

MOSES



Read Exodus 16:4, 21-23 and complete the activities on page 3.

EXODUS 16

83

¹⁰But you blew with your breath.
The Red Sea covered your
enemies.
They sank like lead
in the mighty waters.

¹¹“LORD, who among the gods is like
you?
Who is like you?
You are majestic and holy.
Your glory fills me with wonder.
You do amazing things.

¹²You reach out your right hand.
The earth swallows up your
enemies.

¹³“Because your love is faithful,
you will lead the people you have
set free.
Because you are so strong,
you will guide them to the holy
place where you live.

¹⁴The nations will hear about it and
tremble.
Pain and suffering will take hold of
the Philistines.

¹⁵The chiefs of Edom will be terrified.
The leaders of Moab will tremble
with fear.
The people of Canaan will melt
away.

¹⁶ Fear and terror will fall on them.
Your powerful arm
will make them as still as a stone.
Then your people will pass by, LORD.
Then the people you created will
pass by.

¹⁷You will bring them in.
You will plant them on the
mountain you gave them.
LORD, you have made that place your
home.
Lord, your hands have made your
holy place secure.

¹⁸“The LORD rules
for ever and ever.”

¹⁹Pharaoh’s horses, chariots and
horsemen went into the Red Sea. The
LORD brought the waters of the sea
back over them. But the people of Israel
walked through the sea on dry ground.
²⁰Aaron’s sister Miriam was a prophet.
She took a tambourine in her hand. All
the women followed her. They played
tambourines and danced. ²¹Miriam
sang to them,

“Sing to the LORD.
He is greatly honored.
He has thrown Pharaoh’s horses and
chariot drivers
into the Red Sea.”

The Waters of Marah and Elim

²²Then Moses led Israel away from
the Red Sea. They went into the Desert
of Shur. For three days they traveled in
the desert. They didn’t find any water
there. ²³When they came to Marah, they
couldn’t drink its water. It was bitter.
That’s why the place is named Marah.
²⁴The people told Moses they weren’t
happy with him. They said, “What are
we supposed to drink?”

²⁵Then Moses cried out to the LORD.
The LORD showed him a stick. Moses
threw it into the water. The water be-
came fit to drink.

There the LORD gave a ruling and in-
struction for the people. And there he
tested them. ²⁶He said, “I am the LORD
your God. Listen carefully to me. Do
what is right in my eyes. Pay attention
to my commands. Obey all my rules. If
you do, I will not send on you any of the
sicknesses I sent on the Egyptians. I am
the LORD who heals you.”

²⁷The people came to Elim. It had 12
springs and 70 palm trees. They camped
there near the water.

The LORD Gives Israel Food Every Day

16 The whole community of Israel
started out from Elim. They came
to the Desert of Sin. It was between
Elim and Sinai. They arrived there on
the 15th day of the second month af-
ter they had come out of Egypt. ²In
the desert the whole community told
Moses and Aaron they weren’t happy
with them. ³The Israelites said to them,
“We wish the LORD had put us to death
in Egypt. There we sat around pots of
meat. We ate all the food we wanted. But
you have brought us out into this desert.
You must want this entire community to
die of hunger.”

⁴Then the LORD spoke to Moses.
He said, “I will rain down bread from
heaven for you. The people must go
out each day. Have them gather enough
bread for that day. Here is how I will test
them. I will see if they will follow my

Read
This
Verse

directions.⁵ On the sixth day they must prepare what they bring in. On that day they must gather twice as much as on the other days.”

⁶ So Moses and Aaron spoke to all the people of Israel. They said, “In the evening you will know that the LORD brought you out of Egypt. ⁷ And in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD. He has heard you say you aren’t happy with him. Who are we? Why are you telling us you aren’t happy with us?”
⁸ Moses also said, “You will know that the LORD has heard you speak against him. He will give you meat to eat in the evening. He’ll give you all the bread you want in the morning. But who are we? You aren’t speaking against us. You are speaking against the LORD.”

⁹ Then Moses told Aaron, “Talk to the whole community of Israel. Say to them, ‘Come to the LORD. He has heard you speak against him.’”

¹⁰ While Aaron was talking to the whole community of Israel, they looked toward the desert. There was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud!

¹¹ The LORD said to Moses, ¹² “I have heard the people of Israel talking about how unhappy they are. Tell them, ‘When the sun goes down, you will eat meat. In the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.’”

¹³ That evening quail came and covered the camp. In the morning the ground around the camp was covered with dew. ¹⁴ When the dew was gone, thin flakes appeared on the desert floor. They looked like frost on the ground. ¹⁵ The people of Israel saw the flakes. They asked each other, “What’s that?” They didn’t know what it was.

Moses said to them, “It’s the bread the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶ Here is what the LORD has commanded. He has said, ‘Everyone should gather as much as they need. Take three pounds for each person who lives in your tent.’”

¹⁷ The people of Israel did as they were told. Some gathered a lot, and some gathered a little. ¹⁸ When they measured it out, the one who gathered a lot didn’t have too much. And the one who gathered a little had enough. Everyone gathered only what they needed.

¹⁹ Then Moses said to them, “Don’t keep any of it until morning.”

²⁰ Some of them didn’t pay any attention to Moses. They kept part of it until morning. But it was full of maggots and began to stink. So Moses became angry with them.

²¹ Each morning everyone gathered as much as they needed. But by the hottest time of the day, the thin flakes had melted away. ²² On the sixth day, the people gathered twice as much. It amounted to six pounds for each person. The leaders of the community came and reported that to Moses. ²³ He said to them, “Here is what the LORD commanded. He said, ‘Tomorrow will be a day of rest. It will be a holy Sabbath day. It will be set apart for the LORD. So bake what you want to bake. Boil what you want to boil. Save what is left. Keep it until morning.’”

²⁴ So they saved it until morning, just as Moses commanded. It didn’t stink or get maggots in it. ²⁵ “Eat it today,” Moses said. “Today is a Sabbath day to honor the LORD. You won’t find any flakes on the ground today. ²⁶ Gather them for six days. But on the seventh day there won’t be any. It’s the Sabbath day.”

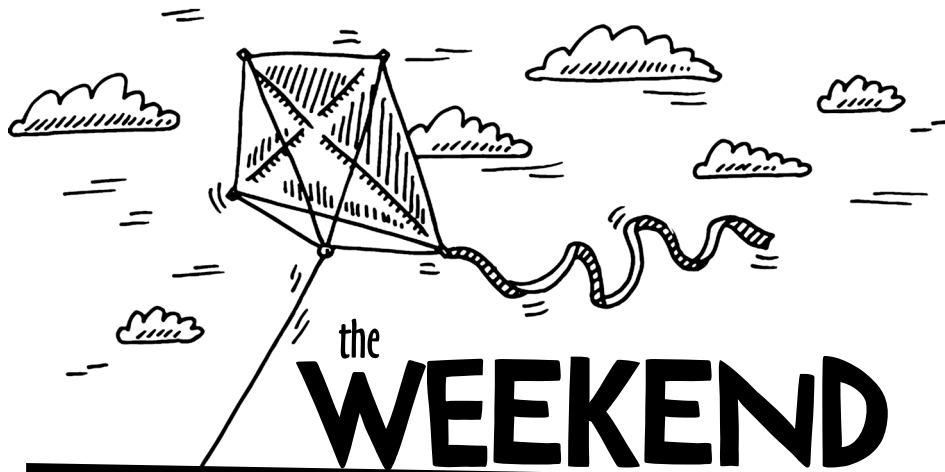
²⁷ In spite of what Moses said, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather the flakes. But they didn’t find any. ²⁸ Then the LORD spoke to Moses. He said, “How long will all of you refuse to obey my commands and my teachings? ²⁹ Keep in mind that I have given you the Sabbath day. That is why on the sixth day I give you bread for two days. Everyone must stay where they are on the seventh day. No one can go out.” ³⁰ So the people rested on the seventh day.

³¹ The people of Israel called the bread manna. It was white like coriander seeds. It tasted like wafers made with honey. ³² Moses said, “Here is what the LORD has commanded. He has said, ‘Get three pounds of manna. Keep it for all time to come. Then those who live after you will see the bread I gave you to eat in the desert. I gave it to you when I brought you out of Egypt.’”

³³ So Moses said to Aaron, “Get a jar. Put three pounds of manna in it. Then place it in front of the LORD. Keep it there for all time to come.”

Start
Reading
Here

End
Reading
Here



“I will rain down bread from heaven for you” (Exodus 16:4).

SATURDAY: Exodus 16:4, 21–23
SUNDAY: Numbers 11:7–9

You can’t find much to eat in a desert. You can crunch on a cactus or nibble a few leaves. You won’t find much more than that.

Imagine how the Israelites felt. They were in a desert with thousands of people and no food. What a mess! Only something special could save them.

That’s exactly what God sent. He promised to care for them. When it took something special, God supplied it.

Food fell outside their tents every night. Everyone had enough manna flakes. This special food rained down on God’s people for forty years!

Some people have tried to explain manna rain as a natural event. They can’t. It was a special act of God. God took care of his people. And God still takes care of his people.

I have read this devotion.

For your next reading, turn to page 92.

SOME THINGS to THINK ABOUT

Does God still give you food every day? Where does the wheat for bread come from?



SOME THINGS to DO

Thank God for all your food. Read a book about deserts. Look outside for trees and plants that supply food.

Read Exodus 9:1-3 and complete the activities on the next page.

EXODUS 9

73

that reason, they would throw stones at us and try to kill us. ²⁷We have to take a journey that lasts about three days. We want to go into the desert to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, just as he commands us.”

²⁸Pharaoh said, “I will let you and your people go to offer sacrifices. You can offer them to the LORD your God in the desert. But you must not go very far. Now pray for me.”

²⁹Moses replied, “As soon as I leave you, I will pray to the LORD. Tomorrow the flies will leave you. They will also leave your officials and your people. Just be sure you don’t try to trick us again. Let the people go to offer sacrifices to the LORD.”

³⁰Then Moses left Pharaoh and prayed to the LORD. ³¹And the LORD did what Moses asked. The flies left Pharaoh, his officials and his people. Not one fly remained. ³²But Pharaoh became stubborn this time also. He wouldn’t let the people go.

THE PLAGUE ON LIVESTOCK

9 Then the LORD spoke to Moses. He said, “Go to Pharaoh. Tell him, ‘The LORD, the God of the He-

brews, says, “Let my people go. Then they will be able to worship me. ²Do not refuse to let them go. Do not keep holding them back. ³If you refuse, my powerful hand will bring a terrible plague on you. I will strike your livestock in the fields. I will strike your horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep and goats. ⁴But I will treat Israel’s livestock differently from yours. No animal that belongs to the people of Israel will die.’”

⁵The LORD set a time for the plague. He said, “Tomorrow I will send it on the land.” ⁶So the next day the LORD sent it. All the livestock of the Egyptians died. But not one animal that belonged to the Israelites died. ⁷Pharaoh searched and found out what had happened. He discovered that not even one animal that belonged to the Israelites had died. But he was still very stubborn. He wouldn’t let the people go.

THE PLAGUE OF BOILS

⁸Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron. He said, “Take handfuls of ashes from a furnace. Have Moses toss them into the air in front of Pharaoh. ⁹The ashes will turn into fine dust over the whole land of Egypt. Then painful boils

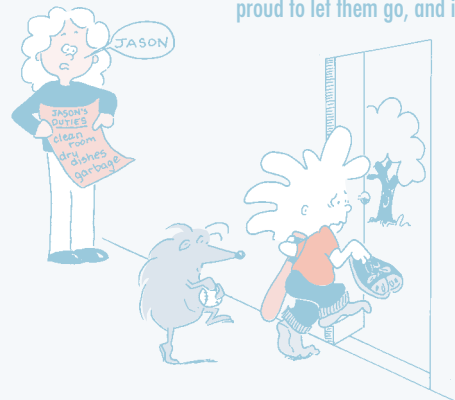
End Reading Here

Start Reading Here

KIDS’ QuEstion

WHY WOULDN’T PHARAOH LET THE PEOPLE GO?

A pharaoh was like a king. The Egyptian pharaoh made the Israelites slaves. He was angry when Moses asked him to let the Israelites leave Egypt. Pharaoh wanted to keep his slaves because they did a lot of work for free. That made his life easier. He was also too proud to let them go, and it would look like Moses was pushing him around.



He also would not let the people go because he did not believe in God. Pharaoh was in charge of Egypt and he did not want God, Moses, or anyone else telling him what to do.

CHECKOUT Exodus 8:19

Related verses:
Exodus 5:1–2

will break out on people and animals all over the land. Their bodies will be covered with them.”

¹⁰So Moses and Aaron took ashes from a furnace and stood in front of Pharaoh. Moses tossed them into the air. Then boils broke out on people and animals alike. ¹¹The bodies of all the Egyptians were covered with boils. The magicians couldn’t stand in front of Moses because of the boils that were all over them. ¹²But the LORD made Pharaoh stubborn. Pharaoh wouldn’t listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said to Moses.

THE PLAGUE OF HAIL

¹³Then the LORD spoke to Moses. He said, “Get up early in the morning. Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says, “Let my people go. Then they will be able to worship me. ¹⁴If you do not let them go, I will send the full force of my plagues against you this time. They will strike your officials and your people. Then you will know that there is no one like me in the whole earth. ¹⁵By now I could have struck you and your people with a plague

that would have wiped you off the earth. ¹⁶But I had a special reason for making you king. I decided to show you my power. I wanted my name to become known everywhere on earth. ¹⁷But you are still against my people. You will not let them go. ¹⁸So at this time tomorrow I will send the worst hailstorm ever to fall on Egypt in its entire history. ¹⁹Give an order now to bring your livestock inside to a safe place. Bring in everything that is outside. The hail will fall on all the people and animals that are left outside. They will die.””

²⁰The officials of Pharaoh who had respect for what the LORD had said obeyed him. They hurried to bring their slaves and their livestock inside. ²¹But others didn’t pay attention to what the LORD had said. They left their slaves and livestock outside.

²²Then the LORD spoke to Moses. He said, “Reach out your hand toward the sky. Then hail will fall all over Egypt. It will beat down on people and animals alike. It will strike everything growing in the fields of Egypt.” ²³Moses reached out his walking stick toward the sky. Then the LORD sent thunder and hail. Lightning flashed down to the ground.

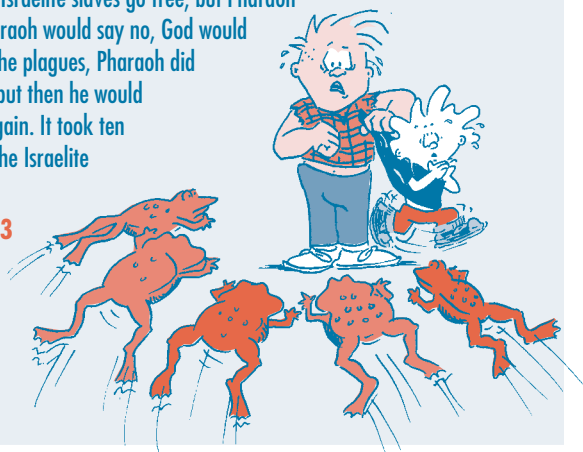
KIDS’ QuestiOn

WHY DID GOD SEND PLAGUES ON EGYPT?

A “plague” is when a bad thing happens to a lot of people at the same time. God sent the plagues on Egypt to show Pharaoh who was in charge and to show his power. God kept telling Pharaoh to let the Israelite slaves go free, but Pharaoh kept saying no. Whenever Pharaoh would say no, God would send a plague. After some of the plagues, Pharaoh did decide to let the Israelites go, but then he would change his mind and say no again. It took ten plagues to get Pharaoh to let the Israelite slaves go free!

CHECKOUT Exodus 9:1 – 3

Related verse:
Exodus 7:14



Read Exodus 20:1-17 and complete the activities below.

up. ²¹The LORD said to him, “Go down and warn the people. They must not force their way through to see the LORD. If they do, many of them will die. ²²The priests approach the LORD when they serve him. But even they must set themselves apart for the LORD. If they do not, his anger will break out against them.”

²³Moses said to the LORD, “The people can’t come up Mount Sinai. You yourself warned us. You said, ‘Put limits around the mountain. Set it apart as holy.’”

²⁴The LORD replied, “Go down. Bring Aaron up with you. But the priests and the people must not force their way through. They must not come up to the

LORD. If they do, his anger will break out against them.”

²⁵So Moses went down to the people and told them.

God Gives His People the Ten Commandments

20 Here are all the words God spoke. He said,

²“I am the LORD your God. I brought you out of Egypt. That is the land where you were slaves.

³“Do not put any other gods in place of me.

Start Reading Here

Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments show us how to love God. They show us how to love people too. Here is a list of the commandments. Look at what each one means. See how you can obey these commandments each day.



EXODUS 20:1-17

The Commandment	Meaning	I Obey It by:
1. Put no gods in place of me.	Trust God only.	Praying about my needs.
2. Do not make statues of gods.	Worship God only.	Thanking and praising God.
3. Don't misuse God's name.	Use God's name respectfully.	Not saying bad words or using God's name like a bad word.
4. Keep the Sabbath holy.	Rest and think about God.	Going to church school.
5. Honor your father and mother.	Respect parents.	Obeying my mom and dad.
6. Do not murder.	Take care of human life.	Helping others not to get hurt.
7. Do not commit adultery.	Be true to husband or wife.	Keeping promises I make to others.
8. Do not steal.	Don't take what belongs to others.	Not taking things that belong to others.
9. Do not give false witness.	Don't lie about others.	Being truthful and not saying bad things about other people.
10. Do not long for what belongs to others.	Don't want what others have.	Being content with what I have.



Exodus 20—21

90

4“Do not make for yourself statues of gods that look like anything in the sky. They may not look like anything on the earth or in the waters either. 5 Do not bow down to them or worship them. I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God. I cause the sins of the parents to affect their children. I will cause the sins of those who hate me to affect even their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

6 But for all time to come I show love to all those who love me and keep my commandments.

7“Do not misuse the name of the LORD your God. The LORD will find guilty anyone who misuses his name.

8“Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy. 9 Do all your work in six days.

10 But the seventh day is a sabbath to honor the LORD your God. Do not do any work on that day. The same command applies to your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and your animals. It also applies to any outsiders who live in your towns. 11 In six days the LORD made the heavens, the earth, the sea and everything in them. But he rested on the seventh day. So the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12“Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long time in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

13“Do not murder.

14“Do not commit adultery.

15“Do not steal.

16“Do not be a false witness against your neighbor.

17“Do not want to have anything your neighbor owns. Do not want to have your neighbor’s house, wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey.”

18 The people saw the thunder and lightning. They heard the trumpet. They saw the mountain covered with smoke. They trembled with fear and stayed a long way off. 19 They said to Moses, “Speak to us yourself. Then we’ll listen. But don’t let God speak to us. If he does, we’ll die.”

20 Moses said to the people, “Don’t be afraid. God has come to test you. He wants you to have respect for him. That will keep you from sinning.”

21 Moses approached the thick darkness where God was. But the people remained a long way off.

Worship the LORD

22 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Here is what you must tell the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘You have seen for yourselves what I said to you from heaven. 23 Do not put any other gods in place of me. Do not make silver or gold statues of them for yourselves.

24 “‘Make an altar out of dirt for me. Sacrifice your burnt offerings and friendship offerings on it. Sacrifice your sheep, goats and cattle on it. I will come to you and bless you everywhere I cause my name to be honored. 25 If you make an altar out of stones to honor me, do not build it with blocks of stone. You will make it “unclean” if you use a tool on it. 26 Do not walk up steps to my altar. If you do, someone might see your naked body under your robes.’

21 “Here are the laws you must explain to the people of Israel.

Set Your Hebrew Servants Free

2 “Suppose you buy a Hebrew servant. He must serve you for six years. But in the seventh year, you must set him free. He does not have to pay anything. 3 If he does not have a wife when he comes, he must go free alone. But if he has a wife when he comes, she must go with him. 4 Suppose his master gives him a wife. And suppose she has sons or daughters by him. Then only the man will go free. The woman and her children will belong to her master.

5 “But suppose the servant says, ‘I love my master and my wife and children. I don’t want to go free.’ 6 Then his master must take him to the judges. His master must take him to the door or doorpost of his master’s house. His master must poke a hole through his servant’s earlobe into the door or doorpost. Then he will become his servant for life.

7 “Suppose a man sells his daughter as a servant. Then she can’t go free as male servants do. 8 But what if the master who has chosen her does not like her? Then

End
Reading
Here

Read Exodus 1:14 and complete the activities below.

The Israelites Become Slaves in Egypt

¹ Here are the names of Israel’s children who went to Egypt with Jacob. Each one went with his family. ² Jacob’s sons were

- Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah,
- ³ Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin,
- ⁴ Dan, Naphtali,
- Gad and Asher.

⁵ The total number of Jacob’s children and grandchildren was 70. Joseph was already in Egypt.

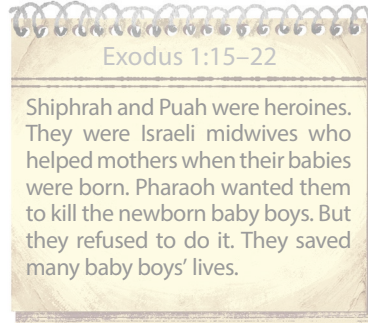
⁶ Joseph and all his brothers died. So did all their children. ⁷ The people of Israel had many children. The number of them greatly increased. There were so many of them that they filled the land.

⁸ Then a new king came to power in Egypt. Joseph didn’t mean anything to him. ⁹ “Look,” he said to his people. “The Israelites are far too many for us. ¹⁰ Come. We must deal with them carefully. If we don’t, there will be even more of them. Then if war breaks out, they’ll join our enemies. They’ll fight against us and leave the country.”

¹¹ So the Egyptians put slave drivers over the people of Israel. The slave drivers treated them badly and made them work hard. The Israelites built the cities of Pithom and Ramesses so Pharaoh could store things there. ¹² But the worse the slave drivers treated the Israelites, the more Israelites there were. So the Egyptians became afraid of them. ¹³ They made them work hard. They didn’t show them any pity. ¹⁴ **The people suffered because of their hard labor. The slave drivers forced them to work with bricks and mud. And they made them do all kinds of work in the fields. The Egyptians didn’t show them any pity at all. They made them work very hard.**

¹⁵ There were two Hebrew women named Shiphrah and Puah. They helped other women having babies. The king of Egypt spoke to them. He said, ¹⁶ “You are the ones who help the other Hebrew women. Watch them when they get into a sitting position to have their babies. Kill the boys. Let the girls live.” ¹⁷ But Shiphrah and Puah had respect for God. They didn’t do what the king of Egypt had told them to do. They let the boys live. ¹⁸ Then the king of Egypt sent for the women. He asked them, “Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?”

¹⁹ The women answered Pharaoh, “Hebrew women are not like the women of Egypt. They are strong. They have their babies before we get there.”



Read This Verse



Exodus 1:14



Make two mud bricks. Make one with just mud and one with mud and straw. Be sure to chop or cut the straw into little bits. Allow your bricks to dry in the sun.

Which one had the fewest cracks?

Which one was the strongest?

Crafty discovered that the mud mixed with the straw didn’t crumble.

Read Exodus 12:8 and complete the activities below.

The LORD Announces the Tenth Plague

11 The LORD had spoken to Moses. He had said, “I will bring one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. After that, he will let you and your people go. When he does, he will drive every one of you away. ²Tell the men and women alike to ask their neighbors for things made out of silver and gold.” ³The LORD caused the Egyptians to treat the Israelites in a kind way. Pharaoh’s officials and the people had great respect for Moses.

⁴Moses told Pharaoh, “The LORD says, ‘About midnight I will go through every part of Egypt. ⁵Every oldest son in Egypt will die. The oldest son of Pharaoh, who sits on the throne, will die. The oldest son of every female slave, who works at her hand mill, will die. All the male animals born first to their mothers among the cattle will also die. ⁶There will be loud crying all over Egypt. It will be worse than it’s ever been before. And nothing like it will ever be heard again. ⁷But among the Israelites not even one dog will bark at any person or animal.’ Then you will know that the LORD treats Egypt differently from us. ⁸All your officials will come and bow down to me. They will say, ‘Go, you and all the people who follow you!’ After that, I will leave.” Moses was very angry when he left Pharaoh.

⁹The LORD had spoken to Moses. He had said, “Pharaoh will refuse to listen to you. So I will multiply the amazing things I will do in Egypt.” ¹⁰Moses and Aaron performed all these amazing things in the sight of Pharaoh. But the LORD made Pharaoh stubborn. He wouldn’t let the people of Israel go out of his country.

The First Passover Sacrifice

12 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in Egypt. ²He said, “From now on, this month will be your first month. Each of your years will begin with it. ³Speak to the whole community of Israel. Tell them that on the tenth day of this month each man must get a lamb from his flock. A lamb should be chosen for each family and home. ⁴Suppose there are not enough people in your family to eat a whole lamb. Then you must share some of it with your nearest neighbor. You must add up the total number of people there are. You must decide how much lamb is needed for each person. ⁵The animals you choose must be males that are a year old. They must not have any flaws. You may choose either sheep or goats. ⁶Take care of them until the 14th day of the month. Then the whole community of Israel must kill them when the sun goes down. ⁷Take some of the blood. Put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where you eat the lambs. ⁸**That same night eat the meat cooked over a fire. Also eat bitter plants. And eat bread made without yeast. ⁹Do not eat the meat when it is raw. Don’t boil it in water. Instead, cook it over a fire. Cook the head, legs and inside parts. ¹⁰Do not leave any of it until morning. If some is left over until morning, burn it up. ¹¹Eat the meat while your coat is tucked into your belt. Put your sandals on your feet. Take your walking stick in your hand. Eat the food quickly. It is the LORD’s Passover.**

¹²“That same night I will pass through Egypt. I will strike down all those born first among the people and animals. And I will judge all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD.

Read This Verse



Exodus 12:8



Make **Crafty’s** flatbread without yeast. Have an adult help you. Heat 3 ½ teaspoons of butter and ¼ cup of milk until the butter is just melted. Add this to 2 cups of all-purpose flour mixed with ½ teaspoon of salt. Knead the dough for 2–3 minutes until smooth. If it’s sticky, add a little flour. Cover the dough with plastic wrap and let it rest on the counter for 30 minutes. Put a little oil on your hands and form the dough into round balls. On a floured surface, flatten the balls into round shapes about ½ inch thick. Heat ½ teaspoon of olive oil in a nonstick pan. Cook over medium heat for 1–1 ½ minutes on each side. The dough should bubble and be lightly browned.

102 | EXODUS 11:1