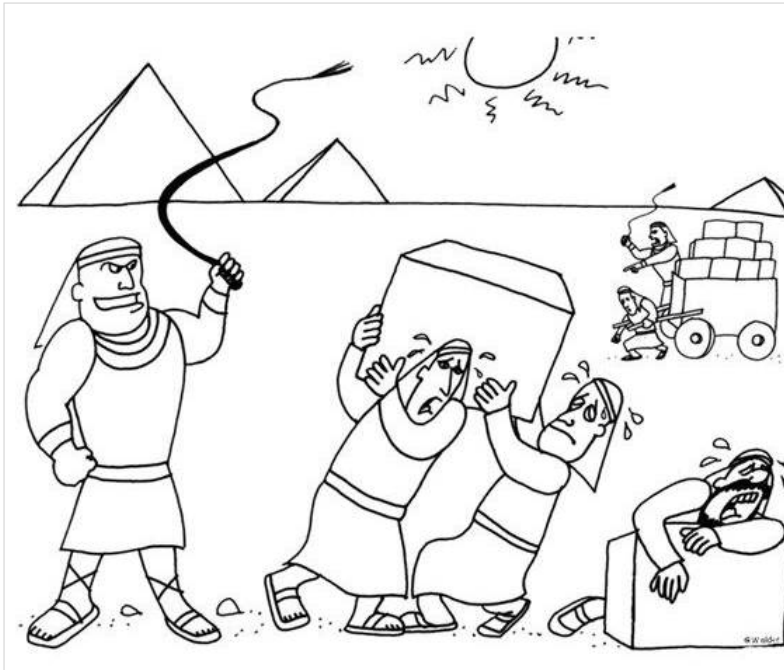


THE CALL OF MOSES



Following a severe drought in their homeland of Canaan, the people of Israel, Jacob and his descendants, with the help of his son Joseph (who had become a confidant of the pharaoh), moved to Egypt and lived there for 430 years.

JACOB'S DESCENDANTS

The Israelites grew strong in Egypt. The Egyptians began to be afraid of them. A new king came to the throne. He did not want the Israelites to be powerful. So, he made them his slaves. They were made to work hard all day – but still their numbers grew. So the king gave orders that every Israelite boy should be drowned in the river **Nile**.

A WOMAN HIDES HER BABY BOY

During this time, an Israelite woman gave birth to a son. She hid him for three months. Then she had an idea. She made a basket out of reeds and put the baby inside. Then she took the basket and placed it at the edge of the river. She told her daughter **Mariam** to keep watch.



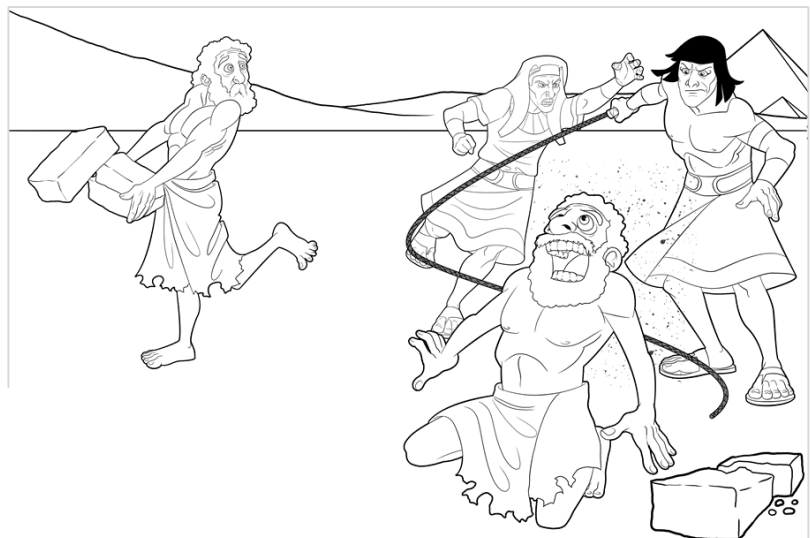
THE PRINCESS FINDS THE CHILD

After sometime the king's daughter came down to the river to bathe. And when she saw the **basket** she sent her servant to fetch it. She opened the lid and saw a beautiful baby. She knew that this was an Israelite baby. She took pity on the baby and decided to bring him up as her own son. The **princess** saw a girl next to her. Mariam asked her if she needed a nurse for the baby. The princess told the girl to bring one. Mariam ran home and brought her mother. The princess gave the child to the nurse to be looked after. The nurse was the child's own mother, so the woman took the child and nursed him. The child was told that he was an Israelite. When the child grew up, she brought him to the king's daughter. The princess called him **Moses**.

MOSES RUNS AWAY

Moses grew up in the king's palace. It made him sad to see how badly his people were treated by the Egyptians. One day he saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite. He was very angry and **killed** the Egyptian. The next day Moses saw two Hebrews fighting, and went to stop them. One of them asked Moses if he would kill him too just as he had killed the Egyptian.

When Moses heard this he was afraid. He knew that when the king heard about what he had done, the king would kill him. So Moses ran away.



Moses was afraid of the king so he ran away into the **Midan** desert. He worked there as a shepherd and married a girl name **Zipporah**

MOSES RECEIVES GOD'S CALL

One day, as Moses was out looking after the flocks, he saw a strange sight. There was a **bush** on fire but the fire did not burn it up. Moses went closer to have a look. And he heard God speaking to him saying "I have seen the suffering of my people. You are to go to the King of Egypt and set my people free". Moses said to God : "I am just a nobody; how can I do all this" God answered: "I will be with you; and when you bring the people out of Egypt, you will worship me on this mountain. That will be the proof that I have sent you" Then God told him to gather the leaders of Israel and explain to them why God had sent him. But Moses was not willing to do what God asked of him. So he said to God: "**Please send someone else**, they won't listen to me". God said, "No, **I have chosen you**. Take your brother **Aaron** with you to do the speaking, and I will be with you. I will give you power to do wonders"



SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STORY

After years of staying in Egypt, the people of God find their troubles unbearable. So they cry out to God, the God who had promised blessings to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. God has pity on them and prepares a leader to save them in His Name. He wants us to trust the leaders He chooses and appoints, and continues to empower for His saving work. Today also God guides the leaders in the Church, the priests in the parish and other lay leaders, giving them the power to lead the people they guide, to experience His liberating love.

NEW WORDS

DROUGHT – no rain over a long period of time, affecting plants, animals and people (they will die)

SLAVERY - The practice of people owning other people is called slavery. Enslaved people have to work for the owners, doing whatever the owners ask them to do.

OPPRESSION / OPPRESSED – cruel or unjust use of authority or power

SUFFERING – undergoing of pain, distress or injury

PATRIARCHS – refers to the father or ruler of family or tribes in the Old Testament (Ex. **Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph**)



BE KIND

God always takes the side of the oppressed, and He invites each one of us also to take sides with those who are suffering. Just as He called Moses, He invites all of us to help the oppressed and those in pain.



Answer the following questions. Tick the box of the correct answer

- 1 The practice of people owning other people is called freedom slavery worker
- 2 The cruel or unjust use of authority or power is called kindness helping oppression
- 3 Undergoing of pain, distress, or injury is called..... suffering relaxing sleeping
- 4 Sample of names of patriarchs in the Old Testament Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph Virat Kohli, Droupadi Murmu Arijit Singh, Lionel Braganza
- 5 The King of Egypt ordered every Israelite boy to be drowned in River Nile Jordan Kishon
- 6 The Israelite woman wanted to save her baby boy, she made a and placed it at the edge of the river life jacket Boat basket
- 7 Who found the Israelite baby boy in the River Nile The Princess The Priest The King
- 8 The name given to the Israelite baby boy found in the Nile River Noah John Moses
- 9 Moses grew up in the King's Palace. He was angry at the Egyptians oppressing the Israelites people True False
- 10 What did Moses do with the cruel Egyptian? Moses killed him Moses gave him gold Moses hid from him
- 11 Moses ran away from Egypt because he was afraid the King of Egypt will find out that he killed an Egyptian True False
- 12 Name of Moses' sister Jane Elizabeth Mariam
- 13 Name of Moses brother Aaron John Lazarus
- 14 Name of Moses' wife Eve Esther Zipporah
- 15 Which desert did Moses hide? Midan Sahara Naseem
- 16 One day as Moses was out looking after the flocks, he saw a on fire but the fire did not burn it sheep tree bush
- 17 Who said "I have seen the suffering of my people, you are to go to the King of Egypt and set my people free" Moses Noah God
- 18 What was Moses reply to God? I am just a nobody, send someone else I don't know you
 Sure, I will go
- 19 What did God say to Moses reply? Don't go. Let my people suffer in Egypt
 I have chosen you. Take your brother Aaron with you to do the speaking, and I will be with you. I will give you power to do wonders
- 20 God takes the sides of the oppressed and suffering and He also invites us to do same, to help people in need
 True
 False

