God Calls Moses – Burning Bush

Exodus 3

God Statement: God is in Control

**KEY VERSE:** “Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the Lord.”
(Psalm 27:14, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

*Classroom Teacher*

(15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

*Classroom Teacher*

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: God is in Control

In today’s lesson, we are going to continue learning about how God is in Control.

**SAY:**
Have you ever gone camping? One of the best parts of camping is sitting around the fire and roasting marshmallows. Who likes roasting marshmallows? What happens when we put the marshmallow over the fire? It slowly, or sometimes really quickly, turns
gold/brown and heats up! Then what do you like to put with your roasted marshmallows? Allow kids to share stories and experiences of making s’mores or roasting marshmallows.

Later today, we’re going to hear a story about a fire in the Bible, the Big God Story. It wasn’t quite a campfire, but something even more amazing. Does anyone think they know what story it will be? Before we do that, we’re going to play a game!

**PLAY:**
To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

**Pin the Fire on the Bush**

**Supplies:** bush poster, fire cut out, blindfold

**Say:** We’re going to play a fun game that will give us a hint into what our story will be today during Large Group. Have you ever played Pin the Tail on the Donkey? This game is kind of like that one! It’s called Pin the Fire on the Bush. Now, does anyone have any guesses of who we’re going to talk about today? Moses and the burning bush, that’s right! Let’s play this game together.

**Directions:** Hang the bush cut out on the wall. Have each student take turns putting on the blindfold and putting a fire cut out on the bush, following the same rules as ‘Pin the Tail on the Donkey’.

**LARGE GROUP**

**(25 minutes)**
*Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.*

**WORSHIP & CHLOE’S RULES**

**Worship Leader & Host**

**WORSHIP**
*While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!*

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.
CHLOE’S RULES
Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe’s Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

*** After Worship & Chloe’s Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides.***

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER
Host

MAIL TIME!
Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says “hot” or “cold” to give them clues if they’re getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

“Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the Lord.”
(Psalm 27:14, NIRV)

WARDROBE OF WONDER
The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the “What’s It” is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to “spy” on the What’s It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What’s It in the host’s ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What’s It: Burning Bush

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What’s It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What’s It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.
ASK:
Oh, that looks very familiar! What is it? A **burning bush**, that’s right! This is pretty cool, isn’t it? I can’t wait to see what this burning bush has to do with our lesson today. I wonder if it will help us see how God is in control. That’s our God Statement right now. Let’s say it together – God is in Control! Do you know what time it is? It’s time for us to dive into God’s Word together!

*** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.***

BIBLE STORY

*Lesson Video*
Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

*THIS WEEK’S LESSON: God Calls Moses – Burning Bush*
Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

***After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.***

WORSHIP RESPONSE

*Host*
Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

*Supplies:* yellow/red/orange colored paper strips, washable markers, clothespins, chicken wire/twine worship response station

*Prepare ahead:* Place strips of colored paper, markers, and clothespins by wire/twine boards

Moses had a big job to do. But he didn’t know it. God wanted to get Moses’ attention so He put a burning bush right where Moses couldn’t miss it. God had a big job for Moses.

- As we have been learning and seeing, God is in control and we can trust Him that He has a plan for us. God has a plan for each and every one of us.
- You probably won’t hear God talking to you through a burning bush but maybe God will whisper to you in the quiet of your heart.

Listen. What does God have for you?
- Does He have a big job for you?
• Maybe it’s loving someone who seems hard to love. Maybe it’s being kind to a stranger.
• Maybe it’s running for president or becoming a pastor or teacher so you can lead others to follow God’s ways.

Sit quietly and ask God to speak to you. Give it a few moments. Try to quiet your brain and heart. Just listen. What does God want to say? Does He have a job for you?

*Have kids sit quietly and still. They can close their eyes or cover their face to keep from being distracted. Turn on soft worship music if not already going.*

*Station teachers around the room with paper strips, markers, and clothespins.*

When you feel like you have heard from God, ask a leader to help you write what He told you on one of the paper strips, then clip it to the string board. As you pin your paper to the board, say, “Speak, God, I’m listening!”

*Allow kids to respond for a few minutes to this prompt while soft worship music plays. Gather them back together once it seems like most everyone has responded and close out.*

Are you willing to do what God asks? You can talk to one of your teachers or your parents to get some advice. Keep listening to God to see what your next step is. God is in Control, and we can trust Him with the plans He has for us!

*Close time in prayer.*

***After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.***

**COMPASSION & OFFERING**

*Host*

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus’ Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child’s life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

*Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.*

***After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.***
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Host
Take this opportunity to cover any announcements for the kids, such as upcoming events or
reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the
Power Point to display important announcements.

***After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead
the class in receiving the blessing for the day.***

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to
stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this
week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, may you always remember to look for God and listen to Him. May you know
that He loves you and cares about you. And He has a special job for you to do.

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers
(10 minutes)

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they’ve just learned and to
challenge them to think deeper.

Younger Kids:
This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening
and participating well.

2. Describe the bush that Moses saw in the mountain. (It was on fire and God spoke to
   Moses through it.) How would you react if you saw a bush on fire and it spoke?
   Have kids show reactions with their face.
3. Why did God tell Moses to take off his sandals? (Because he was on holy ground.)
4. What did Moses say to God? (He didn’t think he was worthy.) How do you think you
   would have responded?
5. How was God going to help Moses deliver His message to the Israelites? (God would be with him.)

6. Do you trust that God is in control and has a plan for you? Why or why not?

Closing Prayer: Heavenly Father, we see how You revealed Yourself to Moses and wanted to have a special relationship with him. Thank You for showing us part of Your plan to save the Israelites through Moses and another part of Your big God story!

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher
(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:
If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

God Is In Control – Burning Bush Fingerprints

Supplies: 1 coloring page per kid, stamp pads, markers/crayons

Say: Wow! God saved Moses and protected him. It is so wonderful to remember how much God loves each and every one of us and wants to protect us and take care of us too.

Directions: Pass out burning bush coloring pages. Have each child use stamp pads and markers/crayons to decorate the burning bush with their fingerprints. Have kids wash hands after they are finished.

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher
(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.
Pin the fire on the bush!
Remove your shoes for you are on Holy Ground.