Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're learning about a woman named Miriam. Miriam was the older sister to Moses. Remember, Moses was famous for several things. As a baby, his mom put him in a basket and set him down a river to save his life. Pharaoh's daughter found him and raised him in a palace. Then, God chose Moses to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. Well, Miriam was involved in a lot of those stories. It's likely that she was the one that watched over baby Moses as he floated down the river. And, she helped Moses lead the people out of Egypt. Miriam was like all of us. She had some great qualities but she also had some bad qualities. She was loving and protective of her baby brother. And, she was a leader. In fact, she wrote a beautiful song that the women would sing to say thanks to God for rescuing them. But, Miriam had a problem with complaining. She complained about Moses' leadership and even the woman he married. She was probably jealous that Moses was in charge and she wasn't. God didn't like her complaining and he doesn't like our complaining either. But, despite Miriam's problems, God still used her and he can use us, even when we have bad days.

Big Idea

Miriam had some bad days but God still used her

Key Question

How are we like Miriam?

Memory Verse

Philippians 2:14 "Do everything without complaining or arguing"

Classroom Agenda

- 1. (5 min) Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.
- 2. (5 min) WARM UP: What do you tend to complain about the most? How do your parents react to it? (Tip:Maybe you don't like chores or that your friends have better stuff. Complaining stinks. Your parents don't like it and either does God. God wants us to be thankful, not complainers)
- 3. (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- 4. (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to class to finish this guide.
- 5. (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).
- 6. (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question. (Answer: We complain about our life because we think we deserve more. (Miriam had a lot of reasons to be thankful. She had been rescued by God from slavery and he chose her to be a leader among the Israelites. Yet, at times she chose to focus on what she didn't have. We do this, too. We look past all that God has done in our lives and complain about the stuff we want, but don't have.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What was Miriam famous for that wasn't good? How are we like Miriam? **4-5th** Instead of complaining, how can you choose to respond when life doesn't go as you want?
- 7. (5 min) EXPLORE: Read Psalm 100. Identify all that this passage tells us to do. Why is God worthy of our praise? (Answer: We should shout with joy, praise God with glad hearts, recognize who God is and all he's done and be thankful. God loves us and he created each of us with a special purpose. Let's be thankful to him!)
- 8. (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.

(5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: MATCHING GAME

Instructions:

- Divide the class into groups of 4. Give each group a set of Matching Cards (page 5-6)
- Have them place the cards face down on the floor or table. When you say, "Go!", have one kid start by flipping over two cards looking for a match. If a match, they keep those cards and go again. If not, the kid to the right gets a chance. Continue playing until all the matches are found. Kid with the most cards at the end, wins.

Supplies needed: Matching cards template (pg. 5-6, pre cut, 1 set per group)

OPTION 2:HOW DOES THIS FIT INTO THE STORY?

Instructions:

- Before class, cut up the Matching cards template (pages 5-6) and place in a bowl or basket. You only need 1 card per pair.
- Have kids take turns coming up and pulling a card from the basket. Each time, as a class decide how that picture, word or phrase ties into the story of Miriam or the Bible as a whole.

Cross: The story of the Bible leads us to understand why Jesus had to die on a cross for our sins.

Miriam: Moses' sister who helped lead Israelites out of slavery. She had a problem with complaining.

Bible: God's truth that tells us how to live and where the story of Miriam is found.

Moses: Led the Israelites out of slavery and he was Miriam's brother.

Tambourine: Miriam used a tambourine to lead the women in a song of thanks to God

Don't complain: Miriam complained and God didn't like it. He doesn't like it when we complain either.

Heart: When we trust in Jesus, he changes our hearts to want to live for him.

Be Thankful: Instead of complaining, we should thank God for all he has done for us

Supplies needed: Matching cards template (pg. 5-6, pre cut, 1 set per class)

The sister of Moses was both famous and fun, but that doesn't mean she was perfect.

Key Points:

	was probably the sister who saved
Moses. Exodus 2:5-10	
Miriam was famous for helpi	ng lead the
	out of Egypt. Micah 6:4
Miriam also led in	against Moses.
Numbers 12:1-2	
Everyone has	, even people who are
close to God.	

Memory Verse:

Philippians 2:14 Do everything without complaining or arguing.

Talk About It

- 1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
- 2. What do you tend to complain about the most? How do your parents react to it?
- 3. Who was Miriam? What did she help Moses to do? Why did Miriam complain about Moses?
- 4. Why do your parents dislike your complaining? Why do you think God dislikes our complaining?
- 5. Read Psalm 100. Identify all that this passage tells us to do. Why is God worthy of our praise?
- 6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Solve the puzzle and **c**olor the picture.

Miriam

ESNELJEZFTGBQBUXW IOZAEGSGEZ XWCCURJNWWAPL CRCKRSIROS IPEKYSNUT ONOWAQLEPROSYROM STOYLOKSBRNVFCKTN AARON BROTHER CLOUD CUSHITE **FAITHFUL** HEAL **LEPROSY** LORD MIRIAM SEVEN DAYS MOSES SERVANT SISTER SKIN **TABERNACLE**

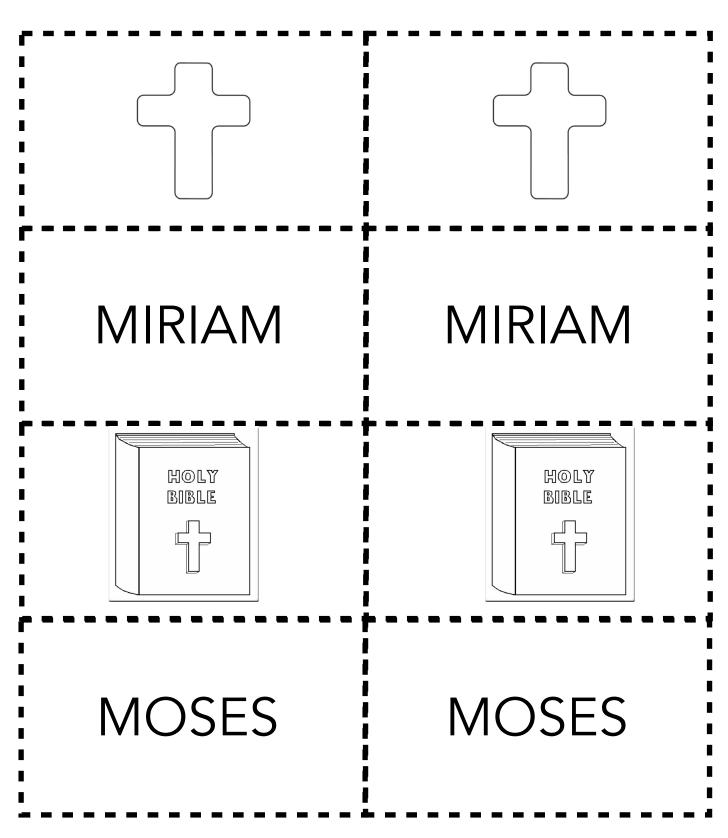
Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

Philippians 2:___ "Do
____ without
___ or arguing"





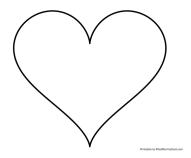




DON'T COMPLAIN

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BE THANKFUL BE THANKFUL