

THE EGYPT EXIT

Exodus
Exodus 14
1446 BC

OVERVIEW

BIBLE TRUTH

God delivers His people.

BIBLE VERSE

Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you.
Psalm 50:15

LEARNER GOAL

I understand that God delivers me from sin and is always with me.

LAW & GOSPEL

Surrounded by the evil of this world, we lose hope and begin to doubt that God is with us.

Jesus takes our sin and doubt to the cross, delivering us from death and giving us the hope of eternal life with Him in heaven.

SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT

Following ten terrible plagues, Pharaoh relents and releases the Israelites to worship in the wilderness. Realizing the Israelites have no intention of returning, Pharaoh's army pursues the runaways. Caught between Pharaoh's charioteers and the waters of the Red Sea, the people cry out to God. Moses stretches his hand over the sea as God parts the waters, enabling the people to pass through the sea on dry ground. As Egypt's army attempts to follow, the sea closes in over them, so not one survives.

LESSON PREP

BASIC Read Exodus 14 and notes in *The Lutheran Study Bible*.

MORE TIME Read the leader devotion, found in the digital resource center.

IN DEPTH The Passover and Exodus both have sacramental themes. Review "The Nature of the Sacrament of the Altar" and "The Nature of Baptism" in *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation* (2017).

SUPPLY LIST

FOR THIS LESSON

- Blue streamers
- Empty plastic water bottles
- Blue food coloring
- Sequins, shells, crosses, and/or plastic fish
- Graham crackers, blue frosting, gummy fish
- Bowl, dish soap, pepper

FOR EVERY LESSON

- Bible
- Device with prepped music
- Copies of downloadable activity page
- Copies of Enduring Faith Page
- Supply Box

LAUNCH

Plan your lesson by reading through the options in each section. Choose the activities that will best fit your learners, and mark those boxes to guide you as you teach the lesson.

BEGIN

- Follow the Order of Opening Worship, use the Lesson Opening, or do both (part of the planning resources in the digital resource center).
- Sing songs using music found in the digital resource center, or sing your own favorite songs.

SAY

- Have you ever visited a place far away? How long did it take? Today you'll hear how God's people were going to a new home far away.**
- What are fire trucks and ambulances used for? Rescue, right! Have you ever been rescued? What does it feel like right before you're rescued? when the rescuer comes?**

PRAY

Dear Lord, guide us today as we learn how You deliver us from sin and are always with us. Bless our time together. In Your name we pray. Amen.

LEARN

Show your Bible, and remind the children that all the stories in God's Word are true.

TELL THE BIBLE NARRATIVE

Choose one of the options on the next page to tell the Bible narrative.

DO THIS!

Use one or more of the following activities to talk about the Bible narrative after you've read it.

- FOR ACTIVE LEARNING** Tell the narrative again and make the following emotions and actions to match the action of the event: Leaving Egypt—*Happy skipping!* God sent a pillar to guide them—*Relief*. Pharaoh changed his mind—*Angry Pharaoh*. The Israelites were trapped and started complain—*Grumble, grumble*. Moses told them not to be afraid—*Shhh, quiet and calm*. God told Moses to lift up his staff over the sea—*Lift up arms*. God moved the pillar to keep the Egyptians away from them—*Grrr, grumbling Egyptians*. The Israelites walked across the dry ground—*Walking and amazed*. God moved the pillar, and the Egyptians charged into where the Israelites had walked. God made their chariot wheels clog up—*Confused Egyptians*. God told Moses to lower his hands so the waters covered the Egyptians—*Lower arms*. The Israelites were finally truly free—*Joy!*

- FOR A LARGER GROUP** Have different groups act out the parts of different people and groups in the story. Give children blue streamers to wave for the water.

TALK ABOUT IT

Choose a few questions that best fit the learning level of your group.

- How did God rescue the Israelites from Egypt?
- How has God rescued (or helped) you?
- This is a story of an epic water rescue. We are rescued from our sin through the waters of Holy Baptism. Talk about what it means that you are baptized.

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Guide discussion using these key points.

- God saved the Israelites as He led them out of slavery in Egypt and through the water of the Red Sea.
- God defeated the Israelites' enemy Pharaoh in the Red Sea.
- In Jesus' death and resurrection, He defeated our enemy Satan.
- God saves us through the waters of Holy Baptism.
- In Baptism, you are made a child of God. God promises to rescue you from sin and death, and He will love you forever!



CHRIST CONNECTION

The Lord saved Israel and He continues to save His people through the saving work of Jesus.

BIBLE NARRATIVE FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

STORYTELLING DIRECTIONS: Emphasize the prepositions in bold as you read the story.

God's people in Egypt worked hard for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. They had many troubles. But God heard their cries for help. He sent Moses to rescue them and lead them **out** of Egypt. God was going to give them a new home in a new land called Canaan. They wouldn't have to work for the bad king, Pharaoh, anymore. They would have their own land. They would have enough food. They would be free.

Now God's people were in a hurry. They packed up their clothes and food. They got their animals ready for the trip. It was time to go!

I wonder . . . how would the people know where to go?

Pause for answer.

Let's find out.

God showed them where to go! During the day, God led them in a pillar of cloud. At night, God led them with a pillar of fire. The fire gave them light so they could see where they were going. Moses and the people walked and walked. Finally, they came to some water called the Red Sea. They set up their tents. They were tired and settled down to sleep.

Suddenly, someone saw a big army coming their way. It was bad king Pharaoh and his soldiers. Rumble, rumble, rumble. The sound of horse hooves grew louder and louder. The people were scared! "What will happen to us?" they cried. "The water in the sea is too deep for us to walk **through** it. There is no bridge for us to walk **over** it. We

don't have a boat to sail **across** it. And we can't run fast enough to get **around** it before Pharaoh's army catches us."

Moses told the people, "Do not be afraid. God is with us. He led the way out of Egypt. He will help us now. He will deliver us from our troubles." God told Moses to hold out his walking stick **over** the water. So Moses did. Then a wonderful thing happened! All night the wind blew and blew and blew. God's cloud stood between the people and the bad king's army. The soldiers couldn't see what was happening.

The wind blew a dry path **in** the Red Sea. The people walked **on** the dry ground with big walls of water on both sides of them. Moses followed the people until they all stood on the other side.

Pharaoh's army tried to follow them. But God told Moses to stretch his walking stick **over** the sea again. When Moses did this, the waters splashed together and covered the whole army. Not one soldier escaped. God was with His people. He helped them with their troubles. He rescued them from their enemies. Now the people were happy. They danced and sang and played instruments to praise God.

You are God's child. God sent Jesus to rescue you from sin by dying on the cross and rising again. When you have troubles, don't be afraid. Call on God for help. He will help you with your troubles too.

BIBLE NARRATIVE FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Pharaoh finally obeyed God and freed the people of Israel. **Moses led them out of Egypt** laughing and singing. God sent an angel and a huge pillar of cloud to guide them. At the end of that first day Israel set up their camp on the shore of the Red Sea.

But Pharaoh changed his mind again. He gathered together his whole army and rode out to bring back the Israelites as slaves. When the Israelites saw the Egyptian chariots and soldiers coming, they were afraid. They couldn't run away, because the Red Sea was in the way. They started complaining and saying that Moses brought them out to kill them.

Moses told them, "**Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord**, which He will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

God told Moses, "**Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground.**" Both the angel of God and the huge pillar moved from in front

of Israel to stand between them and the Egyptians. All night long the pillar gave light to the Israelites, but kept the Egyptians in darkness. It also kept the Egyptians from coming toward God's people.

Moses lifted up his staff and stretched out his hands, and the waters divided in front of them. All night long the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground. The Egyptians had to stay where they were because the pillar blocked them.

When the sun came up the last Israelites were walking out of the sea. The pillar moved and the Egyptians charged down into the sea. But God made their chariot wheels clog up. The Egyptians tried to turn back because they knew God was fighting against them. But before they could get away, God told Moses to lower his hands so the waters covered the Egyptians. **In a short time, none of Egyptians who followed the Israelites was left, and Israel was truly free.**

LIVE

Choose from the following activities and crafts to help connect Bible learning to life.

Play "Part the Red Sea"

This game is similar to red rover. Have two children join hands and spread out, choosing another child to run toward them and try to break their hold. The children should shout, "[Aiden], part the Red Sea!" If the child manages to run between the children's arms successfully, he or she has a chance to run again. If the child fails, he or she must join hands with one of the other children and become part of the Red Sea. Connect the game to the Bible Truth that God delivers His people.



Action Bible Verse

Ask, **How did God help His people and rescue them from their enemy?** Let children tell. Sometimes we're scared too. We need help. Open your Bible, and read the verse from Psalm 50:15. Then have children echo the words and do actions:



Call upon Me	<i>Place hands around mouth.</i>
in the day of trouble;	<i>Clasp hands as though afraid.</i>
I will deliver you.	<i>Point to everyone.</i>
Psalm 50:15	<i>Open hands like a book.</i>

Red Sea Bottle Craft

Fill clear plastic water bottles with water. Add blue food coloring, sequins, shells, crosses, and/or plastic fish. Write the Bible Verse with permanent marker.



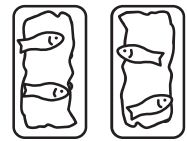
Praise the Lord!

Ask students if they have any favorite praise songs or choose your own. Sing the songs together to praise our God, just as Moses and Israelites did after God rescued them.



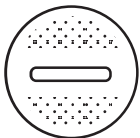
Red Sea Snack

Split a graham cracker in half and cover the halves with blue frosting. Place gummy fish on top of the frosting to create the Red Sea. Set the graham crackers on a plate with a space between them to show the dry path. Ask, **How does God rescue us?**



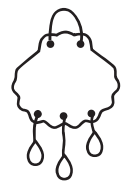
Red Sea Science

Fill a bowl with water and cover surface with pepper. Put dish soap on a craft stick. Dip it in the center of the water. The pepper around the soap should part and spread to the sides of the bowl. The soap appears to chase the pepper away. Review how God parted the Red Sea so the Israelites could pass through.



Baptism Wall Hanging

Give each child a paper plate cut in the shape of a shell. Let children color shell. Punch two holes at top and add yarn for hanging. Punch three more holes at the bottom. Use yarn to attach three construction paper water drops. Write "[Michael] is God's child" on one side of the shell.



LEAVE

SAY

Today we heard how God rescued His people from their enemies at the Red Sea. When we are scared, we can always pray to God for help. God has rescued us from our enemies through Jesus. He will help us in all our troubles.

PRAY

Dear God, You helped Your people at the Red Sea. When we are afraid, help us remember that You are with us. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us from our enemy, sin, by dying on the cross for us. Thank You for always taking care of us. Amen.