

The Case of the Big Showdown

Exodus 1-12



Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Choose story action cues and/or prepare storyboard pictures, if using. (Included in Visual Aids book)
3. Practice telling story with the pictures, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary to fit your allotted time.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story.
2. Put up storyboard figures/add story action cues as you tell the story. Allow the children to help you put them on the board, if desired.
3. Include the children in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
4. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

INTRODUCTION/ LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS

“Our story is called: The Case of the Big Showdown. Here is your listening assignment... ”

Read from Detective Dan’s Listening Assignment signs, but questions are summarized below:

Detective Dan’s Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. A showdown is like a fight to see who’s the best. Who won the showdown in this story?
2. What did He prove when He won?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible verse is 1 Kings 8:23: “O LORD... there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath.”

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who didn’t believe the LORD was the one, true God in our story?
2. How did the LORD show that He really was the one, true God?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found four clues, but one of them is NOT in the story.

They are: A rug; A frog; A king (Pharaoh); and Moses.

Hold up each of the four pictures for the children to see as you identify them. Better yet, put them up on your flannelgraph board, off to one side.

I need to know:

1. Which three pictures belong in the story and which one does not?
2. How did the LORD use three things to show He was the one, true God?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #4 Listening Assignment:

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who did the LORD prove He was in our story?
2. What was something God’s people asked the LORD for and He answered their prayers?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #5 Listening Assignment:

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who did the LORD save His people from in our story?
2. What would He send Jesus to save His people from one day?

Read the questions, THEN SAY,

“Ok, Hide ‘n’ Seekers! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can find the answers to Detective Dan’s questions. When I finish telling the story, we’ll see what we come up with.”

"The Case of the Big Showdown" Exodus 1-12

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics) Numbers correspond to storyboard pictures and placement upon the storyboard. Always feel free to use less pictures, if it's best for your kids. Simply, black out the numbers next to pictures you do not plan to use. All pictures are found in the Visual Aids book. Put BG (background) pictures on storyboard ahead of time. SB pictures (listed below in story text) are added to board as you tell the story. These numbers are also found on the back of each picture.

Tip: Stack pictures in numerical order before telling story for easy use. Use sticky-back velcro to attach pictures to storyboard felt. Use sticky-tac putty to stick a picture on top of another picture.

(SB1) God's people were very sad.

What do you look like when you are sad? Can you show me?

A mighty, mean king (SB2) was hurting them. He made them work too hard. He didn't take care of them. He wouldn't let them go home.

"(SB3) Help us, LORD! Help us! DO SOMETHING!" God's people cried out.

Can you help God's people cry out? Say, "Help, us, LORD! Help us! DO SOMETHING!"

The LORD heard the people. He saw what the mighty, mean king did. He knew how sad His people were and He DID something! He sent (SB4) Moses and Aaron to rescue them.

"What do you think the LORD did?"

The LORD told Moses and Aaron to talk to the king (SB5). "The LORD says: 'Let My people go!' they told the king.

Can you tell the mean king the LORD's message? Say: "Let My people go!"

But the mighty, mean king did NOT think the LORD was any god at all. He said, (SB6) "No!" to Moses. "I will not let them go! Instead, I will make the people sadder. I will make them work harder." And he did just that.

Now God's people were even sadder! They worked even harder and hurt even more! There was only one thing to do: "Help us, LORD!" Moses and the people cried out to God. "Help us! DOOOOOO SOMETHING!"

The people were really, REALLY sad now. Let's cry out to God even louder with them: "Help us, LORD! Help us! DOOOOO SOMETHING!"

The LORD heard the people. He saw what the mighty, mean king did. He knew how sad His people were... and He did something AGAIN!

"What do you think the LORD did now?"

The LORD sent sad things upon the mighty, mean king, his people, and his land... but He protected His people from them all. This would show EVERYONE that the LORD was the One, True God. This would make the king free God's people.

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

The LORD sent nasty flies and gnats (SB7) that swarmed and buzzed all around the king and his people... but not a one bothered God's people!

Can you buzz like a fly?

He sent lots of (SB8, SB9, SB10) slippery-slidey frogs to hop all around the king and his people... and even into their houses...even into their beds! But not a one bothered God's people!

Can you hop like a grasshopper?

He sent (SB11) hungry locusts to munch up all the food of the king and his people. He made (SB12) itchy, scratchy, ouchy bumps pop out all over their skin. He made other sad things happen to the king and his people (and (SB13) even to their animals and (SB14) plants. But not a one bothered God's people (SB15) or their (SB16) animals or their plants!

The mean king and his people were very sad and miserable. They didn't like all the things the LORD had sent upon them.

What do you think they looked like?

What would the mighty, mean king do now? Would he believe that the LORD is the One, True God? Now would he let God's people go free? YES, HE WOULD!

"(SB17) Go away! Go home! THE LORD IS GOD!" the mighty, mean king said. "We have had enough of these sad things. We will do what your God wants us to do," he said. "God's people can go free!"

What did the mean king say? "Go away! Go home! The LORD IS GOD!"

How HAPPY (SB18) Moses and Aaron were! How happy God's people were! They (SB19) praised the LORD, the one, true God. He loved them and had heard their cries. He had seen what the mighty, mean king did. He knew how sad His people were... AND HE DID SOMETHING!

God's people were so happy! The LORD rescued them from the mighty, mean king. Let's cheer for God! He's not like anyone else!

How great is the LORD! He is not like anyone else!

Cracking the Case: (story wrap-up for Listening Assignments)

It's time to see how we did with our Listening Assignment.

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

- 1. A showdown is like a fight to see who's the best. Who won the showdown in this story?** The LORD.
- 2. What did He prove when He won?** The LORD showed that He was the one, true God.

For You and Me:

Long ago, the LORD showed He was the one, true God, and He is still the one, true God today. There's no one better to love and obey than Him. His good plans for His people and this world will always win! Let's ask Him to help us to put our trust in Him.

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found four clues, but one of them is NOT in the story. They are: A rug; A frog; A king (Pharaoh); and Moses.

- 1. Which three pictures belong in the story and which one does not?** The rug was not in the story.
- 2. How did the LORD use three things to show He was the one, true God?** Moses spoke God's words to the king, but the king refused to let the people go or admit that the LORD was God. The LORD used His mighty power and sent lots of frogs and many other things the king did not like. At last, he admitted that the LORD really was the one, true God.

For You and Me:

The LORD is still the one, true God. He wants us all to love Him, know Him and obey Him. We can ask Him and He will help us. What a wonderful thing it is to be one of God's people!

Detective Dan's Lesson #4 Listening Assignment:

- 1. Who did the LORD prove He was in our story?** The one, true God.
- 2. What was something God's people asked the LORD for and He answered their prayers?** They asked God to rescue them.

For You and Me:

God is still the one, true God who wants us to know, love and obey Him. He still loves to rescue His people when they cry out to Him. We can be His people when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible Verse is 1 Kings 8:23: "O LORD... there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath."

- 1. Who didn't believe the LORD was the one, true God in our story?** The mean, mighty king (Pharaoh) and his people.
- 2. How did the LORD show that He really was the one, true God?** He rescued His people from the mean, mighty king, and did it in such great ways that even the king had to say that the LORD is God in heaven and on earth!

For You and Me:

The LORD is still the one, true God. There are none other like Him in heaven or on earth. And the amazing thing is, this great God wants us to be His people! Let's ask Him to help us to turn away from our sins and put our trust in His Son, Jesus, as our Savior. He loves to answer this prayer.

Detective Dan's Lesson #5 Listening Assignment:

- 1. Who did the LORD save His people from in our story?** The mighty, mean king.
- 2. What would He send Jesus to save His people from one day?** Save them from their sins.

For You and Me:

We might not need to be rescued from a mighty, mean king like God's people did long ago, but we do all need to be rescued from our sins. The LORD wants to rescue us. He sent His Son, Jesus to be our Savior. Jesus can save us from our sins and make us God's people, too, when we repent of our sins and trust in Him as our Savior.

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)**Our Bible Truth is:****Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like?
He's Not Like Anyone Else!**

The LORD is the one, true God. We should all obey Him! But, like the mighty, mean king in our story, we all say "no" to God... and we deserve God's punishment! How sad!

But, oh, how kind is the LORD! If we turn away from our sins and ask Jesus to be our Savior, God will forgive us and save us!

What a wonderful beginning that will be! For then we will get to know God in our hearts. And one day, we will go to live happily with Him forever.

Let's thank God and praise God right now for sending Jesus to Let's ask Him to help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Close in prayer.

Closing Unit 4 ACTS Prayer

A=Adoration C=Confession T=Thanksgiving S=Supplication

- A** We praise You, God. You are the one, true God in heaven above and here on earth.
- C** God, in our hearts we know that You are God and that we should obey You, but many times we don't want to. Please forgive us. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for not just being good and great, but being so good and so great to people like us! Thank You for caring about us so much and for wanting us to know You. And thank You so much for sending Jesus to be our Savior.
- S** Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to know You and live for You. Help us to go and tell others what we've learned about You, the one, true God.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.