

Bible Point ▶

God is always with us and our families.

Bible Verse

“The Lord is always with me” (Acts 2:25a).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- talk about the people in their families,
 - care for pretend families,
 - hear how God took care of Moses and his family, and
 - thank God for caring for their families.

Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

- Moses' mother cares for him.

**Exodus
2:7-9**



The actions of Miriam and her mother that day were not only bold and courageous, they were the result of quick thinking by level heads under pressure. Although the story may suggest that Moses' mother and sister had concocted an elaborate plan to have the Egyptian princess discover the baby and then have Miriam approach her with her bold suggestion, it was only as events unfolded that Miriam saw an opportunity, took it, and watched things come together so advantageously. Their plans coincided with God's plans, but Moses' mother apparently believed all along that God would somehow protect Moses. Through the faith and actions of

Moses' mother, God allowed Moses to be spared. In addition, God allowed Moses' mother to serve as a wet nurse for Pharaoh's daughter.

Moses' parents were spared the agony of seeing their baby killed. This child was used by God to bring hope and salvation that no amount of evil could snuff out.

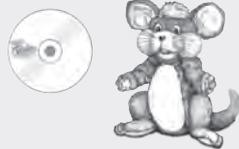
Prayer

- Read Isaiah 49:15.
- Are there children in your class who come from a less-than-ideal home life? How might you encourage them today about those who do care for them? How might you remind them that God loves them?
- Pray: God, your love is amazing—going beyond the love of even the best parents. Help the children I teach today realize that you are always with them and their families. In Jesus' name, amen.

Before the Lesson

- Collect the necessary items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed on the chart.
- Make photocopies of the “Today I Learned...” handout (at the end of this lesson) to send home with your children.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Welcome Time	Welcome! —Receive name tags, and be greeted by the teacher.	Basket name tags from Lesson 1	
Let's Get Started Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Option 1: Family Play —Play in pretend families, and hear how God cared for Moses' family.	Dress-up clothes, empty food and cereal boxes, plastic dishes, dolls	
	Option 2: Family Treats —Make treats to represent their families.	Teddy Grahams, frosting, graham cracker squares, spoon, napkins, paper plates, wet wipes	
	Option 3: Ball Babies —Make "ball babies," and hear that God was with baby Moses.	Plastic foam balls, permanent marker, paper towels, transparent tape	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they pick up toys and gather for Bible Story Time.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Setting the Stage —Take care of ball babies as they learn a rhyme about how God takes care of us and our families.	Ball babies from Option 3	
	Bible Song and Prayer Time —Sing a song, bring out the Bible, and pray together.	Bible, CD player	
	Hear and Tell the Bible Story —Listen to the story of how Moses' mother got to take care of him.	Bible, CD player, ball baby from Option 3	
	Do the Bible Story —Sing a song to review the Bible story.	Ball babies from Option 3, CD player	
Closing 	Family Camp —Hear how God took care of Whiskers' family on a camping trip.	CD player	
	Family Prayer —Do an action prayer to thank God for their families.	Family treats from Option 2, wet wipes, napkins	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: basket name tags made in Lesson 1

- Bend down and make eye contact with children as they arrive.
- Greet each child individually with an enthusiastic smile.
- Thank each child for coming to class today.
- As children arrive, ask them about last week's "Today I Learned..." discussion. Use questions such as "When was God with you this week?" and "How did God take care of baby Moses?"
- Say: **Today we're going to learn that ► God is always with us and our families.**
- Hand out the basket name tags children made during Lesson 1, and help the children attach the name tags to their clothing. If some of the name tags were damaged or if children weren't in class the first week, have them make new name tags using the photocopiable handout on page 22. You can find the directions for making the name tags on page 13.
- Direct children to the Let's Get Started activities you've set up.



It's important to say the Bible Point just as it's written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point over and over throughout the lesson will help kids remember it and apply it to their lives.

Let's Get Started

Set up one or more of the following activities for children to do as they arrive. After you greet each child, invite him or her to choose an activity.

Circulate among the children to offer help as needed and direct children's conversation toward the point of today's lesson. Ask questions such as "How many people are in your family?" or "What does your family like to do together?"

■ Option 1: Family Play

SUPPLIES: dress-up clothes, empty food and cereal boxes, plastic dishes, dolls

In a corner of the room, set out dress-up clothes, empty food and cereal boxes, plastic dishes and dolls. Invite children to dress up as different family members and pretend they're a family. Encourage children to pretend to eat a family meal, take a vacation, or care for a baby. As children play, explain that God took care of Moses and his family. Tell children that in today's Bible story, they'll hear how a princess asked Moses' mother to help take care of him.

■ Option 2: Family Treats

SUPPLIES: Teddy Grahams cookies, frosting, graham cracker squares, spoon, paper plates, napkins, wet wipes

Have the children clean their hands with the wet wipes before and after this activity. Put a graham cracker square and a spoonful of frosting on each plate, and give a plate to each child. Ask the children to count out one Teddy Grahams cookie for each member in their families. Then show children how to dip their teddy bears into the frosting on




BIBLE POINT

their plates and stick the teddy bears to the graham cracker squares. Each completed treat will represent a child's family. Let the children (or a classroom helper) make extra treats for those who don't choose this option. As children work, explain that **► God is always with us and our families.** Set the treats aside until the closing activity.

■ Option 3: Ball Babies

SUPPLIES: plastic foam balls, permanent marker, paper towels, transparent tape

Using plastic foam balls, prepare a "ball baby" for each child in your class. Use a permanent marker to draw eyes, a nose, and a mouth on each ball. Set out the balls, paper towels, and transparent tape. Show children how to wrap their "babies" with paper towel "blankets" and tape the blankets in place. Explain that God was with baby Moses and that Moses' mother got to take care of him.

When everyone has arrived and you're ready to move on to Bible Story Time, encourage the children to finish what they're doing and get ready to clean up.

■ Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



Lead children in singing "Come Along With Me" with the CD (track 2) to the tune of "Come and Go With Me." Encourage children to sing along as they help clean up the room.


SING

**Come along with me and pick up all our things,
Pick up all our things,
Pick up all our things.
Come along with me and pick up all our things
So our room will be clean.**

(Repeat 2x.)

Bible Story Time

■ Setting the Stage

SUPPLIES: ball babies made in Option 3

Tell children you'll clap three times to get their attention. Explain that when you clap three times, the children are to stop what they're doing and raise their hands. Encourage children to respond quickly so you'll have time for all the fun activities you've planned.

Gather children around you, and ask:

- **What did you make or do when you came to our class today?** (Pretended we were a family; made family treats; made a ball baby.)

Say: **Some of you pretended you were a family. If you played as if you were**

teacher tips

If you don't choose Option 2, bring in a special treat for children to enjoy during the "Family Prayer" activity. Make sure to check for any allergies the children might have.

teacher tips

If you don't choose Option 3, have a helper make a ball baby for each child in class. Children will use the ball babies throughout the lesson.

a family, stand up, take a bow, and then sit down. Pause. Some of you made treats to remind us of families. If you helped make treats, rub your tummy and say, "Yummy, yummy, in my tummy!" Pause. Some of you wrapped up ball babies. If you made a ball baby, pretend to rock a baby in your arms.

You were all learning important things about today's Bible story. Today we're learning that ► ***God is always with us and our families.***

Distribute the ball babies, and say: **These are special ball babies. Show me how gently you can rock and cuddle them.**

Ask: • **What kind of special care do babies need?** (They have to eat special food; they wear diapers; they need people to put on their pajamas and put them to bed.)

Say: **God puts babies in families who will love them and take care of them. When you were tiny babies, your parents fed you, gave you baths, and helped you learn to walk and talk! Just as your families were with you, God is always with us. Let's learn a rhyme about our families.**

Lead children in the following finger play. Encourage them to use their ball babies in the motions.

When you were a tiny baby (*rock ball baby*),
You'd wiggle and giggle and coo. (*Wiggle happily.*)
And God gave you a family (*hold ball baby up to show others*)
To take good care of you. (*Gently hug ball baby.*)

God was always watching (*shield eyes with hand*)
As you grew and grew. (*Lift ball baby higher and higher.*)
Today God still is with you (*gently hug ball baby*)
And with your family, too. (*Lay ball baby down, and stretch arms out wide.*)

Repeat the rhyme twice. Then collect the ball babies, and put them away. Say: **God gave each of us a family to take care of us. No matter what our families look like, ► *God is always with us and our families.* Today we'll learn how God was with baby Moses and his family, too. Let's get ready to hear what happened when the princess discovered baby Moses in a basket in the river!**



At this age, preschoolers often have lots of energy. They walk and run with confidence. They can draw recognizable shapes and can work simple puzzles.



■ Bible Song and Prayer Time

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



tracks 3 & 4

Say: **Now it's time to choose a Bible person to bring me the Bible marked with today's Bible story. As we sing our Bible song, we'll pass around our special Bible. The person who's holding the Bible when the music stops will be our Bible person today.**

Lead children in singing "I'm So Glad for the Bible" with the CD (track 3) to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp." As you sing, pass around the special Bible.



**I'm so glad for the Bible.
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
I'm so glad for God's book today.
I'm so glad for the Bible.
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'—
Keep me learnin' all about his way.**

**Let me hear 'bout God's love—
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
Let me hear 'bout God's love for me.
Let me hear 'bout God's love—
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
Let's shine the light for all to see.**

(Repeat first verse.)

When the music stops, invite the child who's holding the Bible to bring it to you. Stamp the child's hand with the *basket stamp*, and thank him or her for bringing you the Bible. Then stamp the other children's hands. As they come up to you to get their hands stamped, take time to show them the Bible and explain to them that the Bible is God's Word for them.

Say: **I'm thankful for [name of child who brought the Bible], and I'm thankful for everyone in our class today. Let's thank God together for all our friends in this class.**

Lead children in singing "I'm So Glad We're Together" with the *CD* (track 4) to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp."



**I'm so glad we're together:
Keep us prayin', prayin', prayin'.
I'm so glad we're all here today.
I'm so glad we're together:
Keep us prayin', prayin', prayin'—
Prayin' for each other every day.**

Lead children in folding their hands and bowing their heads as you continue to sing.

**Thank you, Lord, for each one.
Keep me thankful, thankful, thankful.
Thank you for everyone who's here.
Thank you, Lord, for each one.
Keep me thankful, thankful, thankful—
Thankful for our friends both far and near.**

**teacher
tips**

You can also choose children to be the Bible-Replacer (to put the Bible away) and the Cheerleader (someone who can encourage everyone to take part in the lesson). Just be sure to keep track of who fills your roles each week so each child gets a chance to feel special.

**teacher
tips**

Make sure to return Learning Lab items back to the box when you're done using them so they can be used in future lessons!

■ Hear and Tell the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, ball baby made in Option 3, CD player



Bring out the *Learning Mat: Baby Moses*. Have children gather around you. Open your Bible to **Exodus 1:22–2:10**, and show the passage to the children. Say: **Our Bible story comes from the book of Exodus in the Bible. Our Learning Mat shows us pictures of our Bible story.**

Hold up a ball baby, and ask:

- **What baby did we learn about last week?** (Moses.)
- **What happened when Moses' mother put him in a basket?** (He floated down the river; his sister watched him; the princess found him.)
- **How did God take care of baby Moses?** (God watched over him and kept him safe; God helped a princess find him.)

Say: **Today as we listen to our story, you'll hear some special sounds. Each sound will go along with a picture on our Learning Mat. When you hear a sound, point to the picture it goes with.**

Play the "Moses' Mommy" segment from the CD (track 7). After each sound effect, encourage the children to point to the appropriate pictures on the *Learning Mat*.

When the segment ends, turn off the CD, and ask:

- **What happened when the princess found the baby?** (She wanted someone to take care of him; she felt sorry for him.)
- **Why was Moses' mother happy at the end of the story?** (Because she got to take care of the baby; because her baby was safe.)
- **How did God take care of Moses' family?** (God kept them together; God sent a nice princess.)

Say: **God was with Moses and his family. God knew Moses' mother wanted to take care of her baby, and she got to! Just as God was with Moses, ►God is always with us and our families. He watches over us and takes care of us. Let's sing a song to help us remember how God was with Moses and his family.**

This Bible story is featured in the new *My First Hands-On Bible™*. Order several now for your ministry at group.com.



■ Do the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: ball babies made in Option 3, CD player



Say: ►**God is always with us and our families. We've been learning about what happened to baby Moses and how God was with him. As we sing this song, we'll do some motions to remind us how God was with Moses' family, too.**

Distribute the ball babies, and lead children in singing "Baby Moses" with the CD (track 8) to the tune of "Ten Little Indians."



Mother put Moses in the basket. (Pretend to place babies in baskets.)
Mother put Moses in the basket. (Pretend to place babies in baskets.)
Mother put Moses in the basket (pretend to place babies in baskets)
And put it in the water. (Wave goodbye.)



Moses floated down the Nile. (*Move babies from left to right.*)

Moses floated down the Nile. (*Move babies from left to right.*)

Moses floated down the Nile (*move babies from left to right*)

In his basket boat. (*Rock babies.*)

The princess pulled the basket out. (*Stoop and lift babies up.*)

The princess pulled the basket out. (*Stoop and lift babies up.*)

The princess pulled the basket out (*stoop and lift babies up*),

And there was little Moses. (*Hug babies.*)

When the song ends, turn off the CD, and collect the ball babies.

Ask: • **How did God keep baby Moses safe?** (He let a princess find the baby; he made sure no mean soldiers found baby Moses.)

• **How does God watch over you and your family?** (He keeps us safe; he gives us food and clothes.)

• **What's it like to know that God is always with you and your family?** (Good; safe; happy.)



BIBLE POINT ▶

Say: ▶ ***God is always with us and our families. Because God loves you, he watches over you and cares for you, just as he did for baby Moses and his family. Before we catch up with our friend Whiskers, let's say our Bible verse. Are you ready? ▶ "The Lord is always with me" (Acts 2:25a). Pause. All right! I wonder if our friend Whiskers knows that God watches over his family, too. Let's find Whiskers and tell him. Whiskers! Whiskers!***

BIBLE VERSE ▶

Closing

■ Family Camp

SUPPLIES: CD player



Bring out Whiskers the Mouse, and go through the following puppet script. When you finish the script, put Whiskers away and out of sight.



Whiskers: (*Singing*) Hi-ho, a-cheerio, a-camping we will go!

Teacher: Did you say camping? That sounds fun!

Whiskers: It *was* fun! My family and I went camping in the mountains. We slept in sleeping bags, roasted cheese over an open fire, and even played Hide-and-Seek in the forest! It was cool!

Teacher: God sure gave you a great family to go camping with!

Whiskers: I had fun with my family. We went hiking by a lake and saw a real, live frog. It said "Ribbit!" I got so scared I almost fell into the water!



Teacher: That must have been scary.

Whiskers: It was! But not as scary as when our tent blew over in the storm.

Teacher: That's *really* scary.

Whiskers: But do you know what? When the tent blew over, I reminded everyone that God is always with us when we're scared.

Teacher: Whiskers, I'm proud that you remembered what we learned last week. This week we've been learning that ► *God is always with us and our families*. Children, who can tell Whiskers how God was with Moses and his family? *(Allow children to tell Whiskers how Moses' mother got to take care of him for the princess.)*

Whiskers: That's neat! I'll bet Moses' mother liked taking care of him. God was with Moses' family just like he was with my family on our camping trip.

Teacher: You're right, Whiskers. God is with you and your family all the time.

Whiskers: I think there's a song about how the Lord is always with me. Can we sing it now?

(Remind the children of the song they learned in Lesson 1: "God Is With Me" (Acts 2:25a). Lead the children in singing the song to the tune of "Frère Jacques" with the CD (track 5). Encourage them to do the motions as they sing. Make sure Whiskers does the motions as well.)



SING

God is with me. *(Point upward; then point at self.)*

God is with me *(point upward; then point at self)*

All the time *(turn around in place),*

Rain or shine. *(Wiggle fingers; then hold arms in an overhead circle.)*

God is always with me. *(Point upward; then point at self.)*

God is always with me *(point upward; then point at self),*

And I'm fine *(take a bow),*

And I'm fine. *(Take a bow.)*

(Repeat.)

Whiskers: Well, that was great *(yawning and stretching)*. I have to go take a nap now. I'm tired from all my adventures. *(Yawns as he leaves.)*

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Say: **When Whiskers' tent blew over, he wasn't scared because he knew God is always with his family. He knew that no matter what happened, Jesus would stay by his side. Jesus is our friend, too, and he wants us to remember that he is always with us.**

■ Family Prayer

SUPPLIES: family treats made in Option 2, napkins, wet wipes

Have the children clean their hands with the wet wipes. Distribute the family treats made in Option 2. If you didn't choose Option 2, provide another treat. Have children set the snacks in front of them.

Say: **It's good to know that ► God is always with us and our families. God loves each person in your family...and your family...and your family...**(point to each child in the class). **Before we enjoy these snacks, let's pray and thank God for our families.**

Lead children in the following action prayer.

Our God who lives in heaven above (*point to heaven*),
Thank you for giving us families to love! (*Cross arms over chest.*)
Moms and dads and sisters and brothers (*hold up fingers one at a time*),
Uncles, aunts, cousins, and all the others! (*Stretch arms wide.*)
Thanks for our families, once again. (*Hug yourself.*)
In Jesus' name we pray, amen. (*Fold hands.*)

As children enjoy their treats, encourage them to tell about the people in their families.



See page 5.

Growing closer to Jesus extends beyond the classroom.

Photocopy the "Today I Learned..." handout (at the end of this lesson) for this week, and send it home with the children. Encourage parents to use the handout to plan meaningful family activities to reinforce this week's topic.





For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ **Lively Learning: Rockin' Relay**

Form two groups, and have them line up at opposite ends of the room. Give the first person in Group 1 a ball baby from Option 3. Have the first child rock the baby while tiptoeing across the room. Then ask the child to hand the baby to the first person in Group 2. Have group members continue passing the baby back and forth until everyone has had a turn. Remind children that just as they watched over the ball baby, Moses' family watched over him. Explain that God was with Moses and his family all the time.

■ **Make to Take: A Family Basket**



Before class, cut heart-shaped pockets from the bottom corners of business-sized envelopes. Punch holes one-half inch from both edges of the heart. You'll need one heart for each child.

Set out the hearts, 8-inch lengths of ribbon, crayons, and index cards. Help children thread the ribbon through the holes and tie knots in the ends of the ribbon to make handles. Then invite children to draw pictures of their families on the index cards and put the drawings in their heart "baskets." Remind children that Moses' mother put him in a basket and God kept him safe. Explain that just as God watched over Moses and his family ► God is always with us and our families.

■ **Treat to Eat: Apple Babies**

Set out thin apple slices, small tortillas (cut in half), and napkins. Ask children to clean their hands with wet wipes. Then let each child wrap tortilla around an apple slice to look like a baby wrapped in a blanket. You could also use spreadable cream cheese to hold the tortillas together. Explain that Moses' mother wrapped him up and cared for him. Remind children that ► God is always with us and our families.



■ **Story Picture: Moses' Mother Cares for Him**

Give each child a copy of the "Today I Learned..." handout. Set out crayons, and let children color their handouts. Then help them share metallic crayons or colored pencils to make the princess' crown shiny. Explain that the princess wanted Moses' mother to take care of him until he was old enough to live in the palace.

Today i learned..

God is always with us and our families.

Lesson 3
Today your child learned that **GOD IS ALWAYS WITH US AND OUR FAMILIES.** Children heard how God made a way for Moses' mother to take care of Moses. They talked about the special people in their families and how God is with them.

Help me learn this:

"The Lord is always with me" (Acts 2:25a).

Ask me:

- Who took care of baby Moses?
- Who takes care of you in our family?
- When is God with our family?

Family Fun

■ Lead your child in the following rhyme:

When you were a tiny baby,
You'd wiggle and giggle and cool!
And God gave you a family
To take good care of you.
And God was right beside you
As you grew and grew.
Today God still is with you
And with your family, too.

Moses' Mother Takes Care of Him (Exodus 2:7-9)

