



The Burning Bush

Lesson Aim: To know God speaks to us.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God Who Speaks

THE WORD

Bible Story: Exodus 3:1-12

What He Has Done: God speaks to Moses from a burning bush.

THE WAY - BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I will listen to what God the Lord will say." Psalm 85:8

Unit 8: The God Who Speaks			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
38	Joseph and His Special Robe, Genesis 37:1-3	God gave Joseph a father who loved him very much.	To know we can show our love to God and to others.
39	Joseph Forgives His Brothers, Genesis 50:17-21	God led Joseph to forgive his brothers.	To know God wants us to forgive each other.
40	The Burning Bush, Exodus 3:1-12	God speaks to Moses from a burning bush.	To know God speaks to us.
41	Pharaoh Would Not Listen, Exodus 8:20-32	God sent the plague of flies when Pharaoh would not listen to God's warnings.	To see how important it is to listen to God's warnings.
42	God Parts the Red Sea, Exodus 14:9-10, 13-16, 21-22	God parted the Red Sea to save His people.	To see how God speaks through His creation and His miracles.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Isaiah 6. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for calling us to serve the children. Equip them and fill them with Your Spirit to answer Your call. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Shh! If you ever find yourself having to raise your voice to speak over the voices of the children in your classroom, try whispering instead! Whisper a simple instruction a few times until you have everyone's attention. Or, many teachers have a signal for getting their class to quiet down, such as clapping three times or raising one hand in the air and placing the pointer finger of the other hand to their lips.



THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 20	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a leaf
		Coloring Center: Moses and the Burning Bush	Coloring pages of Moses and the burning bush, crayons
		Play-Dough Center: Moses the Shepherd	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Activity Center: What Do You Hear?	Basket with the following items: bells, baby rattle, pencil, squeaky toy, crumpled paper, two blocks
		Block Center: Shepherds Caring for Their Sheep	Blocks, sheep or other toy animals
		Preparing for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Will Listen" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Do You Love Me?" "Here Am I" "How Wide?" "I Can Do Everything" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The Lord Is Faithful" "We Love" Additional Song Suggestions: "Jesus Loves Me"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 8, Lesson 40
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Exodus 3:1-12	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Exodus 3:4 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, burning bush (craft sample or picture)
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: The Burning Bush	Large paper plate, tissue paper (red, yellow, and orange), sand paper, glue, tape, crayons
		Game: Moses! Moses!	Various everyday items which create sounds (See game for examples.)
		Game: Musical Chairs	Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Listen," 1 chair for each child
		Snack: Crunching Noises	Any crunchy snack such as apples, crackers, celery, or chips
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 8 Lesson 40
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Exodus 3:1-12	None
	Up to 10	Game: Stop and Listen	Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Listen"
	Up to 10	Game: Memory Verse Echo	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about the different ways God speaks to us

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The God who speaks

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I am glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure. Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a leaf. Let this stamp (or sticker) of a leaf remind you that God spoke to Moses through a burning bush and Moses listened.

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: MOSES AND THE BURNING BUSH

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Moses and the burning bush, crayons

DO

Children color their pictures while talking about the story.

TALK ABOUT

Today, we will listen to a Bible story about Moses. One day while Moses was watching his sheep, he saw a bush that was burning but didn't burn up! Then, he heard God calling his name. What do you think God would sound like if He called your name? (Children respond.)

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: MOSES THE SHEPHERD

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children create sheep with the play-dough to share while discussing today's lesson.

TALK ABOUT

Our story today is about a man named Moses. He was a shepherd. Can you make some sheep for Moses with the play-dough? God spoke to Moses while he was taking care of his sheep. God speaks to us, too! One way He speaks to us is through Bible stories. What is your favorite Bible story? (Children respond.)

THE WELCOME *continued ...*

ACTIVITY CENTER: WHAT DO YOU HEAR?

SUPPLIES

Basket with the following items: bells, baby rattle, pencil, squeaky toy, crumpled paper, two blocks. **Note:** These items can be used in the GAME: Moses! Moses! in THE WAY segment of this lesson. This activity is also repeated in lesson 41.

DO

Children take turns making noises with the items supplied.

TALK ABOUT

Ask the children to find various items and make noise with them. For example, say, “**Can you find the baby rattle? Show me how you can make noise with the rattle.**” **God’s world is full of interesting noises. What other things make noise?** (Animals, cars, wind, children, etc.) **What is your favorite noise?** (Children respond.)

BLOCK CENTER: SHEPHERDS CARING FOR THEIR SHEEP

SUPPLIES

Blocks, sheep or other toy animals

DO

Children make a pen for the sheep or other animals.

TALK ABOUT

What do we call a person who takes care of sheep? (Shepherd.) **It’s the shepherd’s job to feed the sheep and keep them safe. Let’s pretend to be shepherds and make a fence with the blocks. Then, we can put the sheep inside and they will be safe.**

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Once the service has begun, clean up and begin the planned activities.

Let’s sing the “Clean Up Song” as we put our toys away. Praise children as they help.

Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!

Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

**“I
will listen
to what
God the Lord**

Point to self.
(listen) Hand makes "C" shape and cups the ear.
(to) Hold up pointer finger of one hand. Touch with pointer finger of other hand.
(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
(say) The index finger makes a small circular motion in front of the mouth.
Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

**will say.”
Psalm 85:8**



The God who speaks
THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



Who are we talking to when we pray? (God.) God loves when we talk to Him. Let's do that right now. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, we are so thankful we can talk with You through prayer. Help us remember to pray every day. Amen.**



God speaks to us though His Bible, His world, and His people. This song reminds us how, through the Bible, God tells us He loves us. Sing: "Jesus Loves Me" or "We Love."

As we give our offering today, let's praise God for His great love for us. Play: "Let Everything That Has Breath" while the offering is being collected.



God can speak to us through friends like Delbert and Lello. Let's listen. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 8, Lesson 40.



One way we can show God how much we love Him, is by listening when He speaks to us. That reminds me of our Bible Memory Verse: "I will listen to what God the Lord will say," Psalm 85:8. Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together. Practice with the motions a few times.

"I	Point to self.
will listen	(listen) Hand makes "C" shape and cups the ear.
to what	(to) Hold up pointer finger of one hand. Touch with pointer finger of other hand.
God the Lord	(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
will say."	(say) The index finger makes a small circular motion in front of the mouth.
Psalm 85:8	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



In today's story, we will hear how Moses listened when God spoke to him from a burning bush. God wants us to listen to Him just as Moses did. Sing: "I Will Listen."



Moses hears God's voice

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Exodus 3:4, picture of the Bible story, burning bush (craft sample or picture)

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Hold the craft sample in front of your face. Peek out from behind the bush. **Let's see how well you can listen. If you hear me call your name, I want you to stand up** (or raise your hand) **and say, "Here I am!"** Call a few of the children's names and encourage them to stand up and say, "Here I am!"

Today, we will learn about a burning bush (Point to the craft sample.) **and a man named Moses who said, "Here I am!" when God spoke to him. Let's listen to our story.** Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Exodus 3:4.



WATCH THE WORD: EXODUS 3:1-12

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Moses was watching the sheep one day,**
- **When he saw a burning bush that did not burn away.**
- **When Moses went in for a closer look,**
- **He heard God call his name from the bush.**

- **Moses answered, "Here I am."**
- **God said, "Shoes off! On holy ground you stand.**
- **I have heard my people in Egypt cry out,**
- **I have chosen you, Moses, to lead them out."**

- **Moses asked, "Who am I to say,**
- **Pharaoh, let my people go today?"**
- **But Moses listened and followed God's plan,**
- **To lead God's people to the promised land.**

Whose voice did Moses hear? (God.) What did Moses say? ("Here I am.")



God speaks to Moses from a burning bush

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: THE BURNING BUSH

Purpose: To illustrate God speaking to Moses through a burning bush.

Supplies: Large paper plate, tissue paper (red, yellow, and orange), sand paper, glue, tape, crayons

Prepare: Cut red, yellow, and orange tissue paper into 1-inch squares. Cut a 1-inch x 11-inch strip of sandpaper. Cut a large paper plate into a tree shape by leaving the top half intact and cutting the bottom half to resemble a tree trunk. Across the base of the tree, print:

"I will listen to what God the Lord will say." Psalm 85:8

Optional: Have children glue sand to the paper instead of using sand paper.

Directions:

1. **In our Bible story, Moses was walking on the desert sand. Let's add sand to our picture. Feel the sand paper and imagine what the sand felt like on Moses' feet.**
2. Glue the strip of sand paper to the bottom of the paper.
3. **Moses came upon a bush. Let's color the bush.**
4. Color the bush.
5. **God spoke to Moses through a burning bush. Let's add fire to the bush. Have you ever listened to the sound fire makes? (Children respond.) Crinkle the tissue paper squares to hear the crackling sound fire makes.**
6. Glue tissue squares to the top of the bush for flames.

Craft Discussion:

- **What would you have thought if you saw a burning bush with God's voice coming from inside it? (Children respond.)**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: MOSES! MOSES!

Purpose: This game helps children appreciate the sounds they hear every day in God's world.

Supplies: Various everyday items which create sounds, such as dropping a coin on a plate, crinkling paper into a ball, dropping a pencil on the floor, blowing water bubbles through a straw in a cup, biting into an apple or celery, clapping, snapping fingers, clicking two spoons together, fanning through the pages of a book, closing a book quickly, slamming a door, bouncing a ball, shaking a baby rattle, or playing a musical instrument

From the burning bush, God's voice called, "Moses! Moses!" and Moses answered, "Here I am!" Then, Moses listened. Let's practice listening!

Directions:

1. Teacher blindfolds one child (or child closes his or her eyes).
2. Say the chant below.
Everyone: Child's name! Child's name!
Blindfolded Child: **Here I am!**
Everyone: **What's that sound in your ear?**
3. Teacher creates a sound with one of the familiar items.
4. The blindfolded child tries to guess what made the sound.
5. Play until each child has a turn.

GAME: MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: This game of musical chairs teaches children to be quick to listen.

Supplies: Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Listen," 1 chair for each child

Prepare: Place the chairs back-to-back in two rows.

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chair is removed and no child is eliminated. Encourage quick listening and affirm those who are the first to hear the music stop and be seated.

To practice being quick to listen, let's play Musical Chairs.

Directions:

1. As the Bible Memory Verse Song plays, children march around the row of chairs.
2. Teacher periodically stops the music during the song.
3. When the music stops, children find the nearest chair and sit immediately.
4. Play as long as you like.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: CRUNCHING NOISES

Purpose: To know God speaks to us.

Snack Suggestion: Any crunchy snack such as apples, crackers, celery, or chips

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father, once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **There are many interesting sounds in God's world. Our snack makes a crunching noise when we eat it. What is your favorite sound?** (Children respond.)
 - **Imagine you are Moses watching over your sheep. How do you think he felt when he saw the burning bush?** (Children respond.) **How did you think he felt when he heard God's voice?** (Children respond.)
 - **God speaks to us though His Bible, His world, and His people. Which people speak to you about God?** (Children respond.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"I	Point to self.
will listen	(listen) Hand makes "C" shape and cups the ear.
to what	(to) Hold up pointer finger of one hand. Touch with pointer finger of other hand.
God the Lord	(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
will say."	(say) The index finger makes a small circular motion in front of the mouth.
Psalm 85:8	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: EXODUS 3:1-12

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Moses was watching the sheep one day,** (Hand over brow, as if searching.)
- **When he saw a burning bush that did not burn away.** (Wiggle fingers, as flames.)
- **When Moses went in for a closer look.** (Walk in place.)
- **He heard God call his name from the bush.** (Cup hand at ear.)

- **Moses answered, "Here I am."** (Hands at mouth, as if yelling.)
- **God said, "Shoes off! On holy ground you stand.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **I have heard my people in Egypt cry out,** (Cup hand at ear.)
- **I have chosen you, Moses, to lead them out."** (Point to someone.)

- **Moses asked, "Who am I to say,** (Point to self.)
- **Pharaoh, let my people go today?"** (Point to an exit.)
- **But Moses listened and followed God's plan** (Cup hand at ear.)
- **To lead God's people to the promised land.** (Walk in place.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I will listen to what God the Lord will say." Psalm 85:8

GAME: STOP AND LISTEN

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Listen"

Our Bible Memory Verse says, "I will listen to what God the Lord will say." To listen, we need to stop and be still. Let's practice being still right now. When the music stops, I want you to freeze in place. Together, we will whisper our Bible Memory Verse.

Directions:

1. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song as children dance and sing.
2. After a short time, pause the music. Children are to freeze in place.
3. Lead the children in whispering, "**I will listen to what God the Lord will say.**"
4. Play several times.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: MEMORY VERSE ECHO

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

We can listen as we share our Bible Memory Verse with each other.

Directions:

1. Hold hands and have the children stand in a circle. The children can drop their hands once the circle is made.
2. Divide your class into two groups: the loud echo and the whisper echo. If possible, have a teacher or helper lead each group.
3. Have everyone crouch down until it is their turn to echo the verse.
4. Say the verse. Have the loud group stand and echo your words and then the whisper group.
5. Repeat a few times.
6. If you have time, reassign which group does which kind of echo and play again.
7. Optional: Add some variety to the echo. Do it faster each time or slower or have the children jump up and down, clap, or spin in a circle when it is their turn to echo.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about the different ways God speaks to us.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 8, Lesson 40: The Burning Bush

PONDER! God spoke to Moses through the burning bush. (Exodus 3:1-12). What did Moses say? (Here I am!)

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Thank You, Lord, for speaking to us through Your Bible, Your world, and Your people. Help us to listen as Moses did. Amen."

PLAY! Take a "listening walk" and listen to the sounds in God's world. Collect leaves and glue them on a sheet of paper to create a picture of a bush. Hang the picture to remember the story of Moses and the burning bush and to remind your family to listen to what God will say.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I	Point to self.
will listen	(listen) Hand makes "C" shape and cups the ear.
to what	(to) Hold up pointer finger of one hand. Touch with pointer finger of other hand.
God the Lord	(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
will say."	(say) The index finger makes a small circular motion in front of the mouth.
Psalms 85:8	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.