FAITHFUL Followers

Memory Verse: ***"God is our protection and our strength. He always helps in times of trouble." Psalms 46:1***

Big Idea: ***God protects His people because He loves.***

Bible Story: Moses | In a Basket and In the Palace | Exodus 1-2

Gear Up - Arrival

Greet children as they enter the classroom. Mark them present using your iPad and/or paper roster.

Opening Activities: Engage with the kids in your room as they play and interact with designated games and activities as time allows. Use this opportunity to ask kids about their week, discuss their interests, and encourage them to connect with one another!

Memory Verse Game – Memory Verse Hand Motions

What you'll need: No supplies needed

How to Play:

- To help kick off a brand-new series and learn our new memory verse, come up with hand motions for the new verse with your class. Once you have given a hand motion to each word/phrase of the verse, practice doing it together a few times!
- For older kids, try dividing your class in half. Let each half work together in a small group to come up with their own unique hand motions. Then, let each group teach the rest of the class. Practice saying it all together!

Bible Time – Old Testament Line Up

What you'll need: labels with Old Testament Books written on them

How to play:

- Give each child a label with 2-4 books of the Old Testament printed/written on it in the correct order. (For example, "Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus", "Numbers, Deuteronomy" and so on.)
- Then, have the children work together to line up shoulder to shoulder in the correct order of the books of the Old Testament

Get-To-Know-You Game – Sentence Starters

What you'll need: sentence starter strips

How to Play:

- Ask kids to find a partner. Ask them to introduce themselves to their partner.
- Then give one of the sentence starters below to each pair.
- Ask each kid in the pair to finish the sentence and share their answer with their partner.
- To continue this activity, assign new partners and repeat. You can play as many rounds as you would like.

Sentence Starters:

- I feel happy when…
- The best part of Christmas was…
- My favorite part of last year was…
- My favorite thing about KXP is…
- I'm really good at…
- My favorite Bible verse is…
- When I grow up, I want to be a…
- My favorite food is…

Gear Up - Welcome – 5 minutes

Begin 10 minutes after the service time starts (Ex. 9:40 at the 9:30 experience).

Gather kids together in a space where they can see the TV.
Take a moment to **welcome** the kids to KXP and let them know how glad you are that they are here!

PRAY FIRST! We want to model this for our kids. Take a moment to pray for the time together and for the kids in your room.

Lesson Introduction – 5 minutes

Share the Lesson Intro with the class before starting the **KXP lesson video**. Challenge them to listen and pay attention during the Bible Story.

Say: *"Hey everyone! Welcome to KXP. We are starting a new series in the New Year called Faithful Followers. We will learn about men and women who followed God as their faith and trust in Him grew.*

Together we will see how God protects His people because He loves them. *In the Book of Exodus, we are introduced to someone new. You've probably heard his name before so let's jump into his story."*

Play the KXP lesson video in your classroom.

Bible Story – 10 minutes

Leaders, please read the Bible story below before Sunday to prepare for discussion.

Moses I In a Basket and In the Palace I Exodus 1-2

A long time ago, God's chosen people, the Israelites, also known as Hebrews, were living in Egypt as slaves to the king. They were not free to live as they wanted, work for themselves, or to leave Egypt. Pharaoh, Egypt's king, was concerned that there were too many Israelites. Their numbers kept growing. Pharaoh became afraid that the Israelites would outnumber his people and somehow take away his power.

Because of his fear, Pharaoh made a law that said every boy born into an Israelite family must be thrown into the Nile River to drown. That's horrible! In the middle of these hard circumstances, an ordinary Hebrew mom did an extraordinary thing. This mom gave birth to a boy and decided to hide her baby so that the king wouldn't find him. God was with her and protected the baby boy. His mom planned his escape because of the great danger he was in.

Does anyone know who the baby was? (Pause) You are right! It was Moses. His mom carefully hid him for a little while as she made a basket that would float like a boat. Moses was put in the basket all cozy and snug. His mom put the basket in the very river he was meant to die in and sent the basket down the river. Baby Moses floated away from his family and his home, but God kept Moses safe. His mother was very brave! God used her courage to save Moses' life. Let's see where Moses landed.

In Exodus 2:5-8 "Then the daughter of the king of Egypt came to the river… She saw the basket in the tall grass. So, she sent her slave girl to get it. The king's daughter opened the basket and saw the baby boy. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. She said, 'This is one of the Hebrew babies.' Then the baby's sister asked the king's daughter, 'Would you like me to find a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby for you?' The king's daughter said, 'Yes, please.' So the girl went and got the baby's mother."

Moses' sister, Miriam, kept an eye on him as he floated down the Nile River, watching to see where her baby brother would land. When she saw that her brother floated close to the kings' daughter who was bathing in the river, she asked if

the princess would like a Hebrew woman to care for the baby. The princess said, “Yes, please.” Miriam was very smart. She went and got Moses’ mom to come to the palace to take care of him.

Moses would be protected from the king’s terrible law and adopted into the king’s family. He would be made a prince of Egypt. It was all part of God’s plan to rescue His people. We can see the truth of our big idea here. God protects His people because He loves them.

As Moses grew up in the king’s palace, he learned that he was different from the Egyptians. He knew that he was born a Hebrew. He was an Israelite and not an Egyptian. Moses grew up with his adopted family in the palace, but he saw the Hebrews every day and felt connected to them. As he grew, Moses saw that his people, the Israelites, were forced to work for the Egyptians as slaves. It was hard for Moses to see his people treated badly.

One day, Moses saw a Hebrew slave being hurt by an Egyptian. This upset Moses so much that he made a terrible decision to kill that Egyptian man. Moses immediately knew his action was wrong. He feared the king’s reaction and ran away. Moses ran away to a place called Midian to escape punishment from the king. He was separated from his family and home once again.

During the long period that Moses was away, the king of Egypt died. But the Israelites were still held as slaves and they were miserable. ***Exodus 2:24-25 “God heard their cries, and he remembered the agreement he had made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God saw the troubles of the people of Israel, and he was concerned about them.”*** We remember these men from the book of Genesis. God made promises to them and he always kept His promises.

Lesson Recap –15 minutes

After the video has ended, **share the Lesson Conclusion** with the class.

Say: *“God’s plan was to use Moses to rescue His people. At first, Moses didn't think he was special enough to be used by God. But God reminded him, "I'll be with you." Next week we will learn how Moses heard the voice of God. In the weeks to come, we will see things get very challenging for Moses and the Israelites.*

But through it all, God’s love for His people came first. Let’s work hard to memorize our memory verse and big idea this month. And come back to see what’s ahead for Moses and God’s people.”

Direct the kids to the **Memory Verse** and **Big Idea** posters in your room. Have your class read them together out loud. Celebrate the kids for paying attention and listening well!

Close in Prayer – 3 to 5 minutes

Ask the kids in your room to share any **prayer requests** they have. Give them a moment to **fill out prayer cards** or **choose a prayer prompt** to take home. Then **pray over them**!

- **P**RAISE - *Open with adoration.*
- **R**EPENT - *Recall and connect the Big Idea from the Bible Story to yourself and the kids.*
- **A**SK - *Petition the Lord on the kids’ behalf.*
- **Y**IELD - *Close by giving thanks to God for His perfect plan.*

Live It Out – 5 to 8 minutes | **Pass the Basket**

Leaders: Say something like: “We’re going to pass the basket, just like baby Moses was placed in a basket. When the basket stops, the person holding it will answer a question about our story.”

Gather your classroom in a circle. Have children pass a basket around the circle until you say “STOP.” Whenever the basket is stopped, ask the child holding it one of the lesson review questions below:

Scouts (K-2nd)

- Who was the baby in the basket?
- Where did Moses' mom put him to keep him safe?
- Who watched the basket by the river?
- Who found Moses in the basket?
- Did Pharaoh's daughter help Moses or hurt Moses?
- Who helped take care of Moses when he was a baby?
- Why did Moses' mom hide him? (To keep him safe)
- What did the midwives do—obey Pharaoh or obey God?
- What does it mean to take care of others?
- What is one way you can take care of a friend?

Navigators (3rd-5th)

- What book of the Bible is our story from today?
- Why was Pharaoh afraid of the Israelites?
- How did Moses' mother show courage and care?
- How did Miriam help save her brother?
- Why do you think Pharaoh's daughter decided to help Moses?
- How did God use many different people to take care of Moses?
- How does this story show that God keeps His promises?
- Why is caring for others sometimes hard?
- What does "taking care of ourselves and others" look like?
- How does obeying God help us care for others?
- What is our Big Idea this month?

Leave No Trace – End of the Hour

- As parents arrive to pick up children, have the **kids work together to clean up** the classroom.
- **Thank them** for coming and **encourage them to invite a friend** and come back next week!
- Children can **finish opening activities** while waiting on their parents.