

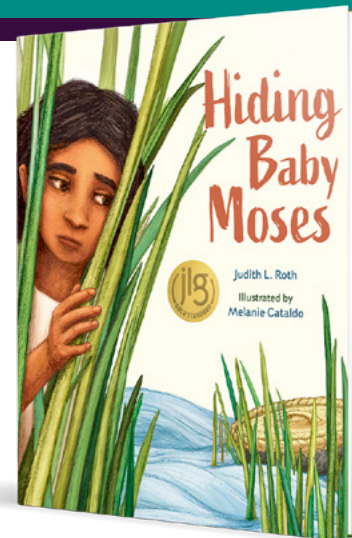
READ★PRAY★WONDER★PLAY

A GUIDE TO SHARING STORIES WITH CHILDREN

Hiding Baby Moses

By Judith L. Roth & Melanie Cataldo

In this beautiful book, readers experience the difficult choice a family makes to protect their baby through the viewpoint of an older sister. From carefully constructing the basket, to sneaking it through a crowded marketplace, to finding a hiding spot, to the encounter with the princess, we see the love and the worry of Moses' sister and mother in every step. Notice with your child the women's emotions (in both words and images) about sending Moses away and into God's protection and be aware of any worry or fear your child may express. To place this story in its larger context, read the "About Moses" note at the back of the book before reading the story. If you and your child enjoy music, end your story time by singing and/or playing the song, "The Shelter of God's Wings" at the end of the book.



★ ★ WONDER TOGETHER ★ ★

- As you look at the characters' faces, what words come to mind?
- The narrator, Moses' sister, reminds herself of God's protection when she finds herself worried about Moses. What are some ways that you remind yourself that God is with you?
- *With Younger Children:* When baby Moses cries in the marketplace, Mama sings him a song (found in the back of the book). What helps you feel better when you cry?
- *With Older Children:* Near the beginning of the book, the sister describes the time Moses was hidden inside with them as "three long and short months." What is a time that you can think of that felt both long and short at the same time?

★ ★ EXPLORE THE STORY ★ ★

- While the Bible doesn't tell this story from a specific person's point of view, this book tells it from the perspective of a child—Moses' sister. Imagine and discuss how some familiar stories you know might be told from the perspective of different characters.
- Notice the word choice in the descriptions of God's protection (*shelter of a rock, holy feathers, shadow from the heat*, and so forth). Together come up with your own list of words to describe God's protection.
- The ending to this story is probably not what Moses' mother and sister would have considered the best possible ending, yet it was so much better than what they feared. Share stories where you experienced an unexpected solution to a problem.

PRAY

God who shields and shelters, we thank you for the safety and protection that you offer us. We pray that all people can feel safe, loved, and cared for. In your strong name we pray, Amen.



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At its core, this book is about the depth of a family's love for a child, and the lengths that they will go to in order to ensure the safety of that child. Combined with this deep love is a deep faith in God's protection and care. Remember that the underlying subject matter of the book may be scary or worrying to a child and be sure to reassure your child that the adults around them will always work to keep them safe. Follow your child's curiosity as you dig deeper into this story and its themes. Some ideas include:

- Read the entire story from a children's Bible. Even if your child has heard the full arc of the Exodus story, they may not fully connect this story of a tiny baby with the "Let my people go" Moses.
- Connect the theme of seeking protection in times of danger with examples that may be familiar to your child. This might include stories in the news, the lives of historical figures (such as Anne Frank), or similar situations in books or movies.
- Create something! Using an online Bible concordance or the website hymnary.org, look for other passages of Scripture or hymns with themes of God's protection and/or similar imagery. Choose a phrase or image about God's protection that feels meaningful and create a piece of artwork that incorporates the images or words you found. Hang your art in a place where you can see it every day.
- Remember your family's unsung heroes. Tell stories about love, protection, and faithfulness that has been shown between members of your family. While (hopefully!) your family stories are not as dramatic as this one, there is inspiration to be found in remembering the ways your family has cared for one another in the past.

MORE TO READ & DO

CLICK THE LINKS BELOW TO LEARN MORE

ADDITIONAL BOOKS ON BIBLE STORIES

- *Who Counts? 100 Sheep, 10 Coins, and 2 Sons*, by Amy-Jill Levine, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, & Margaux Meganck - Available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Korean](#)
- *100 Sheep: A Counting Parable*, by Amy-Jill Levine, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, & Margaux Meganck
- *Who Is My Neighbor?* by Amy-Jill Levine, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, & Denise Turu
- *The Marvelous Mustard Seed*, by Amy-Jill Levine, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, & Margaux Meganck - Available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Korean](#)
- *The Good For Nothing Tree*, by Amy-Jill Levine, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, & Annie Bowler
- *A Very Big Problem*, by Amy-Jill Levine, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, & Annie Bowler
- *Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible*, edited by Elizabeth F. Caldwell & Carol A. Wehrheim
- *Psalms of Wonder: Poems from the Book of Songs*, by Carey Wallace & Khoa Le - Available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

Guide written by Becky D'Angelo-Veitch and created in partnership with PC(USA)'s initiative "[Around the Table](http://pcusa.org/aroundthetable)" (pcusa.org/aroundthetable).



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