

GCG Sunday School - 12th November 2023

Lesson Outline



Lesson: The Lord teaches His people
Passage: Exodus 19:1-20:21
Big Idea: The Lord saved His people for them to obey Him.
Main Aim: Remember that we have been saved to obey the Lord's good commands.

Please pray for the lesson preparation, that you and the children would be built up by God's word.

Laptop (and Bluetooth speaker) check

Unless you are at the Greenwich service, you will need to bring a laptop to play the videos and songs. If needed, Jonny can provide a laptop and a Bluetooth speaker. 😊

Additional resources: [Mustard Seeds lesson plan](#), [GCG Sunday School Google Drive](#)

The Passage

Summary.

God has acted on his promises made to Abraham - the people have been redeemed!

Now what? God reveals himself and demands how they should live. Now they are saved, they should obey his good commands. Exodus 20:18-21.

For them then.

The Lord God is a scary God who demands his saved people live according to his good law. But they need to remember, they were saved in order to obey, not because they obeyed.

For us now.

The New Testament says that our own salvation is similar in some ways to this Exodus rescue. We were saved first and then brought into a relationship with the Lord whom we fear and obey.

This is a challenge for us that God demands us to obey because of our salvation that we already have. We did not obey in order to be saved, we were not good enough to save ourselves, God saved us by pure grace, and now demands we live in the light of it, as His holy people.

The Age Ranges

Sailors: Ages 3-7

Officers: Ages 8-11

For CW (average age 4-5 years) and Greenwich (average age 6-7 years):

Prepare the lesson for **all ages**. Then prepare your leaders to divide into separate **Sailor** and **Officer** groups for **Heart & Hands** teaching.

Eltham (Sailors average age: 4-5 years, Officers average age: 7-8 years):

Personalise **all material** for the Sailors or Officers.

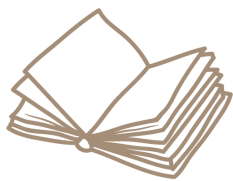
The Rough Format - Repetition is key.

Get Going
3 min + song



Welcome
Quick Recap
Song

Main Teaching
~15 mins



The Big Idea
The Main Aim

Brain Break
~10 mins



Change of scene

Heart & Hands
~20 mins



Discussion
Activities

Land The Lesson
~10 mins



Recap
Memory Verse
Pray

Rough Outline



Get Going
Welcome, Prayer, Quick Recap & Song

Welcome the children

- This is a good time to connect with the children briefly.

You could ask them a simple question which will connect loosely with the theme.

- Sailors - What happens if you do something good at school?
You get a sticker? The teacher says "well done"?
- Officers - Why do people often do good things? What do they want to get in return?

Link: People often do good things to earn a reward.

God does not save people in the same way.

God saves people as a gift, and then demands them to obey.

Prayer

- Let's listen carefully to what God has to say to us today.



Very Speedy Recap - Scroll of time

Last week we spoke about.

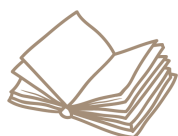
Big Idea: The Lord will be remembered as redeeming his people through judgement.

Link: Now he's saved his people, he'll show them how they should live rightly.

Song

Talk through the words and actions before singing, if needed.

- Sailors & Officers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xivGAMCuvx4>



Main Teaching
Teaching the Big Idea & Main Aim.

Have a Bible open throughout. Feel free to read portions of it out word for word or paraphrase so they see that the story comes from God's word, and not from our heads.

Try to get simply and clearly to the Big Idea and Main Aim.

- Visual aid 1: Which came first?

Use the teaching images to make a timeline, show them through the session that the rescue came before the commands, not the other way round!

- Visual aid 2: Mount Sinai.

You could use an upside-down mixing bowl with toy animals and playmobile people around it. Or have an area with string around it in the middle and the children play the role of the Israelites.

Stay back!

YouTube can provide sound effects of earthquake, wind and fire.

▶ Mount Sinai Thunder Sunday School

▶ Realistic Earthquake Sound Effect [High Quality]

- Lesson points

1. (What's the order of events?) The Lord saved his people, then gave commands, they did not earn this. Exodus 19:4-5
2. (What's the vibe?) The Lord is a scary, holy God. Exodus 19:16-19
3. (What does God command?) The people will be safe, if they fear and obey the Lord's good commands. Exodus 20:20

- Sailors

*Explain the passage. Ask questions along the way. **Keep it clear.***

Get to the Big Idea, then arrive at the Main Aim. Repeat both throughout.

*Use the **lesson points above** with the **teaching images**.*

Brief application

We can remember, that like the Israelites, we were saved too.

Not because we obeyed well, but we were saved so that we would obey.

So now we're saved, we obey God's good commands.

- Officers

*Interactive talk through the text. **Keep it clear.***

Get to the Big Idea, then arrive at the Main Aim. Repeat both throughout.

Feel free to use crazy ways to add to the fun! Act it out, or have them draw something, or shout out the best thing they see in the passage, make a puppet show using paper and card to build scenery.

*Use the **lesson points above**.*

Feel free to use all their imagination to bring out the drama of the scene with the lesson points.

Brief application

We can remember, that like the Israelites, we were saved too.

Not because we obeyed well, but we were saved so that we would obey.

Now we're saved, we obey God's good commands.



Brain Break

A chance to rest the children's minds.

Game idea. Feel free to think of a different game!

- Sailors - [Captain's coming - Mt Sinai edition.](#)

Say things like, "Earthquake", "Trumpet blast" "10 commandments", "scared people"! The children act each one out.

- Officers - I couldn't come up with a Mount Sinai game, feel free to play something fun.

Link: -



Heart and Hands

Think more about the Main Aim with: Discussion and Activities.

Discussion - What would it look like to believe the Main Aim?

Think through with the children what the Main Aim means for our lives.

- Sailors - [The Bible is so good. It tells us exactly what we need to know.](#)

The Israelites were saved before they received God's commandments and told to obey.

They weren't saved because: they were good
 nor because they were kind
 Nor because they did really well at school.

They were saved only because God chose them.

The same is true of us, Christians.

We weren't saved because: we were good
 nor because we were kind
 Nor because we did really well at school.

But because God chose us.

Now we're saved, we need to obey God and fear him rightly.

- Officers - [The Bible is so good. It tells us exactly what we need to know.](#)

Same as Sailors. Ask more questions.

So were they saved before or after the law?

Why did God give them the law after?

So they wouldn't think they were saved because they obeyed.

Were we saved because we were really good people?

We were saved because God chose us.

How can we act like the Israelites were chosen to?

Fear God and obey him.

What can we thank God for?

What challenges us from this passage?

Activities - Craft or worksheet

- Sailors - [Make your own scary mountain, Sinai cone template.](#)

- Officers - Draw the mount Sinai, as many details as possible. Film camera in picture.
- Extra games - In the GDrive.

If you finish craft early, you may want to play a game with the remaining time.



Land the lesson

Bring everything together with: Recap, Memory Verse and Prayer.

Scroll of time update

- Remind them of the Big Idea and Main Aim.



Memory verse

The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing." Genesis 12:1-2 (NIVUK)

[Ideas for learning the memory verse.](#) I will provide the verse on laminated paper with Blu Tack.

- Sailors - [Actions are available here.](#)
- Officers - If capable, they can come up with a rap/ spoken word for the verse. They can repeat and improve it each week.

Pray

Encourage the children to pray with you about the Big Idea and Main Aim.

They could thank God for something we've learnt, or ask for help with a challenge in believing it.

- Sailors

You could ask for hands up/ thumbs up for those who would like to pray.

You could suggest "Popcorn prayers" - really short prayers. Or "Arrow prayers" - We all shoot up like an arrow at the end. Or you could try the idea we use with Officers.

- Officers

You could pass an object, like a Bible, around the room. When a child receives the Bible, they can choose to pray in their head or aloud.

Sign out with Take Home Sheets

- While signing out with Rollcall, Take Home sheets will be provided to carers and parents about the children's lesson.

Final notes

The following items will be printed for you and brought to the lesson:

- Main teaching pictures and materials.
- Activities: Sailors craft and Officers worksheets.
- Memory verse, laminated.
- Take Home Sheets.

Additional materials will be available:

- Craft materials.
- Pens, paper, glue, scissors.