

Explore It

FOR LEADERS



I WILL BE WITH YOU

Exodus 3 Moses and the burning bush

Moses' response to the task God called him to do is probably typical of how many have responded to God's call and how many have probably felt: scared, unskilled, not good enough, afraid people won't listen. But God promises to be with those he calls.

Each child will need:

- A pair of their own shoes

Start It

Play some 'feet' games.

Game 1 Toe wiggle

- 🗨 **Say:** Take your socks off. Can you wiggle each of your toes separately?

Game 2 Shoe race

- 🗨 **Say:** When I say 'Go' I want you to quickly go and put your shoes on and race back.

Game 3 Shoe relay

- 🗨 **Say:** How many times can you put your shoes on and off in one minute?

Game 4 Shoe tie

- 🗨 **Say:** Can you tie your shoelaces with one hand? Or buckle them?
- 🗨 **Say:** You are probably wondering why we played 'shoe' games. Well, in today's session we are going to be exploring the story of Moses. And Moses was asked by God to do something with his shoes.

Sing It

This great song is all about having faith in God. It talks about living life not by what we can see or what we can feel, but by knowing that the One who is with us has our best interests at heart.

'Nothing is impossible' by Mannahouse Kids (3mins 47secs)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SzYr3sXi2Js>

Tell It

- 🗨 **Say:** Our story today is about Moses and comes from the book of Exodus in the Bible.

Ask: What do you know about Moses?

- 🗨 **Say:** Moses' story is an interesting and exciting one. God had an amazing plan for him and yet Moses also had to go through many difficult experiences. When Moses was a baby, his Hebrew mum placed him in a basket and put him in the River Nile in Egypt. She did this because the Pharaoh, the ruler, had decreed that all Hebrew baby boys were to die, because he feared that they might become too powerful.

🗨️ **Say:** Moses floated down the river in the basket and was found by the Pharaoh's daughter who was about to take a bath. She recognised that Moses was a Hebrew baby. She decided to look after him and asked a woman to care for him, not realising she was asking Moses' own mother to care for him. When he was older his mum took him back to Pharaoh's daughter who adopted him and named him Moses.

🗨️ **Say:** One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people the Hebrews were. The Hebrews were slaves and Moses watched them hard at work. Then he spotted an Egyptian beating a Hebrew. He was so angry he killed the Egyptian and buried him in the sand. Scared at what he had done, Moses ran away to the desert and was found by a priest and his family and he lived with them in the desert.

🗨️ **Say:** After a long period, this is what happened next to Moses.

Video

Screen share: *The Prince of Egypt* (1998) Scene: I am that I am / burning bush scene (3mins 53secs)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqDMBIRaJJM>

Discuss

- ➔ What do you think about what happened to Moses?
- ➔ How do you think Moses felt when he was called by God?
- ➔ Why do you think God spoke to Moses through a burning bush?
- ➔ When God asks you to do something for him, what do you do?

🗨️ **Say:** Through the burning bush, God revealed a lot about himself. He told Moses his eternal name, 'I am who I am.' Do you know what that means? It means that God is eternal, he lives for ever. He was the God of Abraham long ago, the God of Moses, and he's our God too.

🗨️ **Say:** In all that time God has always been with those people who love him. Moses knew that God would be with him even though he felt scared, not good enough or even afraid that people would not listen to him. You may be feeling like that too, but we know that God is with us just as he was with Moses.

Action It

🗨️ **Say:** Have you ever made a promise to a friend? Well, today in our Bible story God made a promise to Moses that he would always be with him. What a brilliant promise to remember!

🗨️ **Say:** Do you remember the story of Pentecost? When tongues of fire came over the disciples and gave them special gifts? Pentecost means that God gave us all a special gift and that gift was the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit can live in our heart.

🗨️ **Say:** We sometimes hear of people being called by God.

Ask: Can you think of some things that people have been called by God to do?

Discuss

Discuss with the children about the different things God calls us to do. Explain that sometimes people feel scared, unskilled, or not good enough to do what God asks. Despite this, God uses us to do amazing things because he promises to be with us.

🗨️ **Say:** You may feel that God is calling you to do some amazing things for him.

Encourage the children to talk to someone who they trust about this.

Ask children to get their shoes and put them on. As they tie their shoelaces, buckle or use the Velcro, ask them to say the words, 'I am with you when ...' Fill in the blank with places where they go: school, church, sports match, a club, training, the park ...

🗨️ **Say:** Remember that even when you may feel scared or not good enough, God promises to always be with you.

Pray It

● **Say:** Moses knew God was with him. Think about times when you have felt God being near to you, or times when you wanted God to be near.

● **Say:** In Hebrews chapter 13 verse 5 we read:

'God has said, "I will never leave you; I will never abandon you."' (ICB)

● **Say:** For our prayer together I am going to say a series of two lines; I want you to follow them by saying: 'God is always with us.' Let's pray together.

Wherever we are, every hour of the day,
Whether we're at work or busy at play ...

God is always with us.

When we're feeling happy or perhaps a bit sad,
During the good times and the bad ...

God is always with us.

At school or at home,
With friends or on our own ...

God is always with us.

Morning, noon and night, every single day,
Weekdays, special days, high days and holidays ...

God is always with us.

Thank you God, that you never leave us.
Amen.

From *New ideas for Creative Prayer* by Judith Merrell, 2001 (Scripture Union)

Explore It

Remember to send home the Explore It (For Me) and Explore It (Together) ideas for children and families.