



God Parts the Red Sea

Lesson Aim: To see how God speaks through His creation and His miracles.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God Who Speaks

THE WORD

Bible Story: Exodus 14:9-10, 13-16, 21-22

What He Has Done: God parted the Red Sea to save His people.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "The Lord saved them."

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 Exodus 15:1-18. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for making a way to save us! Help the children remember Your power to save Your people. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Arrival Activity (See GAME: SAVED AT SEA in THE WAY.)	Treasure chest, 2 rolls of banner paper, crayons or markers
		Treasure Chest	Stamp or sticker of a fish or sea life
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "The Lord saved them."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Will Listen" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "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" Additional Song Suggestions: "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 42
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Exodus 14:9-10, 13-16, 21-22	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Exodus 14:21 Visual: Staff (use walking cane or long stick)
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Parting the Red Sea	Standard-size sturdy light blue paper, sand paper (or sturdy brown paper), clothespin or craft stick, fish stickers, glue or glue sticks, crayons or markers
		Game: Saved at Sea	Two sea banners from THE WELCOME, staff (walking cane or long stick)
		Game: God's Mighty Wind	One deep bowl half-filled with water
		Snack: The Sea Speaks	Seashell-shaped pasta or fish-shaped crackers
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 8, Lesson 42 Color This Story: "God Parts the Red Sea"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Exodus 14:9-10, 13-16, 21-22	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 miracles of God

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The Lord saved them **THE WELCOME**

Additional Supplies: 2 rolls of banner paper, crayons or markers

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 fish or sea life. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a fish (or sea life) remind you that the sea, the fish, and all the creatures of the sea belong to God. Today's Whisper Verse is "The Lord saved them."** 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.***

Arrival Activity: In the GAME: SAVED AT SEA in THE WAY you will need two sea banners (long strips of paper decorated as water). As an arrival activity, have children decorate the banners by setting out 2 rolls of banner paper and crayons or markers on the floor.

Join the others in drawing fish and waves on our sea banners until everyone arrives.

SIGN LANGUAGE: "The Lord saved them."

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

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

- "The Lord"** With index finger and thumb make an "L" shape. Move the "L" from the left shoulder to the right hip as the sash of the Lord.
- "saved"** The fists are bound and then pulled apart to show a person who has broken free from being tied up.
- "them."** The index finger points to several people.

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:** "The Lord saved them," Exodus 18:8. 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. As we give our offering, let’s think about the different ways God speaks to us and shows us He is God. Sing: “I Will Listen” while the offering is being collected.

In today’s story, Pharaoh’s army chased God’s people to the sea. It was too deep and wide to swim across. Moses told the people that the Lord would fight for them; all they needed to do was to be still. Sing: “Be Still and Know.”

The Lord saved His people by parting the sea. They walked right through it on a dry path! Today’s Whisper Verse is “The Lord saved them.” Review the Whisper Verse together. Include sign language. **When God parted the sea, He was speaking to the people through His world. It was as if His sea was saying, “God is with you. He is mighty to save His people!”** Sing: “He Is Mighty to Save.”



Let’s see if our friends Delbert and Lello have heard how the Lord saved the people by parting the sea. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 8, Lesson 42.



After God’s people were safe on the other side of the sea, Moses’ sister led them in a song of praise. Let’s sing and praise the Lord as God’s people did. Sing: “Let Everything That Has Breath.”



God parts the Red Sea

THE WORD

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

With my eyes on my teacher,
My mouth quiet as can be,
I will listen to hear,
How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.
Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
Cup hand around ear.
Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned how Moses warned Pharaoh that if he did not let God's people go, the Lord would cover the land in flies. Did Pharaoh listen? (No.) Did the flies come just as Moses warned? (Yes.) Today, we will see what happened when Pharaoh finally let God's people go. I'm going to open the Bible to Exodus 14:21. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Exodus 14:21.

WATCH THE WORD: EXODUS 14:9-10, 13-16, 21-22

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 staff (walking cane or long stick). Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story picture, or any related picture.

- Moses told the people, "Follow me!"
- Pharaoh's army chased them to the Red Sea.
- It was too far to swim away.
- So God's people became very afraid.

- Moses told them, "Just be still,
Our God will fight for you."
- He raised his staff and stretched out his hand
- Over the sea as God told him to do.

- With a mighty wind the Lord saved them
- By dividing the sea in half.
- God's people walked across the sea
- On a safe and very dry path!



What happened when Moses stretched his hand out over the sea? (A strong wind came and the waters were divided.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read Exodus 14:21 from the teacher's Bible.

What did the Lord do for His people when He parted the sea? (The Lord saved them.) **Our Whisper Verse gives us the answer. Let's say it together: "The Lord saved them."** Include sign language or motions.



The Lord saved them

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: PARTING THE RED SEA

Purpose: To illustrate that God parted the Red Sea to save His people.

Supplies: Standard-size sturdy light blue paper, sand paper (or sturdy brown paper), clothespin or craft stick, fish stickers, glue or glue sticks, crayons or markers

Prepare: Cut an 8½-inch x 3-inch strip of sand paper. Wavy cut the light blue paper across both short edges, fold both edges toward the middle to create three equal sections. The paper should make a flat-bottomed U-shape.

Directions:

1. **Moses must have been happy to see God part the sea. Let's draw a happy face on Moses.** Draw a happy face on the clothespin or craft stick.
2. **God parted the water so the people could walk on the sea floor.** Glue the strip of sand paper along the center of the folded blue paper.
3. **Fish live in the sea. Let's add fish to the water.** Place fish stickers or draw fish on the sides of the folded paper.
4. **God parted the water so the people could cross the sea safely.** Reenact the Bible Story by walking Moses between the waves along the sea floor.

Craft Discussion:

- **Have you ever been to a beach or seashore?** (Children respond.) **What color was the water?** (Children respond.)
- **The Red Sea is not colored red. "Red Sea" is just the sea's name.**
- **How would you feel if you saw the waters of a lake or ocean separate to make a dry path?** (Surprised, glad, excited, afraid, etc.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: SAVED AT SEA

Purpose: To help children remember the Bible Story facts.

Supplies: Two sea banners from THE WELCOME, staff (walking cane or long stick)

Moses told God's people, "You will see how the Lord will save you today." Let's act out the story to see how it felt to be saved at the Red Sea.

Preset Directions:

1. Place the sea banners side-by-side on the floor for the Red Sea.
2. Assign four children as the wind. Divide the remaining children into two groups: God's people and Pharaoh's army. Moses should be played by the teacher or a helper. Assign a teacher or child to lead Pharaoh's army.
3. Practice with the four children assigned to be the wind: Each child holds an end of one of the banner papers. When Moses stretches his hand over the sea, the four children gently drag the banners far apart to create a large space between them for dry land.
4. Moses stands where the Red Sea banners come together.
5. God's people stand behind Moses, holding hands.
6. Pharaoh's army stands behind God's people, pretending to ride horses and chariots.

Act it Out Directions:

1. Moses raises his staff and stretches his hand over the Red Sea.
2. The wind parts the Red Sea by moving the banners far apart and creating "dry land."
3. Moses leads God's people across the dry land as they hold hands. With each step they chant, **"The Lord will save you today!"**
4. Pharaoh's army follows on their (pretend) horses and chariots.
5. Pharaoh's army sits down in the middle of the Red Sea, pretending to be stuck in the mud.
6. Moses stretches his hand over the parted Red Sea.
7. The wind and Moses surround Pharaoh's army by gently pulling the Red Sea around them.
8. If there's time, play again, allowing children to play a different role.

GAME: GOD'S MIGHTY WIND

Purpose: This activity reminds children of the miracle wind God sent.

Supplies: One deep bowl half-filled with water

God sent a mighty wind to roll back the waves and part the sea. Let's do an experiment to see how mighty that wind had to be.

Directions:

1. Children take turns blowing on the water in bowl to attempt to "part the water."
2. Encourage children's efforts while pointing out it would take a miracle to blow the waters apart.
3. Allow everyone to have a turn.

It's impossible for the wind to separate water on its own. Who separated the waters of the Red Sea? (God.) God's miracle wind held back the sea walls to save God's people.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: THE SEA SPEAKS

Purpose: To see how the Red Sea miracle spoke of God's power to save.

Snack Suggestion: Seashell-shaped pasta or fish-shaped crackers

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?** ("The Lord saved them.") **Let's say it together with the hand motions.**
 - **The sea belongs to the Lord. How did He use the sea to save His people, the Israelites?** (He divided the sea so the people could escape from Pharaoh's army by walking through on dry land.)
 - **The people could not save themselves. They needed a miracle from the Lord. When He parted the sea, it was as if the sea was saying, "The Lord saved them!" What do you think everyone learned about the Lord that day?** (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 "Parting the Red Sea" craft. Tell someone how God parted the Red Sea to save His people.

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

COLOR THIS STORY: "God Parts the Red Sea." 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 14:9-10, 13-16, 21-22

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 told the people, "Follow me!"** (Motion others to follow.)
- **Pharaoh's army chased them to the Red Sea.** (Run in place.)
- **It was too far to swim away.** (Pretend to swim.)
- **So God's people became very afraid.** (Pretend to bite fingernails in fear.)

- **Moses told them, "Just be still,** (Stand still.)
- **Our God will fight for you."** (Raise fist in the air.)
- **He raised his staff and stretched out his hand** (Move hand across horizon.)
- **Over the sea as God told him to do.** (Point to heaven.)

- **With a mighty wind the Lord saved them** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **By dividing the sea in half.** (Spread arms apart.)
- **God's people walked across the sea** (Walk in place.)
- **On a safe and very dry path!** (Touch the ground.)



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:

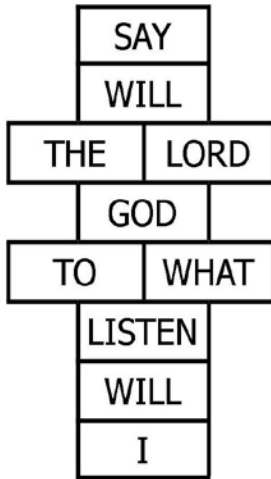
1. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song as children dance and sing.
2. After a short time, pause the music. Children are to freeze in place.
3. Lead the children in whispering, **"I will listen to what God the Lord will say."**
4. Play several times.

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 miracles of God.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 8, Lesson 42: God Parts the Red Sea

PONDER! Read Exodus 14:9-10, 13-16, 21-22 with your family. What do you think it sounded like when God parted the sea? How do you think it felt to walk through on dry land? One way God speaks to us is through His world. Discuss how God spoke to everyone that day through His wind and sea.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Thank You, Lord, for saving Your people by parting the Red Sea. Help us trust You as Moses and Your people did."

PLAY! This story is remembered and quoted throughout the Bible. Act out the story as a family or watch an animated version this week. For added fun, fill a bowl with water and take turns trying to part the water with your breath. Only God can do miracles!

Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse: Psalm 85:8

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