



Week 9

Moses' Birth

Many, many years passed. Joseph and his brothers had families, and their families had families. It was not just a family anymore—it was now a whole nation with thousands of people. God had remembered His promise to Abraham. His family was huge—just like the number of stars in the sky!

Now, there was a new king, also named Pharaoh, in Egypt. The new Pharaoh was mean to the people of Israel. He made them all his prisoners and slaves. He ordered that all their baby boys be killed. One family made a plan to save their new baby. The mother made a small, waterproof basket to hold the baby, and placed it in the river. The baby's sister, Miriam, watched from the tall river grasses growing near the riverbank. Then the mother prayed that God would watch over her child.

(*) Soon sister Miriam saw an Egyptian princess coming. Miriam was worried because the princess was the daughter of evil Pharaoh. But God was watching, and God was in control. The princess was kind to the baby and named him Moses.

Miriam bravely rushed to the princess and said her mother could help take care of the baby. Now, baby Moses was safe with his own family. His parents taught him about the love of God. After a few years, Moses went to live in the home of the princess. This was all part of God's plan to keep Moses safe and to prepare him for a much bigger plan that would help many, many people.

Fold the family letter back so your child can focus on the big picture as you tell the Bible story. At the point in the story indicated by an asterisk (), fold the picture strip forward. Talk about what has changed in the picture.*

Think about It

God had another plan that started with a baby—baby Jesus, who was placed in a manger. Because of Jesus, we have forgiveness, life, and salvation!

Bible Words

My times are in
Your hand.
Psalm 31:15

Dear Family,

There are two important ideas to teach your child as you talk about the story of baby Moses. First, assure your child that God watches over us all. And God also blesses us with special people who help take care of us. For your child, it may be you as parents, other family members, babysitters, preschool teachers, or anyone else who assists in the well-being of your child. God gives us people who are a blessing to our lives.

Another key idea is that God had a good plan for that little baby Moses. Part of God's plan was that Moses would be raised in his early years to know the love of God and the traditions of the Israelite people. Another part of God's plan was that Moses would also live with his adoptive, Egyptian family. God knew this experience would help Moses in the future, teaching him the Egyptian language and culture.

God also has plans for you and for your child. We may not always understand His plans, but we can trust that He knows what is best. The Bible says, "I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

Read more about the story on pages 98-100 of *The Story Bible*, available from Concordia Publishing House (CPH).

