

Investigating

God's Word...

At Home

VOLUME 3

**Exodus,
Leviticus**

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God's Word...**

At Home

Volume 3

**Exodus,
Leviticus**

One Story Ministries

Investigating God's Word: At Home (Volume Three)

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Dedicated to my children:

*Victoria, Alexandra, Emmalyne, Olivia
Katherine, John Charles, Nathanael, Andrew*

Using this Teaching Guide

This series of volumes was created to help parents teach the Bible to their children at home. It's a highly interactive study which seeks to promote thought, discussion, and application as you read through the Bible together. By the time you finish all fourteen volumes, your family will investigate the entirety of God's Word.

Each individual lesson is divided up into the following five sections:

Opening

The *Opening* gets the lesson moving with either introductory thought questions, or a reading from the Psalms or Proverbs. This section serves as a "Call to Study."

Drill Time

The *Drill Time* section is an opportunity for you to quiz your children to assess their Bible knowledge. Sometimes the questions will be a review of the previous lesson. Other times the questions will cover essential Bible knowledge that all of our children should learn. Still other times the questions will be from another portion of Scripture which connects to the lesson to be studied.

W.O.W!

The *Word of the Week (W.O.W!)* is designed to build the Christian vocabularies of your children. Each lesson includes a *W.O.W!* that is either a word found in the Bible text or a theological word that is dealt with in the passage. Often times, the *W.O.W!* is found repeatedly in the chosen text, serving as a theme for the lesson. The *Word of the Week* is defined and explained in this section in order for



your children to gain understanding. They will be asked to listen for it in the *Bible Investigation* time.

Bible Investigation

The *Bible Investigation* time is the heart and soul of the lesson. Each passage of Scripture is read to your children a portion at a time, breaking it down for interactive discussion. The discussion sections include questions for your children to answer as well as other commentary on what has just been read. Application sections also appear throughout the *Bible Investigation* in order to put to work what is being studied.

The *Bible Investigation* time is also intended to teach your children how to do methodical Bible study. You will be helping them to observe, interpret, think through, and apply the Scripture.

All sections of Scripture in these volumes are from the *New International Version (NIV)*.

Scripture Memory

At the end of each lesson, a *Scripture Memory text* is given that either comes from the lesson or connects to it in some way. Encourage your children to memorize Scripture each week to commit God's Word to their hearts.

**Enjoy studying God's Word
together as a family!**



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Lesson 1

Exodus 1:1-2:10

Opening

Say: *I have a couple of questions for you. Who made you? [God.] What else did God make? [God made everything else.]*

How do you know that God made you and everything else?

Allow answers. *That's right, the Bible tells us so.*

We learn the truth about who God is and what He has done for you and me only from the Bible. That's why we get together and study God's Word! Are you ready to learn today?

Drill Time

Now, let's move on to DRILL TIME. This is our regular opportunity to review what we have learned in the past.

Today's questions: *Who can tell me the two major divisions of the Bible? Now, a tougher question: What are the names of the first five books of the Bible? Now, a last question: Who wrote the first five books of the Bible?*

Answers:

1. Old Testament and New Testament.
2. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.
3. Moses.



Say: *The first five books of the Bible are also called “The Pentateuch.” Today, we will begin studying the second book of the Old Testament—the Book of Exodus. Moses wrote the Book of Exodus, and he is also the main character of this second book of the Bible. And remember, God inspired all of the writers of the Bible, so the Bible is God’s Word!*

Now, on to our Word of the Week!

W.O.W!

Say: *Our W.O.W! (Word of the Week) for today is **EXODUS**.*

*This is the name of the second book of the Old Testament—the Book of the Bible we will start studying today. Does anyone know what this word actually means? **Allow answers.***

An EXODUS is a departure—actually a departure of a large group of people. The word literally means “the road out.” An EXODUS occurs when a lot of people leave some place to go to another place.

So the Book of Exodus is a Book of Departure. It is about how God’s people came to be able to leave Egypt. Some of you may know a few of the stories in the Book of Exodus. All of us will learn them a lot better as we read this great Bible book!



Bible Investigation

Introduction: *The first chapter of the Book of Exodus reminds us of what happened back in the Book of Genesis. Genesis ended with Joseph dying in the land of Egypt. All of Joseph's family, including his brothers and their families, were in Egypt because of the worldwide famine. Do you remember how God used Joseph to save all his family from starvation? We now pick up the story of the Israelites living in Egypt—away from their homeland.*

Read Exodus 1:1-5.

¹ These are the names of the sons of Israel who went to Egypt with Jacob, each with his family: ² Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah; ³ Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamin; ⁴ Dan and Naphtali; Gad and Asher. ⁵ The descendants of Jacob numbered seventy in all; Joseph was already in Egypt.

Discussion: *How many sons did Israel (Jacob) have? [Twelve.] When they settled in Egypt, they numbered seventy in all—including their wives and children. Why was Joseph already in Egypt? [His ten older brothers had sold him into slavery.] Joseph ended up saving his family, as we said.*

Let's read on. Read verses 6-7.

⁶ Now Joseph and all his brothers and all that generation died, ⁷ but the Israelites were fruitful and multiplied greatly and became exceedingly numerous, so that the land was filled with them.

Discussion: *Look at how God had blessed the Israelites! This is simply God keeping His covenant promise to Abraham. Remember that promise? Abraham was promised descendants that would be as numerous as the sands on the seashore and the stars in the sky. The promise is being fulfilled here! Israel has become a great nation.*



Let's read what happens. Read verses 8-11.

⁸Then a new king, who did not know about Joseph, came to power in Egypt. ⁹“Look,” he said to his people, “the Israelites have become much too numerous for us. ¹⁰Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country.” ¹¹So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh.

Discussion: *Joseph was the “old” Pharaoh’s second-in-command. How could Egypt forget about Joseph, after he had saved the entire country from starvation? Well, a long time had passed, that’s for sure—hundreds of years. This new Pharaoh decided to make the Israelites into slaves. Why? [Because he was afraid of them. He thought they would fight against Egypt.]*

Application: *Throughout history, God’s people have been persecuted. One day, you will be persecuted too—if you put your faith in Jesus Christ for your salvation. Christ Himself said that all who follow Him will have to suffer for Him. The Israelites were suffering simply for being God’s people.*

Let's continue. Read verses 12-14.

¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites ¹³and worked them ruthlessly. ¹⁴They made their lives bitter with hard labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their hard labor the Egyptians used them ruthlessly.

Discussion: *Does it surprise you to hear that the more the Israelites suffered, the more they multiplied and spread? This is the exact opposite of what the Egyptians wanted! God was gracious to His people, multiplying them even through suffering. Yet their lives became even worse. The*



Israelites were not just slaves—they were subjected to extremely hard labor.

*Let's read on. **Read verses 15-16.***

¹⁵The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, ¹⁶“When you help the Hebrew women in childbirth and observe them on the delivery stool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live.”

Discussion: *So, Pharaoh's first plan didn't work. He tried to wipe out the Israelites by making them slaves and working them hard. Now comes “Plan B.” What is it? [Kill all the baby boys.] Yes, the king of Egypt commanded his midwives to kill all the baby boys, right after they were born. How horrible! This would certainly wipe out the Israelites if all the males were killed! Do you think God can stop this from happening?*

Application: *Many horrible things go on in our world today—just like this. Can God stop these things from happening too?*

*Let's see what happens. **Read verses 17-19.***

¹⁷The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live.

¹⁸Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, “Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?” ¹⁹The midwives answered Pharaoh, “Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive.”

Discussion: *Wow! These Hebrew midwives feared and worshipped God. Isn't that amazing? God stopped Pharaoh's hand of death by working in the hearts of his midwives. So these midwives were bold enough to disobey the most powerful man in the world!*



Application: *These midwives lied to Pharaoh when he asked them why the boys were still alive. But this is not the sort of lie like you and I tell. We lie to protect ourselves. They were lying to protect Israelite babies. More importantly, they were disobeying a man so they could obey God. Some day, you will have to decide if you are going to obey God or obey a person who wants you to disobey God. God will give you the strength to obey Him.*

And look at how God blessed the midwives.

Read verses 20-21.

²⁰ So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.

Discussion: *What did God give these midwives? [Families of their own.] What a blessing! They obeyed God and received a reward. God used these midwives to protect His people. And, did you hear what I just read? The Israelites continued to multiply. Pharaoh's evil "Plan B" failed. What will he try next?*

Read verse 22.

²² Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

Discussion: *Pharaoh's third plan is even more wicked. Instead of relying on the midwives to do his dirty work, he commands ALL of the Egyptians to kill all the Israelite baby boys. How were they to kill them? [By drowning the boys in the Nile River.] How horrible! Do you think God can stop this from happening? Or will the Israelites have to continue to suffer for being God's people?*



Application: *God can stop all the suffering in the world. Yet, He allows much suffering for many different reasons. He is in total control, so everything works according to His good plan. This should bring you comfort even when troubles are happening in your life.*

Let's read on in Chapter Two. This story might be somewhat familiar to you. Listen closely.

Read Exodus 2:1-4.

¹Now a man of the house of Levi married a Levite woman, ²and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. ³But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. ⁴His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.

Discussion: *This Israelite mother didn't want her baby boy to be drowned in the Nile, did she? Would God protect this baby from death?*

Let's see what happens. Read verses 5-9.

⁵Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. ⁶She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said. ⁷Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" ⁸"Yes, go," she answered. And the girl went and got the baby's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him.



Discussion: *That's pretty amazing, isn't it? God not only saved this baby, but the baby's mother was able to take care of him for a few years. And do you see how funny it is that this is Pharaoh's daughter? Pharaoh's own daughter is disobeying Pharaoh's evil command!*

Let's finish our reading. Read verse 10.

¹⁰When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."

Conclusion: *So here we have the story of the birth of Moses—the one who wrote this Book of Exodus. Moses was saved by God in quite an amazing way. He was now going to be raised as an Egyptian prince. How do you think God will use Moses in this difficult time for God's people? We will just have to keep investigating God's Word and find out!*

Scripture Memory

Psalm 9:9 (NIV)

⁹The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.





Lesson 2

Exodus 2:11-3:22

Opening

Say: *I have a couple of questions for you. Can you see God? [No.] Why not? [Because God is Spirit. He does not have a body.]*

God is a Spirit, so we cannot see Him. But just because we cannot see Him, does that mean that He's not real? No! We know God is real because the Bible tells us that He is. But we also know God is real because of the things He has done which we can see. We see His handiwork in all that He has created!

Drill Time

Now, let's move on to DRILL TIME. This is our regular opportunity to review what we have learned in the past.

Today's questions: *What did Pharaoh first do to the Egyptians to try to wipe them out? What was his second evil plan? What was Pharaoh's third evil plan? Who was born in the midst of all of this suffering in Egypt?*

Answers:

1. He enslaved them; He made them do hard labor.
2. To have the midwives kill the baby boys.
3. To have the Egyptians throw Hebrew baby boys into the Nile River.



4. Moses.

Say: *None of Pharaoh's wicked plans succeeded, but the children of Israel certainly did suffer greatly. God is in control, and He continues to care for and protect His people. Moses was also protected from death, wasn't he? We will see more of God's plan for Moses unfold in our reading today.*

W.O.W!

Say: *What word did we learn last time? That's right, we learned the word EXODUS. An EXODUS is a departure of a large group of people. That's what the Book of Exodus is all about.*

*Our W.O.W! (Word of the Week) for today is **HOLY**.*

*This is a word that we use to describe God. So, who can tell me what it means that God is HOLY? **Allow answers.***

To be HOLY means to be perfectly good or perfectly righteous. There is nobody else that is HOLY like God is HOLY.

To be HOLY also means to be "set apart." God is totally set apart from and different than His people. He is HOLY; we are not. So only God can make someone HOLY. We are set apart or made HOLY only by God through the work of Jesus Christ.

You will see the word HOLY in our reading today. Watch for it!



Bible Investigation

Introduction: *We left off last time with Moses being raised as an Egyptian prince by the daughter of Pharaoh. How will God work in Moses' life now? Let's read and find out.*

Read Exodus 2:11-14.

¹¹ One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. ¹² Glancing this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³ The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, "Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?" ¹⁴ The man said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and thought, "What I did must have become known."

Discussion: *So Moses is grown up now. He's an Egyptian prince, but he obviously knows that he is also an Israelite. Seeing a fellow Hebrew beaten so angered Moses that he murdered an Egyptian. Word got around of this killing, and Moses became afraid. There was no turning back now, was there? He was now on his own, as we read in the next verse...*

Read verse 15.

¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well.

Discussion: *Moses was now a fugitive. Midian was out in the wilderness territory. How would God work in Moses' life now?*

