

Week 4

Day 1: God Sees Our Pain

Scripture Reading: Exodus 1:17-22

Devotional:

The Israelites had been living in Egypt for many years. They had grown in number and were doing well. But a new Pharaoh came to power. and he was afraid of them. He made them slaves and forced them to work very hard. He treated them harshly and even made a terrible rule: all baby boys must be killed! This was a very sad and scary time for God's people. But even when it looked like everything was going wrong, God had not left them. God saw their pain and heard their cries. He knew what was happening and had a plan to help them. He cared deeply for His people. Sometimes we go through things that are hard — maybe people are unkind to us, or we feel scared or alone. But just like God saw the Israelites, He sees you too. He loves you and cares about everything you go through. God is always good, even when life feels bad. We can know and trust that even in the painful and hardto-understand parts of life that God is near to us and He understands what we are going through.

Discussion:

- 1. Can you think of a time when you were sad or scared? How did God help you?
- 2. What does it mean to you that "God sees our pain"?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You that You see me when I'm hurting or scared. Help me to remember that You are good no matter what. Amen.

Welcome to week 4 of our Amazonia devo! This week we are focusing on how God is good in ALL that He does. Even when we don't understand what He might be doing in our lives, we can still trust and know that He has only good plans for us. We are going to learn about how He had good plans for Moses in the Bible too!

Day 2: God Protects With A Plan

Scripture Reading: Exodus 2:1-10 Devotional:

One brave mother gave birth to a baby boy and hid him for three months so Pharaoh's soldiers wouldn't find him. When she couldn't hide him anymore, she put him in a basket and placed it in the Nile River. That sounds scary — but this was part of God's plan! The baby's sister, Miriam, watched from a distance. And guess what? Pharaoh's daughter found the basket! She felt sorry for the baby and decided to raise him as her own. And here's the amazing part: she even paid the baby's real mother to take care of him until he was older! That baby was Moses, and God had a special purpose for his life. Even when it seemed dangerous and sad, God was protecting Moses every step of the way. God's plan was already at work! It can be so easy to forget that God has good plans for us when we are in the midst of a frustrating or challenging time of our lives. But just like Moses' mom trusted that God would save and protect her son even though it was hard, we can also trust God that His plans for us are good! In fact, all throughout the Bible we can see that God always has good plans for those He loves.

Discussion:

- 1. Can you think of a time when something turned out better than you expected?
- 2. Do you think God's plans are always good? Why or why not?

Prayer:

God, help me to trust You even when things don't make sense. I know You're always working for my good. Amen.

Day 3: God Uses Ordinary People

Scripture Reading: Exodus 3:9-10 Devotional:

Many years later, Moses had grown up and was living far away in the desert. One day, while taking care of sheep, he saw something strange — a bush that was on fire, but it wasn't burning up! When he went closer, God spoke to him from the bush. God said He had heard the cries of His people and was ready to rescue them. Then He said something amazing: "Moses, I want YOU to go and help set My people free." Moses didn't feel ready. He said, "Who am I to do that?" He thought he wasn't brave enough or strong enough. But God told him, "I will be with you." God didn't choose Moses because he was perfect. He chose him because God knew He could do something great through him. And that's true for you, too! You don't have to be the smartest, strongest, or best. Just be willing to say yes to God. God is so good that He uses ordinary people — like Moses and like you — to do amazing things. Isn't that such a comforting truth? God wants to use us, even though we are ordinary and mess up sometimes.

Discussion:

- 1. Why do you think Moses felt unsure about helping save God's people?
- 2. Have you ever felt like you weren't good enough to do something?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You for using regular people to do big things. Help me say "yes" to You even when I feel afraid or unsure. Amen.

Day 4: God Keeps His Promises

Scripture Reading: Psalm 145:13 Devotional:

From the time the Israelites were suffering in slavery to the moment God called Moses at the burning bush, we can see that God was always at work. He saw their pain, protected Moses, and prepared him for the job of leading His people to freedom. God had promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that He would bless their family and take care of them. Even though it took time, God never forgot His promise. Everything He did was good and right — even when His people couldn't see the full picture. That's how God works in our lives, too. We may not always understand what's happening, but we can be sure of one thing: God is good in everything He does. He sees us, protects us, and always keeps His promises. God is always faithful — He never breaks a promise, and His goodness never ends.

Activity:

God Uses Me!! Use a mirror to help draw a self portrait of yourself on paper. After drawing a self portrait, write "God can use me" in big letters on the page. Think of a good place to put this so that you can be reminded of how God has good plans for you and plans to use you for His glory!

Prayer:

God, thank You for always keeping Your promises. Thank You for loving me and working for my good. Amen.

Memory Verse

"Lord God, with your great power you made the earth and the sky. There is nothing too hard for you to do." Jeremiah 32:17 (ERV)

