

 The logo for Messy Church At Home features the word "Messy" in a large, white, bubbly font with a red outline, and "Church" in a smaller, yellow, sans-serif font below it. The text is set against a red, splatter-like background. Below this, the words "At Home" are written in a white, sans-serif font on a blue, rounded rectangular background.	<p>Friday 13th November</p> <p>Messy Journey: Moses leading the Exodus</p>
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Introduction

Moses was a great leader from Old Testament times. He led the Israelites out of Egypt where they had been treated badly as slaves. The journey that they made is called the Exodus and it started with a miracle that helped them to escape from the Egyptian army who were chasing them. Moses made a path through the sea for the Israelites, but when the Egyptian chariots tried to cross, they were overwhelmed by the sea water.

The bible passage is from Exodus 12:31-34 and 14:5-7, 10, 21, 22

³¹ During the night the king sent for Moses and Aaron and told them, "Get your people out of my country and leave us alone! Go and worship the LORD, as you have asked. ³² Take your sheep, goats, and cattle, and get out. But ask your God to be kind to me."

³³ The Egyptians did everything they could to get the Israelites to leave their country fast. They said, "Please hurry and leave. If you don't, we will all be dead." ³⁴ So the Israelites quickly made some bread dough and put it in pans. But they did not mix any yeast in the dough to make it rise. They wrapped cloth around the pans and carried them on their shoulders.

⁵ When the king of Egypt heard that the Israelites had finally left, he and his officials changed their minds and said, "Look what we have done! We let them get away, and they will no longer be our slaves."

⁶ The king got his war chariot and army ready. ⁷ He commanded his officers in charge of his six hundred best chariots and all his other chariots to start after the Israelites.

¹⁰ When the Israelites saw the king coming with his army, they were frightened and begged the LORD for help.

²¹ Moses stretched his arm over the sea, and the LORD sent a strong east wind that blew all night until there was dry land where the water had been. The sea opened up, ²² and the Israelites walked through on dry land with a wall of water on each side.

(Contemporary English Version)

When Jesus was here on earth in human form many Jews were looking for another leader like Moses to come and lead them out of being kept under the rule of the Romans. This is who Jesus was, although they didn't recognise him at the time. Today we look to Jesus as the one who can lead us out of a life that follows the ways of the world into a life that follows the ways of God.

Activities:

1. Make a flatbread

You will need: 200g plain or wholemeal flour, ¼ tsp salt, 100ml/3½fl oz warm water, 2 tbsp oil, plus extra for cooking

This is something that we did last time in Messy Church, but it is so easy and makes such good bread that we thought we'd repeat it. There is also a link with this month's story. Here are the instructions: Put flour and salt in a bowl



and trickle water on slowly. Mix together and add oil. Knead for 5 minutes. Leave to stand for 30 minutes (if you have time). Divide the dough into 6. Rollout each ball of dough using a rolling pin. Heat frying pan. Rub a little oil in pan. Cook each flatbread for 2

minutes on each side. Keep cooked flatbreads warm in foil until others are cooked. ENJOY!!!!

Children will need to ask a grown up to do the frying pan bit!

Talk about: This was the type of bread that the Israelites made when they were leaving Egypt quickly because it doesn't need to be given time to rise. What ingredient would need to be added to the bread to make it rise?

2. Make a hobby horse

You will need: an empty 2l plastic bottle, a long cardboard tube (inside a roll of wrapping paper, for example), an old sock (adult size), some strong sticky tape, a large rubber band, material to make eyes and ears, wool or other furry fabric to make a mane, PVA glue, scissors.

A hobby horse is a traditional children's toy made of a stick with a horse's head on the end. You put the stick between your legs and hold under the head to make it like you are riding a horse. Here's how to make one.

1. Fold the plastic bottle in half, cover it with the sock and pull down tightly.
2. Put the neck of the bottle into a cardboard tube and pull the sock over the top.
3. Fix the sock in place with strong sticky tape. Use a rubber band to hold the folded bottle in place and make the horse's head.
4. Cut out eyes and ears and stick them on the head with PVA glue.
5. Make a mane by gluing in place some fur fabric or cut strands of wool.

Talk about: Horses can travel much faster than people can walk and can pull heavy chariots. Can you find something at home that could be a chariot for you to pull while riding your horse?



3. Horse racing

You will need: A hobby horse made in the previous activity for each person. Take your horse and have a race with others who have their horses.

Talk about: The Egyptian army chased the Israelites a long way. How far can you run, chasing another person?

4. Decorate a stick



You will need: a thick wooden stick from the woods and coloured wool, ribbon, pipe-cleaners or other materials to wrap around it.

Wrap the strings and strands around your stick, starting at the top, to make it as colourful and splendid as you can. Walk around, carrying your stick and pretending to be Moses leading the people of Israel out of Egypt.

Talk about: Moses was an important leader who carried a tall stick, which he used as a sign that he was a leader and to point to things that he was going to miraculously

change in some way.

If you were a leader, what would you carry to show that you were in charge?

Please do send in pictures of the sticks that you have decorated. It would be great to make a collage of these to show you all next month in Messy Church.

5. Scene: Moses crosses the sea

You will need: 2 sheets of blue A4 paper, 1 sheet of A4 card, card to make figures, pens, glue, scissors

Cut the A4 sheets of blue paper in half lengthways. Cut 'fringe' edges on one side of all four pieces of paper and curl them up to look like waves. Make two of the sheets of paper thinner by cutting 1cm off the long side, so that you can make two lines of waves when they are stuck on the card.

Glue the waves to the base card and re-curl if necessary.

Draw Moses on a folded piece of card and other figures on two more pieces of card. Glue them all together, so that Moses leads them across the sea.



Talk about: how would you feel walking out across the sea with water on both sides? Do you think some people were too frightened to go? What do you think happened to them?

6. Moses says

You will need: two or more people, imagination

Play a game with one person being Moses who gives instruction to the others. When the instruction begins with 'Moses says', it should be followed, but when it doesn't, no notice should be taken. See how long it is before the follower is caught out. Who can last the longest before making an incorrect move?

Talk about: If a leader carries out an action themselves, it's more likely that their followers will copy it. This is why Jesus has so many followers – as Christians we are trying to do those things that Jesus himself did when he was on earth in human form and we can look to him for an example. What kind of things did Jesus do that you'd like to be able to copy?

Song: I will follow

The Israelites followed Moses out of Egypt. Today we follow Jesus into a life filled with hope. You could sing this song, either from memory using the words below, or from a YouTube video such as:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3tRGD7rmvM>

Here are the words:

Down in the valley with my Saviour I will go,
Where the flowers are blooming and the sweet waters flow;
Everywhere He leads me I will follow, follow on,
Walking in His footsteps till the crown be won.

Follow! follow! I will follow Jesus!
Anywhere, everywhere, I will follow on!
Follow! follow! I will follow Jesus!
Everywhere He leads me I will follow on!

Messy Grace:

This is a prayer that we say at Messy Church to ask God to always be with us, as we look to follow Jesus in living our lives.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (hold out hands as if expecting a present)

And the love of God (put your hands on your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (hold hands)

Be with us all (raise arms)

Amen (drop hands)

Next date: Friday 11th December 2020

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