

## Sunday Club – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021

The following is one way of delivering this session with children. This week on Mothering Sunday we remember and say 'Thank You' to our mothers and to all those who care for us. Sometimes we know their names; sometimes we only remember the story. Today's story tells how God helps very different people to care for each other in difficult times.

### Opening activity – Hands up

Play this warm-up game by giving a series of directions. Begin with easy, funny things, building up to more pointed ones that can lead into today's story. For example:

Hands up anyone:

- who is here today;
- who likes the colour red ... or blue ... or green;
- who ate breakfast this morning;
- who made their own breakfast;
- who made breakfast for someone else.

*You might end with a question like:*

Hands up everyone who has someone that takes good care of them.

Opening prayer: Try this action rhyme as a way of getting ready for today's story:

Our hands are made for helping, (*hold hands open in front, palms up*)  
our hands are made for play. (*move hands about, wiggle fingers*)  
With our hands we come together (*shake hands with someone*)  
and with our hands we pray. (*bring hands together*)

### Open the Word: Open the Bible at Exodus 2.1-10

If possible, collect and display materials you can use to help tell the story. These might include: a plain rug or roll of light brown felt for the underlay, a baby-doll wrapped in a blanket, a small basket for the 'baby', a piece of blue cloth to represent the river, some strips of paper to represent reeds and rushes, two crowns – one for Pharaoh's daughter and one for her 'son'.

[Exodus 2.1-10 ICB - Baby Moses - There was a man from the - Bible Gateway](#)

or follow the story below:

You might want to lay out the materials on the underlay as you tell the story.

This story happened a long time ago in Egypt. (lay out the baby-doll wrapped in a blanket)  
When this baby was born, it was a dangerous time. He was a fine baby boy and his mother did all she could to keep him safe. (lay out the small basket for the 'baby')  
When she could no longer protect him, the mother wove a basket and made it safe to put in the water. (lay out the blue cloth to represent the river)  
She put the baby inside and went down to the riverbank. (lay out the strips of paper to represent reeds and rushes)  
She hid the basket in the reeds at the river's edge.  
The baby's sister stood at a distance and watched what would happen. (lay out one of the crowns)  
The daughter of the Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river.  
She saw the basket among the reeds and sent one of her maids to fetch it. When she saw the baby, and heard him crying, she picked him up and held him.  
'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said.

Then the sister came up and spoke to Pharaoh's daughter,  
'Would you like me to get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child?'  
Pharaoh's daughter said 'Yes'. She would also be willing to pay the woman to care for the child.  
The sister went back and got the baby's mother and the woman took the child back home and cared for him. (lay out the second crown)  
When the baby was grown, the woman took the boy back to Pharaoh's daughter. She took him as her own son. Pharaoh's daughter named him Moses because she said, 'I drew him out of the river'.

### Talk Together:

- Watching and being ready to help at the right time was a very important thing for the baby's sister to be able to do in today's story. When have you seen a way to help a member of your family ... or a friend? When has someone, even quite young, been able to help you?
- Being surrounded by helpful people was very important for this baby. How has your family been important to you? Who are the helpful people close to you who have become part of your wider family?
- The heroes in today's story are all women... the baby's mother, his sister, Pharaoh's daughter ... and even her handmaidens. Their names aren't written down; nevertheless, their stories are remembered. Who are the women who have been heroines in your life? Can you share their stories ... even if you don't remember their names!
- God works through people to care for those who need help in difficult times. What other Biblical stories of heroic and care-giving women can you remember? Who were the women who were very helpful to Jesus? Who are the people who are very helpful to you?

### Craft Activity – Saying Thank You

It is Mothering Sunday today and it is good to thank our Mum's or someone else for what they do to help us. We have all had someone who has helped us become the person we are today, so today we remember those significant people in our lives.

Design a card or a bookmark or a huge picture for someone you love. Fold or cut the paper to the shape you want. Use a white candle or tealight to write or draw a message and picture onto the paper. Then take some water colour paints and cover over the message and what is written will show through the paint. Make the paint quite thin for a good effect. Then how about making a flower like this, cut petals from magazines or colour plain paper and add all those things your Mum or another loved one does for you. You could all add to a card for every member of your family. Place & glue them together and layer them up.



### Praise Song: Wonderful Lord, Springwood KIDS

[Wonderful Lord - YouTube](#)

Sing along and join in the actions!

## Closing Prayer:

### **Using our hands**

*Here is a second verse to the opening action rhyme that can be used as a prayer:*

Thank you, God, for helping hands, (*hold hands open in front, palms up*)  
thank you, God, for hands that play. (*move hands about, wiggle fingers*)  
Thank you, God, for time together (*join hands in a circle*)  
and that you're with us when we pray. (*look at each other with a smile.*)

### **A prayer to share**

O God, our creator,  
you have made us all and we are yours.  
You care for us as a mother, tenderly caring for her children.  
When we are unwell, in danger and alone  
you enable people to bring their hands and their hearts  
and come to be our helpers.  
Thank you for all the love and care which comes our way.  
Help us to be open to where you will send us to care for others.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

## Other ideas for family worship:

An alternative is provided by Hull minster (1 Samuel 1)

<https://hullminster.org/family-resources>

Kid's Church (Matthew 18 and 19) This is great fun and very interactive.

Beforehand, you can read the details which shows you the resources that will be required.

[Jesus meets the family 4 | High Energy Church Season 2 Episode 11 - YouTube](#)

Rochester Diocese Ministry at Home (1 Samuel) Attachment