HELP! | WEEK 1 ELEMENTARY LESSON



THE BIG IDEA

God helps us when we're helpless.

THE BIBLE

Moses in a Basket: Exodus 1:22-2:10; (Matthew 18:18-20)

MUSIC | Can't Help But Praise!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play some songs that relate to this week's lesson. Here are a couple suggestions:
 - "Nothing Is Impossible"
 - o "Everywhere I Go"

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

SCRIPTURE | Exodus 1:22 - 2:10

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare the Pharaoh printable as a PowerPoint slide or printout. Any time you mention Pharaoh or read about it in the passage, flash the picture!
 - SPECIAL NEEDS HACK: Provide this week's coloring page for the kids to color while you tell the story. You can also provide them with their own action figures or pictures and have them follow along.
- Let's start in the Bible book of Exodus. Does anyone know where Exodus is in the Bible? That's right! The book right after Genesis.
- The story we are going to read today takes place in Egypt where there was a king called Pharaoh. Now, the Egyptians ruled over the Israelite people, who believed in God. The Israelites were slaves to the Egyptians.
 - Does anyone know what a slave is? Yes, they had no freedom and had to do
 everything they were told to do without getting paid for it. They worked nonstop
 under unfair and horrible conditions.
- But the Israelites were growing in numbers. There were so many Israelites that Pharaoh was afraid they'd take over. Let's continue to read the story in the Bible.
- INSTRUCTIONS: Pick a kid to read Read Exodus 1:22 out loud.



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- Pharaoh ordered to get rid of every little helpless baby boy. All of them. I'm sure that
 made all the Israelite parents feel scared and helpless. But let's keep reading and see
 how God shows up to help.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pair the older kids with younger kids to help them read Exodus 2:1-10.
- At the same time Pharaoh was getting rid of helpless babies, a mom gave birth to a baby boy. She loved him so much and she decided to hide him for three whole months!
- She did the only thing she could think of. She used a basket as a boat to send the baby down the river in hopes of someone finding him. She probably felt so sad and helpless, right? But that isn't the end of the story because God had another plan all along.
- Pharaoh's daughter noticed the baby in the basket and decided to take the baby as her own. Then, the baby's big sister, Miriam, asked Pharaoh's daughter if she could help by finding a woman to take care of the baby for her. Pharaoh's daughter said yes! This is how baby Moses was reunited with his mom! God helped baby Moses, his mom, and his sister. God helped them when they were feeling helpless and God helps us, too!

VIDEO | Help!, Episode 1

• INSTRUCTIONS: Play this week's teaching video.

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

ACTIVITY | Paper Basket

- **INSTRUCTIONS**: Pass out one paper basket printable to each kid. Fold the paper on the solid lines and cut on the dotted lines. Use tape to hold it together on each side.
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Pre-fold some baskets and help the kids tape them together.
- Think of something that might make you feel helpless. Maybe it's school work, learning a new skill, or when you disagree with someone. Write those down on the sticky notes.
- When Miriam placed Moses in the basket, she probably felt a lot like each of you —
 she felt helpless. But she trusted God and was able to find hope again! Now, put your
 sticky notes in your basket. You might feel helpless in these situations, but God is
 always ready to help.
- Does anyone remember what our Big Idea is again? That's right! God helps us when we are helpless!

MEMORY VERSE | Memory Moves

PRAYER

 Dear God, thank You for always being with each of us. Remind us when we are feeling helpless that You will always help us. Help us to remember we can always count on You in times of need.