



# 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

**Whisper Verse:** "I will listen."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

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

<b>Unit 8: The God Who Speaks</b>			
	<b>Bible Story</b>	<b>What He Has Done</b>	<b>Lesson Aim</b>
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."



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a leaf
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "I will listen."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	<b>Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "I Will Listen" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Be Still and Know" "Blessed Are Those" "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "He Is Mighty to Save" "Here Am I" "How Wide?" "I Can Do Everything" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "We Love" <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "Jesus Loves Me" "This Is My Father's World"
		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	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Exodus 3:1-12	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Exodus 3:4 Visual: Branch with leaves or a single leaf
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: The Burning Bush	Large paper plate, tissue paper (red, yellow, and orange), sand paper, glue, tape, crayons or markers
		Game: Moses! Moses!	Various everyday items which create sounds
		Game: Musical Chairs	Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Listen," chair for each child
		Snack: Crunching Noises	Any crunchy snack such as apples, crackers, celery, or chips
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 8, Lesson 40 Color This Story: "Moses and the Burning Bush"	
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: Scripture Hopscotch	Ten 8-inch x 8-inch colorful fabric squares or floor tape
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about the different ways God speaks to us

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



I will listen

## THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I'm 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. Today's Whisper Verse is "I will listen."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.\***

**SIGN LANGUAGE: "I will listen."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

**Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:**

**"I will"**      Pointing to yourself is a natural gesture for indicating the concept of me.

**"listen."**      The hand cups the ear in an effort to hear better.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

**\*Today's Whisper Verse:** "I will listen," Psalm 85:8. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



## The God who speaks

# THE WORSHIP

**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.

**It’s Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God who speaks to us. God speaks to us through His Bible, through His world, and through His people. God loves it when we listen to Him. That reminds me of today’s Whisper Verse, “I will listen.” Let’s say it together.** Review the Whisper Verse together: “I will listen.” Include sign language.



**As we give our offering today, let’s think about the different ways God speaks to us.** Play: “This Is My Father’s World” or “Blessed Are Those” while the offering is being collected.

**In today’s story, 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 heard God’s voice sending him to speak to Pharaoh. God wants us to go wherever He sends us.** Sing: “Here Am I.”



**We hear God speak to us through friends like Delbert and Lello as they learn about God.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 8, Lesson 40.



**God speaks to us through 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.”



Moses hears God's voice

## THE WORD

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.

Last time, we learned Joseph forgave his brothers and fed them. Today, we will begin to learn about Moses. As a baby, his mother put him in a basket by the river. An Egyptian princess found him and took him back to the palace to live. The king of Egypt, called the Pharaoh, was mean to God's people. When Moses grew up, he ran away from the Pharaoh. Let's open our Bible to the first book, Genesis. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Exodus 3:4.

### WATCH THE WORD: EXODUS 3:1-12

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a branch with leaves or a single leaf. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story picture, or any related picture.

- 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.



From where did Moses hear God's voice? (The burning bush.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Exodus 3:4 from the teacher's Bible. When Moses came over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" Moses said, "Here I am."

Moses listened to God speak from the burning bush. God speaks to us though His Bible, His world, and His people. What will you do when God speaks to you in these ways? (Children respond.) The answer is in our Whisper Verse! Let's say our Whisper Verse together: "I will listen." Include sign language or hand motions.



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 or markers

**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, "I am here!" Then, Moses listened to what God the Lord would say. Let's practice listening!**

### **Directions:**

1. Teacher blindfolds one child (or child closes his or her eyes).
2. Say the chant below.  
All: Child's name! Child's name!  
Blindfolded Child: **I am here!**  
All: **What's that sound in your ear?**
3. Teacher creates a sound with one of the familiar items.
4. The blindfolded child guesses the item which made that 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," 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, so all children remain in the game. 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 Bible Memory Verse Song plays, children march around the row of chairs.
2. Teacher stops the music at different times 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.
  - **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("I will listen.") **Let's say it together with the hand motions.**
  - **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.) **What kind of sound would a burning bush make?** (Children respond.)
  - **Imagine you are Moses out watching over the sheep. How do you think Moses felt when he saw the bush burning but never burning up?** (Children respond.) **How did he feel when he heard God's voice come from the burning bush?** (Children respond.)
  - **God speaks to us though His Bible, His world, and His people. Which people speak to you about God?** (Children respond.)



## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your "Burning Bush" craft. Tell someone about the way God called Moses' name from the burning bush.

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about ways God speaks to your family members.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "Moses and the Burning Bush." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Will Listen," as children color.





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, acts it out with hand motions, and then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **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:**

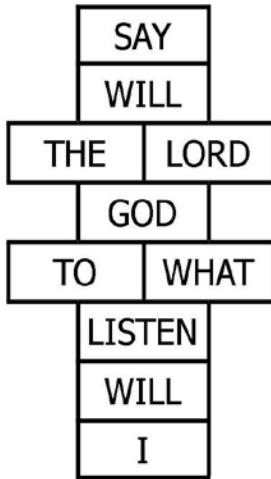
1. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song as children dance and sing.
2. After a short time, pause the music. Children are to freeze in place.
3. Lead the children in whispering, "**I will listen to what God the Lord will say.**"
4. Play several times.

# GOT TIME *continued...*

## **GAME: SCRIPTURE HOPSCOTCH**

**Purpose:** To have fun memorizing the Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Ten 8-inch x 8-inch colorful fabric squares (or floor tape) laid in the shape below



One way God speaks to us is through His words in the Bible. When we listen to Bible stories, it is as if we are listening to God. Our Bible Memory Verse says, "I will listen to what God the Lord will say." Let's all say the verse together as we give one clap for each word. Now, let's play "Scripture Hopscotch."

### **Directions:**

1. Choose one child as a volunteer "hopper." Children chant "I" with one clap. Hopper jumps onto the first square.
2. Children chant "will" with one clap. Hopper jumps onto the next square.
3. Continue chanting the Bible Memory Verse one word at a time as the Hopper hops.
4. Play until each child who wishes to be the hopper has a turn.



## **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!** Read Exodus 3:1-12 with your family. Discuss what it would be like to see a burning bush and hear God's voice. God speaks to us in many ways—through His Bible, His world, and His people. Discuss experiences when you felt God was speaking or showing you something.

**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 remind your family to listen to what God the Lord will say.

**Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse:** Psalm 85:8

"I will listen to what God the Lord will say."