

born. *No longer hide.* Permanent concealment was impossible. *An ark . . . daubed it*; a water-tight basket of rushes. The mother's power is less than Pharaoh's, but love wonderfully sharpens the wits. *Laid it by the river's brink*; not deserted, but committed to God. *Sister stood afar off to witness*; Miriam, who was old enough to enter with zest into her mother's plan for outwitting the king. *The daughter of Pharaoh came down.* The mother had chosen a particular place to leave the child. *Behold the child wept . . . she had compassion.* The mother's plan was God inspired. It was the appeal of a child's helplessness to a woman's heart. Many reforms of to-day are inspired by the tears and cryings of children. *Then said his sister*; who had drawn near. *Called the child's mother.* Thus, unknown to the princess, a mother's home, love

and religion are saved for the infant Moses.

Lesson Questions

- What does "knew not Joseph" mean?
 Why did Pharaoh fear the Israelites?
 What and how successful were his plans against them?
 Tell how Moses was preserved.

For Further Study and Discussion

1. What further knowledge have we of Miriam? (Ch. 15:20; Num. 12:1-15; Deut. 24:8, 9; Mic. 6:4.)
2. Do kings rule by divine right?
3. Is withholding of information deception?

PROVE FROM SCRIPTURE—That the apostles were persecuted.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Ques. 39, 40.

THE LESSON IN DAILY LIFE (Daily Readings)

Monday—Pharaoh oppresses Israel, Ex. 1:6-14.

Pharaoh's forgetfulness of Joseph brought disaster. One of the seven lamps of home is that of Memory. Jesus was always remembering things,—how much the disciples needed rest, how hungry the multitude was, how much lilies could tell of God. So in the home, each must remember things about the other.

Tuesday—The baby Moses, Ex. 2:1-10.

Mother love is like the sheltering of wings, but their shadow is not big enough. A mother's love can only hide Moses for three months, then he must be entrusted to God's wings brooding over the Nile. No mother can plan wholly for her child without trusting much to God.

Wednesday—Helping the needy, Ps. 72:1-8.

Listen as you read these verses. You hear the crashing of a mighty hammer. It is God's hammer for the things that are mightier than you. Listen again. You hear the sound of falling rain. It is the reviving mercy of God for those who have lost hope and strength.

Thursday—Sin's cruel bondage, Rom. 6:15-23.

Paul has blazing words for sin. It is bondage. It is death. Sin promises to open a thousand doors for life, to lift life on a thousand wings, to crown it with many crowns. All it has to give, is chains for wearing and death for wages.

Friday—Breaking heavy yokes, Isa. 58:5-12.

What does God wish for to-day? Not fasting, nor wearing of sackcloth, nor ceremony. He wishes you to repair something,—some broken purpose, some broken promise, some broken heart. He wishes you to restore something, to open up some old pathway of comfort, that some perplexed heart has lost sight of.

Saturday—Overthrowing the oppressor, Ps. 2:1-12.

This is the psalmist's version of the great white throne which John saw, Rev. 19:11-15. God looks therefrom and laughs. The high view reveals. Aeroplanes mount above to see beneath surface disturbances. The rage of kings is only the rippling of the surface. God from above sees his tides move on beneath.

Sunday—The great liberator, John 8:31-39.

Fear is bondage. Every separate fear,—of life, of death, of the known, of the unknown—is a link in the chain. Christ makes us free by teaching us the truth about them. We see only the fear. Christ teaches us to see through the fear to the love behind.

A PRAYER

Come, Lord Jesus, and save us from the bondage of sin, for thy name's sake. Teach us the joy of freedom. Show us the folly of anything and everything but abiding in thy presence, sharing thy love, waiting upon thee for strength. And make us sharers in thy joy as we take part with thee in the task of making known to a world in bondage the freedom that is in thee. Amen.