

Godly Play Script

Godly Play is a creative, innovative and experiential way of helping both children and adults engage with the stories in the Bible. Before using a Godly Play script for the first time read the document [How to Use Godly Play](#) which also tells how to find more help if Godly Play is new to you. You will need to allow time to gather the materials and objects needed for the script and also to practice telling the Godly Play story. If time permits after the Godly Play session is complete you can also make use of the [Action Scene](#) picture which tells the story of Israel leaving Egypt. The [Action Scene instructions](#) give guidance on how to use the Action scene to best effect. The activities can be adapted to suit time and resources available.

Godly Play Desert Freedom Box

You will need

- Small shoe box with loose lid, wrapped in yellow paper. Label the box: *Desert Freedom Box*
- Piece of yellow fabric representing the desert
- Toy figure of a king with crown
- Toy figure representing Moses
- Matzo bread (available from larger supermarkets) or pitta bread
- Dolls' clothing
- Costume jewellery representing gold and silver, or catalogue pictures of jewellery
- Models of sheep, goats and cattle
- Photocopies of the [Freedom sheet](#) for each child.

Invite the children to sit in a circle. Bring out the box and place it before the children.

Leader: Look at this box. What colour is it? Is yellow a happy colour or a sad colour? Shall we see what's inside?
Open the box and slowly take out the yellow material. Spread it on the floor in front of you, smoothing it and inviting the children to respond as you say, 'I wonder what this could be?' Accept all possible answers with, 'Yes, it could be that.'

Leader: It was night time. The king of Egypt sent for Moses. God had made bad things happen to try and make the king set the Israelite people free. After a long time, the king was ready to do this.
Take the king and Moses figures from the box. Place them on the yellow material nearest to yourself.

Leader: The king said, 'Leave my country and take your people the Israelites and your sheep, goats and cattle. Go. And I ask for a blessing on me.' And God made the Egyptians give the Israelite people their gold and silver jewellery.
Take the costume jewellery from the box. Place it on the yellow material towards the middle.

Leader: And God made the Egyptians give the Israelite people their clothing.
Place some of dolls' clothes on the yellow material

Leader: The Israelite people rushed to make bread for their journey and to round up their animals. But they were always afraid that the king would change his mind. In their rush they baked unleavened bread. They did not have time to bake their usual leavened bread.

Take some Matzos from the box and place them beside the clothes.

Leader: They wrapped the bread up in the clothing and carried it on their shoulders.

Wrap the Matzos in the clothing. Invite the children to find and colour any bundles of clothing they can find on the sheet.

Preach Exodus! **Week Two**

Leader: The Israelites started walking to freedom. There were about 600,000 men, plus women and children. They took their clothes, gold and silver, sheep, goats and cattle with them.

Take the sheep, goat and cattle models from the box and place them on the yellow material at the farthest point from yourself. Point away from yourself to show the children the way to freedom.

Invite the children to find and colour any animal on the sheet. Invite the children to respond to some 'wondering' statements. Be positive with all responses.

Leader:

- I wonder how the Israelite people felt when the king said 'Go!'
- I wonder what the children ran to find to take on their journey?
- I wonder what the people left behind as they walked to freedom?
- I wonder who was always going to be with them?

Invite the children to find and colour any happy faces on the sheet

Add the **DESERT FREEDOM BOX** to the **TABLETOP TABLEAU**. Turn the box on its side and display some of the figures and objects on the yellow material. Place a copy of the sheet in the box.

Discuss with the children how God has given us a 'gift box' in terms of his provision for our daily needs. What about those who are in desperate need? Guide the discussion to help the children see that human greed can often lead to unfair distribution of God-given resources. If possible, go on to talk about how God wishes to set people free from slavery. Ask the children to say what they think slavery means. Guide them towards the idea that God wishes to set all people free.