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SERIES: FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Moses

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Lesson Overview

Today, we're going to learn about one of the most famous people in the Old Testament. His name is Moses. Moses had a crazy life with a lot of ups and downs. He started off as a prince in a palace. Then, in anger, he made a terrible choice and killed someone and had to run away and hide. Years later, God asked him to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt to a special place called the Promised Land. Moses and the people dealt with all kinds of trouble and wandered for 40 years in the desert trying to get to the Promised Land. And, to top it all off, Moses didn't even get to live in the Promised Land. So, what can we learn from the story of Moses? Well, Moses could have been a negative person, full of anger because of all his struggles in life. But, instead, Moses chose to be positive. In fact, his last words before he died were words of blessings. He told the Israelites that they were God's special people and that God would take care of them no matter what. We should choose to be positive people, too.

Big Idea

We get to choose to be positive or negative.

Key Question

What does it mean to be positive?

Memory Verse

Ephesians 4:29 | "Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them."

Classroom Agenda

- (5 min) PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
- (5 min) WARM UP: Share the nicest thing someone has ever said about you. How did that make you feel?** (Tip: We all love it when nice things are said about us. It makes us feel good. We should say nice things to others.)
- (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
- (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
- (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **To be positive means you focus on the good, not the bad.** (We get to choose how we see life. If we're negative, we'll focus on the stuff we don't like or the things that don't seem fair. This just makes us sad and angry people. But, being positive means we see the good in every situation. We focus on something good and don't waste our energy on focusing on what's bad. Positive people are happier and nicer people to be around)
 - Bonus Questions:** What does it mean to be positive? Why do positive people make better friends? **4-5th:** How do you feel being around negative people? How can you become more positive in your life?
- (5 min) EXPLORE: Read [Matthew 7:12](#). Why is this verse famous? What does the Golden Rule tell us to do?** (Answer: This verse is where we get the Golden Rule. We should treat others the way we want to be treated. That means we should be the kind of friend we want others to be to us. We should be kind and positive, not mean and negative.)
- (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
- (5 min) CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE GAME

Instructions:

- Before class, cut up the positive or negative template (page 5) and put them in a bowl or basket.
- Make two columns on the whiteboard, one labeled "Positive" the other labeled "Negative".
- Have kids take turns coming up and pulling a phrase from the bowl and have them read it to the class.
- The class has to decide if it belongs in the Positive or Negative column. Then tape each phrase in its appropriate spot.

Supplies needed:

Positive or negative template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 per class), Tape

Bonus Activity: "Find the Book"

Have the class get into pairs. Give each pair a Bible. Have them race to find the book. First to find has to say if it's in the OT or NT.

Books: Exodus, Acts, Hebrews

OPTION 2: MOSES: GET EM IN THE RIGHT ORDER GAME

Instructions:

- Before class, have the Moses template (page 6) cut up and put in a bowl or basket.
- Have kids take turns coming up and pulling a piece of paper out of the bowl and then tape each one up on the whiteboard.
- Once all the pieces are up on the board, work as a class to put them in the correct order of how they happened in Moses' life.
- The correct order is:
 1. Baby in a basket
 2. Lived in a palace
 3. Killed a man
 4. Ran away
 5. God chooses him to lead Israel
 6. Blesses the people

Supplies needed:

Moses template (pg. 6, pre cut, 1 set per class), Tape

Bonus Activity: "Bible Hangman"

Words or phrases: Moses, Be positive, Jesus

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Moses

PursueGOD.org**Moses Had a _____ Life**

Have you ever been on a rollercoaster? There's lots of ups and downs, huh. Well, that's exactly what Moses's life was like. Here's a brief overview. He grew up in a palace and had it all, then he made a terrible decision and killed someone in anger, he ran away, then God tells him to go back to help the Israelites, and ended up living in a desert for 40 years. Phew! I'm tired just telling you about it.

But here's what's even crazier. After all that craziness, Moses finally reaches the edge of the Promised Land, the place God promised to give the Israelites. But God tells Moses he doesn't get to lead the people into the land. Would you be mad if you had gone through all that effort and then didn't get to enjoy the reward? Do you think Moses was mad? Well he wasn't.

Moses Was _____ When He Could Have Been _____

Deuteronomy 33:29 *Blessed are you, Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the Lord? He is your shield and helper and your glorious sword. Your enemies will cower before you, and you will tread on their heights."*

These are the last words of Moses before he died. He ended his life by being positive, not negative. That's why Moses's last words are so famous. He chose to be nice when he could have been really mean. And there's something important we need to learn from Moses's famous last words.

We Get to _____ to Be Positive or Negative

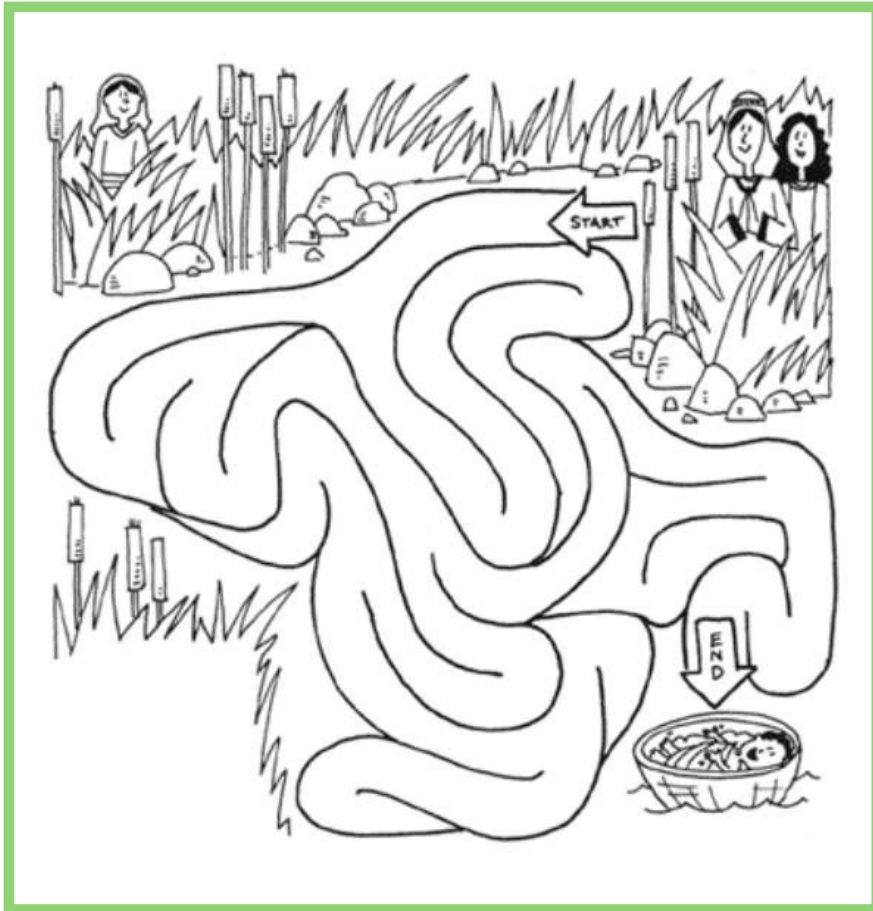
Our words have a lot of power – both the positive and negative ones. Using mean words can really hurt people. That's why we should be really careful with the things we say. So kids, next time you're in a bad situation think about Moses's last words and remember to only say positive things.

Answers: Rollercoaster, Positive, Negative, Choose Parent Signature: _____

Questions:

1. What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?
2. Make a list of some of your accomplishments in life so far. How hard did you work for those things?
3. Make a list of all the things that happened in Moses' life.
4. What did Moses tell the people at the end of his life?
5. How can your mean words affect others? How can your kind words affect others?
6. Read [Matthew 7:12](#). Why is this verse famous? What does the Golden Rule tell us to do?
7. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Solve the puzzle and color the picture.

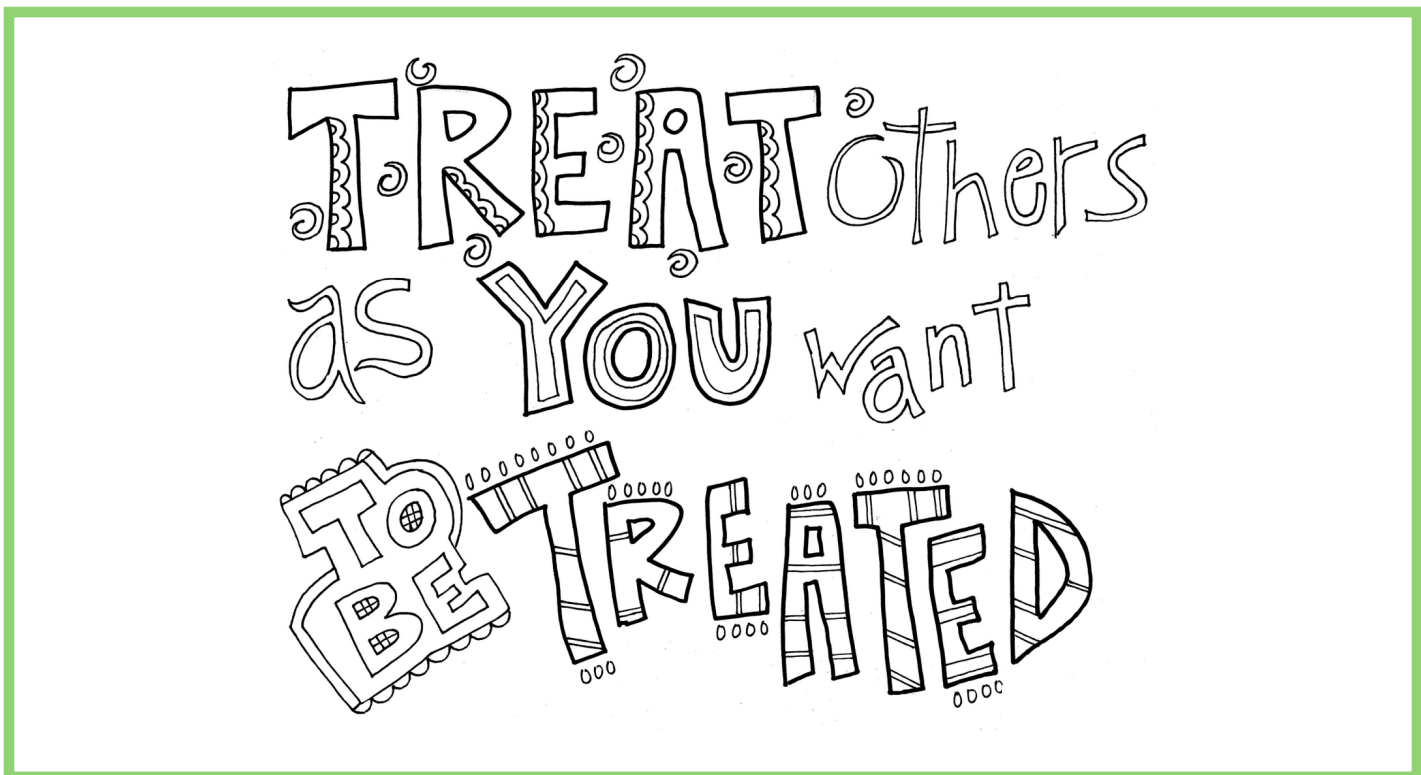


Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

Ephesians 4:____ | "Let everything you say be _____ and helpful, so that your _____ will be an encouragement to those who _____ them."



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THANKFUL FOR
WHAT YOU HAVE

COMPLIMENT A
FRIEND

"I HATE
HOMEWORK"

LISTEN IN CLASS

COMPLAIN ABOUT
CHORES

STEAL FROM A
SIBLING

KIND TO THE NEW
KID

DON'T INVITE A
FRIEND TO A PARTY

HELP A FRIEND
WITH HOMEWORK

GOSSIP

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Moses

4TH-
5THPursueGOD.org

BABY IN A BASKET

LIVED IN A PALACE

KILLED A MAN

RAN AWAY

GOD CHOOSES HIM
TO LEAD ISRAELBLESSES THE
PEOPLE