BIG IDEA: I can obey God.

Week 3

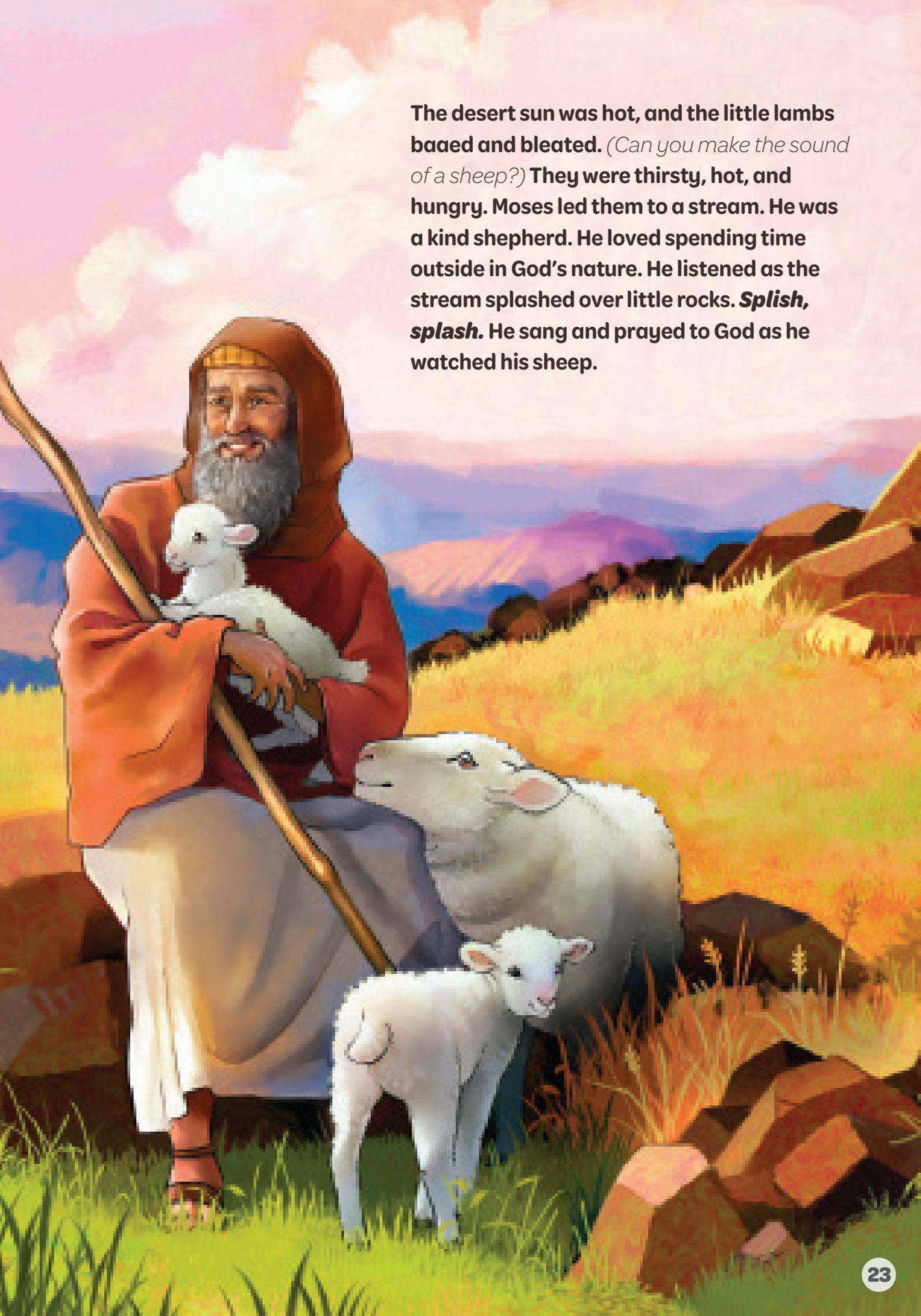
The Fire in the Bush



This lesson is based on Exodus 2:11-25; 3; 4:1-14; and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 244-256.



Moses called the sheep to his side. Come, sheep! The woolly sheep ran to him *(baa)*. The little lambs ran quickly behind *(baa)*. Moses smiled at them. He loved looking after the sheep. As a boy, he had lived as a prince in a palace in Egypt. But now he was a man and lived far, far away. Moses was a gentle shepherd.



The desert sun was hot, and the little lambs baaed and bleated. *(Can you make the sound of a sheep?)* **They were thirsty, hot, and hungry. Moses led them to a stream. He was a kind shepherd. He loved spending time outside in God's nature. He listened as the stream splashed over little rocks. *Splish, splash.* He sang and prayed to God as he watched his sheep.**

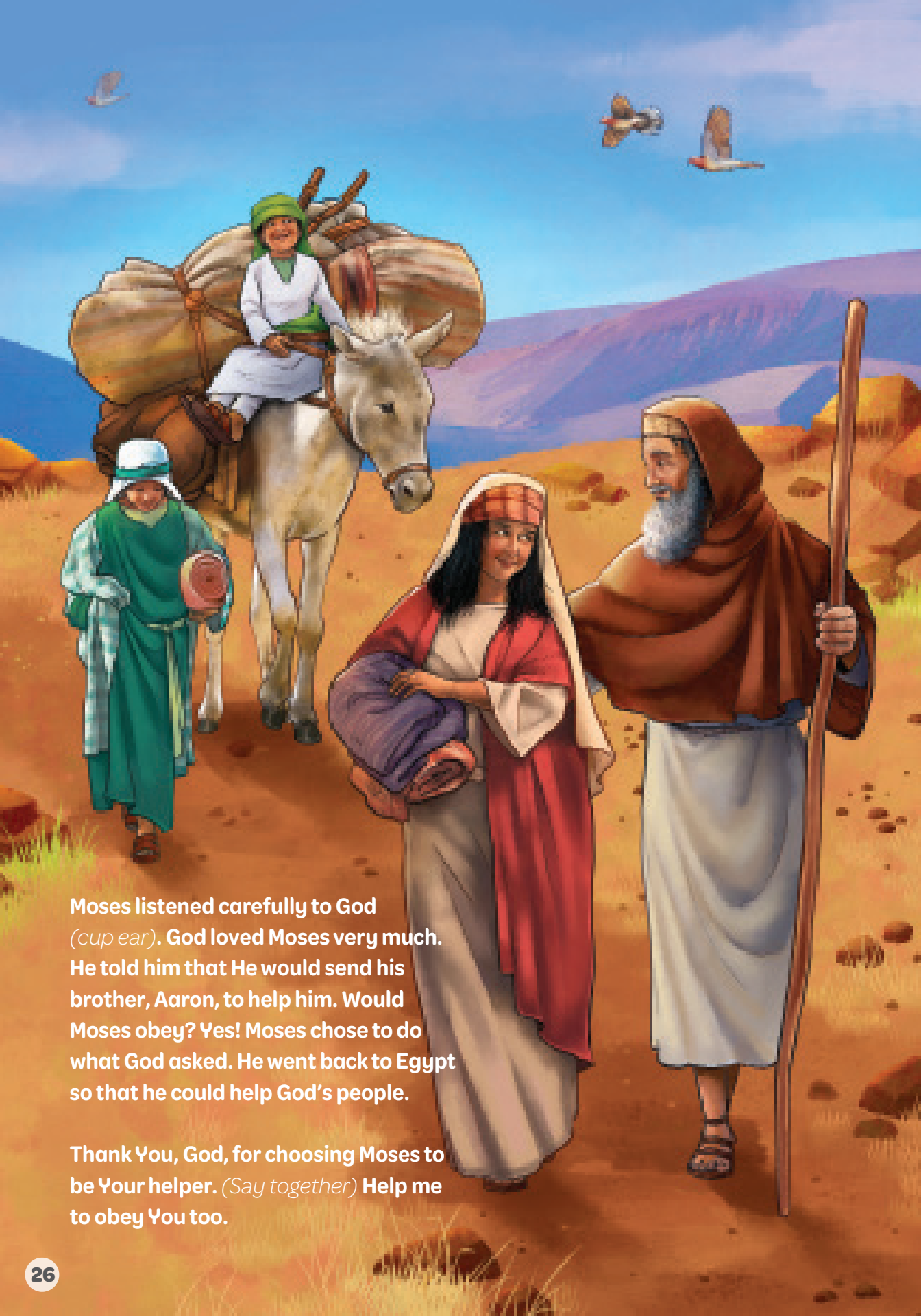
One day as Moses led his sheep to find water, he saw something that made him stop still. Up ahead a bush was on fire! *Flicker, flash.* The flames were big and hot. *Flicker, flash.* Moses looked closer. The bush was on fire, but the leaves and branches didn't burn up!

Suddenly Moses heard God call his name: "Moses, Moses! . . . Take off your sandals. You are standing on holy ground" (Exodus 3:4, 5, ICB)**. God was right there with Moses, inside the burning bush!**





God told Moses that He had a special job for him. God's people in Egypt were sad *(make a sad face)***. They had a mean king, called Pharaoh, who hurt them. God wanted Moses to lead the people away from Egypt. God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and say, "Let my people go!" Moses was scared. This was a big job! But God said, "I will be with you"** (Exodus 3:12, ICB)**.**



Moses listened carefully to God *(cup ear)***. God loved Moses very much. He told him that He would send his brother, Aaron, to help him. Would Moses obey? Yes! Moses chose to do what God asked. He went back to Egypt so that he could help God's people.**

Thank You, God, for choosing Moses to be Your helper. *(Say together)* **Help me to obey You too.**

play throughout the day

Explore and Create

Go out into nature and talk about the things Moses would have seen as he looked after the sheep. Make little sheep out of natural objects and share how the sheep always followed Moses' voice. If indoors, print or draw a sheep and glue cotton balls to it.

Connect

Play a role-playing game with your child. Pretend to be the shepherd while your child is a sheep. Call your child to you. Pretend to drink from the stream and lie down to sleep. Pretend to look out for danger and protect your little "sheep." Thank God for watching over us like a shepherd watches their sheep.

Help

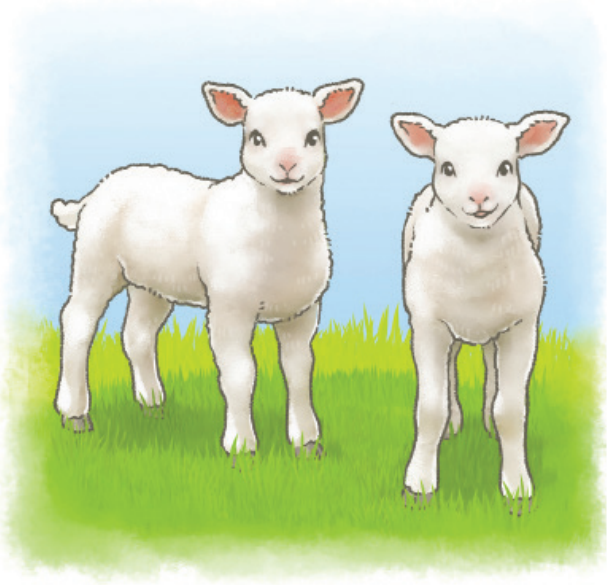
Discuss ways children can help around the house with simple jobs at their skill level. Share with them that sometimes there are jobs that are hard, and we may not want to do them. But we can still obey, just as Moses obeyed God. Encourage your child when they help or complete a hard job around the house.

Play

Make a game for obeying instructions. Ask your child to run around the room while you say stop and go. Your child will need to listen to your voice and obey. Change it up by whispering or speaking loudly, or going slow and fast. Talk about how important it is to listen to parents, grandparents, and caregivers.

Pray

Thank God for speaking to Moses. Thank Him for choosing us to be His helpers too. Ask God to help us listen to Him and obey.



Extension weekly memory verse: "Fear not, for I am with you" (Isaiah 41:10).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

It happened in a desert, on a dusty, ordinary track that Moses walked on, in the middle of nowhere. There, in a scrawny desert bush, God showed up in a dazzling, mighty, out-of-the-ordinary way. God turned the cracked dirt into holy ground, and He spoke to Moses, calling him by name. God showed up in the midst of Moses' daily, common routine, and He captured Moses' attention.

Exodus 3:3 tells us, "Moses said, I will now turn aside and see this great sight . . ." Moses had to be willing to "turn aside"—to interrupt his daily routine and pay attention to God. If he had looked the other way, he would have missed the Exodus, the people of Israel, and his calling.

What about you? How might you pause to notice God in your busy day-to-day tasks today?

Imagine hearing God's voice in your living room, your car, or your workplace. Imagine your daily routine being interrupted by an attention-grabbing, beautiful, and holy encounter with God. He loves to meet us where we are. You may think you are in a dusty, ordinary season, but your home can be holy ground because the Almighty One is there with you. He says, "As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you" (Joshua 1:5).

God asks you to lead your family to Him. Like Moses, will you "turn aside" to spend time with God today? Open His Word; talk with Him, for the God of the universe wants to be close to you too.