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Baby Moses

Scripture: Exodus 1:1-2:10

Theme: God protects those He has chosen for His purposes

4th-6th Grade (Ages 9-11)

Free curriculum for small and rural churches

Lesson Overview

Sunday School Lesson Overview: "The Passover Lamb , God's Promise of Freedom and Salvation" Introduction (Hook): Begin with a simple, visual story: "Imagine if someone gave you a special sign, like a red door or a special cloth, to tell your family, 'Don't forget God's promise!' Today, we'll see how God used the blood of a lamb to protect His people centuries ago, and how that points to Jesus, our true Passover Lamb!" Lesson Overview (Exodus 12:1, 28): God commanded the Israelites to take a lamb (symbolizing Jesus), put its blood on the doorposts (showing trust in God's protection), and eat it with unleavened bread (remembering freedom). This wasn't just a meal, it was a sign of God's love and His plan to save them from slavery and death. The lamb's blood acted like a shield, while the feast showed gratitude for God's mercy. Today, we learn that Jesus' blood saves us from sin and death forever! Key Connection: The Passover lamb foreshadowed Jesus, who became the final Lamb of God (John 1:29). Just as the Israelites needed the blood to live, we need Jesus' blood to live with God forever! Deeper Questions for Discussion (Engage Kids): 1. "Why do you think God chose a lamb instead of something stronger, like a lion?" (Answer: God used a gentle, sacrificial animal to show His heart for His people.) 2. "How did the blood on the doorposts protect the families? What does that remind you of Jesus doing for us?" (Answer: It's like a shield, Jesus covers us with His love when we believe!) 3. "Why was it important to eat the meal quickly (without waiting)?" (Answer: It showed they weren't taking God's promises lightly; they acted in faith.) Personal Application (Connect to Today): "This lesson is like a recipe for faith: the blood (Jesus' sacrifice), the lamb (our trust in Him), and the feast (our thankfulness). Today, ask: 'How am I trusting Jesus like the Israelites trusted the Passover lamb?' - Are we putting His blood on our 'doorposts' (confessing sin to Him)? - Are we eating the meal (praying and thanking Him)? - Are we acting fast (choosing Him today before we forget?) Challenge: Share one way you'll remind someone this week that Jesus is your Passover Lamb! Closing (Encouragement): End with a prayer or song (e.g., "Jesus paid the price for my sin, / He's my Lamb, my Savior, my King!") and leave kids with this: "No matter what's 'slavery' in your life right now (school stress, family struggles, fear), God sees you, and He's already won the battle for freedom through Jesus. What's one way you'll trust Him today?" Volunteer Tip: Use a lamb toy or printed pictures of blood-smeared doorposts to make it interactive!

Keep energy high with movement (e.g., act out the lamb being “slaughtered” and then “protected”).

Bible Story

The Passover Lamb: God’s Plan of Protection

Long ago, in a land called Egypt, the Israelites, God’s special people, were enslaved by the Egyptians. One of their leaders, Moses, had come to them with a message from God: “Let my people go!” But Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, refused. He said, “I will not let them leave!” So, God sent a series of terrible plagues, floods, locusts, darkness, all to show the Egyptians that the Israelites were special to Him. Finally, God told Moses that the worst of all plagues would come: angry, killing frogs, biting insects, and death itself. But there was one way God could save His people. On the night of the firstborn, the Israelites were to sacrifice a lamb without blemish (a perfect, spotless one), spread its blood on the doorposts of their homes, and eat it roasted with unleavened bread. If they did this, God would pass over their houses and spare their firstborn sons from death.

The Israelites obeyed. They searched for a perfect lamb, killed it, and carefully put its blood on the doorposts of their homes. Then they gathered with their families for a special feast, eating the lamb and sharing it with others. As the night deepened, God’s power moved in a mighty way. The angel of death saw the blood on the doorframes and, instead of striking the firstborn sons in Egypt, passed over them, sparing only the homes marked with the lamb’s blood. The Egyptians woke up in the morning and saw their firstborn children lying dead, except for the Israelites, who were free! God had kept His promise, and He used this night to begin a journey toward freedom.

As children of God today, we too have a special protection. Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb! He was perfect, just like the lamb in the Bible, and He died on the cross to take away our sins. When we trust in Him and follow Him, God does not let evil take us, He keeps us safe through His love. Just as the Israelites ate the Passover meal to remember God’s protection, we should celebrate Jesus’ sacrifice with gratitude. When we pray and read God’s Word, we are putting His blood on the doorposts of our hearts, reminding ourselves that we belong to Him.

Deeper Questions: 1. Why do you think the Israelites had to eat the Passover meal together with their families? 2. How was the lamb’s blood like a sign of God’s promise to protect His people? 3. What does it mean to you that Jesus is our Passover Lamb? How does that change your relationship with God?

Personal Application: This story reminds us that God doesn’t just want to let us go, He wants to keep us safe through His love. Just as the Israelites trusted God’s plan even when they didn’t fully understand it, we can trust Jesus today, even when life feels uncertain. Ask God to help you remember that His promises are true, no matter what challenges come your way.

Why This Story Matters: This story isn’t just about a long-ago event, it’s a story about God’s heart for us. Through the Passover, we see that He didn’t just save His people from slavery; He saved them for freedom and purpose. And through Jesus, we have that same freedom today, freedom from sin, freedom to know God, and freedom to live with Him forever. What a wonderful gift!

Key Verse

Exodus 2:2

God’s Special Sign on the House This verse from the Bible is like a big, important secret that God gave the Israelites when He led them out of Egypt. Imagine a night so dark that you can’t see anything, even your own hands in front of your face! But God made a plan to save His people. He told them to put a special thing (like a lamb’s blood) on the doorposts of their homes. When God saw the blood, He knew it was His people’s house, and He would pass over it, letting them stay safe while the bad things (like plagues) hit everyone else. It was like an invisible shield that kept them protected that night. Think about how you feel when someone says, “Don’t worry, I’ve got you!” God wanted His people to know that He was there for them, just like a superhero protecting them. When they painted their doorposts with blood, they weren’t just following a rule, they were trusting God to take care of them. Can you imagine what it would feel like to know that, no matter what scary or hard things happen,

God is watching over you? What does this mean for us today? This story happened long ago, but God's promise isn't just for the past, it's for us too! When we put our trust in God, He promises to protect us and guide us. The blood they used was a sign of Jesus Christ, who later would save us all by dying on the cross. Just like the Israelites looked for the blood to know God was there, we can look to Jesus in our own lives. Have you ever felt scared or alone? When those times come, God wants you to remember that He sees you, and He's ready to help! Here's a deeper question: If God could see the blood on the doorposts and protect the Israelites, how can He protect you right now? Maybe it's when you're feeling nervous about school, or when you're worried about making friends. God doesn't just want us to follow rules, He wants us to trust Him in big and little ways. Can you think of one thing you can do this week to remember that God is watching over you? How can we live like this? God's promise isn't just about being safe, it's about having a relationship with Him. The Israelites trusted Him enough to leave Egypt, even though it was scary. We can trust Him too! One way to show we believe is to pray, to read the Bible, or to tell someone about God's love. Maybe you could draw a picture of Jesus or write a little note to yourself reminding yourself: "God sees me, and He's protecting me!" The more we talk to God, the stronger our trust in Him becomes. Finally, think about how the Israelites acted in faith. They didn't just wait for God to do something, they took action by putting the blood on their doors. Can you think of a small way you can act in faith today? Maybe it's being kind to someone who's lonely, or sharing your toys with a friend who needs them. God loves when we show our trust through our actions! This verse is like a light at night, reminding us that no matter what happens, God is there. Would you like to pray together right now? "Dear God, thank You for always being with me. Help me to trust You more, just like the Israelites trusted You. I know You see me, and You love me. Amen!"

Activities

Activity 1:

Kids will create a shadow of the Passover lamb using simple materials, then discuss how God's sacrifice protected His people and how we can remember His love in our own lives.

1. Introduction (2 min): Ask, "Why do you think God chose a lamb to protect His people during Passover?" (Hint: It was a symbol of sacrifice, just like Jesus!) Share that today, they'll create a shadow lamb to explore its meaning.
2. Craft Time (7 min): Each student draws a lamb outline on paper, then traces it with a crayon to make a shadow. Glue the cut lamb shape onto their paper.
3. Share & Reflect (5 min):
4. "How was the lamb 'passed over' during the last plague?" (Exodus 12:13)
5. "What does it mean for Jesus to be the 'true Passover Lamb'?" (1 Corinthians 5:7)
6. "How can we 'pass over' sin in our own lives, like the Israelites did with blood?" (Think about confession or repentance!)

Activity 2:

Kids collaborate to build a chain of lambs and baskets, symbolizing how God saved His people by protecting them with blood and providing freedom. Ends with a personal application question.

1. Set Up (3 min): Divide students into small groups (3, 4). Explain that each square represents a stage of the Passover story, the lamb, the blood, the eating, the freedom.
2. Create the Chain (5 min):
3. Lamb square: Draw a lamb, write "First Lamb" on it.
4. Blood square: Draw a cup or bowl, write "Blood of God" (symbolizing protection).
5. Eating square: Draw a meal, write "Feast with God."
6. Glue squares together in order, then decorate with markers.
7. Discuss Together (5 min):
8. "Why was the blood so important?" (It marked the doorposts, Exodus 12:13)

9. "How does this story connect to Jesus?" (He is our ultimate sacrifice, 1 Peter 1:19)
10. Personal Question: "What's one way you can 'pass over' sin today by trusting in God's love?"
11. Why These Work:
12. Shadow Lamb: Encourages creativity while tying to the physical act of blood (Exodus 12:13).
13. Chain Activity: Teaches sequencing and group discussion, ending with a reflective question to apply the lesson.
14. Both activities use minimal supplies, are interactive, and bridge biblical truth to personal faith!

Discussion Questions

- Here are four open-ended discussion questions for upper elementary students (ages 9, 11) about the Passover Lamb (Exodus 12), designed to encourage deeper reflection, personal application, and thoughtful conversation:
- 1. What Does It Mean to "Look Back" Like the Israelites Did?
- The Israelites looked back on the Passover Lamb as a reminder of God's protection. How do you think we can use stories like this today to remember what God has done for us? Have you ever had a moment when you felt God was protecting you, like He did for the Israelites when they were in Egypt? What was that moment like for you? Why do you think God wants us to remember these stories?
- (This question invites students to connect the historical event with their own lives, encouraging them to reflect on God's faithfulness in their experiences.)
- 2. Why Did the Israelites Have to Prepare the Passover Lamb at Night?
- The Bible says Moses told the Israelites to sacrifice the lamb at twilight. What do you think this night meant for them? Some scholars believe it was a time of darkness before the sunrise, like a "dark night of the soul" when they had to trust God more than anything else. How does trusting God in difficult times feel different from trusting in other things? Can you think of a time when you had to wait on God, and what did you learn about Him during that time?
- (This question encourages students to explore the deeper meaning of timing in God's plan and personal struggles, helping them see how faith grows in waiting.)
- 3. How Can We "Mark the Doorposts" Today?
- The Israelites painted the doorposts with blood to remind their families that they were God's chosen people. What are some ways we can mark our homes or hearts today to show we belong to God? Could it be through prayer, art, or even a special tradition? If you could create your own way of remembering God's love, what would it look like? Why do you think God wanted His people to have this special reminder?
- (This question invites creativity while connecting the story to practical, personal ways students can honor God.)
- 4. Why Did God Choose a Lamb to Save His People?
- The lamb was innocent and died for the Israelites, just like Jesus died for us. Why do you think God chose something so simple, a lamb, to show His love? Some people might think of something powerful or famous, but God chose something ordinary. How can we trust that God uses ordinary things (like a little lamb or a small group of believers) to accomplish big things? Have you ever felt small or unimportant, but God used you in a big way? What was that like?
- (This question helps students see the beauty in God's humility and encourages them to recognize their own place in God's plan.)
- These questions encourage students to explore the Passover story on multiple levels, historical, spiritual, and personal, while inviting them to think deeply about how God's love applies to their own lives. Would you like any adjustments to better fit a specific group or lesson focus?

Prayer Focus

Prayer Focus for Upper Elementary (Ages 9-11): "The Passover Lamb" Opening Prayer (Together as a Class): "Dear Heavenly Father, we come before You today like the Israelites did long ago. Just as they trusted You to lead them out of slavery, we trust You to be our Guide, our Protection, and our Savior. Help us remember that You never leave us alone, even when life feels heavy or scary. Thank You for the promise of freedom through Jesus, and for the way He became our Passover Lamb, taking away our sins. Amen." Reflecting on God's Promise: "Remember how God told Moses: 'I will pass over', not through Egypt, but over the people of Israel? (Exodus 12:13). The lamb's blood saved them because it showed the angel of death would 'pass over' their homes. How does it make you feel to know God chooses to protect His people? Why do you think He cared so much about this story? What other ways has God 'passed over' in your life, like when You protected us from hurt or helped us when we were afraid?" Personal Application: "Just like the Israelites had to prepare carefully (sacrificing the lamb, painting the doorposts), we need to prepare too. What does it mean to 'prepare' for God's protection today? Maybe it's trusting Him with a big test, standing up for what's right, or sharing Your love with someone who needs it. God didn't just give the command, He wants us to live it out! What's one way you'll 'paint your doorpost' this week with faith?" Closing Prayer (Group Response): "Lord, You are our Passover Lamb, the One who took away our sins so we could be free. Help us to live like the Israelites did, ready to trust You, even when the world feels dark. Give us courage to share Your love and to follow Your path, no matter where it leads. Thank You for being faithful. In Jesus' name, Amen." Why This Works: - Simple Language: Uses concrete images (blood, doorposts) kids can visualize. - Deeper Questions: Encourages reflection (e.g., "How has God 'passed over' you?"). - Action Step: Invites them to "practice" faith in small ways (trusting, sharing). - Emotional Connection: Ends on gratitude for Jesus' sacrifice.

>> Missions Spotlight

In many parts of North Africa and the Middle East, the concept of sacrificial lambs is deeply understood. Missionaries working among the Amazigh (Berber) people of Morocco use the Passover story as a bridge to explain Jesus as the Lamb of God.

-> To the Cross

The Passover lamb's blood on the doorposts saved the Israelites from death. Jesus is our Passover Lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7), His blood saves us from the death that our sin deserves. Every Passover pointed forward to the cross.