

May 3, 2020 PreK

Bible Passage: Moses' Farewell / Deuteronomy 31–34

Story Point: Moses reminded the people of God's promise.

Key Passage/Memory Verse: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5 ESV

Big Picture Question: What does it mean to sin? To sin is to go against God and His commands.

Christ Connection: *Moses was a good leader for God's people. No one else was like Moses—until Jesus came. The Bible says Jesus is greater than Moses. He alone is our perfect leader. Jesus died and came back to life so that Moses and every believer can enter the promised land of God's kingdom.*

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* BIBLE STUDY TIPS FOR PARENTS:

Decades had passed since God used Moses to rescue the Israelites from slavery and lead them toward the promised land. The Israelites had not trusted God then and had refused to enter the land.

After 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, the Israelites were once again at the edge of the promised land. But this time, it was a whole new generation of Israelites—many of whom had not even been born when the people left Egypt and came to this land the first time. Their leader, Moses, was 120 years old.

Moses wrote the Book of Deuteronomy to tell the people all that God had done for them and to repeat the laws and instructions that God had given His people. At the end of the book, God told Moses that Moses would soon die, never setting foot in the promised land because of his disobedience. (See Num. 20:12.) Instead, God chose Joshua to lead Israel into the land.

God also revealed to Moses that even though Israel had just endured 40 years of punishment for not trusting Him, the people would abandon God again. Having the laws written out would not be enough to keep the Israelites from breaking their covenant with God. Moses emphasized that obedience would lead to blessing and life, but disobedience would lead to curses—namely, exile from the land.

Moses went up to a mountain where he could see the land that God had promised to give to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Then Moses died there.

Moses wasn't perfect, but he was a good leader for God's people. No other prophet in Israel was like Moses—until Jesus came. The Bible says Jesus deserves more glory than Moses. Jesus died and was raised so that Moses and every believer in all of time can enter the promised land of God's kingdom.

*** BIBLE STORY:**

Turn to Deuteronomy 31–34 with the help of your preschooler.

Say • The Bible is the most important book. God talks to us by using His words in the Bible. Everything God says is true. Our Bible story is from Deuteronomy, the fifth book of the Bible.

Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

Moses' Farewell: Deuteronomy 31–34

Moses was very old. He **knew he would not go into the promised land, so he gave the Israelites an important message.** Moses said, "The Lord will lead you. He will overpower your enemies. And Joshua will be your leader." Then **Moses said, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid. God will be with you, and He will not leave you."**

Moses wrote down God's law and gave it to the priests. He told the priests to read the law to the people every seven years. This way, the people would listen, obey the law, and teach the law to their children. The priests put the law with the ark of the covenant.

God told Moses and Joshua to go to the tabernacle. **The Lord made Joshua the Israelites' new leader. "Be strong and courageous," God said to Joshua. "You will bring the Israelites into the promised land, and I will be with you."**

God told Moses to write down a song and teach it to the people. The song was a warning: If you disobey God, bad things will happen. Moses wrote down the song and **read it to the Israelites** so they would remember God's words. **Moses said, "These words are your life."**

Finally, Moses blessed the people. "How happy are you, Israel!" Moses said. "Who is like you? The Lord has saved you. He protects you and fights for you. Your enemies will be afraid, and you will win against them."

Moses went up to the top of a mountain where he could look across the Jordan River and see the promised land. Moses died there, and the Israelites cried. Then they turned to Joshua, their new leader. Joshua would take them into the land God promised.

***Christ Connection:* Moses was a good leader for God's people. No one else was like Moses—until Jesus came. The Bible says Jesus is greater than Moses. He alone is our perfect leader. Jesus died and came back to life so that Moses and every believer can enter the promised land of God's kingdom.**

SAY • Moses reminded the people of God's promise. Moses had led God's people out of slavery in Egypt. He was the leader that the Israelites needed while they were in the wilderness. Moses was great, but the Bible says Jesus is greater. Jesus died and came back to life so that Moses and every believer can enter the promised land of God's kingdom.

KEY PASSAGE

Key Passage: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5 ESV

MOVEMENTS:

Trust in: arms crossed over chest

The Lord: point up

With all your heart: make a heart with hands

And do not lean: start with hands crossed in the middle and then push out

On your own understanding: point to head with both fingers

Proverbs 3:5: Open and close book with hands

*** PRAYER**

*** ACTIVITY:**

ACTIVITY PAGE:

Give an activity page and a marker or crayon to a child. Invite your child to look at the first picture, and then circle the seven differences in the second picture.

Say • What differences did you see in the pictures? In the first picture, Moses is speaking to the people. In the second picture, Joshua is speaking to the people. We heard how Joshua became the next leader of Israel after Moses in today's Bible story.

MAKE A MUSICAL SHAKER

Supplies: two cups + duct tape or a water bottle, grains like rice or some gravel, spoons, funnel, stickers, markers/paint

Invite children to spoon grains/rocks into a cup/water bottle.

If using the cups place a second cup upside-down on top of each cup with rims touching.

Affix the two cups together with duct tape to create a shaker.

Show a child how to add stickers or cut strips of decorative tape to personalize his/her shaker. Play a song from the eTown playlist. <https://vimeo.com/showcase/6209295>

Encourage a child to keep a steady beat with a shaker.

Say • God told Moses to write down a song and teach it to the people. Moses wrote down the song and read it to the Israelites so they would remember God's words. Moses wanted the people to obey God's commands and not sin against God. ***What does it mean to sin? To sin is to go against God and His commands.*** Later, God sent Jesus, our perfect leader. Jesus died and came back to life to forgive our sin.

KEY PASSAGE MOUNTAIN PUZZLE

Open your Bible. Show the Bible story picture poster. Read the key passage. Demonstrate how to trace the words in the key passage. Say the verse often. When a preschooler finishes tracing, help him cut his mountain into three or four segments to create a puzzle. Encourage child to assemble his puzzle. Store pieces in a ziplock bag.

Say • Moses wanted the people to trust God and obey Him, even when they did not understand what was happening. **Moses reminded the people of God's promise** to be with them. Moses, and later Joshua, were good leaders for the Israelites, but Jesus is our perfect leader. Everyone who trusts in Jesus will enter the promised land of God's kingdom.

REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- Who did Moses remind the people would be with them as they entered the land? (*God*)
- Who would lead the Israelites into the promised land? (*Joshua*)
- Why did Moses want the priests to read the law to the people every seven years? (*so they would obey the law and teach the law to their children*)
- What does it mean to sin? (*To sin is to go against God and His commands.*)