



Date: _____

Series: God's Rules are Cool
Summer Year 1, Lesson 13

Miriam and Aaron Oppose Moses

Bible Event: Numbers 12:1-16

Take Home Point: *MOSES LED GOD'S PEOPLE – *Obey God's leaders.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Jesus Link: Jesus is a leader who we can follow; he gave his life for us.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Kids will learn that God's leaders are all around us. Leaders at church, teachers, policemen, and parents are all God's leaders. We should listen to them because they help lead us to God. Kids will take home the point: MOSES LED GOD'S PEOPLE – *Obey God's leaders.*
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and giving them Jesus. They will offer him their songs of worship, their offerings, and their actions of love as they actively learn God's word.



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive, give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Choose a video and list it here.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer, having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: Imagination Theater

Imagination Theater is audience participation drama where the Bible event is told in creative fashion using children as actors. The Imagination Box contains the Bible and other special props used for the drama. Begin by removing the Bible and explain that it is God's word. Briefly summarize the story, and then remove an imaginary hat and place it on your head. This is your Imagination Hat. Invite the children to put on theirs as well. They will also use their imaginations to picture the events the Bible tells us about. Some will even use their imaginations to help act out these events. Distribute props to actors as they are called forward at the beginning of the presentation. Have them sit to the side until they are called on stage.

Ask for three volunteers to act out the scene as Moses, Miriam and Aaron. Provide each with a robe or headpiece, Moses with a staff, Miriam with a tambourine, and Aaron with a smaller staff. Other props include a small bowl of water with a sponge, some baby powder or white dot stickers. Also, a pre-made craft is needed. The actors can wait off to the side while the presenter begins the story.

As you remember, last week Moses had received the Ten Commandments from God and had passed them on to his people. Do you remember how to count to ten? (Count to ten together.) This happened while the Israelites were in the desert on their way to the Promised Land. This was a special place where God said they could make their new homes. And now it was time to keep moving.

How did the people know it was time to move on? God had given them a leader – Moses. (Introduce Moses and his brother Aaron and his

sister Miriam.) **Moses told the people to follow this cloud.** (Show the cloud side of the craft.) **It is God telling us where to go.**

Have Moses come forward and repeat the lines to the people: "Follow this cloud! It is God telling us where to go."

You see, during the day, God sent a cloud to show the people where to go. Wherever the cloud went, the people were to follow. Look, I see it moving now! Follow Moses, follow Aaron, follow Miriam!

Have the presenter lead the children around the room by holding the cloud side of the craft up and weaving around the room. Moses, Aaron and Miriam should follow him, followed by the rest of the children. Direct the three actors to yell lines at the other children: "Come on, everyone! Follow God!" Half way through the room, dim the lights and switch to the fire side of the craft. Explain that at night, the cloud switched to fire for the people to follow. Once you've circled the room a few times, have everyone return to their seats to finish the story.

I wonder what it must have felt like to follow God every day, exactly where he wanted us to go. I wonder if it felt exciting? I wonder if it helped them trust God more. Let's see what it was like this day.

One day, after they had followed the cloud and fire for a while and stopped to rest, Moses got married. The woman he married was not one of the Israelites. She was someone new to them. (Bring up one more volunteer to be Moses' wife.) She came from a different country. Moses' sister and brother were very jealous. They didn't like her. And they didn't like that Moses was the one giving all of the orders all the time. But remember, Moses was the one God had chosen to lead God's people. They should learn to obey God's leaders. Look at Aaron and Miriam now. They look angry and mad. Listen to them.

Pull Miriam and Aaron together. Have them point and fold their arms at Moses. Have them repeat the lines, "We won't follow. Who are you to be our leader?"

When they were disobeying Moses, it was just like disobeying God.

What do you think happened? Do you think that they would get in trouble for disobeying God? They did. God was displeased. Right then, Miriam got sick. She got a disease called leprosy that made her skin turn white.

Apply water with sponge to arms and face, followed by sprinkled baby powder or apply white stickers to Miriam's skin.

This was a very bad sickness. Miriam was sad. She knew that she had done wrong and she said, "I'm sorry." (Have Miriam look sad and say she's sorry.) Aaron said he was sorry, too. (Have Aaron say he was sorry.) They needed God to forgive them. "Please, Moses," they said.

“We’ve been foolish.” (Have Miriam and Aaron repeat.) **They did not want Miriam to have this terrible disease.**

So Moses cried to God, “Heal her now, God, I beg you.” (Have Moses repeat.) **God heard their prayers. He told them that Miriam should go outside of the camp for seven days.**

Have Miriam leave stage. Have a helper backstage remove her “disease.” Invite other children to count to seven while she is gone.

When she came back (bring her back onstage when cleaned up), **she was healed! But she remembered something and so did everyone else. It’s important to obey God’s leaders. *MOSES LED GOD’S PEOPLE – Obey God’s leaders.**

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones, watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Mini Oreo cookies.

Drama Zone: Provide robes and head pieces for children to reenact the scene.

Puppet Zone: Let the children use puppets to discuss who are some leaders that they follow and what can they do to follow God.

Felt Zone: Use felt board materials to show the story of Miriam and Aaron opposing Moses from today's Bible event.

Craft Zone: Have children glue cotton balls on the "cloud" side of the cardstock and glue small pieces of red, orange and yellow streamers to the "fire" side of the cardstock. Also glue a craft stick to the card stock (on the bottom of either side) to act as the handle.

Play Zone: Play "Moses, May I?" Place two masking tape lines on the floor 12 –15 feet apart. Have "Moses" on one line and the other children on the other line. Moses gives each child, in order, a direction. Examples include two baby steps, one normal step, three large hops, etc. In order to move, the child must respond "Moses, may I?" If the child forgets to ask first, Moses may tell the child to sit down. The object is to be the first person to cross the line where Moses is. That child then becomes Moses and the game starts over.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books. Include any that feature the story of Moses and Aaron and Miriam.

Music Zone: Your choice of music.

Coloring Zone: "Miriam and Aaron Oppose Moses" coloring page



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

The presenter greets Bubba as he comes onstage. The presenter comments to Bubba about how great the kids are at Kids Church. He's noticing how well they follow their leader and listen to directions. Notice how right now they're sitting still and listening, just like they're supposed to be? Bubba nods his head and after a minute of silence, Bubba starts loudly singing *Old MacDonald Had a Farm*. The presenter asks him to stop, but he continues. The presenter asks him to stop one more time and Bubba complies. Why was he singing *Old MacDonald*?

Bubba explains that that's just what he felt like doing. The presenter tells Bubba that that wasn't really appropriate behavior in Kids Church and Bubba wants to know why. The reason is that Bubba is supposed to follow the directions of the large group presenter. If the presenter asks him not to sing *Old MacDonald* while he's trying to teach about God's word, that's what he should do. Bubba says, "Why should I follow you?" The presenter explains that he is one of God's leaders here today. And it's important to follow God's leaders. Bubba again wants to know why that's important. The presenter asks the kids to help explain to Bubba why it's important to follow God's leaders by reviewing today's story and explaining what happened to Miriam. Explain that God's leaders help lead us to God, so we can all have God's love in our hearts.

Bubba is sorry that he didn't follow directions earlier. He wants to learn about God's word and have God's love and forgiveness in his heart. He knows that it's important to follow God's leaders like the presenter, and other church people, and mom and dad.

Remember: ***MOSES LED GOD'S PEOPLE – Obey God's leaders.**

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make a large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling your fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross hands over your heart.)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with your hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: Children go to an activity zone, such as the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

Supplies:

Quantity (4)

Welcome Zone:

- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

Opening Worship:

- Bible
- robes and headpieces for Moses, Miriam and Aaron
- staffs for Moses and Aaron
- tambourine for Miriam
- completed craft
- bowl of water, sponge, and baby powder or white dot stickers

Action Zones:

Snack:

- mini Oreo cookies

Drama:

- robes and staffs for Moses, Aaron and Miriam
- props from Bible event

Craft:

- attached template copied onto cardstock
- glue or glue sticks
- cotton balls
- red, orange and yellow streamers in small pieces
- craft sticks

Play:

- masking tape

Quiet Reading:

- basket of books

Music:

- your choice of music

Puppet:

- various puppets

Felt:

- materials to reenact story

Closing Worship:

- Bubba, the puppet

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books



Obey God's Leaders



Follow God

(God's people travel through the desert)