

General Church Education



Crossing the Red Sea

Exodus 14:13-31

Lesson 11

Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

Introductory Level: The Lord Is Our
Heavenly Father

For ages 5-6 years

CROSSING THE RED SEA

Exodus 14:13-31

OVERVIEW OF THE STORY

The Lord chose Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt where they had become slaves. It took ten plagues to convince Pharaoh to let the Israelites go. Then Pharaoh changed his mind and pursued the Israelites as they fled. The Lord saved the Israelites by helping them cross the Red Sea on dry land and drowning the Egyptians.

CONCEPTS FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

- ❖ Canaan or the Holy Land symbolizes heaven which is our true home.
- ❖ We can become "slaves in Egypt" when we are so involved with natural life that we neglect our spiritual life.
- ❖ When we realize that we have become slaves to worldly things, we can return to the Lord in search of true freedom.
- ❖ It is not easy to break old habits that enslave us. Motivation comes when we see the results of acting from our worldly desires.
- ❖ The journey from Egypt to Canaan is long and hard but we have Moses (the Word) to guide us along the way.
- ❖ The Lord alone has power to free us from evil and He is always trying to lead us to heaven.

CROSSING THE RED SEA

IMPORTANT IDEAS FOR CHILDREN

The Lord led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt and back to their homeland.

Parting the Red Sea was another miracle.

The Lord did miracles like this in order to help the Israelites believe in Him.

He showed His great power.

LET'S REMEMBER:

- ♦ **What strange sight did Moses see when he was on the mountain?** (Bush burning but not burned up.)
- ♦ **What did the Lord tell Moses He wanted him to do?** (Go back to Egypt and free the Israelite slaves.)
- ♦ **Do you think this will be an easy or a hard job to do?** (Hard, but the Lord will help Moses.)

The Lord said, "I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with My wonders... and after that he will let you go." Today we will learn about these wonders.



OUR STORY FOR TODAY:

Moses met his brother Aaron in Egypt. Together they went to Pharaoh to ask him to let the Israelites go back to their own land. But Pharaoh did not want to let them go because they did so much work for him as slaves. He said no. Because Pharaoh was so hard-hearted, the Lord sent plagues on the Egyptians. A plague is something that makes you miserable.

The first plague made all the waters in Egypt turn into blood. There was no fresh water for the people to drink. All the fish died. The Egyptians were miserable. But Pharaoh would not let the people go. So the Lord sent a second plague. Millions of frogs came up from the river and covered the land. They were everywhere! Pharaoh called Moses to him and begged him to ask the Lord

to take away the frogs. He said he would let the Children of Israel go. However, as soon as the pesky frogs were gone, Pharaoh "hardened his heart," changed his mind and did not let the people go.

In the third plague, the dust of the earth turned into lice (small bugs that bite you and make you itch terribly.) Then swarms of flies made the Egyptians miserable. This was followed by a murrain (a skin disease) of the animals. Next, the Egyptian people had boils (deep, painful sores on their skin). Then the crops were destroyed by hail and fire, and locusts ate up anything that was left. After each plague ended, Pharaoh still refused to let the people go. So the Lord sent a plague of darkness on the land for three days and finally the firstborn or oldest child of all Egyptians died one night. Even the Pharaoh's firstborn died. Then, at last Pharaoh said the Israelites could leave.



There were ten plagues in all. The Egyptians were miserable but none of these plagues affected the Israelites. They were getting ready to go. When Pharaoh finally said they could leave, they took all their families, their flocks and herds and their things, and headed out of Egypt. Their Egyptian neighbors were so glad to see them leave that they gave them precious gold, silver, jewels and clothing. The Lord led them with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire to give them light by night. They could always see His power and presence leading them.

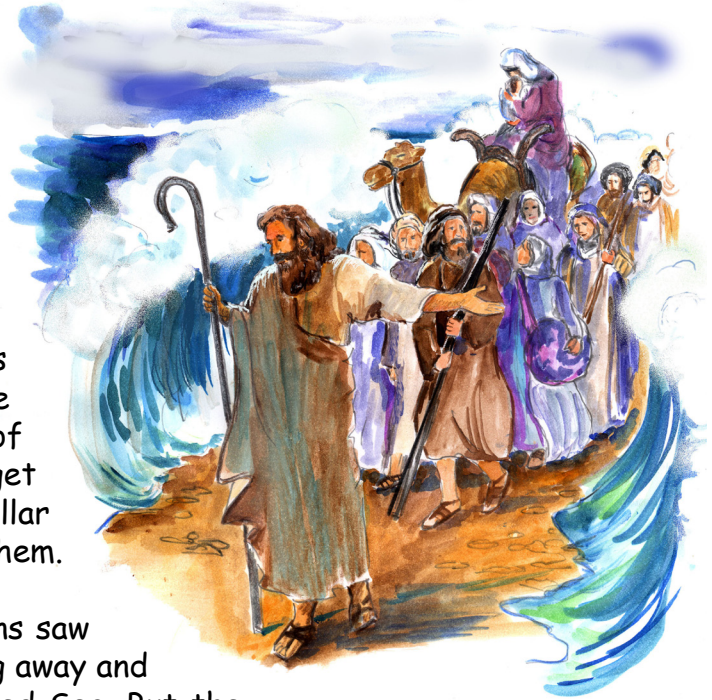
But, they did not get very far when Pharaoh changed his mind again, gathered his army and headed out after them.

The Egyptian army caught up with the Children of Israel at the Red Sea. When the Israelites saw the Egyptians coming, they were afraid. The pillar of fire moved between the Israelites and the Egyptians. It gave light to the Israelites and darkness to the Egyptians all night.



Read **Exodus 14:13-14**.

Who did Moses say would protect the Israelites? (The Lord.) Then the Lord did another miracle. He told Moses to stretch out his hand over the Red Sea. The Lord caused the waters to go back with a strong east wind. All night the riverbed was dry as the Israelites crossed over to the other side between the walls of water. The Egyptians could not get to the Israelites because the pillar of fire stood there protecting them.



In the morning, the Egyptians saw that the Israelites were getting away and followed after them into the Red Sea. But the Lord troubled them or made them have problems. Their chariot wheels fell off and they became afraid. Listen to what happened next.



Read **Exodus 14:26-31**.

What happened when Moses stretched out his hand over the sea? (The sea became deep again and the Egyptians were drowned.) How did the Israelites feel about the Lord after this miracle? (They feared Him and believed Him.) How did the Israelites feel about Moses now? (They also believed Moses because he was the servant of the Lord.) The Israelites saw the miracles. They believed the Lord and His servant Moses. With God all things are possible.

WHAT DID WE LEARN TODAY?

- ♦ **What is a plague?** (Something that makes you miserable.)
- ♦ **How many plagues were sent to the Egyptians?** (Ten.)
- ♦ **When the Israelites finally left Egypt, how did the Lord lead them?** (Pillar of cloud and fire.)
- ♦ **How did the Israelites cross the Red Sea?** (The Lord caused a strong wind to hold the water back so they could cross on dry land.)
- ♦ **What happened when the Egyptians followed?** (They were drowned.)
- ♦ **How do you think the Israelites felt when they saw this happen to the Egyptians?**

CROSSING THE RED SEA

ACTIVITIES



Recitation: Learn the recitation by heart and earn an award. Awards are on the last page of this lesson.

And God spoke all these words, saying: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
You shall have no other gods before me.
You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Honor your father and your mother.
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

Exodus 20:1-17 (parts)



Project choices:

Pillar of Fire and Cloud project

Color a picture of the Israelites following the pillar of cloud



Songs:

Moses in the Bulrushes—Listen or download at [https://](https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-moses-in-the-bulrushes/)

www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-moses-in-the-bulrushes/

Crossing the Red Sea—Listen or download at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-crossing-the-red-sea/>

Moses Went to Sinai's Peak—Listen or download at [https://](https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-moses-went-to-sinai-peak/)

www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-moses-went-to-sinai-peak/

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah—Listen or download at [https://](https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-guide-me-o-thou-great-jehovah-2/)

www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-guide-me-o-thou-great-jehovah-2/



Additional Activities:

- ❖ Do you live near a wide river or the ocean? Take children to see it. Try building a wall of sand to stop the flow of water and see how impossible it is. Talk about the miracle of stopping the flow of the waters so that the Israelites could cross the Red Sea.
- ❖ On a clear day it is fun to lie down and watch clouds float by in the sky. Notice what a friendly guide the pillar of cloud would have been.

Pillar of Cloud and Fire

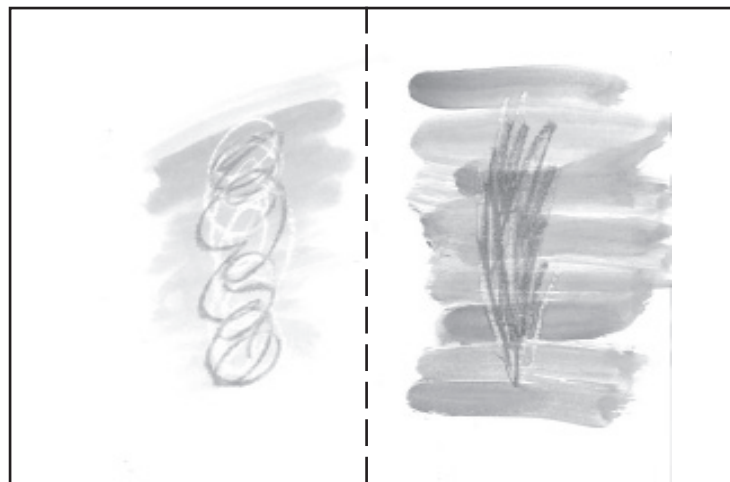
Make a picture of the pillar of cloud and fire that led the Israelites through the wilderness.

Supplies:

1 printed page
1 piece of black or yellow construction paper
oil pastels
watercolor paints
paint brush

Project instructions:

1. Carefully fold the piece of construction paper in half as shown to make a crease down the center of the page. Then unfold the paper again.
2. On one side of the paper draw a pillar of cloud using white and grey oil pastels.
3. On the other side of the paper draw a pillar of fire using red, yellow and orange oil pastels.
4. Using blue watercolor paint, paint over the pillar of cloud on one side of the page.
5. Using black watercolor paint, paint over the pillar of fire on the other side of the page.
6. Glue your project in the center of the construction paper to create a frame.



Pillar of Cloud

Pillar of Fire

