

## 2.1 Large Group Lesson | Preschool



# Tippy's Mouse House

## A Float Trip for Baby Moses

**BIG IDEA:** God gives me everything I need.

**BIBLE BASIS:** Exodus 1:1-2:10

**KEY VERSE:** "My God will meet all your needs." Philippians 4:19 (NirV)

# SCHEDULE

## 2S & 3S CLASSES

### ARRIVAL & PLAYTIME

10:30-10:55

### 2S & 3S LARGE GROUP

10:55-11:10

### SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

11:10-12:00

## PRE-K & K CLASSES

### SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

10:30-11:15

### PRE-K & KINDER LARGE GROUP

11:15-11:40

### REVIEW ACTIVITIES

11:40-12:00

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## LEADER DEVOTIONAL

Have you ever noticed how many times the Bible makes reference to the hand of God? God's hands are mentioned more than any of His other body parts. Do you remember the verse about the elbow of God? Neither do I. Hands invoke so many different images — power, intimacy, creativity, strength, comfort.

Recently, a friend suffered a stroke and was in the hospital. I went to visit her, not because I had something tangible to give her, but because I wanted to sit next to her and hold her hand. Period. That's it. In that simple gesture of grabbing her hand, I wanted to somehow show her that she was not alone, I was there for her, and I was praying for her.

The power of that simple act of holding someone's hand is amazing. It not only comforts the receiver but gives them strength and courage. When a mom is laboring away, there isn't much the husband can do but hold her hand and whisper in her ear that everything is going to be alright. When a child becomes frightened, one of their first instincts is to grasp the hand of someone they trust.

In Isaiah 41:13, God says He will take hold of our right hand and help us. He doesn't say He will do it for us or remove our hands so He can finish the job. His gentle touch reminds us that He is here with us, we are not alone, we do not need to be afraid, and He is on our side. I think my biggest fear at times is feeling like I am "doing it alone" or "forgotten." In those moments of fear, I need to remember to stop and feel the mighty, powerful hand of God grasping mine and hear Him whispering, "Do not fear. I am WITH YOU!"

*Mindy Rausch*  
GO! Team Member

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### LARGE GROUP SKILL BUILDING

#### *Understanding a Kid's World*

One of the best ways to connect with kids is to understand the world they live in. Unfortunately, relying on our memories of being a kid won't cut it. Newsflash: Kids don't know who "Captain Caveman" is, and your "Speak and Spell" is a technological dinosaur to them. Even if you were a kid just a short while ago, the culture has already shifted considerably. Communicating with kids effectively, whether as a small group leader or a large group teacher, requires you to engage them at *their* level and in *their* world. Don't let the task sound daunting, though — you're surrounded by experts who would be happy to teach you!

**Ask the experts:** Who's the best person to ask about today's kid culture? (*Warning: Obvious answer approaching.*) Kids! Ask the kids in your ministry what their favorites are — movies, TV shows, music, board games, video games, apps, toys, etc. Be ready, though. Just like experts in any area, when you get them talking, they might not be able to stop!

**Do some research:** Who said research has to be boring? Once you know what your kids are watching, playing, and hearing, you should watch it, play it, and listen to it yourself! You'll be surprised how much you learn about kids when you visit their world.

**Report your findings immediately:** The next time you see the kids, tell them what you listened to, watched, or played. Their faces will most likely light up. You'll be able to reference things that are relevant and interesting to them. Best of all, you'll have an instant connection with them and they'll see you in a whole new light.

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## UNIT DESCRIPTION

Welcome to Tippy's Mouse House! Just as mice are prone to do, Tippy has tiptoed into the preschool room and scurried off with the Bible story pictures. Together, the preschoolers get to peek into Tippy's Mouse House and search for the pictures amongst all the other doodads Tippy has collected. It's a super sweet search that culminates in the discovery of God's provision and perfect love.

## SET-UP INSTRUCTIONS

- Print the picture of "Tippy the Mouse" on 8½" x 11" cardstock and place it in the storytelling area.
- Print one copy of "Tippy's Mouse House" for each child on 8½" x 11" paper. (See Resource Folder.) Place them in the storytelling area.
- Place some crayons (one for each child) in the storytelling area.
- Create a "Super Duper Bible Box" and place your storytelling Bible inside. This box will be used every week. See the Resource Folder for details on how to make the "Super Duper Bible Box."
- If using the non-video options for the Topher segments of the lesson, print the Topher's Storytime Rules signs and Topher's Big Idea signs on 8½" x 11" cardstock paper and place in the story time area. See "Getting Started" in the Resource Folder for the printable signs and for more instructions on how to perform the non-video options.
- Note: Any media repeated throughout the unit, such as the Topher videos and the title slide, is located in the Lesson 1 Resource Folder only.

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# ★ LARGE GROUP LESSON

### WELCOME AND MUSIC

**Music:** Play one or two upbeat worship songs

### BIG IDEA AND BIBLE VERSE

**Large Group Leader:** Hello, my preschool friends! I'm so happy to see you here today! I really, *really* need your help finding something. You see, our Bible story pictures are missing and I think I know where they went. We've got to find the pictures so we can tell today's Bible story.

**Say:** During today's true Bible story, we're going to learn that **God gives me everything I need**. That's our Big Idea for the day. Can you say that with me? *(Repeat Big Idea with children.)* **God gives me everything I need**. It's true: **God gives me everything I need**. In fact, that's what our memory verse tells us. Let me teach it to you.

*"My God (point up with both hands)  
will meet (clasp hands)  
all (make a big circle with hands)  
your needs (extend open palms like you're receiving something).  
Because you belong (point forward)  
To Jesus Christ. (point up)"*  
**Philippians 4:19** *(put palms together like you're holding a book).*

**Say:** Let's do that together. *(Repeat Memory Verse with children two or three times.)*

**Music:** Play Worship Song – 2s & 3s SKIP

### STORY TIME RULES

**Say:** Wow — nice job! I think you are ready for the Bible story. Before we get started, though, I think we should go over our three story-time rules.

**Video:** Play "Topher the Gopher Story Time Rules" video

*(Note: Play the "Topher the Gopher Story Time Rules" video or use the Story Time Rules script found in the Resource Folder.)*

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### TIPPY'S MOUSE HOUSE INTRO

**Say:** I want to introduce you to someone. (*Hold up Tippy the Mouse.*) This is Tippy — she's Topher the Gopher's friend. Can you wave and say, "Hi Tippy!" (*Children wave and say hi.*) Last night, Tippy tiptoed into our room and took our Bible story pictures back to her mouse house. There's just one problem — now the pictures are mixed in with all the other doodads Tippy has collected. If you're ready to start looking for the pictures, let's tiptoe to Tippy's house while we say the Tippy Tippy Tiptoe rhyme. Repeat this after me. (*Tiptoe in place with the children while quietly saying the following rhyme. Say one line at a time, then have the children repeat.*)

**Video:** (Optional) Play the "Tippy Rhyme" video

*Tippy Tippy tiptoed into our church,  
Scurried to our room for a mousy search.  
Tippy took our pictures one by one.  
Now begins the picture finding fun.*

**Say:** Great job! We're at Tippy's house now! Let's sit down as quiet as a mouse. (*Sit down with children.*) There's just one more thing we need to do before we look inside Tippy's mouse house and hear our Bible story. We need to get our Bible out of the Super Duper Bible Box. (*Move to the Bible Box.*) I need your help getting it out, though. Let's say our special Bible words together. Repeat these special words after me: It's true, it's true, the Bible is true!

**Slide:** Show the "Float Trip for Baby Moses" slide

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### BIG BIBLE STORY — A FLOAT TRIP FOR BABY MOSES

**Note:** Before the story begins, give each child a copy of “Tippy’s Mouse House” along with a crayon. Encourage the children to keep their paper face down when they’re not searching for a picture. Whenever you say, “Let’s peek inside Tippy’s house,” have the children flip the paper over, begin their search, and circle the picture once it’s found. Have a copy for yourself and circle each object along with the children so you can show them where it is hidden if needed.

**Say:** In the Bible, in the Book of Exodus, God had a special family of people that He loved VERY much. The family was called the “Israelites.” Can you say “Israelites” with me? (*Repeat word with children.*) The Israelites didn’t have their own land yet, so they had to live in a country called Egypt. There was a big problem, though.

**Say:** Let’s peek inside Tippy’s house and see if we can find the picture of a **mad face**. (*Give the children a moment to find the missing picture.*) The ruler of Egypt was a mean man named Pharaoh. Pharaoh didn’t like the Israelites, so he gave an order to all of his people. He said, “You must throw every Israelite baby boy into the river.”

**Say:** Let’s peek inside Tippy’s house and see if we can find a **little baby**. (*Give the children a moment to find the missing picture.*) One day, there was a little baby named Moses who was born. Can you say “Moses” with me? (*Repeat word with children.*) At first, Moses’ mommy hid Moses so that the bad guys couldn’t find him, but after a while, baby Moses got too big and noisy to hide.

**Say:** Let’s peek inside Tippy’s house and see if we can **find a basket**. (*Give the children a moment to find the missing picture.*) Moses’ mom found a basket and put baby Moses inside of it. Then she placed the basket with the baby in some tall grass along the side of a big, big river. As baby Moses laid in the basket, his big sister watched from nearby to make sure baby Moses was safe.

**Say:** Let’s peek inside Tippy’s house and see if we can find a **bathtub**. (*Give the children a moment to find the missing picture.*) Later that day, Pharaoh’s daughter — a princess — went down to the river to take a bath. While the princess was walking along the river, she saw the basket in some tall grass. When she opened it up, she saw baby Moses crying and she felt sorry for him. So she decided to make baby Moses her own son so that he wouldn’t get hurt.

**Say:** Let’s peek inside Tippy’s house and see if we can find a **heart**. (*Give the children a moment to find the missing picture.*) Moses’ big sister went to the princess and said, “I know a person who can help you love and care for this baby.” That person was Moses’ mom. Now baby Moses had three people helping him — a princess who protected him (*put hands out like you’re holding someone back*), a sister who watched over him (*motion like you’re looking into the distance*), and a mom who loved and cared for him (*give yourself a hug*).

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### MUSIC AND CLOSING

*(Lead the children in a worship song of your choice. Following the song, ask the children to sit down again.)*

#### Music: Play one worship song

**Say:** In today's true Bible story, the mean Pharaoh wanted to hurt baby Moses, but God gave him some helpers. Who were the three people who helped baby Moses? *(Take answers.)* Great answers! Do these motions with me. Baby Moses had a princess who protected him *(put hands out like you're holding someone back)*, a sister who watched over him *(motion like you're looking into the distance)*, and a mom who loved and cared for him *(give yourself a hug)*. God gave baby Moses people to help him, and He gives us helpers too.

**Say:** Let's think of some of the helpers God gives us. *(Appear to be thinking.)* Hmm...let me think. I know! God gives us mommies to help us. Let's pretend to give our mommies a big hug. *(Hug yourself.)* Who else does God give us? *(Take answers. After each answer, say, "God give us [insert answer]. Let's pretend to give our [insert answer] a big hug.")*

**Say:** God gives us mommies and daddies and [fill in other answers]. Best of all, God gives us Jesus so that we can live with Him forever in Heaven. **God gives us everything we need.**

**Say:** Hey — that's our Big Idea for today! I think we should tell it to our parents when we see them. Maybe we should practice first. *(Appear to be thinking.)* Hmm...who could we practice telling? I know! We could tell our friend, Topher the Gopher. Let's see if we can find him.



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## TOPHER'S BIG IDEA

*(Play "Topher's Big Idea Video 1" or, for a non-video option, print out the "Topher's Big Idea Cards" ahead of time and hold up card #1. See the "Topher's Big Idea" document in the Resource Folder for more suggestions on how to perform the non-video option.)*

**Video:** Play "Topher's Big Idea Video"

**(Whisper.)** Uh-oh. It looks like Topher is asleep. I think we should wake him up. When he wakes up, we can all tell him that **God gives me everything I need**. On the count of three, let's all yell, "Topher the Gopher, wake up, wake up!" *(Count to three and yell with kids.)*

**Topher:** Hey, what's the Big Idea?

**Children and Large Group Leader:** **God gives me everything I need.** *(Repeat the Big Idea several times.)*

**Topher:** Wow! That is a Big Idea! Thanks for telling me! Goodbye, kids. *(Encourage kids to wave goodbye to Topher as he disappears back into his hole.)*

**Large Group Leader:** Let's say a prayer together and thank God for giving us people to help and care for us. *(Encourage kids to repeat the following prayer after you.)*

**Dear God,  
You give me everything I need.  
Thank you for giving me  
The people who help and care for me.  
And thank you for giving me Jesus.  
Amen.**