### Story Time: Read the story to the children: Lesson 34: THE SLAVERY OF THE ISRAELITES Exodus 1:1-14 2:23-24

When Jacob went to Egypt, his son Joseph was already there. So Jacob took his eleven other sons and all their families. They were: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. All together, Jacob had seventy children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren who went with him. After Joseph, his brothers, and everyone else in that generation had died, the people of Israel became so many that the whole area of Goshen was full of them. Many years later a new king of Egypt was ruling there. He did not know about Joseph and what Joseph had done for Egypt, and he told the Egyptians: There are too many of those Israelites in our country, and they are becoming more powerful than we are. If we don't think of something to do about them, their families will keep growing larger. And if our country ever goes to war, they could easily fight against us with the enemy, and then they could escape from Egypt. The Egyptians put slave bosses in charge of the people of Israel and tried to wear them down with very hard work. Those bosses forced them to build two big cities where the king could store his supplies. But even though the Israelites were treated badly, their families grew larger, and they took over even more land. Because of this, the Egyptians hated them worse than before and made them work so hard that their lives were miserable. The Egyptians were mean to the people of Israel and forced them to make bricks and to mix mortar and to work in the fields. After the death of the king of Egypt, the Israelites still complained because they were forced to be slaves. They cried out for help, and God heard their loud cries. He did not forget the promise he had made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob about bringing them out of Egypt and back to the land He promised to give them.



"And the Egyptians made the children of Israel work very hard: and they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, making bricks, and in all kinds of field work: all the work they made them do was very hard work." EXODUS 1:13-14

## **34. THE SLAVERY OF THE ISRAELITES** (EXODUS 1:1-14, 2:23-24)

#### **MEMORY VERSE:**

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." MATTHEW 11:28

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

- 1. The children of Israel grew and became very mighty, and the whole land was filled with them. TRUE or FALSE
- 2. There was a new king in Egypt, and he knew who Joseph was. TRUE or FALSE
- 3. The new king of Egypt told his people that the children of Israel were more mighty than they were. TRUE or FALSE
- 4. The Egyptians let the Israelites rule over them because they liked them. TRUE or FALSE
- 5. The Israelites built big cities for the Egyptians to store their supplies in. TRUE or FALSE

#### ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

- 1. Did the Egyptians make the children of Israel get out of Egypt?
- 2. Did the Egyptians want to be friends with the Israelites?
- 3. Did the Egyptians make the Israelites work very hard?
- 4. Did the Israelites like working as slaves for the Egyptians?
- 5. Which promise did God remember that He made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob?

# **LESSON 34 Activity/Craft**

## God's Ears

You will need as many "God's Ear" templates as the number of children in your class. Have the children draw a large picture of an ear and color. Next have the children poke a hole in the ear where the sound will travel in. At the bottom of the page are lines that can be used for prayer requests.

Explain to the children that "God's Ear" is always open to our prayers. Have them write a prayer request to poke through the hole. God hears the prayers of His children.

### PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for God's faithfulness to hear His children. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.



# **HELP THE CHILDREN FIND JESUS**

