

READ IT

This rotation's Bible story is
The Plagues
from Exodus 7:14-12:32

God wanted the people free, but Pharaoh said "No!"

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Moses
- Pharaoh
- God
- Plagues
- "No!"

The Egyptians thought their ruler, the Pharaoh, was a god. Many scholars believe Rameses II is the Pharaoh of these stories. He ruled Egypt from about 1279 to 1212 B.C.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 78-83

Spark Bible pages 66-73

Family Prayer

Dear God, we know that you call us to work for the freedom of all people in your world. Help us to say "Yes!" when you ask us to work with you. AMEN.

TALK ABOUT IT

Family Conversations

- 1 Tell about a time you were stubborn. What was the end result?
- 2 What do you think the Egyptian people thought of the plagues?
- 3 In this story, Pharaoh said, "No!" many times. What are some things that we say, "No!" to?
- 4 What diseases and natural disasters plague us and God's creation today? Look through a newspaper or magazine together to find examples of a modern plague — something that causes suffering in our world. Put the article or picture on your kitchen table and pray for ways we can work with God toward wholeness and peace for all people.

Eye Spark

The plague of darkness in this story was frightening for the people living in Egypt. When you see darkness all around, remember that God is always with you, even when things seem scary.

Ear Spark

Next time you hear someone shout "No!" remember how Pharaoh responded to each of the plagues in this story.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Pretend your family has been chosen to illustrate this Bible story. Spend some time looking at how others have made art to go with this story. How would you illustrate each plague? What art materials would you use? Try your hand at it — assign everyone in your family a couple of plagues and see what kind of art you get!

For younger kids

Make cookies that help you remember each of the plagues. Don't worry about cookie-cutters — just cut and mold free-form. Eat the plagues up when you're done!

For older kids

Try making a podcast that uses sound effects to tell the story of the plagues. What sounds can you use to replace some of the words in this story? How can you tell this story using the fewest words?

TRY IT

Art

How could your family express faith to others? How about putting something on your door or car? Could you make or buy t-shirts and create a design professing your faith? Discuss the lengths to which God goes to preserve our faith and free us from the sin that enslaves us.

Computer Lab

The Passover meal helps Jewish families remember that God saved their ancestors when they were slaves. Plan a special meal with your family to help remember important holy events in your history.

Creative Drama

Play Plague Charades. Write the name and number of each plague on slips of paper. Take turns picking and acting out a plague. Whoever guesses the plague gets a point. (Extra points if you know what number!) At the end of each plague, the winner yells, "Let my people go!"

Video

Watch "The Prince of Egypt" as a family and see the whole Exodus story unfold, from plagues to Promised Land. For fun, heat up some pita bread slices and pretend that they're pieces of manna or unleavened bread!

Bible Skills and Games

This week we learned how God shows his glory in nature. Take a nature walk or look at pictures of nature in books and magazines and point out wonderful things in God's world. Talk about what God does to take care of creation and how God calls us to assist.

Cooking

God delivers us through tough times. Gather with your loved ones to stir sticky honey into mugs of hot tea. Make a pact to stick together through the tough times that "plague" your family through the years. God is with you and will set you free!

Music

Sing or say these words together:

My God's good to me, yes, so good to me.

This is how I know that God so loves me.

Talk about the many ways that God shows love in your family.

Science

The ten plagues led the Israelites to come together as a faith community. Bring your family together by undertaking ten positive group challenges. Some ideas might include picking up trash from a neighborhood park, catching and releasing frogs, going on a bug hunt, or making activity bags for hospitalized kids.