



**Growing
in CHRIST[®]**

**High School
Teacher Guide**

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE • SAINT LOUIS

**God Protects His People
in Egypt and the Exodus**

OLD TESTAMENT 2

Introduction

The High School level for youth in ninth through twelfth grades includes this Teacher Guide and reproducible Student Pages.

Teacher Guide Features

- **Preparing the Lesson pages** give you background and theological information.
- **Four-step lessons** make preparation and teaching easy and effective.
- **Activity-based openings** engage youth in lessons.
- **Small-group/large-group activity options** dig into God's Word and share faith. Do activities in ways that make the most sense for your group.
- **YouTube videos** encourage critical thinking and discernment.
- **"We Live" activities** help young people identify personal life applications.
- **Reproducible Student Pages** focus Bible learning and discussions.
- **Liturgy Links** connect young people to the worship service.
- **Perforated pages** make team teaching or small-group/large-group teaching easier.
- **Timeline Poster** promotes Biblical and historical perspectives and insights.

Your Role as Teacher

As high school teacher, you challenge, coach, encourage creativity and curiosity, and nurture students' faith in Jesus. Building positive relationships with and between teens is very important. Welcome students as they arrive. Find out names of those you do not yet know. Encourage students to become comfortable. Get to know your students and their families.

Young people may feel wary of trying new things, fearing embarrassment. Provide a safe space for everyone to participate by not allowing put-downs, hurtful jokes, name calling, or other improper suggestions.

Model the behavior you want from students by participating yourself and enthusiastically introducing activities. Each time students participate, trust builds. Trust makes students more willing to read aloud, do activities and tasks, participate in small groups, pray together, and share opinions, feelings, and group work.

Make your classroom a place where students can talk openly and share struggles. Remind students to respect one another's privacy. Say you will not share their stories outside of class. However, if a student shares something potentially dangerous to him- or herself or others, you have the responsibility to bring it to your pastor for guidance.

Students look up and read the primary Scripture each week. Extra verses printed on Student Pages make it easier for students to use and discuss them. Rarely, lessons ask students to look up extra verses. To help newcomers, provide copies of the Bible in the same version and jot down page numbers, or bookmark pages with paper strips ahead of time to make it easier to find Bible references. Explain chapter and verse numbers, as needed.

Other Supplies

Before class, collect items in the "Get Ready" section of your lesson. This list always includes Bibles and reproducible Student Pages. Most lessons use pens and pencils, scissors, masking tape, newsprint, paper, and markers. A few lessons suggest other supplies.

Find additional teaching helps, including curriculum and video updates, training, links to podcasts, and other resources, at our Sunday School website, www.cph.org/sundayschool.

YouTube Resources for Old Testament 2

Go to the CPH Youth Sunday School Resources page at bit.ly/1knXwnU. Choose “Playlists” from the links under the page title. Find “Old Testament 2 High School Videos.” Click the text link that says “View full playlist.” To play a video, click its name. View or skip ads and cue the video. Channels may block or hinder play if you do not watch the ads.

YouTube settings change often. **If a video is not available, check “Curriculum Updates” at cph.org/sundayschool.**

- Lesson 1: Joseph and His Brothers**
“Sesame Street: Season 42 Sneak Peek — Siblings” from Sesame Street Channel (2:04); stop at 0:49 or show the whole piece.
- Lesson 2: Joseph’s Troubles**
“Pieces - Torn Series Bumper” from Central Films channel (1:01)
- Lesson 3: Joseph Feeds Egypt**
“Rosa Young - Hero of Faith” from Concordia Publishing House channel (4:47). Stop at 4:17.
- Lesson 4: Joseph Forgives**
“Is There an Unforgivable Sin” from Concordia Publishing House channel (1:59)
- Lesson 5: The Birth of Moses**
“Best Day of My Life - Franciscan Hospital for Children” from Franciscan Hospital channel (3:18)
- Lesson 6: Moses and the Burning Bush**
“God in a Box” from One Time Blind channel (2:10)
- Lesson 7: Moses and the Plagues**
“Best Vines Magic Zach King Compilation” from Best Vines Compilation channel (14:09). Show the first ten vines, stopping at 1:32.
- Lesson 8: The Passover**
“Smart” from Igniter Media channel (2:44)
- Lesson 9: Crossing the Red Sea**
“You Do the Math” from Igniter Media channel (3:38)
- Lesson 10: God Provides Manna, Water, and Quail**
“The Formula for Happiness” from Central Films channel (2:15)
- Lesson 11: The Ten Commandments**
“Free” from Journey Box Media channel (4:51)
- Lesson 12: Worship in the Tabernacle**
“Hilarious Church Invitation” from David Miller channel (2:01)
- Lesson 13: The Bronze Serpent**
“Do You Even Know What Repentance Is? (1 Peter 1:3–9)” from Worldview Everlasting channel (12:27). Show approximately two minutes of the video: start at 7:01 (“In Christ’s resurrection . . .”); stop at 9:05 (“Lord to whom shall we go.”).

Preparing the Lesson

The Birth of Moses

Exodus 1:1–2:10

Date of Use

Key Point

Through Moses, the Lord saved His people from slavery in Egypt. Through Christ, God saves all people from the bondage of sin and death.

Law/Gospel

In this world, I am enslaved by the demands of Satan. **God's Son, Jesus, was born to set me free from the slavery of sin, death, and the devil.**

Context

God declared to Abraham that his descendants would “be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years” (Genesis 15:13).

Since Joseph had saved Egypt from famine, four hundred years of bondage to Egypt proved to be God's true prophetic Word for His people. The birth of Moses is the beginning of the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham that afterward, Israel would “come out with great possessions” (Genesis 15:14).

Commentary

“I'm beat!” We all utter this expression from time to time. It is a simple way to say we are tired, busy, and overwhelmed by the forces of this fallen world and our own sinful flesh. Without relief, we easily become consumed by worry. Our despair at bitter tasks can lead us to unbelief.

Israel was “beat.” By the time of Moses' birth, the fruition of God's dire prediction of four hundred years of servitude is evident. God's promise to Abraham of relief must have seemed small and remote compared with the sore backs and calloused hands that bricks, mortar, and forced labor produced. Pharaoh's decree to have all of the sons of Israel killed at birth must have left Israel debilitated in their despair.

Into this world of pessimism, God delivers a son from the house of Levi. Through divine guidance, the midwives defy the death command, and the baby floats downriver to become a son of the household of Pharaoh himself. In this child, the Lord has now provided for His people hope of salvation from their servitude.

Likewise, God declares, “Out of Egypt I called My Son” (Matthew 2:15). In spite of a similar death sentence from Herod, a Hebrew maidservant delivered the Son of God, Jesus Christ. Under the watchful eyes of this new Miriam, Jesus would sail into the hands of the house of pharaoh, the devil himself, where He would suffer the bitterest toil for us. On His back, He would carry the rigors of our servitude to sin all the way to Golgotha. Our Savior would rescue more than the Hebrews. He would free all nations from the bitter toil of our sins and leave the world “beat.”

In His Word, Christ breathes healing back into our sin-enslaved souls. In His Word, He proclaims to us, “Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). May we continue to hear the voice of our new and better Moses, the sweet Word of our gentle and lowly Servant, who gives rest for our weary souls.

To hear an in-depth discussion of this Bible account, visit cph.org/podcast and listen to our Seeds of Faith podcast each week.

Lesson 5

The Birth of Moses

Exodus 1:1–2:10

Get Ready

Before Class

- Copy Student Page 5 for each person.
- **For Opening**, preview the Lesson 5 YouTube video in the Old Testament 2 High School playlist at bit.ly/1knXwnU. If you decide to use it, get your equipment ready (e.g., computer, tablet).
- **For God Speaks**, get the Timeline Poster. Get Bibles, Student Pages, newsprint, markers & masking tape for students to use.

1 Opening (10 minutes)

The Best Day of Your Life

Welcome students. When ready, gather everyone together.

Ask **So far, what was the best day of your life?** Give all students an opportunity to share. Call on people by name, if needed.

Is your best day focused on people, a place, or an event? Answers vary.

If you do not show the video, skip to the second question in the “Ask” section.

Show the Lesson 5 video, “Best Day of My Life - Franciscan Hospital for Children” (3:17), in the Old Testament 2 High School playlist at bit.ly/1knXwnU.

Say **This Catholic hospital in Boston does rehabilitation for children who are born with challenges or suffer injuries or disease. The video showed a wide variety of people and children with different challenges.**

Ask **What makes the lives of these children valuable?** Let students offer opinions. Christians believe all life is a gift of God and therefore valuable. God made each of us, loves us, and gave His Son to be our Savior. He works through each of us, even the smallest or most impaired.

What makes our lives valuable? Answers might include having loving friends and family, meaningful work, a purpose, service to others, and so on. Help students know that our lives are valuable because God made us, loves us, redeemed us, cares for us, and works through us. We are valuable because He values us.

List places in our culture that show respect or disregard for life. Let students share their observations. Help with a few suggestions, if needed. For example, abortion laws show a lack of respect for life in utero. Bombing abortion clinics shows lack of respect for life too, since the actions endanger people.

Say **We show whether we value and respect life in how we treat the elderly, infirm, and less-than-perfect in our culture, in respect for ourselves and others. We show what we value in decision-making, advocacy, and attitudes.**

Pray **Dear Lord, thank You for showing You value and love us. You made us and redeemed us. You gave up Your own Son for us. You invest in us, equip us, and enable us to serve. Help us to see ourselves and others with Your eyes. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

2 God Speaks (32 minutes)

Rescued from the Nile

Say Name places people lay down a baby. Students might mention cribs, bassinets, cradles, couches or soft chairs, laundry baskets, or other places.

Today, we learn about a baby whose mother laid him in an ark.

Show the Timeline Poster to show the historical context of this event.

Say In the 430 years after Jacob moved his family to Egypt, things changed dramatically for the Israelites, as we'll see in our lesson.

Divide into groups of 2–5 students. Hand out Bibles and Student Page 5 copies. Read aloud Student Page directions: **Read Exodus 1:1–2:10 and discuss questions. Then write or draw how your assigned person(s) showed respect for life.**

Assign each group to report on (1) midwives Puah and Shiphrah; (2) Jochebed, Moses' mother; (3) Miriam, Moses' sister; or (4) Pharaoh's daughter. Point out newsprint and markers for groups to use.

If you have fewer students, study together and then ask individuals or pairs to write or draw the actions of the women.

Give students about 20 minutes to work. As they do, review questions and answers so you can guide large-group discussion or help groups as needed.

1:1–7 How many Israelites traveled to Egypt with Jacob? Seventy.

What happened to their population since Joseph and his brothers died?

They multiplied and "grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them" (v. 7), as God promised to Abraham (Genesis 12:1–2).

Two hundred years after Joseph's death, a new Pharaoh came to power.

He did not know Joseph or remember his service to Egypt. Of what was he afraid? Pharaoh felt threatened by the Israelites, fearing they would rise up against him and leave Egypt. God prospered His people greatly. Those who crossed the Red Sea included 600,000 men, not counting women and children (Exodus 12:37). Scholars estimate the population at 1.5 million to 2 million.

1:8–14 What did the Pharaoh say about the Israelites? Too many, too mighty.

What did he fear? That the Israelites would join Egypt's enemies to fight against them and escape from Egypt.

How did he respond? He set taskmasters over them and gave them heavy labor.

What cities with storehouses did the Israelites build? Pithom and Raamses.

How did Pharaoh's plan work? The more he oppressed the Israelites, the more they multiplied and spread abroad. In other words, it backfired.

In fear, what did the Egyptians do to the Israelites? Enslaved them and made their lives bitter with difficult building and agriculture work.

1:15–21 What did Pharaoh tell the Hebrew midwives to do? To kill all male newborns, but let the girls live.

Key Point

Through Moses, the Lord saved His people from slavery in Egypt. Through Christ, God saves all people from the bondage of sin and death.

Active Learning

Pronunciations

Jochebed - JAH kuh bed

Pithom - PIE thuhm

Puah - POO uh

Shiphrah - SHIF ruh

Raamses - ray AM sez

Liturgy Link

Be sensitive to unbaptized students in your class. Explain that God commands and wants us to be baptized. Point out that some people come to faith though God's Word first and receive Baptism and its gifts later.

Faith in Action

How can you support sanctity of life efforts in your community? Check out local resources and opportunities to volunteer at pregnancy centers, early childhood centers, programs for foster children, mentor programs for younger children, senior centers, and nursing homes. Find out how you can support national efforts, such as National Lutherans for Life, National Pro-Life Religious Council, and the annual March for Life in Washington DC in January.

Midwives helped women during the birthing process. Although not trained doctors, they had much knowledge. How did Shiphrah and Puah show respect for life and the Lord? They refused to kill the Hebrew sons because of their faith in God.

What did they tell Pharaoh? They were unable to be present at many births because they happened so quickly.

How did God honor the midwives? He "dealt well with" them (v. 20) and gave them families of their own. They escaped punishment from Pharaoh.

1:22–2:3 When one strategy failed, what did Pharaoh do next? Pharaoh decreed that people cast all male babies into the Nile River to drown.

How did one mother respect her baby's life? Refusing to drown him, she hid him for three months. When she could no longer hide him, she placed him in a basket covered in pitch (sticky tree resin) and put it in the river bank reeds.

2:4–10 Who stood watch over the baby? His sister.

What were the names of the mom and sister? Read **Numbers 29:59** (on Student Page). The mother was named Jochebed, the sister Miriam.

How did Pharaoh's daughter show respect for life? When she found the crying baby, she had pity on him and realized he was Hebrew.

How did Miriam's quick thinking show respect for life? She asked Pharaoh's daughter if she should find a wet nurse to breast-feed the baby.

How did Pharaoh's daughter provide for the baby? She let him live and paid his own mother to feed and care for him. When he was older, she adopted him as her own son and named him Moses.

How did Jochebed save her son by giving him up? Jochebed knew her son would die if she kept him. She gave him up to give him life. It was an act of love.

Identify ironies in Moses becoming part of Pharaoh's family. Despite Pharaoh's decree, his own daughter provided for Moses, a Hebrew, and raised him in her father's house. Pharaoh feared the Israelites would rebel and leave. Moses ended up leading this exodus.

When time elapses, ask groups to hang up their newsprint. Have each tell about how their assigned person(s) showed value for life. Then ask these follow-up questions, which are not on the Student Page.

Ask How does showing respect for life also show respect for God? God created the world, everything and everyone. We respect Him and His gift of life when we honor all life as sacred.

How did and does God show respect for your life? God loves us, although we are born in sin and rebel against Him. Our heavenly Father loved us so much that He gave His own Son, Jesus, to take our sins on the cross, to pay for sin, and to set us free from slavery to it. In Jesus, God pays the price to redeem us from sin and death and gives us forgiveness of sins and new life, now and forever.

The Bible uses the Hebrew word *tebah* only twice, to name Noah's boat and Moses' basket in Exodus 2:3. God saved Noah's family in the ark, eight people in all. How did he save even more through Moses' ark? Moses became God's appointed leader who led the children of Israel out of slavery in Egypt and to freedom.

3 We Live (15 minutes)

Rescued from Sin

Scripture verses to read are on the Student Page, but questions are not.

Say **God saved Moses for a purpose: to lead His people out of slavery and into the Promised Land. We were born as slaves to sin. How did God save us from this slavery? Read 1 John 3:5 and Colossians 2:12–14** (on Student Page). The sinless Christ took away our sins. He did this in Baptism, where we were buried and raised (made alive) with Him. In this, God forgave all our sins and cancelled the record of debt against us. God nailed our debt to Jesus' cross.

In Baptism, Christ takes us on a ride through His death, burial, and resurrection and gives us the benefits He won for us—forgiveness of sins and being alive. So, what do we have to do to be saved? Read Ephesians 2:8–10 (on Student Page). Nothing. Even faith is a gift from God! It is not our own work, but the power of the Holy Spirit working within us that gives us faith.

So, why did God save us? God saved us so that we would do the good works He prepared for us to do. He saved us to be His representatives in the world, to tell others about His love for us, and to help others in His name.

Freed from sin to do the good works God prepared for us to do, how then should we live? With gratitude for all God has done for us; with kindness, compassion, and forgiveness for others as Jesus has shown these things to us; as a representative of Jesus in the world in our words and actions.

God saved Moses from drowning, but He saved you by drowning your sin in the waters of Baptism. You are His much loved child, adopted in Baptism, and marked with the cross of Christ. How does this change the way you see yourself? Write one word or make a simple drawing to describe it. Answers vary. Help students hear God's rich, merciful love for them in Christ Jesus.

Key Point

Through Moses, the Lord saved His people from slavery in Egypt. Through Christ, God saves all people from the bondage of sin and death.

Goes to
the Heart

4 Closing (3 minutes)

Ask **What did you learn today about God's love for you?** Thank students who share.

Close in prayer, including specific petitions students mentioned during class.

Pray **Visit, O Lord, the homes in which Your people dwell, and keep all harm and danger far from them. Grant that we may dwell together in peace under the protection of Your holy angels, sharing eternally in Your blessings; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.** (Prayer "For home and family," *LSB*, p. 315)

Lesson 5

The birth of Moses

Exodus 1:1–2:10

Rescued from the Nile

Directions: Read **Exodus 1:1–2:10** and discuss questions. Then write or draw how your assigned person(s) showed respect for life.

Read Exodus 1:1–7.

- How many Israelites traveled to Egypt with Jacob?
- What happened to their population since Joseph and his brothers died?
- Two hundred years after Joseph's death, a new Pharaoh came to power. He did not know Joseph or remember his service to Egypt. Of what was he afraid?

Read Exodus 1:8–14.

- What did the Pharaoh say about the Israelites?
- What did he fear?
- How did he respond?
- What cities with storehouses did the Israelites build?
- How did Pharaoh's plan work?
- In fear, what did the Egyptians do to the Israelites?

Read Exodus 1:15–21.

- What did Pharaoh tell the Hebrew midwives to do?
- Midwives helped women during the birthing process. Although not trained doctors, they had much knowledge. How did Shiphrah and Puah show respect for life and the Lord?
- What did they tell Pharaoh?
- How did God honor the midwives?

Read Exodus 1:22–2:3.

- When one strategy failed, what did Pharaoh do next?
- How did one mother respect her baby's life?

Read Exodus 2:4–10.

- Who stood watch over the baby?
- What were the names of the mom and sister?
Numbers 26:59: The name of Amram's wife was Jochebed the daughter of Levi, who was born to Levi in Egypt. And she bore to Amram Aaron and Moses and Miriam their sister.
- How did Pharaoh's daughter show respect for life?
- How did Miriam's quick thinking show respect for life?
- How did Pharaoh's daughter provide for the baby?
- How did Jochebed save her son by giving him up?
- Identify ironies in Moses becoming part of Pharaoh's family.

Rescued from sin

1 John 3:5: [Christ] appeared in order to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin.

Colossians 2:12–14: [You have] been buried with [Christ] in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses . . . , God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Ephesians 2:8–10: For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.