BIG IDEA: God gives us families to care for us.

Week 1

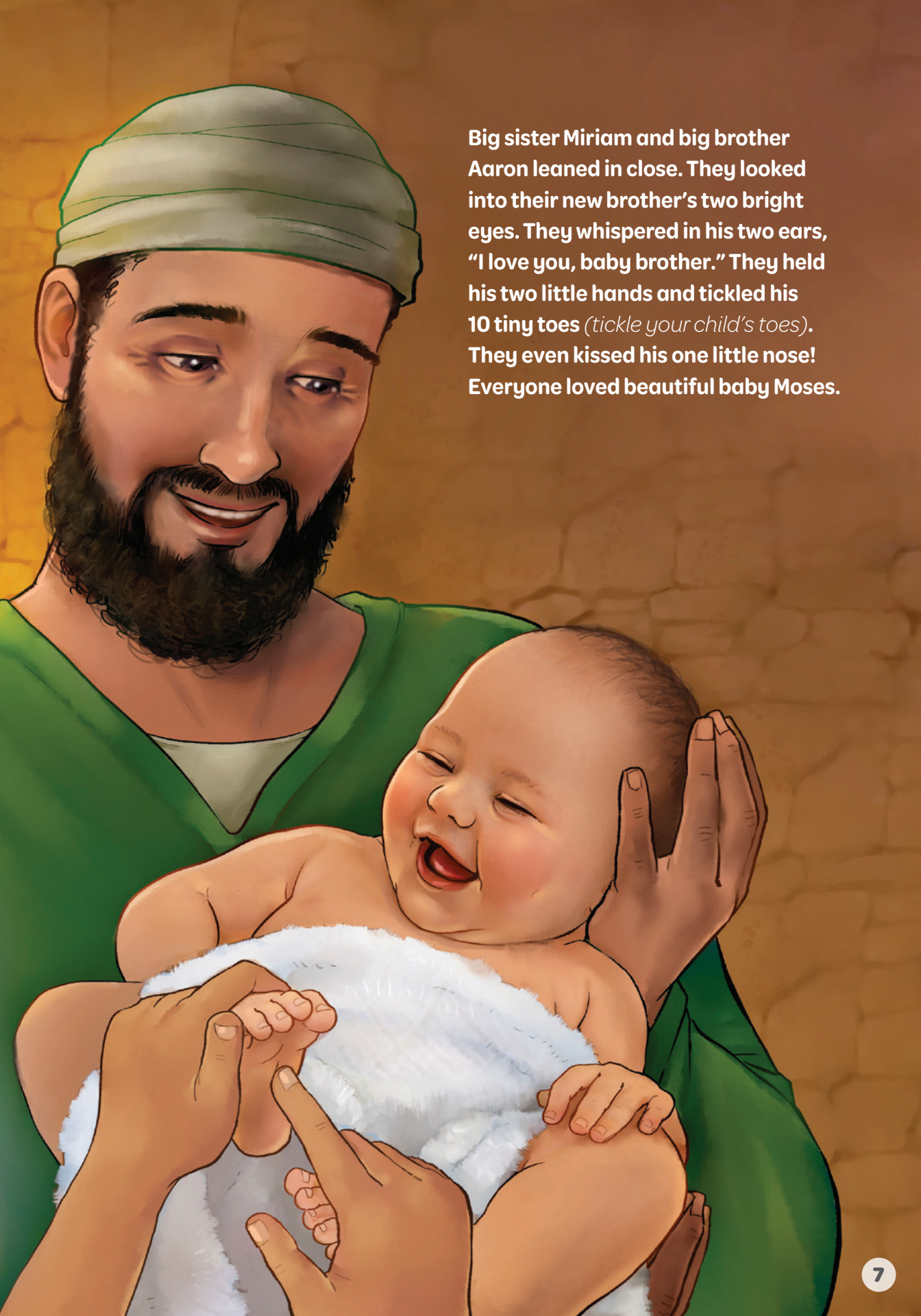
Baby Moses



This lesson is based on Exodus 2:2 and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 242, 243.



The warm sun shone through the window. Mommy Jochebed and Daddy Amram cuddled little baby Moses *(cuddle up close to your child)*. **He was beautiful!** *(Point to features.)* **He had two little eyes . . . two little ears . . . two little hands . . . 10 little toes . . . and one little nose. Their eyes sparkled with happiness. They said "Thank You" to God for their brand-new baby boy!**



Big sister Miriam and big brother Aaron leaned in close. They looked into their new brother's two bright eyes. They whispered in his two ears, "I love you, baby brother." They held his two little hands and tickled his 10 tiny toes *(tickle your child's toes)*. **They even kissed his one little nose! Everyone loved beautiful baby Moses.**

Mommy Jochebed and Daddy Amram cared for Moses. They gave him smiles and cuddles. They made sure he was fed. And they helped him go to sleep in a soft little bed. Moses' family kept him safe and well.

The pharaoh king where baby Moses lived was not a kind man. He wanted to take all the baby boys away. No! Mommy Jochebed was not going to let anyone take Moses away! She prayed and asked God to look after her precious baby.





Mommy Jochebed hid baby Moses in the house for many days and nights. But it was hard to hide a baby! Babies cry when they are hungry. Shh! Babies cry when they are tired. Shh! Sometimes babies cry when they need a cuddle. Shh! It was very hard to hide baby Moses when he cried. So the whole family knelt down and prayed to God *(fold hands for prayer)***. *Dear Jesus, please help us to keep baby Moses safe.***



God gave Mommy Jochebed a good idea. Mommy and Miriam collected lots of tall grass from the river. Together they used the grass to make a basket. They sang songs as they worked *(hum, hum, hum)***. The basket would be a bed for baby Moses—a bed that could float on the water like a little boat. Moses would stay hidden and safe in his basket boat. God chose a special family to look after baby Moses.**

(Say together) **Thank You, God, for giving me a family who loves me too.**

play throughout the day

Create

Use play-dough/modeling clay to create a basket boat. Make a tiny baby Moses to place in the basket.

Explore

Go on a nature walk and collect leaves and grasses, or use indoor plants to feel textures and imagine making a basket boat made of plants. Hide a doll in your home and pretend it is crying, and you need to keep it quiet. Talk about the ways Jochebed, Amram, Miriam, and Aaron would have helped to care for baby Moses.

Connect

Together with your child, make a card/gift for a new baby or younger sibling to let them know that you love and care for them.

Make

Help your child make a special book that has drawings or photographs of family members. Write a simple message beside each picture. For example: *This is Mommy/Daddy. Mommy/Daddy loves Jesus. Mommy/Daddy loves me.* Cuddle up together and read the book often.

Pray

Pray for a family member each day. Invite your child to choose which family member to pray for. Thank God for giving us families who love and care for us.



THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

How amazing is the love that sweeps over you as you hold your new baby for the first time! You gaze into those sleepy eyes and wrap their tiny hand around your finger, and you wonder how life can be any sweeter! Time seems to stand still, and the worries of the world fade away.

What an incredible God we serve to create the love between a parent and a child. With the joy and rush of love comes a fierce desire to keep our children safe and cared for. How do we do this in an unpredictable world? It can be overwhelming knowing that there will be hard things ahead for our precious little ones. Like Jochebed, who turned her worries into prayers, we too can ask God to help us as we parent. We can trust Him to give us creative ways to instruct, guide, and protect our children.

Our Father loves to parent us as we parent our children. Just as Jochebed wrapped up her sweet baby in faith and placed him in a basket, so God wraps us up in His love and places us in the safest place we could be—in the palm of His hands.

As you read this story to your little one this week, be on the lookout for the many ways God is wrapping you up in His love. May you be inspired by the faith of Jochebed and Amram as they took their problems to the God of the universe. May you see glimpses of the Father's unending love in the way you love your own little one.

"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!" (1 John 3:1).