



# MAYFAIRKIDS

## JESUS IS THE ROCK MOSES STRUCK

“WHO IS JESUS?” FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE - Week 10, October 22

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For they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:4

**T**he Israelites left Egypt, finally free from 430 years of slavery! God was with them, leading them with a pillar of cloud in the day and a pillar of fire at night. But when Pharaoh changed his mind and began to chase after the Israelites, the people panicked. They were trapped between an army and a huge sea. Immediately they blamed Moses for bringing them out of Egypt and said they wished he would have left them alone! How quickly they forgot all the signs and wonders of God in Egypt and how he spared them in the Passover!

“Do not be afraid,” Moses said. “Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still” (Exodus 14:13-14).

God told Moses to raise his staff and stretch his hand over the sea. Moses obeyed, and God drove the water back with a strong wind, creating a dry path for the people to walk on. The angel of the Lord and the pillar of cloud went behind them, blocking the Egyptian army. All the Israelites, walking between walls of



water on each side, made it safely across, but when the Egyptians followed, the Lord looked down from the cloud and fire and sent the army into confusion, making their chariot wheels fall off. Then God told Moses to stretch out his hand again, and the waters crashed on the Egyptians, drowning the whole army.

The Israelites, seeing God's power once again, feared the Lord and put their trust in him.

But after three days of traveling, they began to grumble again against Moses. They were thirsty, and the only water they had was bitter. God showed Moses a piece of wood, and Moses threw it in the water, making it sweet.

They drank the water, but the sweetness of it didn't change their bitter attitudes, and soon they were grumbling again. They were hungry! So God rained down bread from heaven to feed his people.

Again the Israelites traveled, and again they had no water. Did they remember how God took care of them before with miraculous signs and wonders? Did they remember how the Lord fought for them? Did they trust God to take care of their daily needs?

No, instead they put God to the test. They grumbled against Moses. "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of

Moses cried out to the Lord, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me" (17:4).

God could have punished his people in anger. They were failing the test! They weren't trusting him! In fact, they were testing him instead, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?" (17:7).

But God, in grace and compassion, gave them the water they asked for, and a hint of something more.

God told Moses to take his staff—the staff he had used to strike the Nile, turning it to blood, and the staff that was raised over the sea that drowned the Egyptians—a staff used for judgment.

And God said he would stand before Moses on a rock. Then God told him to strike the rock, and water would come out of it for the people to drink.

Moses obeyed, and it happened just as God said it would. Moses named that place Massah and Meribah, meaning "testing" and "rebellion."

Do you see what God did here? Instead of striking the people for their rebellion, God wanted the rock that *he* was standing on to be struck instead. In 1 Corinthians 10:4, Paul tells us that Jesus Christ is that rock. The

from that rock flowed water to quench their thirst. That moment pointed to the day when Jesus's side would be struck, and water would flow from him—water and blood that give us life.

Is the Lord among us or not? He is! And he is full of grace, having already taken our judgment upon himself.



## REFLECT

1. How do we see God fighting for his people in this story?
2. Read John 19:33–37 and Isaiah 53:4–6. How do these passages relate to today's story?
3. How does God ask you to trust him on a daily basis?
4. In what ways do you see that the Lord is among us today?

**BIBLE REFERENCE** EXODUS 17:1–7

**KEY VERSE** 1 CORINTHIANS 10:4