

Week One: Slavery in Egypt Level C (ages 11-14)

Exodus 1:6-14,22; Exodus 2:1-10

Lesson Focus

The meaning of Egypt and why Moses was prepared to lead the children of Israel by growing up like an Egyptian prince.

Vocabulary

1. Egypt – a kingdom in Africa
2. Pharaoh – the king of Egypt
3. Children of Israel – descendants of Israel (also called Jacob)
4. Hebrews – another name for the children of Israel
5. Abundant – plentiful, lots and lots
6. Bondage – slavery
7. Afflicted – suffered, had a terrible time
8. Taskmasters – people put in charge of the slaves to make them work hard
9. Moses – one of the children of Israel (His name means “drawn out of the water”.)
10. Exodus – this means “going out” or “exit”
11. Ancient Word – a written Word that had been given to people in ancient times; we do not know exactly when
12. Correspondence – the relationship between something natural and something spiritual (For example, seeing physically corresponds to understanding something. This is why we often say, “I see” when we first understand something.)
13. Pictographs – pictures that represent words, the first form of written language
14. Hieroglyphs – symbols that represent words in early written languages (This is usually the next step in the development of written language after pictographs.)

Key Concepts

1. Slavery is wrong—people need to be free.
2. The Lord saves the good from evil.
3. The Lord saved and prepared Moses to lead the children of Israel out of slavery.
4. The Lord is always with people looking after them, even if they do not realize it.
5. Only the Lord can give us spiritual freedom.

Activity Options

1. **Discussion Ideas** (see attached page)
2. **Featured Project:** Hieroglyphs and Pictographs (see attached pages)
3. **Recitation:** Psalm 27:1 (see attached page with recitations to cut apart and give to students)
4. **Take Home, Alternative, or Extra Activities:** true-and-false questions; coloring page of Hebrew slaves; coloring page of Moses in the bulrushes (all attached)

Discussion: Exodus 1:6-14,22 and Exodus 2:1-10

Discuss the story of the Israelites' slavery and what it means in our lives, explaining vocabulary and introducing key concepts at appropriate moments.

1. Do you remember the story in the book of Genesis that told of the children of Israel going to Egypt? Why did they go there? (there was a famine and their brother Joseph was a ruler in Egypt under Pharaoh) The Israelites were given good land and were well looked after in Egypt until after Joseph died.
2. What happened then? (a new Pharaoh made the Egyptians slaves) This happened about 200 years or several generations after Joseph died.
3. What did the Israelites do as slaves? (they made bricks out of mud and chopped straw which were dried in the sun; they also built cities for storing grain and supplies for Pharaoh's army)
4. What terrible new law was made? (all the sons born to Hebrew women should be killed) But one child was saved. Who was it? (Moses)
5. Why do you think the Lord caused Moses to be saved? (He was preparing Moses to be a great leader for the children of Israel, to lead them out of slavery) Moses was brought up by an Egyptian princess, living in a palace and being educated like the Egyptians.
6. Everything in the Word represents or means something about our spiritual lives. Egypt means natural knowledge and also worldly interests. People visited Egypt throughout the Word. Can you remember someone else who did it in the Old Testament? (Abraham) How about in the New Testament? (Jesus)
7. Going to Egypt represents a state of learning, a preparation for a life of useful service. We all need to spend time in this spiritual Egypt. But we can sometimes get stuck in Egypt. How might that happen? (if we let natural knowledge and worldly activities become the only focus of our lives, they can make us into slaves)
8. Moses was saved by the Lord so that he could lead his people out of the slavery of Egypt. Moses represents the Word and especially the commandments in it. Following the commandments breaks the power of bad habits and leads us to use the knowledge we have to serve others rather than for selfish reasons.
9. Why do you think the Lord arranged for Moses to be brought up like an Egyptian prince? There was a knowledge of some of the Ancient Word in Egypt—particularly correspondences. This knowledge had been perverted to serve selfish ends. This is why some of the Egyptians were able to turn their staffs into snakes. Moses needed to learn about these things so he would be prepared to lead the people.
10. Emanuel Swedenborg tells us that Moses copied the first eleven chapters of Genesis from the Ancient Word. We do not know for sure, but he may have found these chapters in a library in Egypt.
11. Our activity today is to learn about some of the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs which Moses might have used.

Featured Project: Hieroglyphs and Pictographs

Supplies Needed for Each Student:




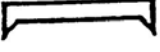
















1. A copy of the three pages on hieroglyphs and pictographs
2. Pencils or pens
3. A sheet of plain white paper
4. Colored pencils

Process:

1. Each student fills out the exercises on hieroglyphs and pictographs.
2. Students may wish to compare their pictograph ideas with each other.
3. If time permits, students can select their favorite hieroglyph and create a colored drawing of it on a separate piece of paper. Hieroglyphs were sometimes painted in color on the walls of buildings and tombs in ancient Egypt.

Hieroglyphs of Ancient Egypt

Copy each symbol in the empty box.

Symbol	name	meaning of symbol	your copy	Symbol	name	meaning of symbol	your copy
	ankh	eternal life			sun	God	
	djed column	stability			sky	heaven	
	was scepter	power			shen	infinity	
	lotus	sun, creation, rebirth			cobra	protection	
	scarab	rebirth after death			wedjat eye	protection	
	feather	truth			mountain	life after death	
	wing	protection			tree	life or rebirth	
	nest	life after death			nefer	goodness, beauty, happiness	
	lion	protection			raised arms, "Ka"	the soul	
	papyrus clump	life			star	eternal life	

COMMUNICATING WITH PICTOGRAPHS

Make a pictograph to symbolize each of these things.

sun	mountain	river	star	tree
school	soccer	birthday	painting	Christmas
walk	swim	carry	fly	love
worship	protect	marriage	eternal life	patriotism




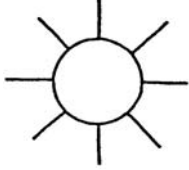
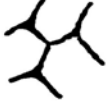
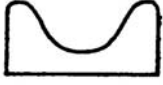








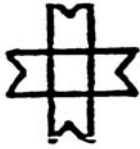



Which are the easiest thing to make symbols for?

Which are the most difficult ones to make a pictograph?

Compare your pictographs with those made by a partner. Put a star by any that are not similar.

Now compare your top row of pictographs with those from ancient cultures. Put a check by any of your pictographs that look like one from another culture.

COMPARING PICTOGRAPHS FROM VARIOUS CULTURES

What is it	Cuneiform	Hieroglyph	Chinese	Native American	Your Own
sun					
mountain					
river					
star					
tree					

Recitation for Week One: Slavery in Egypt – Level C (ages 11-14)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?
(Psalm 27:1)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?
(Psalm 27:1)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?
(Psalm 27:1)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?
(Psalm 27:1)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?
(Psalm 27:1)

Moses' Birth and Childhood

True and False Questions

Read each question. Put "T" for True or "F" for False on the line before each question.

- ___ 1. The wicked Pharaoh said all the Hebrew boy babies were to be drowned in the Nile River.
- ___ 2. A couple from the tribe of Levi hid their baby boy for six months.
- ___ 3. The baby's mother made a little ark and put it among the reeds by the edge of the water.
- ___ 4. The Pharaoh's daughter came down to the river to get a drink.
- ___ 5. When the baby cried, Pharaoh's daughter felt sorry for him.
- ___ 6. The baby's sister became his nurse.
- ___ 7. Later, the baby became a son to Pharaoh's daughter, and she named him Moses.
- ___ 8. One day Moses saw an Egyptian being nice to a Hebrew.
- ___ 9. Moses ran away from Egypt because Pharaoh knew Moses had killed an Egyptian.
- ___ 10. Moses went to Midian, a far away land.
- ___ 11. The Lord was getting Moses ready for the great work of leading the Hebrews out of Egypt.
- ___ 12. The Lord prepares everyone for the job they are to do in life.

Answers:
1. T
2. F
3. T
4. F
5. F
6. F
7. F
8. T
9. F
10. T
11. T
12. T

