

“Hey, God!” - Lesson 5

“Can I Really Be Free?”

Main Focus:

God can set you free from any sin or situation!



Power Verse:

“So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.”

- John 8:36



Whatchagaddaknow:

“I Know God Can Set Me Free!”

LEADER'S INFO

God gave Moses a mission: go to Pharaoh and tell him to let God's people GO! For over 400 years, the Israelites had been slaves in Egypt. Pharaoh thought he was in charge—but when he said “no” to God, he found out just how wrong he was.

God sent powerful plagues to show that He was in control, not Pharaoh. Through it all, God protected His people. And in the end, God didn't just bring them out—He set them free in a big way. Pharaoh was strong, but God is stronger!

And guess what? The same thing is true for us. Sin tries to trap us and hold us like slaves, but it doesn't stand a chance against the power of God! When we follow Jesus, He sets us free—no chains, no guilt, no fear!

We're not alone, and we're not stuck. We are totally and completely FREE!



“The Spark” Intro Video

“What Does It Mean To Be Free?”



Whatchagaddaknow Video

Wiggy Pop teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Curi Osity”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Stickball”



Bible Story

“The Plagues Of Egypt”



Power Verse Video

“So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.”

- John 8:36



Call To Action

“Can I Really Be Free?”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

God can set you free from any sin or situation!



Power Verse:

“So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.”

- John 8:36



Whatchagaddaknow:

“I Know God Can Set Me Free!”

Lesson 5 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 5 - The Spark” Intro Video

Whatchagaddaknow Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow Teaching” Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow Trigger” Video

Character Skit

- “Curi Osity” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Stickball” Graphic
- Two Ping Pong Balls
- Two Pieces Of Bread
- Peanut Butter
- A Table

Bible Story

- “The Plagues Of Egypt” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 5 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Can I Really Be Free?” Graphics
- A Pair Of “Fake” Handcuffs
- A Volunteer

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 5 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Bible Story Print Piece
- Crayons, Pencils, Or Markers
- Power Verse Print Piece
- Bean Bag
- Paper
- Bibles

“The Spark” Intro Video

“What Does It Mean To Be Free?”

Whatchagaddaknow Video

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Character Skit

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Offering Time

Game Time!

“Stickball”

Bible Story

“The Plagues Of Egypt”

Power Verse Video

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Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Welcome back to our awesome series called “Hey God!” We’ve been asking some big questions to God like,

*“Do You have a plan for me?”
“Why are You taking so long?”
“Have You forgotten me?”*

Let me ask you this—have you ever felt trapped? Like when your big brother has you pinned on the ground in his best “wrestling move” but he won’t stop sitting on you to let you up? Or when you’re stuck in your seat on a long car ride? Or maybe you found the most epic spot to hide during a game of “Hide and Seek.” The problem is...you had to squeeze yourself so tightly into the spot that you ended up stuck, not being able to move.

Feeling stuck or trapped is a horrible feeling. You wonder what it will take for you to be FREE! To help you know what I mean, let’s check out this video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 5”)

Leader: Sometimes, sin can make us feel like we’re stuck - like we’re in chains we can’t get out of. That’s how God’s people felt in Egypt. They were literally slaves—trapped. But God had a plan. He sent Moses to say, “Let my people GO!”

Today, you’re going to see how God showed His power through plagues and miracles. You are going to see how God set His people free. And the best part? That same powerful God can set YOU free from anything that’s trying to trap you!

We are going to learn all about that in our lesson, today. But, before we do that, we need to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Curi Osity” *(She is an amateur detective who is always on the hunt for her next case! She always carries a magnifying glass and notepad with her to uncover clues and put together the answers she so badly seeks to find.)*

Curi: *(Enters excitedly)* I’m on a mission to find freedom! Would you like to join me on my mission?

Leader: That’s a big mission, Curi! What has you interested in freedom?

Curi: *(Waving her magnifying glass)* Because my friend told me that God’s people in Egypt wanted to be free!

Leader: That’s right! They were in slavery, but God helped them and set them free.

Curi: *(Excitedly)* I don’t know how God did it, but I will find out!

Leader: You won’t have to search too hard!

Curi: Oh, really? Why is that? I love searching for answers!

Leader: Well, it’s in the Bible. God sent plagues to convince Pharaoh to set His people free.

Curi: *(Leaning in)* Plagues? Like the time I had to share my ice cream, and it melted all over my shoes? That was awful.

Leader: *(Chuckling)* Not quite! These plagues were way more awful than ice cream on your shoes! Instead of ice cream, imagine frogs and flies all over your shoes!

Curi: *(Gasping)* Frogs? I can barely handle one frog! EWWWWW! I despise frogs! They give you warts! And they eat flies! GROSS! And they...

Leader: They what?

Curi: *(Loud whisper)* They could go to the bathroom ANYWHERE! You never know when you could step where a frog has been!

Leader: *(Laughing)* You would not have enjoyed being an Egyptian during the plagues then! Pharaoh thought he was powerful, but God was teaching him a lesson.

Curi *(Pondering)* So, God wanted Pharaoh to learn that He is the real leader?

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Leader: Exactly! He wanted Pharaoh to understand that God’s people deserve to be free. Freedom was something they had been crying and begging God for for hundreds of years!

Curi: Like me! I want to be free to eat all the candy I want! And all the cotton candy I want! And all the ice cream I want!

Leader: But with great freedom comes great responsibility!

Curi: *(Confused)* Responsibility? Is that like having to clean up after my pet dinosaur?

Leader: More like understanding that freedom means making good choices.

Curi: *(Looking through her magnifying glass)* Okay, how do I make good choices?

Leader: Follow God’s lead and His plans, and you will make good choices! Do what His word says, and He won’t steer you wrong!

Curi: Wow! So, I just need to find God, then do what He says! Easy! Hmm... where should I look first? Should I go find some frogs? Some slimy... horrible... disgusting...

Leader: *(Laughing)* I don’t think you have to go find some frogs to find God, Curi! He is always with us. Just read His word, the Bible, and you will find Him!

Curi: *(Relieved)* Phew! So no frogs?

Leader: No frogs! But once you find God, you will find the freedom you’re looking for! God can set us free from anything – including your fear of frogs!

Curi: Then I’d better get going! *(Pointing the magnifying glass forward)* Freedom, here I come! I am Curi Osity... Keep asking questions and stay curious! BYE!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Stickball”

Items Needed For Game:

Two ping pong balls; two pieces of bread; peanut butter; a table

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Preparation:

Choose an equal number of players per team to play in this relay game. Spread some peanut butter on each of the pieces of bread and place them in the middle of the table.

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How To Play:

Each team is given one ping pong ball. They must stand at the end of the table (*opposite ends*) and take turns bouncing their ping pong ball down the table, attempting to “stick” their ball on one of the pieces of bread with peanut butter. The first team to stick their ball in the peanut butter will be declared the winning team!



Bible Story

“The Plagues Of Egypt”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 5; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in Exodus 5-13; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is found in Exodus chapters 5-13. God told Moses to go speak to Pharaoh and tell him to let God’s people go. Even though Moses wasn’t confident in himself, he was confident in God! He went straight to Egypt and stood before Pharaoh (*show pic*) and said, “God says, ‘Let my people go!’”



Pharaoh was not impressed, so he refused. Moses decided to demonstrate God’s power to Pharaoh. He commanded his brother, Aaron, to throw his staff out of his hand (*show pic*) and it instantly became a snake. Pretty impressive, huh? Not to Pharaoh. He had his magicians do the same thing. They threw their staffs on the ground and their staffs became snakes. (*show pic*) But, Moses and Aaron’s snake began to swallow all of Pharaoh’s snakes. But, Pharaoh still refused to listen to Moses.



So, now it was time for God to really demonstrate His power to Pharaoh. God sent a series of terrible plagues upon Egypt. (*show pic*) First, Moses turned the Nile River to blood. (*show pic*) Then God sent a plague of frogs everywhere. (*show pic*) There was a plague of flies and gnats as well as dead cattle! (*show pic*) Terrible things kept happening in the land of Egypt. But the entire time all of the bad things were happening to Pharaoh and the Egyptians, none of the bad things happened to the Israelites. Isn’t that amazing? God was blessing and protecting His people. All the while, Pharaoh STILL refused to let God’s people go.



The final plague that God sent was the Angel of Death. (*show pic*) God told the Israelites to take the blood of lambs and brush it onto their door posts. That way, when the plague came to the land, the Angel would pass over each of the Israelites houses and leave them alone. But, all of the Egyptian houses did not have the lamb’s blood on them. So, in those houses the plague caused the firstborn sons to die. This included the firstborn son of Pharaoh. This finally got Pharaoh’s attention. (*show pic*) After his son died, Pharaoh called Moses in and told him, “Take your people and leave! You are FREE!”



Finally, after hundreds of years of slavery, God’s people were free to leave Egypt. God had blessed and protected His people through all of the terrible plagues, and now they were set FREE! In your lesson today, you are going to learn all about how God can bless, protect, and set you FREE from anything!



Call To Action

“Can I Really Be Free?”

Materials Needed:

The “Call To Action” graphics; a pair of “fake” handcuffs (*available at most toy stores*); a volunteer

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, “Can I Really Be Free?”



The Message: *(title slide)*

Today, we are asking the question, “Can I Really Be Free?” Freedom is something that the Israelites definitely needed. They had been slaves in the country of Egypt for hundreds of years. I need someone who can represent the Israelites for me today. (*choose a volunteer, bring them onstage, then place the handcuffs on them to illustrate them being in slavery*)

Being a slave is no fun at all. The Israelites had to do whatever Pharaoh wanted them to do. If he said, “Build me a pyramid!” That’s what they had to do! If he decided they wouldn’t eat for a week, then they didn’t eat for a week. The Israelites were not in charge of their own lives. As slaves, they had to do whatever Pharaoh said. That was not a fun life at all.

But, God didn’t want them to have to stay slaves. That’s why God sent Moses to tell Pharaoh to let God’s people go! Did Pharaoh listen? (*allow response*) No, he didn’t. So, God sent some terrible plagues upon the nation of Egypt. Now, what was cool about the plagues was that - even though the Israelites were in slavery - God protected them from all of the plagues. Even though all of the bad stuff happened to Egypt, nothing bad happened to the Israelites. Even when it was a plague of total darkness across the land of Egypt - over where the Israelites lived - there was lots of light, as usual. Isn’t that cool? That teaches us that when bad things are happening all around...



God Will Protect Me *(slide)*

God protects His people from harm. Over and over in the Bible we see how God protected His people, and He still does today. God can protect you from sickness, from danger, from whatever. Even while terrible things may be happening to other people all around you, God can protect you. In fact, you may not even realize all of the things God has protected you from every day. You don’t realize it, because you don’t even know about - the car that would’ve hit you, the animal that would have bitten you, or the bully that would’ve picked on you. You don’t know about them, because God protected you and kept them from happening. (*walk over to the volunteer in handcuffs and point*) Even while bad things are happening, God will protect me...and...

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Call To Action (Continued)

God Will Bless Me *(slide)*



While the Egyptians endured the plagues, God’s people were living in the land of Goshen – where the plants survived, the animals grew strong, the weather was wonderful, and the sun was shining. Even while God was judging the Egyptians, God was blessing His people. Obedience leads to blessing. Because the Israelites obeyed and followed God, He blessed them big-time.

God will do the same thing for you. If you stay close to Him, follow Him, and obey Him, He will bless your life in a big way. Other people will see the blessings of God in your life and realize that there is something different about you. They will wonder, “How can they be so blessed?” You can tell them, “It’s because I belong to God. Give your life to God and you can be blessed, too!”

But, even more than protection and blessing, the Israelites needed to be set free from slavery. When God sent the final plague over Egypt, Pharaoh’s oldest son died. This was all it took to soften Pharaoh’s heart. *(walk over to the volunteer representing the Israelites)* He finally gave in and set the Israelites FREE! *(when you say, “FREE!”, flick the lever on the handcuffs and release the volunteer from the handcuffs)* Isn’t that awesome?

God Will Set Me Free *(slide)*



God’s plan for ALL of us is to be FREE! You may say, “Free? Why are we talking about being free? I am not a slave like the Israelites were.” Well, some people are slaves. Not slaves to Pharaoh, but slaves to sinful habits that keep them bound up. Sinful habits like lying, cheating, stealing, talking back to their parents, disobeying, cussing, and other things like that. God doesn’t want us to be slaves to sin. He wants to set us FREE! *(hold up the handcuffs)* God doesn’t want sin to have a hold on us.

Many of you are slaves to sin. You are not in control of your life - the sinful habit is in control. You may want to stop lying, but you can’t seem to stop. You don’t want to steal, but you still do. Sin can keep us locked up and enslaved just like the Israelites were. God wants to set us FREE just like He did the Israelites. Today, we are going to pray that God will break the chains of sinful habits in your life. “Can I Really Be Free?” With God’s help - you absolutely can!

ALTAR RESPONSE: *(play soft music)*

Pray for the children who have been battling sinful habits in their lives. Pray that God will set them FREE!



Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 5 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “I Know God Can Set Me Free!”

2. What happened to Aaron’s staff when he threw it on the ground?

Answer: It Turned Into A Snake

3. What did Aaron’s snake do to the magicians’ snakes?

Answer: Swallowed Them

4. When the plagues came to Egypt, did the Israelites suffer?

Answer: No

5. What was the final plague that made Pharoah change his mind?

Answer: Death Of The Firstborn Son

6. Did Pharoah eventually let God’s people go free?

Answer: Yes

7. According to our lesson today, “God Will _____ Me.”

Answer: Protect

8. According to our lesson today, “God Will _____ Me.”

Answer: Bless

9. According to our lesson today, “God Will Set Me _____!”

Answer: Free

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: John 8:36