

Empowered



Moses is rescued by a series of women when Pharaoh decides that Israelite baby boys should not be allowed to live.

Long after Joseph's family moved to Egypt, a new pharaoh ✦ came to the throne. He was afraid of the Israelites, because there were so many of them in his land. To stop them from becoming too powerful, Pharaoh used them like slaves. He forced them to make bricks and mortar and to work hard on Egyptian farms.

Despite horrible treatment, the Israelites continued to have babies and grow in number, so Pharaoh called in two midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, and commanded them to kill all male Israelites at birth. Shiphrah and Puah went away, but because they loved God they did not obey Pharaoh ✦. Pharaoh responded by telling everyone in the kingdom to murder male Israelite children by throwing them into the river Nile.

One Israelite couple had a baby son and, to prevent his death, hid him in their house. When he grew too big to hide, his mother took a basket, made it waterproof, and placed the child inside it. She put the basket in the reeds beside the river, leaving the boy's sister – Miriam – to keep guard.

Pharaoh's daughter came to wash where the child lay beside the water. She heard him crying and sent a maid to retrieve him. Recognising that he must be an Israelite, she decided to save him by raising him as her son ✦. 'I will call him Moses,' she told her maids. Just then, Miriam appeared and asked whether Pharaoh's daughter might need help with the child. When the princess said yes, Moses was given back to his mother, who was paid to feed him until he was big enough to eat solid foods.



See session outline on p.52

Stop and share

Read the story and pause at the ✦ to share these points with the children.

- ✦ Pharaoh is the king of Egypt.
- ✦ It was very brave of the midwives to disobey Pharaoh. They lied and said they missed the births because Israelite women gave birth so quickly.
- ✦ Moses was Hebrew (an Israelite) but was brought up as an Egyptian. He sometimes felt like an outsider, this upbringing assists him for later in the story.

Turn over
for some
fun activities!!



We are empowered by God to do good.
Write an acrostic poem showing where God might
want to see us use our power.

E _____

M _____

P _____

O _____

W _____

E _____

R _____

Name _____

Roots Activity sheet

 **Exodus 1:8-2:10**

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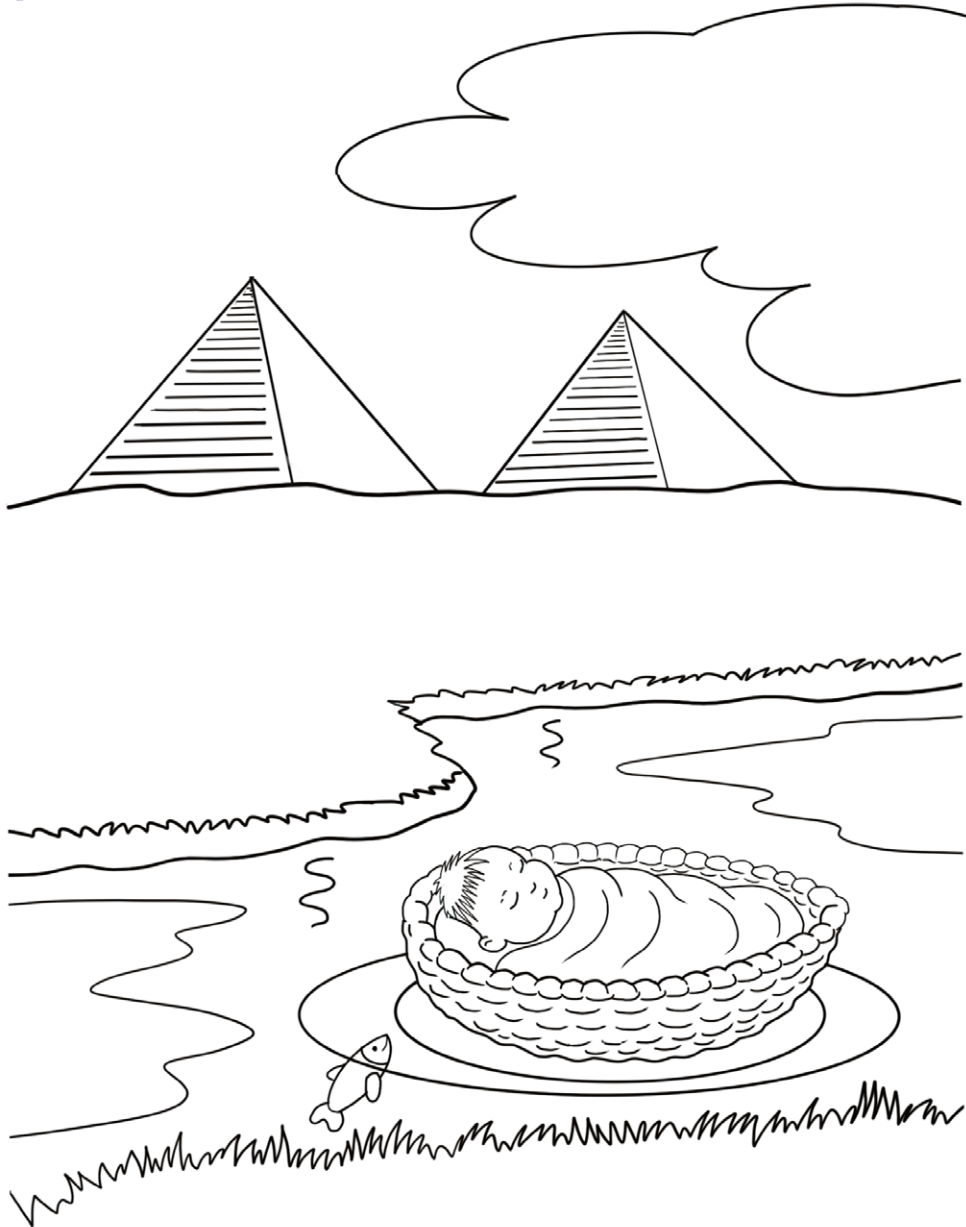
Moses' mother wants to keep him safe from an angry
Pharaoh, so she places Moses in a basket on the river
and Pharaoh's daughter comes to his rescue.



**Moses' mother puts Moses in a basket and his
sister keeps watch over him.**



Add reeds to the river to keep Moses hidden from view.



Match the people to the actions that helped to keep Moses safe.



The midwives

put Moses in a basket.



Moses' sister Miriam

rescued Moses from the water.



Moses' mother

protected Israelite baby boys.



Pharaoh's daughter

kept watch.



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