



Unit 1: Lifeline

Faith Focus: God rescues us.

The LORD is my strength and my power; he has become my salvation. (Exodus 15:2)

SESSION 2

GROW IN FAITH

God Appears to Moses—Exodus 2:11–3:22

In this story, God calls Moses in a dramatic way, by speaking from a burning bush. Moses is surprised by the amazing sight. He is even more surprised that God is choosing him. After God speaks to Moses, Moses begins making excuses. “Who am I?” Moses asks God. After all, Moses fled Egypt because he had killed an Egyptian. But there is no doubt this call is meant for Moses—the voice from the burning bush has called him by name. To reassure Moses, God promises him he will not be alone. Out of the flames of the bush comes a reassuring promise, “I’ll be with you.” God’s call is one of promise and protection. God chooses him for an important job. With God’s help, Moses will rescue God’s people.

- Explore amazing/surprising sights to see.
- Learn about names.
- Share reassurance of God’s presence.

SUPPLIES

crayons

glue

red, orange, and yellow
tissue paper

CEB Bible storybook

TV and DVD player or
streaming device

sticky notes

pencils

binoculars

magnifying glass

paper plates

graham crackers

marshmallows

chocolate squares

microwave

printed picture or video
of a campfire

SESSION OUTLINE

COME TOGETHER

Prepare to Learn

Faith Focus—God Rescues Us

The Burning Bush (Art)

FAITH CONNECTIONS

Read the Story

Big Faith Video

Faith Response

FUN WITH FAITH

God All Around Us (Science)

Burning Bush S’mores (Snack)

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Big Faith Idea—Faith in God

COME TOGETHER

Prepare to Learn

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, Activity Sheets, Activity Stickers

Prepare Ahead: Set up your area with the supplies and activity pages needed for today's session. Display the Unit 1 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 10 & 15), Unit 1 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 2 & 23), and Unit 1 Faith Response Poster (Class Pack—pp. 11 & 14) to use later in the session.

- As children arrive, invite them to join you in a circle.
- Give each child a copy of the "Fall Sticker Page" (Activity Sheets—p. 29) and their own set of Activity Stickers. Have children place the burning bush sticker on the Session 2 space.

SAY: This month we are hearing stories about how God rescues God's people.

ASK: What does it mean to rescue someone?

Faith Focus—God Rescues Us

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, crayons

Prepare Ahead: Display the Unit 1 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 2 & 23). Photocopy "God Speaks to Moses" (Leader Guide—p. 22) for each child.

- Give each child a copy of the "God Speaks to Moses" coloring page.

SAY: God rescues us in lots of ways. Sometimes God helps us know what to do next by giving us a special message.

ASK: Who do you think God gives special messages to? How might God share important messages?

- Encourage children to color the page.

SAY: In our Bible story today, we will hear how God showed up to Moses in the form of fire burning a bush. But the bush did not burn up!

The Burning Bush

Supplies: Activity Sheets; red, orange, and yellow tissue paper; glue

Prepare Ahead: Tear out "The Burning Bush" (Session 2 Activity Sheet) for each child. Tear or cut tissue paper into small pieces.

SAY: God appeared to Moses with a special message for him. God got Moses' attention by speaking to him from a burning bush.

- Give each child an activity sheet and several pieces of tissue paper in red, orange, and yellow.

- Show the children how to scrunch up the tissue paper and glue it on to the burning bush using a small dot of glue. Allow children to add as many tissue paper flames as they would like.

SAY: When Moses saw the burning bush, he was surprised. He stopped and listened to the special message God had for him.

FAITH CONNECTIONS

Read the Story

Supplies: CEB Bible storybook

- Invite the children to join you in a circle.
- Read the story of Moses and the burning bush (Exodus 2:11–3:22) from your favorite CEB Bible storybook.

SAY: Moses was out in the wilderness shepherding his sheep when God appeared to him. Sometimes God shows up and surprises us!

ASK: How do you think Moses felt when he heard God in the burning bush? What do you imagine the voice of God sounded like to Moses?

Big Faith Video

Supplies: Big Faith DVD, TV, DVD player or streaming device

- Watch the Session 2 video on the Big Faith DVD or via your Amplify Media subscription.
- Share the questions on the screen with the children. You may also choose to add your own questions. Give children time to share their responses and ideas.

ASK: What was your favorite part of the video?

Faith Response

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, sticky notes, pencils

Prepare Ahead: Display the Unit 1 Faith Response Poster (Class Pack—pp. 11 & 14) and Unit 1 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 10 & 15) if you haven't already.

- Invite children to wonder about the images on the posters.
- Encourage children to say the Bible verse with you.

SAY: God is with us all the time. God rescues us and helps us.

ASK: What does it feel like to know God is with you all the time?

SAY: When God appeared to Moses in the burning bush, God had a special message to tell Moses. God had rescued Moses, so now it was Moses' turn to rescue God's people.

- Lay the Faith Response Poster on the floor or a table and invite the children to gather around it.
- Give each child a sticky note. Encourage each child to draw or write the name of someone who helps others on the sticky note.

ASK: How do the people you drew help others?

- As they share, invite children to place their sticky notes on the poster.

FUN WITH FAITH

God All Around Us

Supplies: *binoculars, magnifying glasses*

SAY: When God showed up to Moses in the burning bush, God wanted Moses to know that God was always with Moses. God appeared to Moses in nature!

ASK: Where do you think God would appear to you in nature?

- If your location and weather allow, take children outside. Invite them to use binoculars and magnifying glasses to explore nature.
- Alternatively, play "I Spy" to encourage children to carefully observe the world around them.
- After exploring for 10-15 minutes, gather children back indoors in a circle.

ASK: Where did you see God in nature? Where else might you want to look for God?

SAY: God is amazing. God created everything, so we can find God in all places. We can be like Moses and pay attention to God.

Burning Bush S'mores

Supplies: *paper plates, graham crackers, marshmallows, chocolate squares, microwave, printed picture or video of a campfire, device to play video (optional)*

Prepare Ahead: *Print out a picture of a campfire or find a video of a campfire to play on a device.*

- Place the picture or video of a campfire in the middle of your space.
- Have children wash their hands. Then gather the children into a circle around your campfire.

ASK: What do people use fire for? What does fire do?

ASK: How can we be safe around fire?

SAY: We can be careful around fire so that we are safe. We can also use the power of fire to create something yummy to eat.

- Place the s'more ingredients in the middle of your circle. Give each child a paper plate. One by one, call the children up to get the ingredients and assemble their s'mores.
- Cook the s'mores by microwaving them for 10-15 seconds.
- Say a brief prayer of thanks for the snack, then eat together.

Tips: Always check for allergies in your group before serving a snack. You may need extra helpers to assist with this activity snack.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Big Faith Idea—Faith in God

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack

Prepare Ahead: Display the Fall Big Faith Idea Poster (Class Pack—pp. 4 & 21).

Photocopy the Unit 1 Family Faith Letter (Leader Guide—pp. 91–92) as needed. Use the “ASL Instructions for ‘Fire’” page (Leader Guide—p. 89) to practice the sign for “fire” so you can teach it to the children.

- Show children the Big Faith Idea Poster.

SAY: God loves us all the time. When we need help, God reminds us that God is present with us.

ASK: How was God present with Moses in our story today?

SAY: We also learned about how God appears in nature.

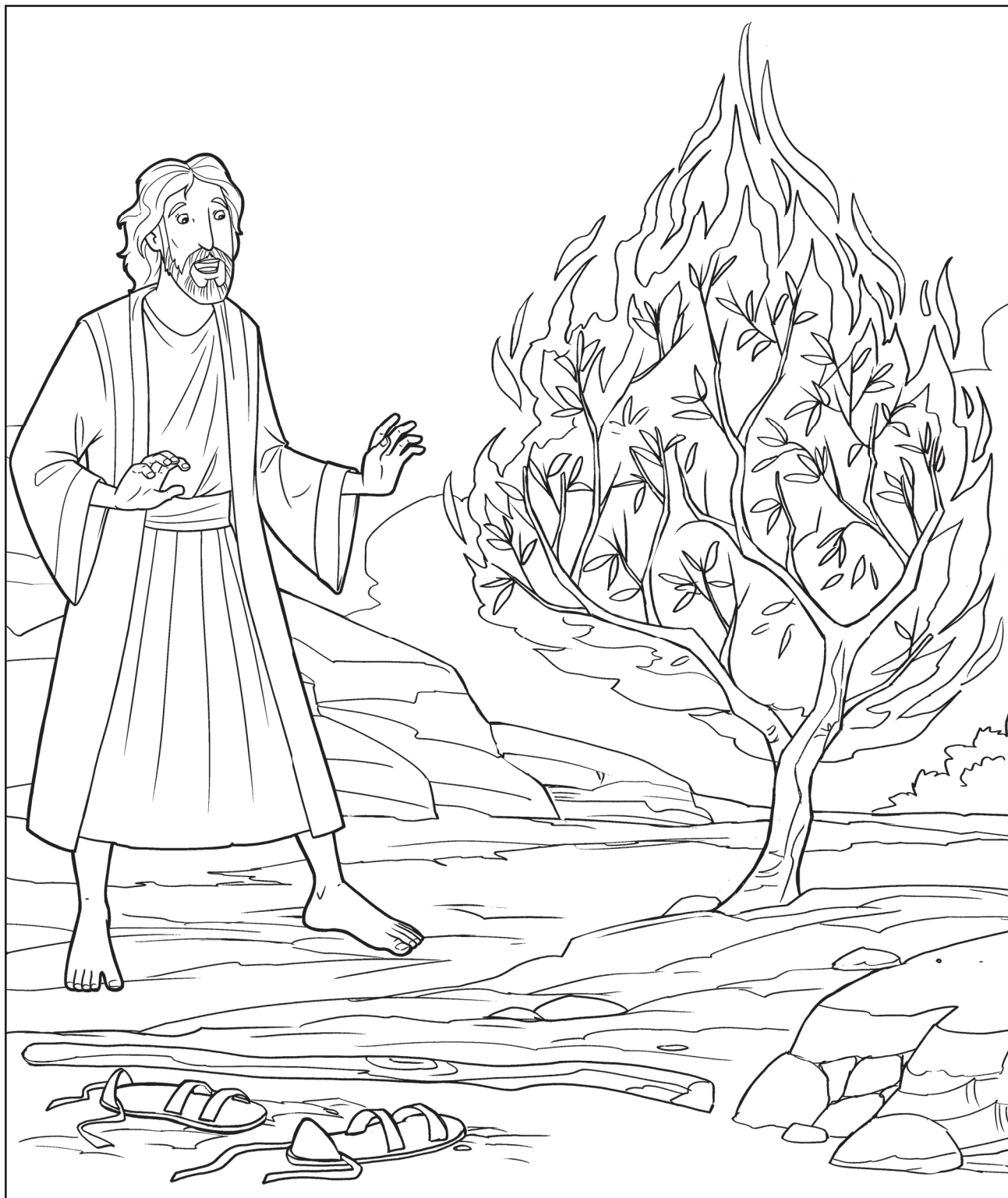
ASK: How will you pay attention to God?

- Show children the ASL sign for fire and have them practice making the sign together.

PRAY: Let's pray together. Repeat after me: “Amazing God, when we need to hear your voice, remind us of your love. Help us pay attention to all the ways you love us. Amen.”

- Send the Family Faith Letter and activity home with each child who hasn't received them. Also send home any activities or items made during today's session.

Color the page to show the burning bush that God used to appear to Moses.



Art: Omar Aranda/Gwen Walters Artists' Representative