

Lesson 9

Moses Sins

Theme: Obedience—Acknowledging consequences of sin



Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity: For younger students: *Moses Sins, Be Holy! Book 1*, page 22
For older students: *Sin Always has Consequences, Be Holy! Book 2*, page 23

Bible Facts: Take Time for Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Write the new memory verse on sentence strips and insert them in the pocket chart. The teacher introduces the new memory verse by reading it once from the Bible as the students listen. Have the students who can do so find the memory verse in their classroom Bibles. Help younger students find it. Read it aloud together from the Bibles. Using the strips in the pocket chart, talk briefly about the meaning of the memory verse, discussing Who, What, When, and Why.

Prayer

Lesson of the Day

Ideas for Telling the Story

1. For non-reading students, read Numbers 20:1-13. In the classroom Bibles, have reading students find and mark Numbers 20:1.
2. Ask the students to take the Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. To establish the setting for today's lesson, have one student use a pointer to show on a time line when the lesson events took place.
4. To further establish the setting, have several students point to various maps to show where today's lesson events took place.
5. Prepare a large rock. Cut a large piece of cardboard that will stand at least slightly taller than your students. If you're using a large box, you may cut it in a way that the "rock" will stand in a corner and have some depth. Crumple gray or brown bulletin board paper and cover the cardboard and complete the rock. Provide a rod for Moses.

From the It's Bible Time Bag, pull out a graphic of Moses hitting the rock. Read Numbers 20:8. Ask the students if they understand God's instructions to Moses. Have

the students repeat the instructions to be sure everyone understands them. Continue the story and tell of Moses' hitting the rock instead of speaking to it. Talk about Moses' anger and disobedience. Even good and great people make mistakes and sin. Discuss how Moses' and Aaron's actions did not honor God. Ask the students to move back to desks to read together all or part of Numbers 20:1-13.

6. Using the large rock and rod, have the students act out the story. Assign students to be the complaining Israelites, Moses, Aaron, and God.
7. Go around to each student and let them tell something that they remember or learned from listening to what Moses and Aaron did. Discuss the fact that punishment is not always immediate, but this doesn't mean that it won't happen.
8. See page 64 for reinforcement questions.

**Things to Get or Do
for Sunday Morning**

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Lesson 9

Moses Sins

Theme: Obedience—Acknowledging consequences of sin

Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity: For younger students: *Sin Always Has...*, *Be Holy! Book 1*, page 23
For older students: *How Well do You Follow Directions? Be Holy! Book 2*, page 22

Bible Facts: Take Time for Bible Facts

Memory Verse: The teacher and students read the Memory Verse aloud together from pocket chart. The teacher reads it a second time, having students say, “Stop!” when they hear an answer to Who, What, When, and Why in the Memory Verse.

Prayer**Starter**

Do you remember ever wanting something so much that you just kept asking for it over and over? Maybe you did this as recently as yesterday! We can think too much about what we want and keep talking about it to the point of annoying and frustrating people around us.

God’s people were this way with Moses in the Wilderness. They kept saying, “Moses, we want a drink.” “Moses, we want a drink.” “Moses, we want a drink.” God had given them a drink of water before, but it wasn’t long before they were saying, “Moses, we want a drink.” “Moses, we want a drink.” “Moses, we want a drink.”

We learn that needing water was not Israel’s worst problem. No, the people needed to trust God. The lesson in Numbers 20 is not simply about Moses striking a rock. The lesson is about trusting God—Israel trusting God; Moses and Aaron trusting God.

Briefly Review the Lesson**Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Story**

1. **Objective:** *Illustrate that anger can cause us to do what we normally do not do*

Make a punching bag out of a pillow case stuffed with newspaper. Tie the punching bag on a chair so that it hangs down the back side. Provide a big glove for a student to put on, calling it the Anger Glove. Provide a container and several flowers that when placed

in the container make an arrangement. Explain that when you read a scenario that displays the wrong attitude of anger out of control, the student punches the bag with the gloved hand two times. Have the students discuss a better reaction. Once they come up with one, the student chooses a flower and places it in the container. The student passes the glove to another student. The following scenarios are suggestions:

1. Charlie's parents told him to turn off his favorite TV show and clean his room. Charlie kicked his favorite toy and broke it.
2. Sheryl wanted an outfit at the mall, but her mom said they couldn't afford it right now. Sheryl said they would watch for the outfit to go on sale, and maybe they could buy it then.
3. Tony's dad said he would play football with Tony, but he was called to go into work. Tony called his dad a name and was grounded.
4. Charlie's parents told him to turn off his favorite TV show and clean his room. Charlie wasn't happy about this, but he did what his parents said anyway.
5. Sheryl wanted an outfit at the mall, but her mom said they couldn't afford it right now. Sheryl pouted and told her mom she wasn't nice like Katy's mom.
6. Julie was invited to a big party, but her parents wouldn't let her go because they knew that there wouldn't be enough adult supervision. Julie threatened to leave home if her parents didn't let her go.
7. John found a way to get free music over the Internet, though it is really illegal. His dad wouldn't allow him to do this, but John did it at a friend's house anyway.
8. Tony's dad said he would play football with Tony, but he was called to go in to work. Tony knew his father would play when he could, so he understood.

 2. **Objective: Illustrate that rewards for obeying God are not always visible or immediate**

Set up a series of requests for obedience with attached rewards. Make them progressively more difficult: *Receive 2 stickers for smiling; Receive 4 stickers for singing a song with the class; Receive 5 stickers for saying some memory work, etc.*

Constantly tell the students you can and will provide the stickers if they will obey, and give them opportunities to do so. Then promise a reward that is not visible to them at the moment: You will send a letter to their parents praising their work if they recite all their memory work for the quarter—Memory Verses, Bible Facts, Map Facts, etc. Ask if they trust you enough to obey, though the reward is not visible or immediate. Discuss the rewards the children of Israel received—water, food, clothes, etc. and the invisible rewards God promised for consistent obedience.

3. **Objective: Demonstrate the importance of obeying with our whole heart**

Have the students role play the people grumbling against Moses for water, God commanding Moses to speak to the rock, Moses angrily striking the rock, and God's response. Make applications for us today—we must trust God in our lives, we must listen to God and find out how He wants us to obey Him. We cannot treat God's commands lightly.

4. See page 64 for reinforcement questions.

**Things to Get or Do
for Wednesday Night**

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