

date: **10/22/17****Bible Passage: Exodus 14:13—15:21**  
(Red Sea Crossing)

## God Is Mighty

### REMEMBER VERSE

**No one is like you, LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power.**  
Jeremiah 10:6

## Inspire

*Shares personal stories from fellow ministry leaders about how God has worked in their lives*

Sometimes our lack of faith is due to forgetting what we've known about God all along. It's amazing how forgetful we can be. God does amazing things in my life and the lives of those around me: guiding paths, answering prayers, and following through on His promises. But, still ... I forget. I forget to see the bigger picture of who He is and the mighty love in His plan.

There was one particular time when I was being forgetful again—worrying about the future and how it might play out. Right in the middle of my worrying, the ministry team had a meeting where we examined The Big God Story looking for patterns. One immediately jumped out at us: God's people, throughout history, were continually forgetful! They would experience times of amazing triumph or witness miracles beyond explanation and then they would forget and start worrying. This was a huge wake-up call for me. It was exactly what I was doing. Just like the Israelites and the early Christians, I had adopted a pattern of forgetfulness.

Since that time, I've tried to be more aware of this pattern. I've asked God to smack me upside the head every once in awhile to remind me when I forget. It's still not always easy to remember (for some reason our default seems to be worry and fear), but God is mighty. He is good. He has a plan for redeeming our lives. And because of that, I can trust Him.

*Matt Barnes*  
TruWonder Team

## Equip

*Offers perspective and context to the lesson's Bible passage*

God had a plan to redeem the Israelites. Moses was uniquely called to fulfill the role God chose for him. He was born an Israelite from the tribe of Levi—the line of priesthood. Through the unique placement of God, he was then raised and educated as a child of Pharaoh’s daughter and had direct access to the pharaoh. Upon reaching adulthood, Moses interceded for an Israelite man being abused by an Egyptian by killing and burying the Egyptian in the sand. Moses fled and eventually married the daughter of a Midianite priest. Now not only by birth, but also by marriage, the priesthood surrounded him.

Here in the desert, God called Moses to serve as the mediator between His people and their captors and His people and their deliverer. Each step of Moses’ life, God positioned him in His plan of redemption. Just as Moses was the priest for the people—leading them out of captivity and into freedom in the Promised Land—Jesus is our ultimate High Priest who intercedes on our behalf. All of history foreshadows the coming of Christ, through whom we have redemption. The God who led the people out of slavery with a mighty hand is the same God who leads us out of the captivity of death and sin. God is mighty!

## Support

*Provides reflection and assessment through encouragement, prayer, and time in God’s Word*

Read Exodus 15, the song of Moses and Miriam.

How has God shown Himself to you in your life? How has He interceded for you? Take a look back over the last year of your life—if you choose, go back even further. Write out ways God interceded for you and showed Himself to be mighty. How has He shown you who He is? Take a few minutes and thank God for all He has done.

Share your “song” with someone else. Someone needs to hear your story of God’s mighty hand and His trustworthy character. Ask God to give you the opportunity to give away what He has given to you, so that others may know the true and living God and also trust in Him. God is mighty.

## EXPLORE:: 10 min.


### Small Group Leaders

*Children engage in fun, creative activities designed to pique their curiosity about the day’s portion of The Big God Story.*

## Parting of the Pepper

A fun experiment that results in sprinkles of pepper separating on the surface of water will be a visual for today’s part of The Big God Story, when God uses Moses to part the Red Sea.

### SUPPLIES (per small group)

- Shallow bowl, deep plate, or baking dish
- Water
- Ground black pepper 
- Bar of soap
- Paper towels
- Optional: liquid soap, muffin tin, cotton swabs

**SET UP**

Fill the bowl with water; place additional items next to the bowl. Note: After several pepper partings, you may need to empty the bowl and refill with fresh water or the pepper will begin to sink. This is a sign that the pepper is wet and will no longer react properly.

Optional: Consider using a muffin tin along with liquid soap. Pour water and pepper into each muffin space. Then give each child a cotton swab dipped in liquid soap. When the swab is placed in the pepper water, the pepper will repel from the soapy tip.

**RELATE**

Encourage the children to gather close around the water and other supplies. **What items do you see on the table? How do you think we might use them today?** Allow the children to carefully interact with the pepper and soap before they experiment with them in the water. **Let's do an experiment!** Tell the children what you're going to do and ask them what they think will happen. Simply shake some pepper onto the surface of the water and touch the bar of soap to the water surface at the center of the container. The pepper will appear to distance itself from the soap and flee to the sides of the container. Encourage the children to explain what they think is happening.

**DISCOVER::: 25 min.**

Host/Worship Leader/Storyteller

*Children participate in discovering God's Word through Bible verse memorization, interactive storytelling techniques, and worship as response.*

**Ponder Point**  
**God Is Mighty**

**Chloe's Rules**

Host/Worship Leader

**SUPPLIES**

- [Chloe's Rules videos](#)
- Worship music (suggestions: "He Knows Me," TruWorship *Your Love* and "To Live for You," TruWorship *Songs from the Playhouse*)

**RELATE**

Welcome children as they're entering the large group meeting area. *Tech: Cue Chloe's Rules video.* The theme song will play as the Worship Leader/Host enters and makes his way up front, welcoming and greeting children along the way. This should be a high-energy entrance. Choose and play two upbeat worship songs of your choice from a worship album that complements the theme and focus of the lesson.

## Mail Time

Host/Worship Leader

### SUPPLIES

- Remember Verse image (see Resources)
- Remember Verse cards (see Resources)
- Bibles (your personal and large children's)
- Mailbox

### RELATE

Choose one volunteer to hide the mail and another to find the mail. Have the "Seeker" close her eyes while the "Hider" finds a good place to hide the Remember Verse. Once the mail has been hidden, the Seeker will begin to look for the mail while the children give clues to its whereabouts by calling out "hot" and "cold."

Once the Seeker finds the mail, the Host invites her to pull out the enclosed Remember Verse. Next, the Host should find the Remember Verse in his Bible and read the words aloud. Talk about the meaning of the verse while interacting with the children.

Lead the children in reciting the Remember Verse several times together using a variety of engaging methods. Hand motions, different voices, various speeds, and character integration are all great ways to help commit the Scripture to memory. For longer verses, approach the verse one section at a time, increasing what the children repeat back each week.

### REMEMBER VERSE

**No one is like you, LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power.**  
Jeremiah 10:6

### REMEMBER VERSE DEFINITION

**Power:** Strength or ability

### REMEMBER VERSE MOTIONS

**No one:** Both hands open, palms down, cross right hand over left hand and back again.

**is like you, LORD:** Point up to sky with right index finger. Then create "L" with right index finger and thumb, place over left shoulder and move down to right hip.

**you are great:** Bring both fists up to sky and splay hands open together.

**and your name:** Put index and middle finger together on both hands. Tap two fingers on right hand gently on two fingers on left hand three times quickly.

**is mighty in power:** Hold up both arms in strong-arm pose.

## Wardrobe of Wonder

Storyteller/Host/Worship Leader

- What'sIt: Staff (see optional image in Resources)
- Wardrobe of Wonder

## What's It: Staff

God worked in powerful ways to free the Israelites from slavery. He used Moses and the staff in his hand to show the people His might and power.

### RELATE

*Tech: Cue image.* Invite a child volunteer to “spy” on the What's It by peeking into the wardrobe. Have him whisper the identity of the What's It in your ear to ensure he knows what it is.

Invite your assistant to sit on the stools with you. Then lead the group in asking the assistant yes-or-no questions about the What's It. Once the children have guessed correctly, ask your assistant to retrieve the What's It from the wardrobe and bring it to you. Thank your volunteer and encourage him to sit with his small group.

### ASK

**Do you know what this is?** Wait for responses and interact with the answers. **This might look like a big stick, and it is. It's called a staff. Do you know who would use something like this? What do you think they might do with it? Why do you think we have a staff in our wardrobe this week? It must somehow be a part of The Big God Story we're going to hear today. Friends, where can we find out what this staff is all about?** Children respond. **That's right, in the Bible. Do you know what time it is? It's time for The Big God Story!**

# The Big God Story

Exodus 14:13—15:21

God Is Mighty

Storytelling Technique: Media; Call-and-Response Storytelling

### SUPPLIES

- What's It: Staff (see optional image to show or print at Resources)
- Optional: video clip of Red Sea crossing scene from DVD *The Prince of Egypt* (DreamWorks)

### PREPARE AHEAD

If using the Red Sea crossing scene from *The Prince of Egypt*, search YouTube for this clip, edit the length if desired, and cue in your media player (running time approximately 5 minutes).

### RELATE

**Hello, friends! It's so good to see you today! You know, one of the things I really like about God is that He is I AM. God is also mighty. Today we're going to hear a part of The Big God Story about a man named Moses who trusted in God. Let's pray and ask God to teach us.** Lead children in a Prayer of Release to pause, be still, and ask the Holy Spirit to quiet their hearts and minds.

**A country called Egypt had a king, or pharaoh, who didn't know or love God. He also didn't like the Israelites, who worshipped the one true God. Pharaoh decided to make the Israelites his slaves. A slave is someone who is forced to work really, really, really hard for someone else and is sometimes not treated well. The Israelites worked very hard for many years under Pharaoh's rule. When the Israelites called out to God for help, He heard them. God remembered the covenant He made with His people and had a plan to rescue them from slavery.**

**One day God called a man named Moses to Him. Where did Moses meet God? Pause for children to answer. That's right, at the burning bush. Moses listened very carefully to everything God said. He followed God's instructions and asked Pharaoh to let the people go. But Pharaoh didn't listen and sent Moses away. Moses**

went to the king over and over again. Each time Pharaoh sent Moses away, he came back with a stronger word from God to the king and the people of Egypt: “Let My people go!”

Finally, Pharaoh had had enough. He told Moses to take the Israelites and go. The Israelites packed up and followed Moses out of Egypt. Let’s pretend we’re the Israelites leaving Egypt. Everyone stand and turn on your imaginations. Put on your backpacks. Put on imaginary backpack. Tie your shoes so you’re ready for the journey. Pretend to tie shoes. **Let’s start walking.** Begin to walk in place. **Are you ready to leave Egypt?** Children respond. **Let’s go! Wait!** Stop and put up hands. **I forgot to tell you something very important! There’s a song we’re going to sing that will tell us what to do on our journey. I’ll sing, and then you’ll sing the same words I do. Just like an echo! Let’s try it.**

**We’re coming out of Egypt.** Children echo.  
**God saved us with His mighty hand!** Children echo.  
**We can rejoice!** Children echo.

**Hold on, hold on! What does *rejoice* mean?** Wait for response. **Rejoicing is kind of like being happy, but when you rejoice you’re so happy you have to celebrate, cheer, sing, or hop up and down. Rejoice is a very big kind of happy! Okay. Let’s try that again. Are you ready?** Children respond.

**We’re coming out of Egypt.** Children echo.  
**God saved us with His mighty hand!** Children echo.  
**We can rejoice!** Children echo; celebrate, hop up and down.  
**Look what’s up ahead.** Children echo; shade eyes with hand.  
**It’s the land of our enemy.** Children echo.  
**Can’t go over it.** Children echo.  
**Can’t go under it.** Children echo.  
**Can’t go through it.** Children echo.  
**We’ll have to go around it.** Children echo.

Continue marching, but “around it” by going in a circle, and then continue marching ahead. Add your own sound effects for walking on a dirt road. For example, “crunch, crunch, crunch,” and so forth. Add your own personality to the experience.

**We’re coming out of Egypt.** Children echo.  
**God saved us with His mighty hand!** Children echo.  
**We can rejoice!** Children echo; celebrate, hop up and down.  
**Look what’s up ahead.** Children echo; shade eyes with hand.  
**It’s the big Red Sea.** Children echo.  
**Can’t go over it.** Children echo.  
**Can’t go under it.** Children echo.  
**We’ll have to go through it.** Children echo; stop marching/walking.

**Through it? How are we going to go through a great ... big ... sea?!** Children respond. **Can we walk through the sea?** Children respond. **Can we all swim across?** Children respond. **We *could* try to swim across. What about the animals that are with us? They can’t all swim across. Who else came with us? Mommies, daddies, babies, grandmas, and grandpas all traveled out of Egypt. It’s a long way; maybe the mommies and daddies would be able to swim across (pause), but I don’t think the babies and grandmas and grandpas would be able to swim across the great ... big ... sea! What are we going to do? Maybe we should sit down for a minute to think about**

this. Children sit down. **What do you think happened when Moses and the people reached the shore of the Red Sea? They couldn't go over it and they couldn't go under it. They could go around it but God led them to the edge of the water with the army right behind them. The Bible tells us that as soon as the people left Egypt, Pharaoh changed his mind and sent his army after the Israelites. The closer Pharaoh's army got to the people, the more frightened they became. The people were stuck and really scared.**

**But Moses knew God and trusted what was true about Him. God was proving His might and power. Moses knew God would protect His people. Moses told them, "Do not be afraid. Stand strong, and you will see how God will save you." Then God told Moses to raise his staff. Tech: Cue Wardrobe of Wonder sound effect. What was that sound? The Wardrobe of Wonder? You're right! I think we've found our What's!t! As we talked about earlier, a staff is a very large stick. God told Moses to hold his staff out over the water. Moses trusted God's words; he did just as God said. Our mighty God parted the Red Sea! He sent a mighty and powerful wind and parted the waters. This wind forced the water apart and held it back. It was so strong the people were able to walk through the sea to the other side on dry ground! As soon as all the people had safely crossed, God closed the waters and Pharaoh's army couldn't reach the people of God. Let's take a look. Optional: Tech: Cue clip from The Prince of Egypt.**

**That's amazing! Can you imagine walking through the middle of the sea? Do you know what was even better than the huge walls of water and walking through the sea on dry ground? The best part was that the Israelites were finally free. They were no longer slaves. When God's people called out to Him for help, He was mighty when He heard their cry. He was mighty when He rescued them.**

**The people knew it was God who saved them. They saw His great power and decided to trust in Him. When they got safely to the other side of the sea, they all started to sing a song of praise to God. They sang of everything God had done to free them from Pharaoh and slavery. They sang about His power, wonder, and love! The Israelites knew they could trust God to care for them. Can we trust God to care for us? Children respond. Yes, we can! God is mighty.**

## Wonder Questions

Small Group Enhancements, coloring pages, and discussion questions help your group go deeper into today's portion of The Big God Story.

### SUPPLIES (per small group)

- [Wonder Questions coloring pages \(see Resources\)](#)
- Crayons

### RELATE

**Moses knew God and trusted what was true about Him. God saved His people through His great power. The people praised God for His power, wonder, and love. They knew God is mighty and they could trust Him.**

**I wonder ... How did the people feel when they saw the waters part?**

**I wonder ... What did the people see when they were walking through the waters?**

**I wonder ... What have I seen God do that is mighty?**

**I wonder ... How can I know God hears me when I call to Him?**

## **BLESS:::** 5 min.

### **Small Group Leaders**

*Children receive a blessing from their leaders and sometimes one another. A blessing may be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.*

### **SUPPLIES** (per small group)

- Remember Verse cards (see Resources)

### **RELATE**

Have the children form two lines that face each other. Encourage the kids to take turns blessing the child standing across from them, leading them in the blessing to repeat. For the blessing, you can suggest the child giving the blessing place a hand on the shoulder of their partner. The child receiving can place his hands out in front of himself palms up to demonstrate his readiness to receive from God.

Words of blessing between the children: (Child's name), **may you know God is mighty.**

After each child has been blessed, invite the children to face you as you share these words over the group:

**Friends, may you know that our God is always with you. May you see God's power and might this week.**