



THE BURNING BUSH

BIBLE PASSAGE (EXODUS 3)

Summary: God's people were slaves in Egypt and were treated harshly. They called out for God to rescue them. Moses was tending sheep and saw a bush on fire, but it wasn't burning up. Speaking from the bush, God instructed Moses to go to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and demand that the Israelite people be released. When Moses asked whom he should say sent him, the Lord responded with, "I AM who I AM." God has always existed and always will. God rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt, just like He said He would.

Today's Brite Idea is: God will forever be God.



MONTHLY *Memory Verse*

*Jesus Christ is the
same yesterday and
today and forever.*

(HEBREWS 13:8)



BIG QUESTION

Does God ever change? No!



God lives
forever!



God is always
with us.



God is always
with me.

LEADER TRAINING: ATTENTIVENESS IS CARE

Preschoolers are small, curious and full of joyful energy. They explore, climb and wander ... often faster than we notice! Keeping our eyes on the room shows kids that we serve a God who has His eyes on them.

- **Vigilance is Care.** When we stay attentive, kids feel safe and valued. Every eye contact, leading with clear instruction, and setting boundaries communicated you value them.
- **Classroom Rules.** Setting clear expectations helps kids know what is to be expected of them in your space. Lead with care by setting classroom rules, such as listening to teachers, and keeping hands and feet to themselves.
- **Intentional Observation.** Scan the room, notice small details and be aware of each kid's location and needs. Your awareness reflects God's watchful care over His own.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: WHERE DID GOD COME FROM?

Kids are taught that everything has a beginning. Babies and puppies are born, chickens come from eggs and plants come from seeds. But where did God come from? This question is one of the most commonly asked by kids. As concrete thinkers, it is challenging for them to grasp that God has no beginning. In today's lesson, kids will learn that God is eternal. He has always existed and will exist forever. Emphasize that He has no beginning and He wasn't created. Point out that this is one of many ways that God is different from people and all His creation. Help kids understand that there are parts of God that we will never fully grasp with our human minds, and that's okay!

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Eternal: always existed and always will

Pharaoh: a great ruler

Plagues: a very bad thing that causes disaster

1

BELONG

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

NEVER-ENDING CHALLENGE

SUPPLIES: Hula Hoop

OR

I SPY

SUPPLIES: None

2

BIBLE TEACHING

Large Group (20 MINUTES)

THE BURNING BUSH

(EXODUS 3)

SUPPLIES: Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player

3

BELIEVE

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible

PARACHUTE MEMORY VERSE

SUPPLIES: Parachute, music player, Memory Verse Song, 2 red balloons

OR

PHARAOH, MAY I?

SUPPLIES: Painter's tape

4

BECOME

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to learn to follow Jesus by applying faith to their lives

GOD SAID "I AM"

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, brown paper bag (1 per kid), printable page, glue, battery-powered tealight candle (1 per kid), scissors (prep)

OR

PRAYER WALK

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies



NEVER-ENDING CHALLENGE

SUPPLIES:

Hula Hoop

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Provide extra support for kids with physical limitations. Allow kids with sensory sensitivities to only hold hands when needed.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can each of you tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather all the kids to stand in a circle and hold hands. Stand on the outside of the circle to help them with the activity.*
2. **Say:** We will see if we can pass this Hula Hoop through our entire circle!
3. *Have two kids let go of hands to place the Hula Hoop on one of their arms and then have those kids hold hands again.*
4. *Lead kids to move their arms, body, and legs through the Hula Hoop to pass it onto each kid.*
5. **Ask:** Does God ever change?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

That was so fun! You did such a great job passing the Hula Hoop. The Hula Hoop is the shape of a circle which never ends. It keeps going around and around. This is like how God is eternal; He will always be there. Let's learn more about how God will never change in today's Bible story.



I SPY

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can each of you tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids together and sit in a circle.*
2. **Say:** Let's play a game called "I Spy"! I'll give you a clue, and you can look around the room to guess what it is.
3. **Say:** I spy something ... *(name a color you see)!*
4. *Have kids look around and call out different guesses.*
5. *Repeat a few rounds with different colors or shapes.*
6. *Examples include:*
 - I spy something round!
 - I spy something tall!
 - I spy something soft!
7. **Ask:** Have you ever seen something amazing before?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Today in our Bible story, someone sees something amazing, too! A man named Moses sees something that's on fire, but it's not burning up! Let's get ready to learn more about it.

INTRO:

Play the Countdown Video and guide kids to sit together for large group teaching time.

WELCOME:

Say: Welcome! I am so glad you are here today, and I'm excited to learn about a true story from the Bible with you.

RECAP FROM *Last Week*

Say: We learned how Jacob had a dream about angels going up and down a ladder. God made the same promise to Jacob that He had made to Isaac and Abraham, Jacob's father and grandfather.

Show teaching image: Jacob's Dream.

Say: Last week we learned about how Joseph's brothers treated him badly. But God was with Joseph during all of the bad things and had a great plan for him.

Show teaching image: Joyful Reunion.

Say: Today we will learn a true story from the Bible about how God's people were having a very tough time and God told Moses to help them.

Say: Let's take a look at this month's Big Question. Can you help me do a drumroll? Ready?
One, two, three ... drumroll!

? BIG QUESTION

Show Big Question Teaching Image.

Say: Does God ever change? We will learn more about this in today's Bible story!

Play the "Find It in the Bible" song.

Hold up a Bible.

Say: Who can tell me the name of this book? *Allow kids to respond.*

Say: Yes! This book is called the Bible. The Bible is the most important book of all. The Bible is full of true stories about how God takes care of His people and loves them. Today we will hear a story from the Old Testament in the book of Exodus. The Old Testament is filled with lots of stories about God's creation, His people and the things that happened before Jesus came to Earth.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP:

Demonstrate the emotion faces for kids to follow along with the Bible story. Encourage engagement and interaction.



PLAY FIND IT IN THE
Bible Song

THE BURNING BUSH

(EXODUS 3)

Say: Today's story has ups and downs. There are lots of feelings! As we talk through it, I will ask you to make faces to match those feelings!

Say: Joseph's family grew to be very, very big—just like God had promised. God kept His promise! Let's make a very happy face.

Say: Joseph's family became known as the Israelites. A new king, called **Pharaoh**, ruled over Egypt. He didn't remember Joseph and how he had saved the people. **Pharaoh** was afraid of the Israelites because there were so many of them. Everyone make a scared face!

Say: Pharaoh made them slaves and forced them to work very hard. The Israelites were very sad. Everyone make a very sad face. They called out to God. They asked Him to save them. God heard their prayers.

Say: In another land outside Egypt, an Israelite named Moses was taking care of his sheep. Suddenly he saw something amazing. It was a burning bush.

Show teaching illustration: Moses and the Burning Bush

Say: But even though the bush was on fire, it didn't burn up. Make a surprised face!

Say: God called to Moses from the bush: "Moses! Moses!" "Here I am," Moses said.

Say: God said, "Do not come closer. Take off your sandals. This is holy ground."

Show teaching illustration: Moses Taking off His Sandals

Say: Then the Lord said, "I am the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob."

Say: The Lord had seen how sad the Israelites were. He promised to rescue them and give them a new land. This was the same land He had promised to Abraham! God was going to rescue them and keep His promises. Make a very happy face!

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Eternal: always existed and always will

Pharaoh: a great ruler

Plagues: a very bad thing that causes disaster

(CONTINUED)



Say: God told Moses to go to **Pharaoh** and tell him to let God's people leave Egypt. "Who ... me?" Moses asked. "Who am I? And when they ask who sent me, what should I say?" Can you make a confused face?

Say: "I AM who I AM," God said. God was saying He has always been God. He is God right now. And He always will be God. He is God forever! Moses went to talk to **Pharaoh**, just as God told him to do. Can you show a very brave face?

Say: **Pharaoh** didn't want the Israelites to go. But God sent great **plagues** on Egypt. These **plagues** included thousands of frogs, annoying gnats, strange darkness and the death of every firstborn male in Egypt. Eventually, **Pharaoh** told the Israelites, "Get out!" God had rescued Israel, just as He had promised. Show an excited face!



POINT TO JESUS

Say: God is forever God. Just like the Israelites were trapped in Egypt, we are trapped in our sin. We need a Rescuer. God's own Son, Jesus, is that Rescuer! He loves us forever!

Say: Let's close in prayer as we wrap up our Bible story time together. Reach your hands up really high.

Reach hands up high.

Say: Now clap them together like this.

Clap hands together.

Say: Let's pray.

Pray: Dear God, thank You that You will forever be God. You have always been there and always will be. Help us to remember You are always with us. Amen.



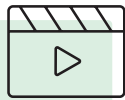
BIG QUESTION

Say: Now it's time to answer our Big Question. Can you all help me do a drumroll?
One, two, three ... drumroll!

Show the Big Question Teaching Image.

Say: Does God ever change? No!

Say: The Bible teaches us that God will never change. He will always be the same.



VERSE VIDEO

*Play Memory Verse
Motion Video after the
verse is read.*

MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS:

Help kids recite and retain the memory verse by teaching it with motions. Before you teach the verse, be sure to explain what it means.

- Jesus Christ (*point to the palms of your hands*)
- is the same (*clap your hands*)
- yesterday (*point backward*)
- and today (*point down*)
- and forever. (*point out*)
- Hebrews 13:8 (*open hands like a book*)



MONTHLY Memory Verse

*Jesus Christ is the
same yesterday and
today and forever.
(HEBREWS 13:8)*



REVIEW:

Say: It's been so great being with you today, friends! Before we end our teaching time, let's review what we have learned. Let's all point up really high and say, "God lives forever."

Have the kids point up and say, "God lives forever."

Say: Now let's reach our hands out to the side and say, "God is always with us."

Have kids reach out and say, "God is always with us."

Say: Now let's point to ourselves and say, "God is always with me."

Have kids point to themselves and say, "God is always with me."



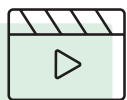
God lives forever!



God is always with us.



God is always with me.



* Consider showing the Bible Review Video as kids eat snack, are waiting for pick-up, or another time that fits your church's schedule.



PARACHUTE MEMORY VERSE

SUPPLIES:

Parachute, music player, Memory Verse Song, 2 red balloons

PREP:

Inflate the balloons.

LEADER TIP: If you don't have a parachute, use a large bedsheet instead.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: The music and parachute might be overstimulating for some kids. As an alternative, have them try to keep one balloon in the air on the side.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned God will forever be God. Moses saw a bush that was on fire, but it didn't burn up! God spoke to Moses from the bush.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Let's review and practice our memory verse by listening to our Memory Verse Song.
2. *Show the red balloons to the kids.*
3. **Say:** These red balloons represent fire. We will play the song and work together to keep the "fire" on the parachute.
4. *Lay out the parachute and have kids stand around it. Lead them to hold one of the handles or the edge of the parachute.*
5. *Play the Memory Verse Song and lead kids to lift the parachute up and down. Then lead them to walk in a circle while holding the parachute.*
6. *Play the song again and add the balloons for an additional challenge.*
7. **Ask:** Does God ever change?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Our memory verse says: *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever* (Hebrews 13:8). God never changes. He is always good and we can always trust in Him!



PHARAOH, MAY I?

SUPPLIES:

Painter's tape

PREP:

Make a starting line and a finish line with the painter's tape.

LEADER TIP: If you don't have a large space, use painter's tape and tape two lines on a table. Provide pom-poms for kid's "players" and play the game.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Modify steps for kids with physical limitations as needed (e.g., wheelchair users could ask how many "wheel rolls").

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned that God will forever be God. He spoke to Moses in a burning bush and told Moses to tell Pharaoh to let God's people go. Pharaoh may have thought he was in charge, but God is always working and always in control.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Let's play a game to help us remember our Bible story.
2. *Pick one kid to be "Pharaoh" and stand at the finish line.*
3. *Have the rest of the kids line up at the starting line.*
4. *Kids will ask Pharaoh how many steps they can take each turn. For example, a kid can ask, "Pharaoh, may I take three steps?" before taking their turn. If Pharaoh says "no," then have kids stay where they are.*
5. *Lead each kid to ask Pharaoh how many steps. If you have a large group, pair kids up into smaller teams to ask Pharaoh.*
6. *The kid who reaches Pharaoh first wins!*
7. *Pick another kid to be Pharaoh and repeat.*
8. **Say:** Pharaoh may have thought he was the most powerful person, but Pharaoh would not last forever. God is the greatest and most powerful, and He will be God forever.
9. **Ask:** What did Moses ask Pharaoh?

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God spoke to Moses and told him to tell Pharaoh to let God's people go. Pharaoh said no at first, but then he told Moses to take God's people out of Egypt. It might seem like Pharaoh was in charge, but God was really in charge. God never changes and is always faithful to keep His promises.



GOD SAID "I AM"

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, brown paper bag (1 per kid), printable page, glue, battery-powered tealight candle (1 per kid), scissors (prep)

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Print the printable page and cut out (1 bush per kid).

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Today we learned God spoke to Moses through a bush that was on fire, but it didn't burn up! Let's make our own burning bush to remind us of this Bible story and how God said, "I AM."
2. *Hand out a cutout printable page, coloring supplies and a brown paper bag to each kid.*
3. *Lead kids to color in the printable page and decorate their bag with coloring supplies.*
4. *Then help kids glue the printable page on the outside of the bag.*
5. *Place a battery-powered tealight candle inside each bag. Turn it on to show how it makes the "bush" look like it's burning.*
6. **Say:** God is always with us. When you're scared, you can turn on the light and remember that God is the great "I AM." He is God forever!
7. *Write each kid's name on their craft and set aside for parent pickup.*
8. **Say:** God is always with us. When you see this light in your craft, you can remember that God never changes and He's always with you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What did Moses see that was amazing?
- Who talked to Moses?
- What did God tell Moses to do?
- Does God ever change?



PRAY TOGETHER:

Dear God, thank You for being the same yesterday, today and forever. Thank You for speaking to Moses and for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.



PRAYER WALK

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid).

LEADER TIP: If you have limited space, gather kids together and roll a ball or pass a beanbag back and forth as you share prayer requests and do this activity.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** We can talk to God anytime. Let's go on a prayer walk and thank God for who He is.
2. *Gather kids together. Lead them around the space as you pray aloud together.*
3. *Thank God for who He is.*
4. **Sample prayer:** Dear God, thank You for never changing. You are so good, and you're with us always. I pray for (name each kid in your group) to know You and love You. Help them to trust in You. Thank You for Your faithfulness. Amen.
5. **Ask:** What does it mean that God is God forever? How does that make you feel?
6. *Ask the kids if they have any other prayer requests, and pray for them together.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What did Moses see that was amazing?
- Who talked to Moses?
- What did God tell Moses to do?
- Does God ever change?



PRAY TOGETHER:

Dear God, thank You for being the same yesterday, today and forever. Thank You for speaking to Moses and for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.

CENTERS:

Set up 3-4 centers around the room for kids to explore and learn as they play. While kids explore the centers, leaders can work with individuals or small groups to make the craft. Set up each center in a separate part of the room, making sure all kids are visible at all times. Show the whole group what is in each center and give simple instructions of what kids should do in each center.

- **Creation Station:** Fill a bin with pipe cleaners. Encourage kids to make a bush out of them. Share how God spoke to Moses from the burning bush.
- **Follow the Path:** Use painter's tape to make various lines on the floor, such as a straight line, a zig-zag and a dashed line. Have kids follow the lines as they remember God's people were set free and went toward a new land.
- **Building Blocks:** Lay out building blocks. Have kids build shoes out of them. Share how Moses took off his sandals when God spoke to him because he was standing on holy ground.

BONUS SCRIPT:

Preschoolers learn best through repetition. Use the script below to review the story at any opportunity. You could review the story while kids play in centers, while they work on their craft, during snack time, or while waiting for parents.

Say: God's people called out to God to rescue them. Moses saw a burning bush. God spoke to Moses and told him to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let God's people go. God reminded Moses who He was, saying, "I AM who I AM." God has always been and will always be God. He rescued the Israelites from Egypt, just as He said He would.



BIG QUESTION

Does God ever change? No!