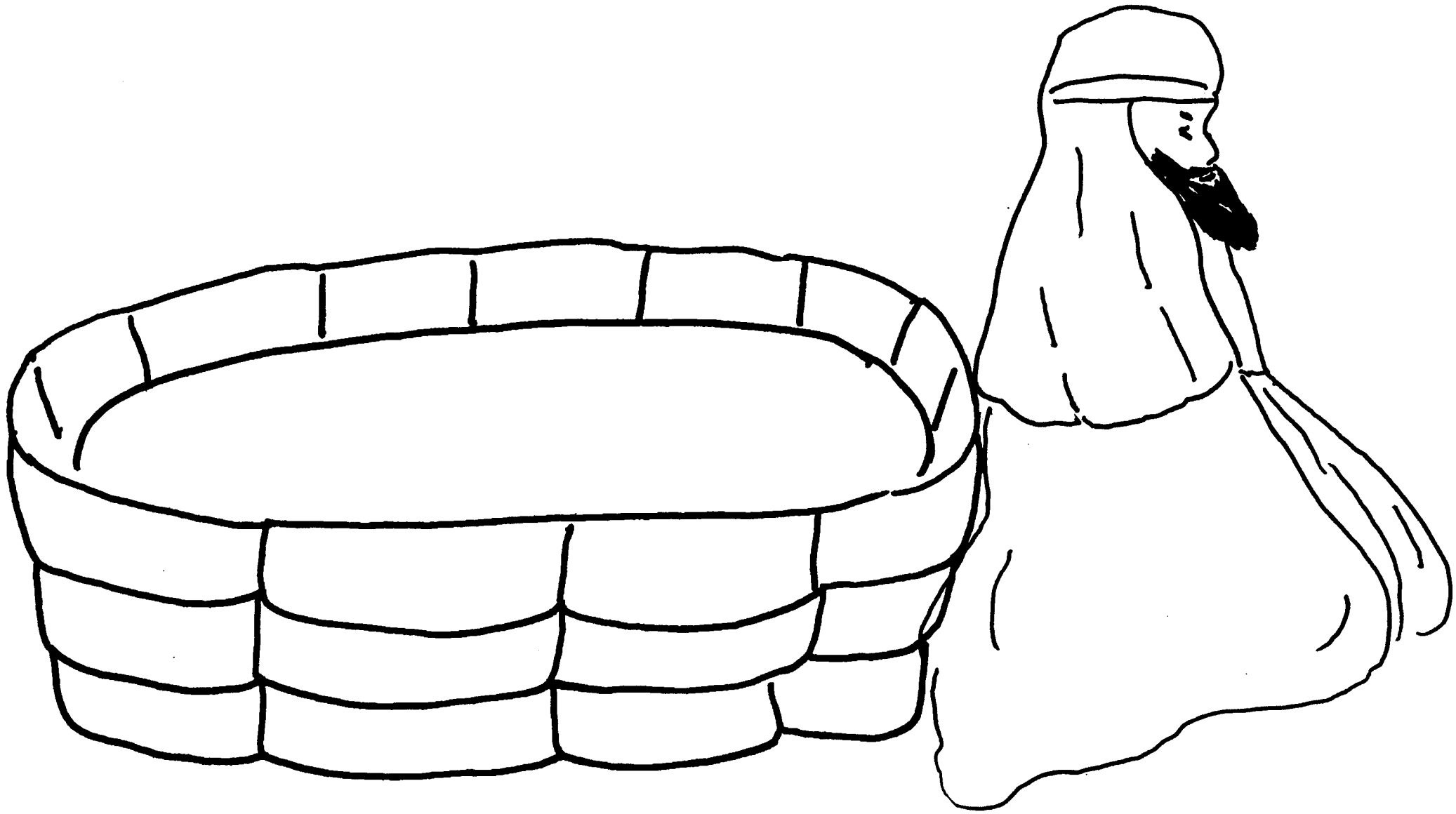




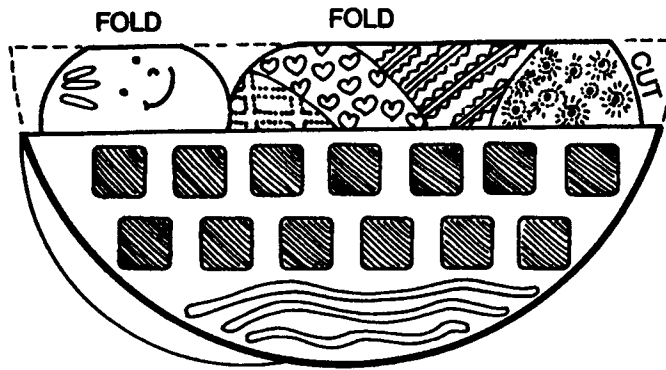
The Egyptian slave driver was mean to the Israelite slave.



The princess found the baby Moses in a basket on the water.



Moses wondered what to do as he sat by the well in Midian.



Moses in the Basket Paper Plate Craft Center

Fold a paper plate in half.

Draw a line 1 1/2 inches from the folded edge.

Cut out the edges as shown to look like a baby.

Draw the face with a pen.

Use a small square of sponge dipped in tempera paint to stamp the side of the basket. (Torn pieces of paper sack could be glued on the basket boat.)

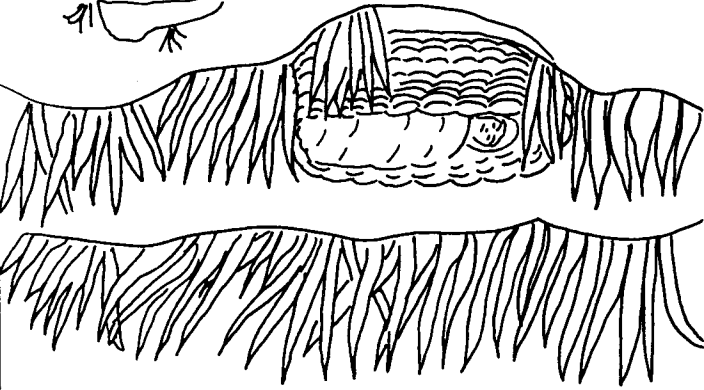
Glue blue yarn on the bottom for waves and fabric over the baby for a blanket.

Rock Moses back and forth while talking about the basket floating in the river until he was found by the princess and cared for by his own mother.

God took care of Moses and God takes care of us.

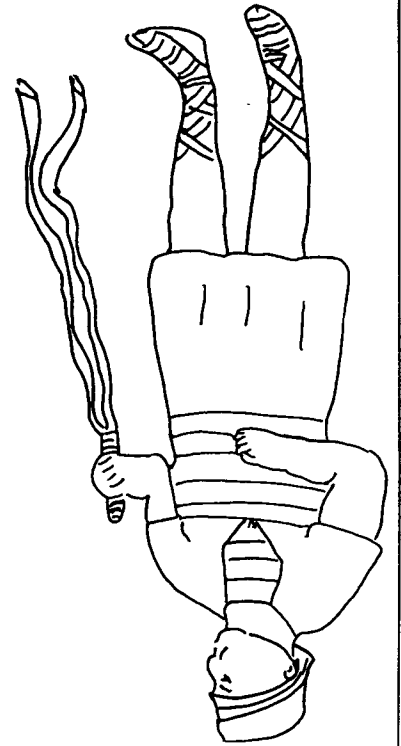
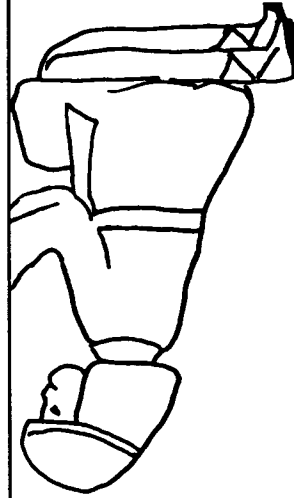
Moses' mother trusted God and
put Moses in a basket on the water.
The princess found the crying baby.

3.

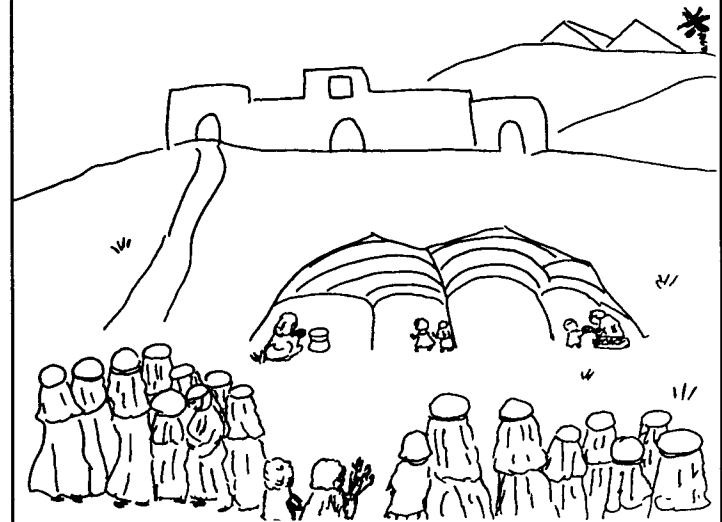


The Egyptians were mean to the Israelites.

2.



Exodus Chapters 1-2



God blessed the Israelites in Egypt
and they grew in number.

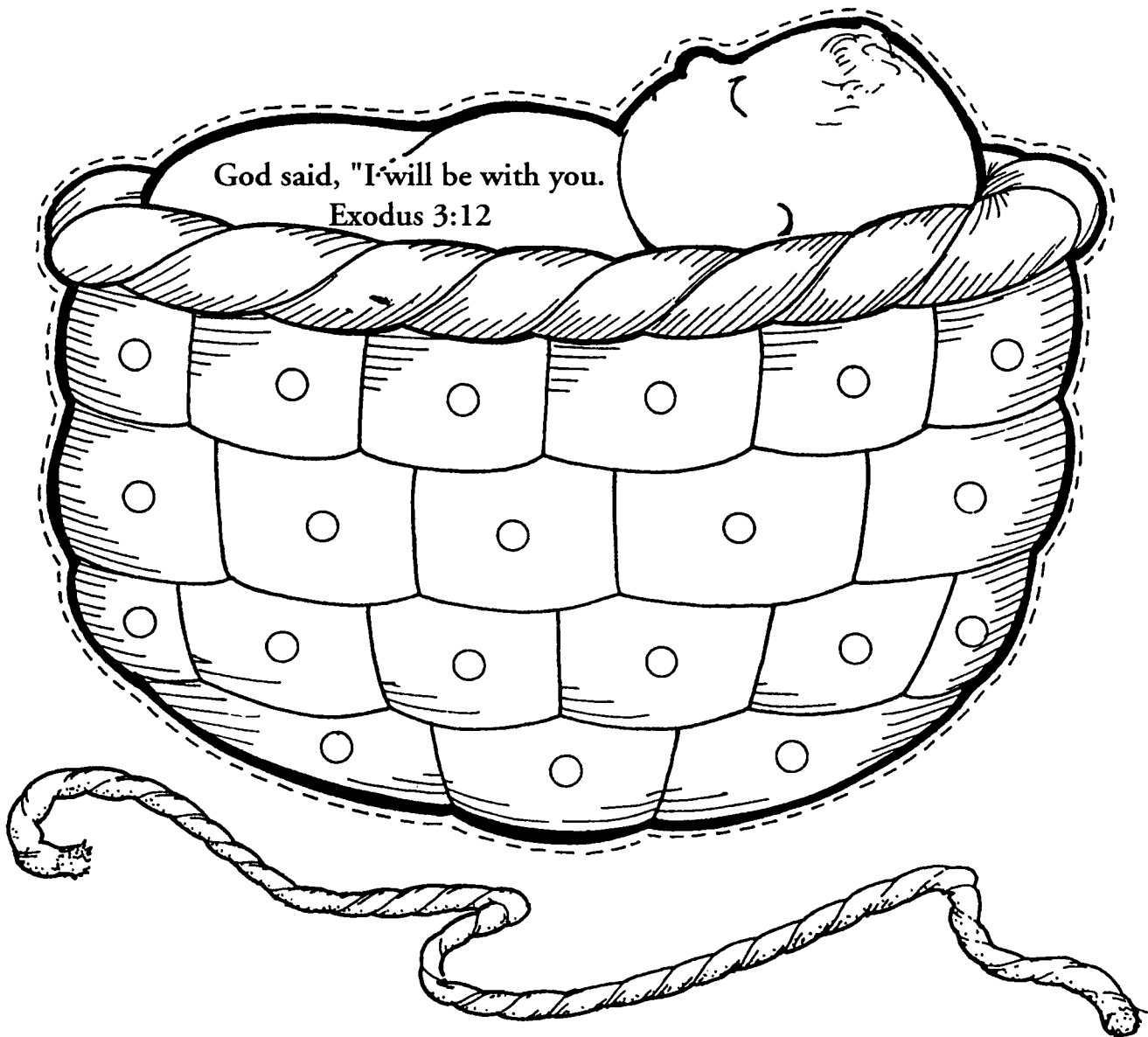
1.

When Moses grew to be a man,
he went to the land of Midian.
Moses wondered what he would
do as he sat by the well.

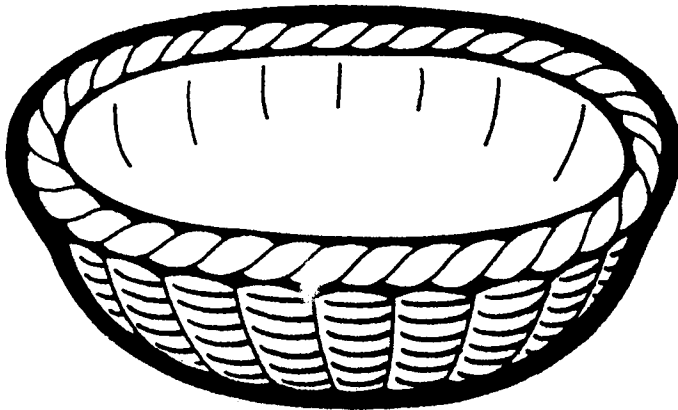
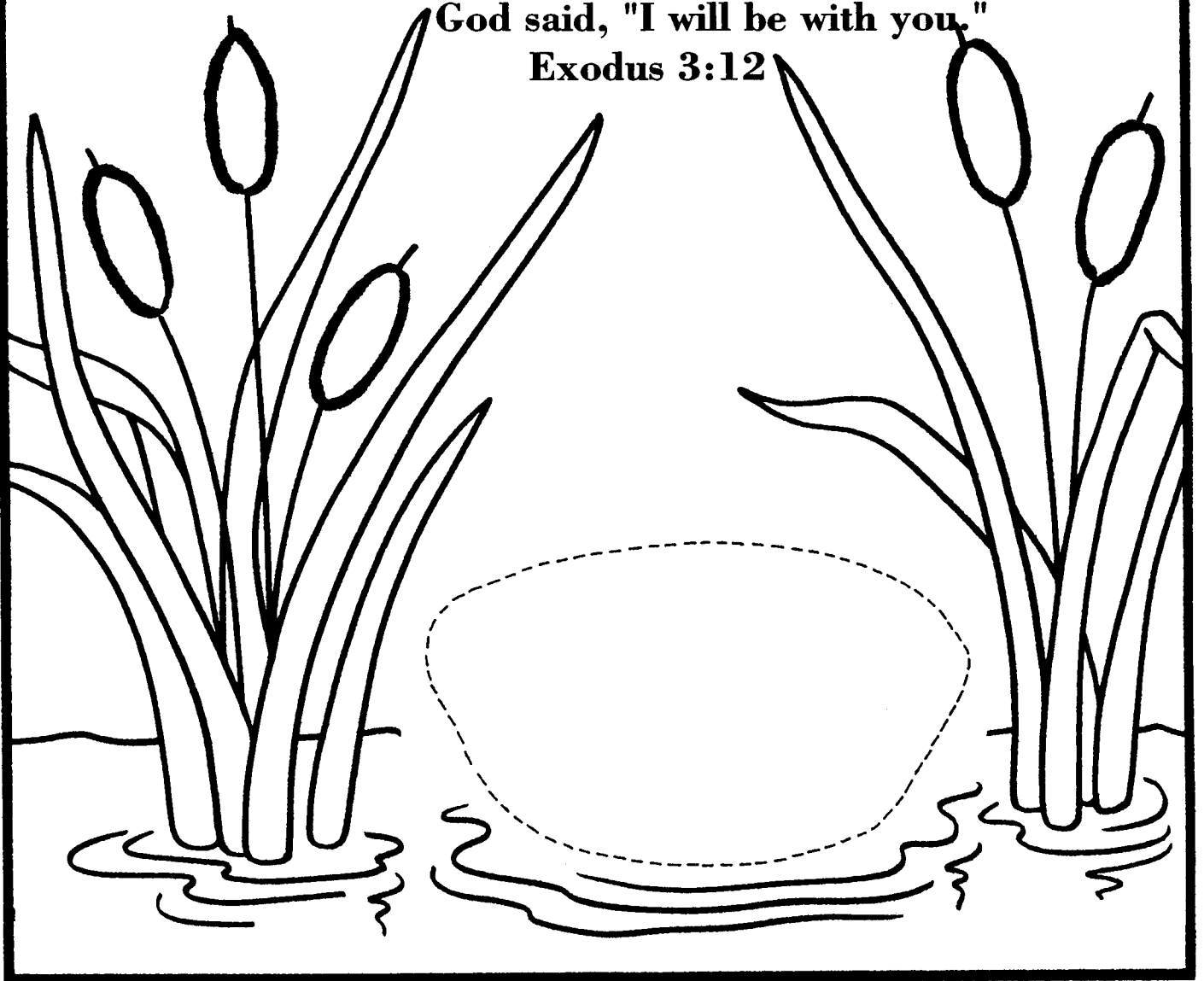
4.

Stitch 'n' Craft

Cut out and color baby Moses. Glue onto sturdy cardboard. Then, use a hole punch to punch out the holes. Use brown yarn or a shoestring to stitch around the basket.



God said, "I will be with you."
Exodus 3:12



Cut one basket and one baby Moses per child.
The children can glue or tape the basket on the water.
Then they can glue or tape the baby Moses in the basket.