

PHARAOH AND THE NINE PLAGUES

Scripture:

Exodus 7:14-10:29

Memory Verse: Psalm 95:7-8

Today if you would hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.

Materials Needed:

- dry erase markers/board
- Abeka Flash-a-cards
- Picture of Egyptian gods
- Word strips
- verse tokens
- Bible books for game

Objectives:

As a result of this lesson, I want my students

To Know—Pharaoh trusted his idols and did not give God credit for the things he had done, and when God judged his gods, Pharaoh continually hardened his heart until he and his country were in shambles.

To Realize—Stubbornly trusting in things other than God and taking the credit that belongs to God will end in disaster.

To Act on it by—not hardening their hearts when they hear God’s Word, but doing what God wants.

Approach:

How many of you have ever watched a sports event that has two teams? And on one side of the stadium, you have all the fans for one team, and on the other, you have all the fans for the other team? Today’s lesson is going to be a CONTEST—between Pharaoh and his gods that he trusts in, and the true God of the Bible. And we are going to have two groups of people that are going to be watching the contest. (Draw stick figures in the middle of the board and write: The Egyptians and the Israelites. On the left side write “GOD” and underneath number 1-9. On the right side, write “Pharaoh and his gods” underneath write “Yes/No” nine times.

Outline:

- I. Pharaoh and the Egyptians are arrogant toward God.
 - A. Moses delivers God’s message: “Let my people go to worship Me!”
 - B. Pharaoh’s idols
 1. He trusts them to keep him safe.
 2. He gave them credit for things God did.

Write what God said to Pharaoh in the middle of the board, between “God” and “Pharaoh and his gods”

(show picture of Egyptians gods)
Say: there was something else they did that was a very serious sin: they gave credit to idols and themselves for things God did.

Here's an example: I want you to imagine that ____ (pick a random student) is really good at art and they draw a BEAUTIFUL picture. But then ____ (pick another random student) tells everyone THEY drew that picture. They would be taking credit for what someone else did—and that's a very serious sin against God when we don't give Him credit.

Who made the sun? God. But Pharaoh said it was Ra.

Who made the Nile River? God. But Pharaoh said it was his god.

You see? He was giving God's credit to his idols and to himself. He said HE was a god himself! He didn't care about what God said or did.

II. God Judges the gods of the Egyptians

- A. Nile to Blood 7:14-25
"Let My people go that they may worship Me!" Fish die; stench covers the land.
- B. Frogs 8:1-15
"Let My people go that they may worship Me!" Pharaoh doesn't let them go.
- C. Lice (Gnats) 8:16-19
(command not recorded)
Pharaoh doesn't let them go.
- D. Flies 8:20-32
"Let My people go that they may worship Me!" Flies come only on the Egyptians. Pharaoh says "Go worship" until flies are gone—then doesn't let them go.
- E. Cattle die 9:1-7
"Let My people go that they may serve Me!" Egyptian livestock die. Pharaoh doesn't let them go.
- F. Boils 9:8-12
(command not recorded)
Moses throws soot from kiln. Pharaoh doesn't let them go.
- G. Hail 9:13-35
"Let My people go that they may serve Me!" Warned to put beasts out of fields. Some listen and obey. Only on Egyptian livestock. Pharaoh admits sin and says he will let

Story tell the details with flash-a-cards.

After each plague, circle whether Pharaoh said "Yes" or "No" on his side of the board. After a few plagues, the students will pick up that no matter what Pharaoh initially SAYS, he has no intention of obeying God.

Note:

A helpful acronym is that God RID(C)S His people of trusting in Egyptian idols:

- River—Nile, Frogs
- Insects—Lice, Flies
- Disease—Cattle die, Boils (Crops)—Hail, Locust
- Severest—Darkness, Death

<p>them go—changes and doesn't let them go.</p> <p>H. Locust 10:1-20 "Let My people go that they may serve Me!" Locust destroy remaining crops. Pharaoh's servants blame Moses. Pharaoh agrees to let only the men go. Admits sin and then doesn't let the people go.</p> <p>I. Darkness 10:21-28 (command not recorded) Could be felt. (a Sandstorm bringing darkness?) Pharaoh agrees to let them go but without possessions. Pharaoh doesn't let the people go.</p>	<p>Even Pharaoh's officials knew that what was happening was GOD'S doing! He was GREATER than their idols. They knew that Egypt was totally ruined! STILL Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go!</p> <p>This was now the most severe plague up to this point. It doesn't seem like the most severe, but do you know why it was? Ra was the sun-god and was supposed to be the mightiest. And Pharaoh was supposed to be descended from the sun god. God was putting HIS power against Pharaoh's power!</p>
<p>III. Pharaoh and Egypt is in Shambles</p> <p>A. Pharaoh's officials acknowledge Egypt is in ruins</p> <p>B. Pharaoh tells Moses and Aaron never to see his face again.</p> <p>C. Moses says one more plague is coming!</p>	<p>By this point, does Pharaoh know that GOD IS GREATER THAN HIS IDOLS?! Everyone has been watching this contest! Even Pharaoh's officials (point to the "Egyptians" in the middle of the board) know that they are losing against the Israelites' GOD.</p> <p>Do you think Pharaoh got the message? Did Pharaoh ever get it? What do you think God was trying to show Pharaoh?</p>

Conclusion:

I know people who fight God just like Pharaoh did. They KNOW what God says. They KNOW that God wants them to trust Jesus and let Him be in charge of their lives, and they are just stubborn against God in their hearts. I've known people who have gone through hard things, and instead of turning TO GOD and humbling their hearts, they are just like Pharaoh and say "NO!" to God over and over. This is what God says to us in Psalm 95:7-8 Today if you would hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.

(Teach Memory Verse)