



*A weekly devotional created
by a team of people at
Adventure of Faith*

Introduction activity (for groups)

Post It Note Game

You'll need a stack of sticky notes and a pen. Write a name of a well-known public figure or character on each note, then pass them around until everyone has one. Without looking, each person should stick their note on their forehead or back. Have everyone mingle, or sit in a circle and take turns asking yes or no questions to discover your assigned identity. ("Am I living?" is a great place to start.) Play until everyone has correctly guessed their identity, or pass out prizes to the people who guess correctly first.

Real Talk: This is a time to be authentic, with yourself and others. Share how you're doing with God personally and pray for one another.

God Encounters: Journal, Think about, or discuss with your group how you have encountered God in your life this week.

Sermon Summary

In this sermon series, we're looking at the number 40 and how the significance of its recurrence in the Bible. We're also looking at the ways that the Biblical narratives connect to each other and lead us to Jesus. In the story of Moses, we see symbols and themes that have come before and ones that will continue to recur as the Bible goes on.

In the story of Moses, the author uses tools of literature to evoke certain memories or associations in the reader. Moses is put into the Nile in a basket; the word used for 'basket' here is the same word used for ark -- the author is drawing a parallel between Noah and Moses, connecting them in our minds. For the baby Moses, the waters of the Nile represent danger and possible destruction, just as they did for Noah; the chaos of water also echoes the formlessness of the world before creation, where the Spirit of the Lord was hovering over the surface of "the waters." Just as Moses' name means "drawn out," so he will draw his people out of Egypt and so Jesus draws us out of sin and spiritual death.

Moses is probably the Biblical character with the most recurrences of the number 40. He's 40 years old when he leaves Egypt; he lives with his wife for 40 years before returning to rescue the Israelites; he leads the Israelites in the desert for 40 years. As we continue our series, we'll see further repetitions of the number 40 and more and more intentional devices used by the Biblical authors. The more we explore the aspects of God's word, the more they can lead us to God's character and into the arms of our savior

Read: Exodus 19; 24; 32-34; Deut 8; 10; Num 14; 32; Josh 5

What stands out to you?

Who was Moses?

What does the story of Moses teach us?

What do you, yourself, learn from reading about Moses?

Is there anything new that you know now, after reading the scriptures and listening to the sermon?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father,

There is so much to know about you! Just when I think I am beginning to understand, there is a nuance that grabs my attention and sends me into deeper study of your Word. But you are a mysterious and eternal God with a depth that is far beyond what I am able to fully grasp. Perhaps that design is intentional. I suspect that we are like children that soon tire of a toy that we have played with for days; you entice us to seek answers to questions and you enlighten us as we grow and mature in your Word. I am excited to see how deep your Word is and how one experience builds upon another. I am grateful for the people and resources that you provide so that I can grow in my faith. You have promised that your Word will never come back to you void and, in this light, I pray that you will prepare each one of us for what is to come and purpose our steps toward your glorious kingdom.

In Your Son's Precious Name,

Amen