

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FOR**  
**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020**  
**Moses and the Burning Bush**

**Getting Started**

Find a piece of paper and a pen (or pencil). Now write down as many different ways you can think of that people use to talk or communicate with each other. You could draw pictures instead if you want.

Here are a few ideas to get started ...



How would you invite a friend to a party? How could you advertise a Charity Cake Stall? How do you tell everyone that they have to wear a mask every time they go into a shop? How do you know when your favourite programme will be broadcast on the television? How can you talk to God about what is worrying you?

There are so many different ways you can talk to people - but I bet you didn't think about using a burning bush! But that is what God used to talk to Moses.

**The Story**

Moses grew up in Egypt with the Pharaoh's daughter as his mother, but he always knew that he was an Israelite. Every day, when he looked out of the palace, he was reminded that the Israelites were slaves and that made him sad.

One day, he was out walking and saw an Egyptian being mean to an Israelite. Moses wanted to help. He hurt the Egyptian to help his fellow Israelite. But when the pharaoh heard what Moses had done, he was angry so Moses ran away into the desert. He finally settled in Midian, a long way from Egypt. He met and married Ziporah and Moses worked tending sheep for his father-in-law, Jethro.

One day, he was watching the sheep when he spotted something. It was a bush that was on fire, but it didn't burn up. Moses knew that a bush on fire should burn up.

"What a strange sight," he said and went to look closer.

He was walking towards the burning bush when he heard "Moses! Moses!" The voice came from the burning bush! Do bushes talk?

"Here I am." Moses said.

"Remove your sandals. This place is holy. I am the Lord God."

Moses was afraid and hid his face.

God said "The Egyptians have been mean to my people, the Israelites. I have heard them crying to me for help. I will free them and send them to a good land. You will go to the Pharaoh and tell him to set my people free."

Moses was filled with doubt and asked God, "Who am I to do this?"

"I will be with you." God said. "You will go to the Pharaoh, but he will not listen to you. I will do many miracles and then the Israelites will go free."

"How will they know I speak the truth?" Moses asked.

God told Moses to throw his staff on the ground. Moses did what God said. Instantly, the staff turned into a snake. Moses was very afraid and ran away from it. God commanded Moses to pick up



the snake by the tail and it became a staff again!

God also gave Moses another sign to show people that he spoke the truth. But Moses still did not want to go.

"Please send someone else, Lord. I am not good enough at speaking." Moses begged.

God replied, "I will give you your brother Aaron as a helper. He will speak the words for you."

God sent Aaron to meet Moses. Moses told Aaron all the things God had spoken. Together they went to the people of Israel.

"God will free us." Aaron said. He performed the miracles God taught Moses.

The people of Israel believed. They were grateful God would deliver them and worshipped the Lord. Moses had a second chance to help his people. God would give him the strength to do so.

You can also watch a film of the story using this link ... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAvfquqboZY>

This link is for another film ... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0eEHT6dCKbl> ... maybe this is more suitable for KS2 children.

### Thinking About It

There are times when we know we have to do something but we really don't want to do it. Maybe it's because we are scared that we will fail. Or maybe it is going to be really difficult and we would rather be doing something else. Or maybe it is just that we don't know what to expect and we are frightened about what might happen.

Moses really didn't want to go back to Egypt. He knew he'd have to talk to the Pharaoh and persuade him to let the Israelites go. And he knew that the Pharaoh wouldn't want to do that. He was scared that the Pharaoh wouldn't listen to him. He told God that he was just a normal person and He should choose someone else.

Moses came up with lots of excuses but can you remember how God reacted? He didn't shout at Moses. He didn't say "Fine, I'll choose someone else". Instead, He showed Moses how to perform miracles (turning the staff in to a snake) to prove to the Pharaoh and the Israelites that God was with him. He also sent Aaron, Moses' brother, to go with him to help him talk to the Pharaoh.

New things can be scary; whether it is starting at a new school, making new friends, or just trying something you've never done before. But we have to remember that we can always talk to God, through prayer. He is always with us, by our side guiding us, and we don't have to be afraid.

### Activity

You will need a piece of A4 paper - plain or coloured, it doesn't matter - a pen or pencil and a pair of scissors.

Take the piece of paper and fold it in half.

If you are **right**-handed, place your **left** hand on the card so that the edge below your little finger is on the fold.

If you are **left**-handed, place your **right** hand on the card so that the edge below your little finger is on the fold.

Draw round your hand with your pen or pencil, keeping your fingers together.

Cut round the outline through BOTH layers of card at once. Younger children may need help with this.

If you want to, you can fill in details of fingers and thumbs.

Turn the hands over (open them up) and write this prayer inside ...



#### Dear God

**We all get scared sometimes, especially when we have to do things which are new or difficult. Please help us to trust You and remember You are always with us.**

**Amen**

