

This lesson is adapted from the writings of Lou Ann Keiser, used with permission.

Title: Why Moses is My Hero

Age Range: Juniors

Text: Exodus; Hebrews 11:23-29

Introduction:

What makes someone able to be called a hero? Has anyone ever called you a hero? (Let students answer.) A hero is someone we want to be like in some way. Today, our lesson is about a Bible hero who did many great things! Moses was not perfect, but he had a relationship with God that few people in history ever had! He was a man of faith.

Lesson:

Moses knew God face to face. (Have a volunteer read Deuteronomy 34:10.). A hero typically does some pretty special or unique things! We will be looking at what Hebrews 11, often called the "Hall of Faith," says about Moses' life. Moses led the Israelites through the wilderness, day by day, night by night. Moses' faith stood out, and God helped him to do lead the people to see the Promised Land.

1. Moses chose Christ over riches.

Moses chose to suffer for Christ. When the people were suffering, he suffered with them. Moses could have chosen to go his own way, opposite from what God told to do, but he decided not to go the sinner's way. He did not choose to go with the Egyptians, even with all their royalty and pleasures. Egypt is a picture of the world in the Bible. This man chose to esteem the reproach of Christ! What does this mean? Reproach means to criticize or blame. Moses lived in the Old Testament times. His story is recorded in Exodus. Moses was looking forward to the coming of Christ, the Messiah and Savior of the world. He was willing to do right because He knew that Christ was going to great things for Him. He chose Christ above the riches in Egypt. What are some different types of riches? (You could show pictures of pyramids and tombs, with diamonds, onyx, ivory, etc.)

2. Moses chose to obey God.

Moses forsook Egypt. Some of you may need to choose Christ for salvation, by believing in His finished work as payment for your sin. Others of you may need to choose to obey Christ instead of seeking the things of this world that might look good for awhile, but eventually lead to destruction. Who are some people we ought to obey? (parents-Ephesians 6:1; authority-Hebrews 13:17; God-Acts 5:29) Is it always easy to obey? Why or why not?

3. Moses and the Hebrews were safe from death in the plagues.

Do you remember the ten plagues of Egypt? Name one. (Blood, lice, locust, hail, frogs, flies, etc.) The plagues were like big trials, unlike any hard times we have seen. What are some trials or hard things you might face today? The very last plague was that the death angel would kill the firstborn in each home where there was no blood sprinkled over the door and on the doorposts. Moses had faith and obeyed God even then! He and the other Hebrew people kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood (Verse 28). The sprinkled blood was a picture of the blood that Jesus shed for us on the cross. He died to take the punishment for our sin. It was a terrible time for all of Egypt, because of their hard hearts, but those that obeyed God were safe. Can you think of a trial that you would not have to face if you obey? (examples might be not getting sick if you wear a coat when it's cold; a little child could hold his mom's hand so he does not run and get hit by a car on a busy street, etc.)

Other Highlights you could mention:

1. Moses' birth was unique-God had a special plan for Moses and He does for you, too.
2. The Red Sea-God can remove any obstacle!
3. Moses and the burning bush-How do we communicate with God?

Conclusion:

There are many lessons we can learn from the life of Moses. (Allow students to name a few.) We can see from his life that we must choose Christ, choose to obey, and see how God blesses those choices. Moses was a Bible hero, because we should want to make choices like he did.

Review:

Ask students questions to review the lesson. Each student should then choose one part of Moses' life and write a "mock Bible times newspaper article," reporting on what Moses and the Israelites or Egyptians are doing. They can draw a picture to correspond with their article. Encourage creativity. If you run out of time, have students finish their work at home and bring their "newspaper" with them the following class.

Provide a small incentive for finishing the project (this could be gummy bugs (to symbolize plagues) or cups of blue yellow (to symbolize crossing the Sea), or anything fun you can think of to give!)