

# Moses and Miriam Praise God

Focus: Acts of Worship

## ★ PREPARATION

Obtain some **POTPOURRI** and place it into a **BOWL**. (*Introduction*)

Select **DM-1 Character Traits**. (*Directed Instruction*)

Have **DRIED BEANS, PAPER PLATES, CYLINDRICAL CONTAINERS** (such as oatmeal containers, coffee cans, or plastic cartons), **YARN, ALUMINUM PIE PLATES**, and **EMPTY, ALUMINUM, SOFT DRINK CANS** on hand. Select the song “You Are My God” from the Grade 2 URL. (*Directed Instruction*)

## ↻ EXTENSION

**3A** Cut several strips of colored construction paper and hand one or two strips to each student. Direct students to write on the middle section of the paper the things for which the Israelites praised God, and reasons they themselves can praise God. Attach the strips together to form a paper chain. Use the chain to decorate the classroom to remind students of reasons to praise God.

## Introduction ★

Carry the **BOWL** of **POTPOURRI** around the room so that each student can smell it. Ask students to describe the fragrance. Explain to students that praise is a sweet-smelling fragrance to God (Numbers 29:6, 2 Corinthians 2:15). Explain that *praising God* means *describing God by His many qualities*. Mention that *praise* and *worship* are two words often used together or in place of the other. There are many ways to praise God.

## Directed Instruction ★ ↻

Review the Bible truths from Lessons 4.1 and 4.2—how God made the way possible for the Israelites to leave Egypt and cross the Red Sea. Ask students to listen for ways that Moses and Miriam praised God as you read **Exodus 15:1–21** aloud.

Make a two-column chart on the board with the headings shown below. Brainstorm a list of reasons why Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites praised God. Write them on the board. Have students describe some ways that Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites praised God. Write these on the board.

Reasons why Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites praised God	Ways that Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites praised God
Possible answers: God is mighty; God rescued the Israelites from the Egyptians; He parted the Red Sea; God provided guidance through the pillar of cloud and fire.	Possible answers: They sang; they danced; they played instruments; they obeyed.

Explain that the ways of praise pertinent in Moses’ day are ways that all believers can praise God. This praise is a sweet aroma to Him. Christians can praise God with their attitudes, words, and actions. Reiterate that obedience is as much an act of worship as singing or dancing, and if people praise God with their words but not their actions, their words are nullified.

Display **DM-1 Character Traits** and review *joyfulness*. Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites were joyful as they celebrated God’s goodness, after He rescued them from the Egyptians.

Distribute the materials to make musical instruments. Construct and use the instruments with students as follows:

- *Tambourine*: Place **DRIED BEANS** inside **TWO PAPER PLATES**. Staple the plates together at the rims. Show students how to shake the tambourine by moving their wrists.
- *Drums*: Allow students to tap their hands or pencils against the **CYLINDRICAL CONTAINERS** to create rhythms.
- *Cymbals*: Loop **YARN** through holes in the center of **TWO ALUMINUM PIE PLATES**. Tell students to hold the yarn as they clash the plates together.
- *Maracas*: Fill **EMPTY, ALUMINUM, SOFT DRINK CANS** with a few dried beans. Tape the openings shut. Shake the cans in a rhythmic motion.

Praise God with the instruments while singing the song “You Are My God” from the Grade 2 URL.

### Student Page 4.3

Encourage students to make this lesson on praise personal by thinking of reasons to praise God. Have students independently complete the page.

### Review

- What does it mean to praise God? (**It means to describe God by His many qualities.**)
- What did God do for His people that motivated Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites to praise God? (**God parted the Red Sea and saved the Israelites from the Egyptians.**)
- In what ways did Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites praise God? (**They sang, played instruments, danced, and obeyed.**)
- What things did Moses, Miriam, and the Israelites sing about? (**how mighty God is and how He defeated the Egyptians**)

### APPLICATION

- What are some of the most wonderful things you know about God? (**Possible answers: God is love; God is near; God is kind.**)
- What are some ways that you can praise God? (**Possible answers: sing, pray, dance, play instruments**)
- Obeying is a wonderful way to praise God. What are some ways you can praise God by obeying? (**Possible answers: by obeying my parents, by obeying my teachers**)

### REINFORCEMENT

The word *aroma* is used many times in the Bible. In the Old Testament, *aroma* is used to describe sacrifices and offerings. These grain offerings and burnt offerings were pleasing to God. In the New Testament, *aroma* is mentioned in 2 Corinthians 2:15, where believers are said to be a fragrance of Christ—He was the ultimate sacrifice. When believers, then, give themselves as “living sacrifices” (Romans 12:1), they are the fragrance of Christ, an aroma pleasing to the Lord. Ephesians 5:2 also tells how Christ’s sacrifice is a sweet-smelling aroma to the Lord.

DAY  
3

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Moses and Miriam Praise God 4.3

Complete the sentence with some words of praise about God. Write more sentences of praise to Him.

I will praise You  
with my whole heart  
because You are

Answer will vary but should include that God is good, loving, near, my Father, and my friend.

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