Moses Was Born and Called

Exodus 1–4

Joseph's family lived in Egypt for many years. The family grew bigger and bigger. **All the people in the family were called Israelites because they came from the family of** Jacob, who was called **Israel.**

After Joseph died, a new pharaoh, or **king, took over Egypt. The new king did not like the Israelites. He made them work very hard**, and he was afraid because there were so many of them. **The king ordered all of their baby boys to be killed.**

Around this time, a woman had a baby boy. She wanted him to live, so she hid him. When the baby was bigger, **she put him in a basket and set the basket at the edge of the river.** The baby's older sister, Miriam, stayed nearby to watch the basket.

Soon, the princess of Egypt went to the river to take a bath. She found the basket and the baby inside, and she felt sorry for the baby. The princess **wanted the baby to be her son. The princess named the baby Moses.**

When Moses grew up, he left Egypt and went to Midian. Moses **found a job as a shepherd, taking care of sheep.** He got married and had a family.

Back in Egypt, the king had died and **a new king took over.** But **the**

new king still made the Israelites work very hard. They cried out to God for help. God heard their cries**, and He planned to help them.

One day, Moses saw a bush on fire. The angel of the LORD was in the fire**, and the bush was not burning up. Suddenly, God called from the bush, "Moses! Moses!"**

"Here I am," Moses said.

God told Moses to take off his sandals. Then **God said, "My people are suffering. I want you to lead them out of Egypt** to a good land I have for them. First, lead them into the desert **so they can worship Me."**

"What if they ask for Your name? What should I tell them?" Moses asked.**

God said, "I AM WHO I AM. Tell them: I AM has sent me to you." God warned that Moses' job would not be easy. The king in Egypt would say no, but God promised that the king would one day let God's people go. **So Moses headed back to Egypt.**

Christ Connection: God saved Moses' life so Moses could grow up and save God's people from the Egyptian king. God used His Son, Jesus, to save people in an even better way. God sent Jesus to earth, and Jesus gave up His life to save us from our sin.

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Use props:** Show story-related objects as you tell the story. Use a baby doll, a basket, a stuffed or plastic sheep, branches from a bush, and a sandal.

- **Draw and follow:** Post three blank sheets of paper in different locations around the room. While telling the story, guide preschoolers to follow you. On one sheet of paper, draw water and a basket with a baby while talking about baby Moses. Move to the next sheet and draw a sheep while mentioning that when Moses was older, he was a shepherd and took care of sheep. Move to the next sheet and draw a bush and fire.