



LESSON 19

God sends plagues on Egypt

EXODUS 7:1-10:29



God is the most powerful.



“But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth” (Exod 9:16).

Supporting Truths

1. God is very strong.
2. God is powerful over all so-called gods.
3. The right response to God’s power is to fear God.
4. God is powerful everywhere in every way.
5. God displays His power in order to save a people to serve Him.

Objectives

1. List and describe the plagues to see God’s power.
2. Explain how God defeated the Egyptian gods.
3. Contrast Pharaoh’s response with the response God expects from His people.
4. Describe the organization of the plagues to show how they unfold aspects of God’s power.
5. Compare God’s purpose in saving Israel to His purpose in saving believers today.

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Lesson Summary

Moses told Pharaoh to let God's people go, but just as God had told Moses, Pharaoh hardened his heart. God continued to harden Pharaoh's heart in order to display the greatness of His power. With plagues from the earth and plagues from the sky, with irritating plagues and deadly plagues, and with plagues undermining all the Egyptian gods, God proved that He alone is God. He wanted Israel to trust and serve Him alone, and He wanted all the earth to fear His great power.

Spotlight on the Gospel

God's great power presents us with a choice. We can choose to be like Pharaoh, who refused to humble himself before God. He was sorry when bad things happened to him, but he did not repent. Or we can choose to do what God said: we can trust Him as our deliverer and serve Him alone. If we do repent and believe, then just as God powerfully crushed the rule of Pharaoh over Israel, so He will powerfully crush the rule of sin, Satan, and death over us.

LAST WEEK



God raises Moses to
lead Israel
Exodus 3:1–4:31

THIS WEEK



God sends plagues
on Egypt
Exodus 7:1–10:29

NEXT WEEK



God ordains the
Passover
Exodus 11:1–13:22

DELIVERANCE

Lesson Commentary

God is the most powerful.

God called Moses to be a humble leader through whom God would display His own great power (Exod 3–4). Eventually, Moses obeyed and delivered God’s message to Pharaoh (5:1–3). Instead of listening and obeying, Pharaoh oppressed the Israelites even more, so that even the Israelites hated Moses (5:4–21). God had told Moses this would happen (4:21), but Moses was still discouraged and upset at God (5:22–23). So God reminded Moses of His purpose: God was going to use Pharaoh’s hard heart as an opportunity to display His **omnipotence**, His unbeatable power (6:1). By showing His great power, God would convince the Egyptians to release the Israelites, and He would show the Israelites that He is a God worthy to be served (19:4–6). So the plagues are all about God’s power, to prove both to Israel, to Egypt, and to the nations that He and He alone is God (7:5; 9:14).

God acts in order to display His power (7:1–13)

Even after God reminded Moses of His power and love (6:1–8), Moses did not want to go back to Pharaoh (6:12). He felt too weak (6:30). So for a third time God reminded Moses of His purpose: He would harden Pharaoh’s **heart**, the spiritual control center of man that drives his mind, emotions, and will, in order to do many signs and wonders (7:3). As a result of these miracles, God would deliver Israel (7:4) and cause the Egyptians to know for sure that He and He alone is Yahweh (7:5). Pharaoh’s hard heart and God’s miraculous judgment had one purpose: to display God’s power.

Pharaoh’s **hard heart** is a key part of this story. A hard heart is that which is resistant and obstinate to the Word and ways of God. To have a hard heart is to be calloused, stubborn and defiant toward God. Ten times the story says that God is the one who hardens Pharaoh’s heart (4:21; 7:3; 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; 14:4, 8, 17), further displaying how God personally and sovereignly directs the affairs and hearts of men

to fulfill His ultimate plan and purpose of demonstrating His glory. However, this truth must be kept in balance because the story also says ten times that Pharaoh hardened his own heart (7:13–14, 22; 8:15, 19, 32; 9:7, 34–35; 13:15). Therefore, while God has the inscrutable prerogative to intervene however He deems best (Rom 9:16–18), it is never at the loss of man’s personal responsibility for his own choices and actions (4:23; 8:15). The Bible never attempts to explain away the tension between God’s acting and Pharaoh’s acting. It can only be resolved by accepting the record as it stands and by taking refuge in the perfect knowledge and power of God who planned and brought about Israel’s deliverance from Egypt while also judging Pharaoh’s sinfulness (7:3–5).

After this reminder, Moses and Aaron obeyed and went back to Pharaoh (7:6–7). Pharaoh proudly challenged them to prove their authority by doing a miracle (7:8–9). Aaron acted as Moses’ spokesman and threw down the staff, which became a serpent (7:10). The word for serpent here is not the same word for snake used earlier (4:3). Here it is a word that often describes larger animals like giant snakes or crocodiles or, as in other places, even a monster or dragon (cf. Isa 27:1). It can even refer to Egypt itself, so Aaron’s staff showed God’s authority over the power of Egypt (Ezek 29:3). Pharaoh’s magicians copied Aaron, either through deception, like snake-charming, or through demonic power (Exod 7:11). Aaron’s serpent ate up all the others, but still Pharaoh’s heart was hardened. He refused to believe that Moses and Aaron came in the authority of the true God (7:12–13).

Because of Pharaoh’s hard heart, God sent the plagues. A **plague** is an event or sickness that causes suffering, loss, and usually death on a horrific scale. There were ten plagues, but the first nine plagues came in groups of three, with the tenth plague serving as the grand finale. The way it is written shows the groups of threes. The plagues follow a similar pattern: (1) before the first plague in each group Moses is always told to stand before Pharaoh, and to do so in the morning; (2) before the second plague in

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each group, Moses is always told to go to Pharaoh; (3) and before the third plague in each group Pharaoh is not warned at all.

These three sets of three plagues show the completeness of God's power. First, God is powerful everywhere: the first three plagues showed God's power over the earth, the second three plagues over those who walked upon the earth, and the third three plagues over the sky. Second, God's power is inexhaustible: what began as annoying and troublesome in the first set of plagues became physically harmful in the second set and completely overwhelming in the third. Finally, God is powerful over all other powers: at the end of the first set, Pharaoh's magicians had to admit their impotence, at the end of the second, they could not even come into Pharaoh's presence; and at the end of the third, they were not even important enough to be mentioned anymore.

God's power displayed by three plagues from the earth (7:14–8:19)

For the first plague, Aaron struck the Nile with the staff, so that all the water turned to blood and all the fish died (7:20). Even water in containers became blood, throughout the whole of Egypt (7:19, 21). This plague was a terrible inconvenience, forcing people to dig to find drinkable water (7:24), and it was very smelly (7:18). It proved God's power over Egypt, because Egypt depended on the Nile. Each year the Nile would flood, watering and fertilizing the fields; without the Nile, there would be no Egypt. This plague also proved God's power over Egypt's gods. Egypt worshipped many **false gods, objects, animals, and even people that were worshipped and served instead of the one true God**. The Nile was itself considered a god, Khnum was the guardian of the Nile's sources, Hapi was the spirit of the Nile, and the Nile was said to be the bloodstream of Osiris. Also,

THINK ABOUT IT

A false god is powerless, lifeless, and useless to provide, protect, and save.



THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT

	PLAGUE	PATTERN	SPHERE	SEVERITY	EFFECT
1	Blood	In the morning stand	Earth	Annoying	Emotional
2	Frogs	Go to Pharaoh	Earth	Annoying	Emotional
3	Gnats	No warning, magicians give up	Earth	Annoying	Emotional
4	Flies	In the morning stand	On earth	Painful	Physical
5	Disease	Go to Pharaoh	On earth	Painful	Physical
6	Boils	No warning, magicians defiled	On earth	Painful	Physical
7	Hail	In the morning stand	Sky	Deadly	Psychological
8	Locusts	Go to Pharaoh	Sky	Deadly	Psychological
9	Darkness	No warning, no magicians	Sky	Deadly	Psychological

Neith and Hathor protected fish in the Nile. All of these gods were humiliated when they could not protect the Nile or its fish. But since the magicians were able to imitate the plague, Pharaoh remained harden, refusing to admit God's supreme power (7:22–23).

Seven days later, God brought the second plague: frogs came out of the water, covered the land, and invaded houses, beds, ovens, and bowls (7:25–8:6). Normally the Egyptians valued and enjoyed frogs, because their pleasant croaking was a sign that the Nile had flooded and brought fruitfulness to the land. The goddess Heqt even had the form of a frog. But now frogs were everywhere, crunching underfoot, slimy in bed, swimming in the soup. Even after Moses prayed and the plague ended, the piles of dead frogs filled the whole land with a stench (8:14). Pharaoh, who was himself considered a god, was forced to ask Moses to pray to Yahweh (8:8). Even so, the magicians could still imitate the plague, and when the plague ended, Pharaoh hardened his heart (8:7, 15). He would not admit God's great power.

So God brought the third plague without warning, turning dust into swarming gnats or mosquitoes (8:16–17). These tiny little insects, nearly invisible, irritated the eyes, nose, and ears, and could also bite. Not only was this annoying, but it also proved the magicians' weakness. They could not create life like God could. They admitted that it was the power of God, but Pharaoh's heart was still hard (8:18–19).

God's power displayed by three plagues on those upon the earth (8:20–9:12)

The next set of three plagues began with a plague of flies (8:20–21). Since the Hebrew just says "swarms," it is unclear what they were swarms of. It may have been a blood-sucking fly like the gadfly. These flies may have increased dramatically after laying eggs in the piles of rotting frogs. Such flies weaken and can even kill livestock by sucking blood, as well as spreading skin disease among livestock and possibly even humans. This plague affected all

Egyptians (8:21), but it was the first plague that did not affect the land of Goshen where the Israelites lived (8:22–23). In response, Pharaoh said he would let the Israelites go make sacrifices (8:28), but when the plague ended, Pharaoh hardened his heart (8:31–32).

The fifth plague was a deadly disease among the livestock (9:1–3). This may have been due to a disease spread by the flies, but whatever the cause, God again made a distinction between the Egyptians and the Israelites to show that He, the God of Israel, was God over all (9:4). Although it says "all" the livestock of the Egyptians died, it also limits the plague to livestock in the field (9:3). There were still livestock around to be affected by later plagues. This plague humiliated the Egyptian god Ptah's sacred bull Apis and Ra's sacred bull Mnevis, bulls which the Egyptians worshiped. It also humiliated Hathor, a goddess in the form of a cow. Even though Pharaoh confirmed that the Israelites were unharmed, his heart would still not yield to God's power (9:7).

The sixth plague was oozing boils, a painful blister like sore, on humans and animals (9:9). It began after Moses threw soot from a kiln into the air. This was fitting, since the brick kilns that were involved in Israel's pain would now afflict Egypt. Besides the figurative justice and physical pain, the plague humiliated the priests and magicians of Egypt by making them unclean (9:11), and it mocked gods of healing, such as Serapis. Again Pharaoh's heart was hard, but now for the first time it says that God actively hardened Pharaoh's heart (9:12). Though God is **sovereign**, in complete control over the heart from the beginning, He acts in such a way that His hardening works alongside the one who is already hardening his own heart (Rom 1:28).

THINK ABOUT IT
God's sovereignty over man's heart does not remove man's responsibility for his own sin.



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THINK ABOUT IT
Even during the plagues, God's grace was present.

God's power displayed by three plagues from the sky (9:13–10:29)

God again sent Moses to Pharaoh, telling him literally, “send” my people

out or I will “send” the full force of my plagues against you (9:13–14). This final set of plagues would be even more powerful. They would be directed against all the Egyptians, but first against Pharaoh, or as the Hebrew literally says, against Pharaoh's heart (9:14). These final plagues were designed to shake Pharaoh to the core, despite his claims to be a god. God reminded him that He could have already wiped Pharaoh and the Egyptians off the earth (9:15), but He had kept them around in order to show His power and proclaim His name throughout the earth (9:16; Josh 2:10). Ultimately, this is God's purpose for all things: to show His greatness (Ezek 36:22). Even so, God gives many opportunities for faith and repentance, as He gave the Egyptians a chance to prepare for the coming storm (Exod 9:19). Some believed, but others ignored God's warning (9:20–21).



THINK ABOUT IT
God will turn His back on all unbelievers one day and cast them into utter darkness because of their unrepentant hearts (Matt 25:41).

So God sent the worst hailstorm Egypt had ever known (9:18), with lightning flashing back and forth across the ground (9:23–24). Man and animals who were outside were killed (9:25). The barley and flax, which the Egyptians had worked so hard to grow for food and

clothing, were crushed by hail and burned by lightning (9:31). The Egyptian economy was devastated, while the Israelites remained unharmed (9:26). The Egyptian god Nut, the god of the sky, and Isis and Seth, gods of the crops, were powerless to halt the devastation.

Unlike false gods, whose power was limited to a specific place or thing, God claimed to be powerful in the whole earth (9:29). To end the plague, Pharaoh admitted that he had sinned, but he arrogantly acted as if this was his first sin (9:27). He again promised to let Israel go, but as soon as this seventh plague ended, his heart remained hard (9:35).

God then announced the eighth plague, locusts (10:4). Locusts are devastating. They consume all crops and damage trees and fruit as well. Reported swarms have covered more than 400 square miles at once, with on average between 100 million and 200 million locusts per square mile. They can fly without stopping for up to twenty hours. Between 1930 and 1932, locust swarms attacked 5 million square miles of Africa, an area twice the size of the United States. After announcing this terrifying plague, Moses turned his back on Pharaoh—something never done to a Pharaoh—and left (10:6).

But the Egyptian officials, who had already lost half their crops and most if not all of their livestock, urged Pharaoh to let the people go (10:7). “Don't you realize Egypt is already ruined?” they asked. They no longer trusted their supposedly divine king to make the right decision or protect the nation from disaster. Pharaoh called Moses back, but then in his pride he rudely drove Moses and Aaron away (10:10–11).

So the locusts came, carried along by a strong wind from Arabia (10:12–13). Ordinary locust swarms are already massive and devastating, but this one was larger than any that has ever been (10:14). There were so many that the ground was black with them. There is no mention of Goshen this time: perhaps the locusts invaded Goshen too, but by this time Israel was about to leave. They would not be around to harvest the crops anyway. Either way, Egypt was stripped of all crops, fruits, and trees; by the time the locusts left, nothing green remained in all of Egypt. Pharaoh didn't wait this time; he quickly called Moses and Aaron back,

and he even asked for forgiveness (10:16–17). But after the locusts were blown into the Red Sea, God hardened Pharaoh's heart again (10:18–20).



THINK ABOUT IT

In the future God will once again bring plagues like this upon the earth to display His glory through judgment and just like Pharaoh man will openly curse God and refuse to repent (Rev 16).

So God sent the ninth plague: darkness so complete that it could be felt (10:21). Only the Israelites had light where they lived (10:23). The darkness lasted for three days (10:22), paralyzing Egyptian society. They had no food and barely any livestock; they were weakened by disease and exhaustion. And now they were trapped in their homes, unable to see even indoors. They were

overwhelmed by terror and despair, completely at the mercy of this God called Yahweh. None of their gods associated with the sun, not even the great sun god Ra, could do anything against Yahweh. So Pharaoh expanded his original offer, requesting that only Israel's flocks and herds remain behind (10:24). However, when Moses restated his original demands, Yahweh again hardened Pharaoh's heart. Pharaoh told Moses to leave and threatened Moses' with death if he ever saw Pharaoh's face again (10:27–28). Moses, once timid and uncertain, was now very bold. He would have the final word, not Pharaoh. He told Pharaoh that he would never see his face again (10:29).

A mighty kingdom had been crushed. To the human eye it might have appeared that two ordinary men had defeated Pharaoh, his magicians, and all of Egypt. But by now it was clear that this was much bigger than man. God had shown that He and He alone was God, which was His purpose the whole

time (7:7, 17; 8:22; 9:16, 29). If we, like the Egyptians, live in rebellion against God, we ought to be very afraid of such a powerful God. Pharaoh's example should warn us that being sorry when bad things happen to us is not the same as true repentance. There is a sorrow over sin that leads to death (1 Cor 7:10).

But God also wanted to show His power to secure the faith of His own people Israel (10:1–2). God did not want just to **deliver** Israel; He repeated that He would **rescue, free, and save** them so that they would serve and worship Him (7:16; 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13). Often throughout Israel's history God would point back to the power He displayed in Egypt to remind Israel to trust and worship Him alone (19:4–6).

If that was clear for Israel at that time, it is even clearer for believers today. Just as God crushed the kingdom of Egypt and the gods of Egypt, so Jesus Christ has defeated the rulers of this world in order to transfer His people from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light (Col 1:13). Just as Israel was to respond to God's power in Egypt by worshiping Him alone, so believers are to respond to Jesus' power against sin and Satan by worshiping Him alone (1 Pet 2:9). That is what He saved us for, to serve Him (Eph 2:10).

THINK ABOUT IT

There is a sorrow over sin that leads to death (1 Cor 7:10).





Lesson Outline

God is the most powerful.



AGES 3–5 LESSON OUTLINE

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Water became blood (7:14–25) | 5. Livestock diseased (9:1–7) | 9. Darkness (10:21–29) |
| 2. Frogs (8:1–15) | 6. Boils (9:8–12) | 10. Death (11:1–10; 12:29–32) |
| 3. Gnats (8:16–19) | 7. Hail (9:13–33) | |
| 4. Flies (8:20–32) | 8. Locusts (10:1–20) | |



AGES 6–11 LESSON OUTLINE

- God acts in order to display His power (7:1–13).
 - The purpose of the plagues is to prove God's great power (7:1–5).
 - The sign of a monstrous reptile confirms God's messengers (7:6–13).
- God's power displayed by three plagues from the earth (7:14–8:19).
 - Water became blood (7:14–25).
 - Frogs (8:1–15).
 - Gnats (8:16–19).
- God's power displayed by three plagues on those upon the earth (8:20–9:12).
 - Flies (8:20–32).
 - Livestock diseased (9:1–7).
 - Oozing boils (9:8–12).
- God's power displayed by three plagues from the sky (9:13–10:29).
 - Hail and fire (9:13–33).
 - Locusts (10:1–20).
 - Darkness (10:21–29).



TEACH THE BIBLE LESSON

God sends plagues on Egypt • Exodus 7:1–10:29



Lesson Questions

Use these questions to teach or to review this week's lesson.



Ages 3–5 Lesson Questions

- 1. What did Moses tell Pharaoh to do?**
Let God's people go.
- 2. How did Moses prove to Pharaoh that he should let God's people go?**
His staff turned into a snake, and God sent 10 plagues.
- 3. Do you know any of the plagues?**
Blood, frogs, gnats, flies, animal disease, boils, hail and fire, locusts, darkness, death of firstborn.
- 4. Why did God send the plagues?**
To show that He is God and is very powerful. To make Pharaoh let Israel go.



Ages 6–11 Lesson Questions

- 1. Why did God send plagues against Pharaoh and Egypt?**
God was going to use Pharaoh's hard heart in order to show His power and deliver His people.
- 2. How did Moses and Aaron prove they were God's messengers?**
Their staff turned into a large serpent which ate up the serpents of the magicians.
- 3. Describe the first three plagues.**
All three were from the earth and were very irritating. The Nile turned to blood, killing the fish and stinking up the land. Frogs infested everything. Gnats or mosquitoes buzzed and bit everywhere. By the end, the magicians could not copy Moses and Aaron.
- 4. Describe the next three plagues.**
All three were against people or animals on the earth. They caused physical harm. Flies swarmed and bit, livestock became sick and died, people suffered from gross, oozing boils. By the end, the magicians could not even appear in court.
- 5. Describe the last three plagues (besides the 10th).**
All three were from the sky. They were terrifying and led to lots of death. Hail and fire killed people and destroyed crops, locusts ate every green thing leading to famine), and thick darkness lasted for three days. The magicians are never even mentioned.
- 6. What did these plagues show about the Egyptian gods (including Pharaoh)?**
They could do nothing against the power of the one true God. For example, the great Egyptian sun god Ra could not even keep the sun shining.
- 7. Did Pharaoh repent?**
Pharaoh kept pretending to repent and submit, but whenever the plagues were taken away, he hardened his heart or God hardened his heart. This is not true repentance.
- 8. Why did God want to show Israel His great power?**
He wanted them to trust and serve Him. He wanted them to remember what they saw and tell their children and grandchildren and so on, so that they would never forget that God is God.

Lesson Activities

Choose from the following ideas to introduce, illustrate, and apply this week's lesson.

AGES 3–5



FIND THE FROGS

See *Year 1 Craft Book, Book 1*.

Copy the “Find the Frogs” sheet onto green paper. Copy and cut out as many frogs as you think you need. Before the children arrive, hide the frogs in various places around the room. As the children find the frogs, have them take them to the leaders. Talk about Egypt being covered with frogs. In the Bible lesson, God showed His mighty power by covering the entire land of Egypt with frogs.

SILLY ACTING PLAGUES

Direct the children to follow you in acting out the plagues. Explain that God did this to tell everyone that He was God and the Israelites were His people.

River: Lie on the floor and wiggle back and forth.

Frogs: Jump like a frog.

Gnats: Open your fingers like starbursts all over in the air and talk about small flying things.

Flies: Buzz around the room.

Animals: Pretend to be a favorite animal and then fall dead.

Boils: Pinch your skin all over your body.

Hail: Cover your head and duck for cover.

Grasshoppers: Make small wings with your hands; crawl, jump, and make a clicking noise.

Darkness: Cover your eyes so you can't see anything.



PLAGUE PROPS

Find several items to correspond to the plagues in Egypt. Bring them to class and show them as you tell the Bible lesson. Examples include frogs, flies, tomato juice for blood, and plastic grasshoppers. When you tell the Bible story, stand up and walk close to the children so they can see each item.

HEART CONDITION

Bring two heart-shaped containers to class. Fill one with cotton balls and one with a handful of small rocks. Pass around the containers. Allow all the children to touch the items, and ask them what the differences are between the two (heavy and light, soft and hard, etc.). Explain that Pharaoh was a man with a hardened heart. His heart was heavy with sin. A soft heart is light, free from the burden of sin.



GOD SENDS THE TEN PLAGUES

See *Year 1 Craft Book, Book 1*.

Materials: Craft sheet, red cardstock, crayons, scissors, and glue.

Directions: Before class, print the template that has the empty boxes with numbers 1-10 onto red cardstock. Pre-cut pictures from the craft sheet. Have the children color the pictures and glue them onto the red cardstock according to corresponding numbers.

God Sends the Ten Plagues
See *Year 1 Craft Book, Book 1*.



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AGES 6–8



INTRODUCE

PLAGUES: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Bring in library books or posters with enlarged pictures of frogs, lice, flies, and locusts. Share the pictures with the children and ask them how they would feel if the whole Sunday school room was covered with these creatures. Explain that in today's lesson, they will learn about the nine plagues in Egypt where these creatures did cover the land.

INSECTS EVERYWHERE

Place a variety of items on the table (Play-Doh, buttons, pipe cleaners, raisins, etc.). Have the children create insects. In today's lesson, God demonstrates His power by sending plagues of lice and flies.



ILLUSTRATE

DARKNESS FELT

The ninth plague was darkness so thick that it could be felt. Ask the children what they think that would have been like. Select a couple of volunteers to be blindfolded and draped with pieces of black felt. Ask them how dark it is. Ask them what they think it would be like to walk around in darkness like that. Encourage the class to imagine how it might have felt in the darkness.

DECORATE LIKE AN EGYPTIAN

Make pyramids, palm trees, and a river out of large sheets of butcher paper. Tape them on the walls of the room. Use this as the "set" for today's Bible lesson.



APPLY

THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT

See Year 1 Craft Book, Book 1.

Materials: Craft sheet, black and tan construction paper, white paper, scissors, glue, and crayons.

Directions: Instruct children to color and cut out the pictures from the craft page and then glue them onto the bottom half of a sheet of folded black construction paper. Have them cut out two tan triangles and one white circle and then glue them onto the top half of the folded black construction paper.

The Ten Plagues of Egypt
See Year 1 Craft Book, Book 1.



AGES 9–11



INTRODUCE

EGYPTOLOGIST

Bring in issues of National Geographic, library books, or utilize the Internet to show the children images of ancient Egypt—pharaohs, pyramids, the Nile River, the sphinx, etc. Moses would have seen all these things. Tell children about some of the gods the Egyptians worshiped. In today's lesson, we will learn how the Lord proved these gods to be false.

RACE AGAINST THE PLAGUES

Write out the ten plagues on separate sheets of paper. Form two (or more) teams. Race to see which team can arrange the plagues in the correct order. Allow children to use their Bibles. The order in which the plagues occurred is as follows: (1) Water Becomes Blood, (2) Frogs, (3) Lice, (4) Flies, (5) Livestock Diseased, (6) Boils, (7) Hail, (8) Locusts, (9) Darkness, and (10) Death of the Firstborn.



ILLUSTRATE

HARD HEART

Bring a rock, sponge, and a small bucket of water to class. Dip both the rock and the sponge in the water. Explain that when you put the rock in the water, it does not get softer; but when you put the sponge in, it does. Pharaoh is like the rock. He had a hard heart. He heard God's Word, saw God's power, but did not listen and obey, he had a hard heart. But when a person is ready to hear God's Word and obey, he is like the sponge. We would say that he has a soft heart. He is ready to absorb what God has to say and make His word part of his life.

FAVORITE TOY

Tell the children what some of your favorite toys were when you were a child. You may wish to bring in an example. Ask the children what their favorite toys are. Are these toys for sale? What would you endure to keep them? Would you give them away if God asked you to? Today we are going to learn about someone who had people for his possession. This person would not let his slaves go, no matter what God did.



APPLY

TELL THE NATIONS

Tell the children that one reason God demonstrated such great signs in Egypt was to make His power known throughout the earth. Explain that this is just what missionaries do. They go to places where people do not know Jesus Christ and His great power over sin. Discuss with the children whom they can tell about God's incredible power. Encourage them to tell friends, family, and neighbors about God's awesome power.