

The logo for Grace Airways features a white dog with black spots and a green duck flying in a red airplane. The text "GRACE AIRWAYS" is written in a stylized font with wings on the letters "A" and "Y".

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leader bible study

The crossing of the Red Sea is an event in history that displays God's grace, remembered for generations as God's mighty redemptive act. God had clearly shown His power in Egypt through the plagues; now He was about to do something even greater.

Instead of leading the Israelites into the wilderness, God instructed Moses to turn back so that the Egyptians would think they were lost. God purposefully hardened Pharaoh's heart so that he would pursue the Israelites. Why? "Then I will receive glory by means of Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD" (Ex. 14:4).

Imagine the fear the Israelites felt as they saw the Egyptians pursuing them. They expressed it in their complaints to Moses. (See Ex. 14:11.) Moses spoke up to calm them: "The LORD will fight for you" (Ex. 14:14).

The Lord did fight for them. All night long, the Lord kept a pillar of a cloud between the Egyptians' chariots and the Israelites. Then He instructed Moses to stretch out his hand; God drove back the sea with a powerful east wind. By faith, the Israelites passed through on dry ground! (See Heb. 11:29.) When Pharaoh and the Egyptians followed after them, the waters came back and covered the entire army of Pharaoh. None of them survived.

As you teach kids this week, press into their hearts that God fights for His people. He also punishes sin. God created a way to save His chosen people by parting the Red Sea. In the same way, God created a way for people to escape the penalty of sin through His Son, Jesus Christ. God didn't make a way of salvation for us because we deserve it but because of who He is: a gracious and loving God who created us to know and love Him.

Vision for Grace Airways
We navigate the scriptures,
training up bold disciples,
on our ongoing journey to Jesus!

Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

September Focus: God's People Delivered



Sept 7th : Moses was Born and Called *Exodus 1-4*

Story point: God called Moses to deliver His people from captivity



Sept 14th: The Plagues and the Passover *Exodus 5-12*

Story Point: God delivered His people and proved that He is the one true God.



Sept 21st: The Red Sea Crossing *Exodus 13-15*

Story Point: God parted the Red Sea for His people to cross.



Sept 28th: Bread from Heaven *Exodus 15-17*

Story Point: God provided for the physical needs of His people



Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co-Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co-pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- **Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?**
- **How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?**
- **What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?**
- **In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?**

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

Sunday Morning Flight Plan



Take Off

- Open in Prayer
- Hook
- BPQ and A & Key Passage
- Timeline & Introduce Story

10 Min

Journey

- Attendance & Bible Sticker
- Bible Story
- God's Attributes

15 Min

Flight Lab

- Experience of the Bible Story
(Make connections through an activity & motion)

15 Min

Pilot's Log

- Pray
- Calm activity during pick-up
- Give activity sheets to parents as they pick up students

5 Min

Expected Dismissal	
First Service	Second Service
9:40	11:40



10 min

Take Off

Celebrate being here! Introduce the morning.

Open in Prayer

Hook

- Prompt kids to share about a time they felt stuck. Did anyone help them get unstuck?
- Today we are going to hear about a very stuck group of people!

Big Picture Question

- If you remember our big picture question, shout it out! [*Allow kids to respond.*] **Is there anything God cannot do?** Now say the answer together: **God can do all things according to His character.** Today's story is about something really amazing that God did for His people! I can't wait for you to hear it.

Key Passage

- Show the key passage poster. Lead the boys and girls to read together Hosea 13:4.
- The Israelites repeated the story of the exodus so future generations would remember what God had done. God is the same today as He was in the time of the Israelites!

Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

- While Joseph was in power in Egypt, his family came to live there with him. After a while, Joseph died, and the new pharaoh did not know about Joseph's family. He was scared they would be more powerful than the Egyptians. We talked about how **God called Moses to deliver His people from captivity.** We saw last week that **God delivered His people and proved that He is the one true God** by sending plagues to judge Egypt. This week we will see how God rescued His people when they seemed trapped between an army and a wet place.
- Transition to Bible Story: (OPTIONAL) Show the Bible Story Video.



15 Min

Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Bible Story

Open your Bible to **Exodus 13-15** Read from the Bible or use your storytelling skills to help you tell the story.

Close your eyes and try to imagine how coming up against the shore of the Red Sea with no way to cross, then seeing the dust clouds behind us where Pharaoh's horses are stampeding across the desert to capture or kill us ...

In this moment of greatest fear, God's power and faithfulness shines through the brightest. God placed a massive pillar of cloud and darkness in front of Pharaoh to keep him from getting close to the Israelites. God instructed Moses to lift up his staff and reach out over the waters of the Red Sea. God sent a mighty wind that blew the waters apart. God's people crossed the sea on dry ground with walls of water on either side. Wow!

When the Israelites were safely to the other side, God commanded Moses to stretch his hands over the water again, and it crashed down on Pharaoh and his army.

God parted the Red Sea for His people to cross. For generations to come, God's people would look back on this event, the time God saved them from Egypt, and remember that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good.



Is there anything God cannot do? God can do all things according to His character. Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, and God provided a way for them to escape through the Red Sea. The Bible says that Jesus is greater than Moses. (Hebrews 3:3) People who trust in Jesus escape the penalty of sin and have eternal life.

Age Appropriate Story

The Red Sea Crossing

Exodus 13-15

STORY POINT: GOD PARTED THE RED SEA FOR HIS PEOPLE TO CROSS.

After the first Passover, the Israelites quickly left Egypt. The Lord led the people toward the Red Sea and the wilderness. God told Moses to have the people camp near the sea. God said that Pharaoh would change his mind one more time and chase the Israelites. God planned to prove to the Israelites that He is God.

Pharaoh and his officials did change their minds. The Israelites saw the Egyptians coming and they were afraid. But Moses said, "God brought you here, and He will fight for you."

God told Moses what to do: "Stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide it so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground." Moses stretched out his hand and divided the sea. The Israelites walked through with walls of water on both sides.

The Egyptians went after them. As soon as the Israelites were safely on the other side of the sea, Moses stretched out his hand again and the waters returned, covering the Egyptians and killing all of Pharaoh's army.

When the Israelites saw what had happened, they feared God and believed that He had sent Moses to lead them. Moses and the Israelites sang a song to the Lord.



Christ Connection: Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, and God provided a way for them to escape through the Red Sea. The Bible says that Jesus is greater than Moses. (Hebrews 3:3) People who trust in Jesus escape the penalty of sin and have eternal life.

Discussion & Bible Skills

Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help kids use the table of contents and large chapter numbers to find **Exodus 13–15**. Talk about which divisions Exodus is a part of. Remind kids that we use Bible divisions to organize the Bible's teachings. Lead the group to discuss:

1. **How did God lead His people in the wilderness?** (as a pillar of cloud in the daytime and a pillar of fire at night, Ex. 13:21-22)
2. **Was God surprised when Pharaoh decided to chase after the Israelites?** (No, God knew what Pharaoh would do, and He chose to use Pharaoh one last time to show His power and save His people; Ex. 14:1-4)
3. **What did the Israelites do after God parted the sea and closed it on the Egyptians?** (fear the Lord, trust in Him, and sing a song of worship; Ex. 14:31–15)
4. **How do you think the Israelites felt when they saw Pharaoh's army chasing them and the Red Sea in front of them?** Guide kids to discuss the idea that fear is a normal response when facing uncertain circumstances. Point them back to the fact that God is faithful, and He had promised to rescue the Israelites. Prompt kids to think about the difference between feeling afraid and acting out of fear.
5. **How do you think we should respond when God provides for us in different ways?** Moses and the Israelites responded by praising God and singing a song of worship to Him. Talk about what it means to trust the Lord and why we can trust Him to always do what is best.

God's attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today's story we see that God is:

-In Control -Protector

Travel Guide:

Use the travel guide for maps, charts, etc... as useful with helping the children learn and understand today's story.



15 min

Flight Lab

Instill Wonder as you experience the Bible
CHOOSE ONE ACTIVITY

Key Passage Activity

Invite volunteers to say the verse from memory. Praise each kid for her efforts and encourage all of them to continue working on memorizing the passage. Display the key passage poster and challenge the kids to say the verse as quickly as they can. See how many times they can say the verse in 60 seconds.

Plunder the Egyptians

Scatter plastic coins around the room. Place a bucket in one corner of the room. When you say go, the kids will gather the coins as quickly as they can and place them in the bucket. Challenge the kids to gather them as fast as possible. You may use paper wads instead of plastic coins.

- After the Passover, the Israelites plundered Egypt. Plunder is a word that means “to take most of the valuable things with you as you leave.” Soon after the Israelites left Egypt with many valuable things, Pharaoh decided that he did not want them to leave after all. He sent his army out to capture them and take them back to Egypt!

Red Sea Craft

Give each kid a sheet each of brown and blue construction paper. Help the kids cut the sheet of blue paper in half using safety scissors. Next, the kids will fold each piece of the blue paper in half. Kids should lay the blue pieces on the brown construction paper so the edges of the blue paper meet in the middle of the brown paper. Then, kids will glue the outside edges of the blue paper to the brown paper so that the blue paper can fold up to simulate the waters parting and returning. On the brown sheet of paper, under the flaps of blue paper, kids can draw a crowd of people crossing the sea on dry land and write the story point: God parted the Red Sea for His people to cross.

- God parted the Red Sea for His people to cross. His power and love are infinite and He is faithful to save His people. His actions to save the Israelites from Pharaoh point to an even greater rescue. He sent Jesus to make the way for us to be with God. Jesus died on the cross for our sin and rose again on the third day. When we believe in Jesus, God forgives our sin and gives us everlasting life with Him.

Build Tents

Show a child how to fold a sheet of paper in half. Unfold slightly and place it on a floor to resemble a tent. Decorate tents with markers. Lay pieces of blue paper nearby to resemble the Red Sea. Consider adding toy people and animals to play out camping. Tell segments of the story as boys and girls play it out. Open a Bible to Exodus 14:1-4 to show children the place in the Bible where God told the Israelites where to camp.

- God's people camped by the Red Sea after Moses led them out of Egypt. When the army chased them, God rescued His people and separated the sea in two. God led His people through the Red Sea on dry ground. Moses led the people well, but the Bible says Jesus is greater than Moses. Jesus rescues us from sin when we trust Him.

Make a Book

Stack two pieces of white paper together and fold them in half. Fold one sheet of construction paper in half. Nest white paper inside and bind together with staples to form a book. Write My Worship Book on the front. Print enough copies of "People Worship God" printable for each child to have nine images. Cut apart the images. Older children may cut out the images. Provide art materials and invite children to draw or glue pictures of children who are worshipping God.

- After God led His people through the Red Sea on dry ground, Moses and the Israelites thanked God and sang songs to Him. They worshiped God for saving them in a way that no one else could. Is there anything God cannot do? God can do all things. God saved His people from the army, and God saves us from sin through Jesus, His Son.

Part the Sea

Before the session, inflate 25 blue balloons. Form two groups. Place the balloons in the middle of the room. Direct each group to stand at opposite sides of the room.

Give each group a roll of masking tape. Explain that kids will take turns racing to pick up a balloon and return to their group's side of the room.

Kids should use the tape to secure the balloon to the wall. When the balloon is attached, another player may retrieve another balloon. Continue until kids secure all balloons on the walls like a parted sea, or as time allows.

- In the Bible story we will hear today, God's people were trying to get away from the Egyptians when they came to the Red Sea. It was too deep to wade through and too wide to swim across.



5 min Pilot's log

Where we prepare to depart.

Pray:

If time, share prayer requests and allow kids to record in the **prayer journal section of their *Travel Guide*.**

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

Waiting for parents/Activity Page:

Tie back into the lesson, remind them of the Big Picture Question/verse, etc...

Be sure to **re-set expectations on what their choices are while waiting for mom and dad:**

- Activity page
- Key Passage Activity (See next page for list of options)
- Coloring page
- Gospel Kit Activities
- Anything quiet at the tables you are ok with (*origami, free draw on blank paper, hangman game at white board, putting Book of the Bible cards in order, etc....*)

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents so they can go home with families.

Key Passage Review Extra Ideas:

Invite kids to sit around tables. Give each kid a pencil. Show the key passage poster and lead them to read it aloud.

Give a piece of paper to one kid at each table. Instruct him to write down the first word of the key passage and pass the paper to the person on his right. That person will write down the second word, pass the paper to her right, and so on. Kids will pass the paper around the table, writing one word at a time until they finish the key passage. When kids finish, invite groups one at a time to say the key passage together.

Display the key passage poster. Lead the kids to read it aloud. Then challenge them to read it in various ways: whispering, shouting, quickly, slowly, and so on.

Form two groups of kids. Call on the first group to say the key passage together. Then call on the second group to say it.

Prompt the first group to say the passage a few phrases at a time, pausing for the second group to echo. When kids finish saying the key passage, lead the second group to begin and the first group to echo.

Instruct kids to sit or stand in a circle. Choose one kid to begin by saying the first word of the key passage. Guide kids to say the key passage, one word at a time, moving around the circle.

Allow kids to look at the key passage poster if they need help remembering the words. Continue around the circle a few times. Consider shouting, "Switch!" and letting kids move to another place in the circle before playing again. *Or toss the ball to different kids rather than go in order.*

Before the session, write out the key passage on a chalkboard or dry erase board in eight separate phrases. Display the phrases where kids can see them. Give each kid a marker and eight craft sticks. Instruct kids to copy from the board, writing each phrase on a separate stick. Then instruct kids to mix up their sticks and then quickly rearrange the phrases in the correct order. Kids may work individually or in pairs. Provide rubber bands for kids to bundle their sticks and keep them as a method of practicing the key passage during the week.

Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain—In small groups, ask children/co-pilot to write prayer requests on a few paper strips. Connect paper strips into a chain and display our growing conversation to the Lord. Feel free to revisit older requests as well.

Painted Rocks—Have each child choose a painted rock to write on. Write a word of encouragement, a word about Jesus, a name, etc. The goal is to take it with them and place it somewhere near their typical living space— a neighbor's house, a store, a playground, etc. Then pray over the place or the people who are there.

Pointing to a Map—Choose one or two kiddos to spin/close their eyes/ find a certain color (you can be creative and have fun) and point to a country on the map. Place a pin in the place(s) and pray over it as a group. Even if you don't know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus' light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

Looking out the Window—Grab a dry erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out of the window to pray over. Using the dry erase marker, write those things on the window (PreK & K may draw things) and then pray over those things. Feel free to leave them on the window, so whenever we look through, those things are brought to our mind to pray for again.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.