



Parent Child Learning

פֶּרֶשֶׁת שְׁמוֹת

Prepared by Rabbi Poupko

Topic:

Moshe the Hero



Read about how Moshe grew up...

¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, who made him her son. She named him Moses, explaining, "I drew him out of the water." ¹¹ Some time after that, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his kinsfolk and witnessed their labors. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his kinsmen. ¹² He turned this way and that and, seeing no one about, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³ When he went out the next day, he found two Hebrews fighting; so he said to the offender, "Why do you strike your fellow?" ¹⁴ He retorted, "Who made you chief and ruler over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Moses was frightened, and thought: Then the matter is known! ¹⁵ When Pharaoh learned of the matter, he sought to kill Moses; but Moses fled from Pharaoh. He arrived in the land of Midian, and sat down beside a well. ¹⁶ Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock; ¹⁷ but shepherds came and drove them off. Moses rose to their defense, and he watered their flock. ¹⁸ When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come back so soon today?" ¹⁹ They answered, "An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock." ²⁰ He said to his daughters, "Where is he then? Why did you leave the man? Ask him in to break bread." ²¹ Moses consented to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah as wife. ²² She bore a son whom he named Gershom, for he said, "I have been a stranger in a foreign land."

שמות פרק ב, י-כב

(י) וַיִּגְדַּל הַיֶּלֶד וַתְּבַאֲהוּ לְבַת פַּרְעֹה וַיְהִי לָהּ לְבֵן וַתִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ מֹשֶׁה וַתֹּאמֶר כִּי מִן הַמַּיִם מְשִׁיתֶהוּ: (יא) וַיְהִי בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם וַיִּגְדַּל מֹשֶׁה וַיֵּצֵא אֶל אָחִיו וַיֵּרָא בְּסַבְלָתָם וַיֵּרָא אִישׁ מִצְרַיִם מַכֶּה אִישׁ עִבְרִי מֵאֶחָיו: (יב) וַיִּפֹּן כֹּה וְכֹה וַיֵּרָא כִּי אֵין אִישׁ וַיִּדָּ אֶת הַמִּצְרַיִם וַיִּטְמְנֵהוּ בַּחֹל: (יג) וַיֵּצֵא בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁנִי וַהֲגִה שְׁנֵי אַנְשִׁים עִבְרִים נֹצִים וַיֹּאמֶר לָרֶשַׁע לָמָּה תִּפֹּה רֵעֶךָ: (יד) וַיֹּאמֶר מִי שָׂמַד לְאִישׁ שֶׁר וְשֹׁפֵט עָלֵינוּ הִלְהַרְגֵנִי אֲתָה אֹמֵר כְּאִשֶׁר הִרְגִּיתָ אֶת הַמִּצְרַיִם וַיֵּרָא מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמֶר אֲכֹן נֹדַע הַדָּבָר: (טו) וַיִּשְׁמַע פַּרְעֹה אֶת הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה וַיִּבְקֶשׁ לְהַרְגֵּ אֶת מֹשֶׁה וַיִּבְרַח מֹשֶׁה מִפְּנֵי פַרְעֹה וַיֵּשֶׁב בְּאֶרֶץ מִדְיָן וַיֵּשֶׁב עַל הַבְּאֵר: (טז) וַיִּלְכְּדוּ מִדְיָן שִׁבְעַת בָּנוֹת וַתְּבַאֲנָה וַתִּדְּלְנָה וַתִּמְלְאֲנָה אֶת הַרְהָטִים לְהַשְׁקוֹת צֹאן אֲבִיהֶן: (יז) וַיָּבֹאוּ הָרַעִים וַיִּגְרְשׁוּם וַיֵּקָם מֹשֶׁה וַיּוֹשַׁע וַיִּשְׁקֵן אֶת צֹאנָם: (יח) וַתְּבַאֲנָה אֶל רְעוּאֵל אֲבִיהֶן וַיֹּאמֶר מִדּוּעַ מֵהֲרַתְּנוּ בְּאֵי הַיּוֹם: (יט) וַתֹּאמְרוּ אִישׁ מִצְרַיִם הִצִּילָנוּ מִיַּד הָרַעִים וְגַם דָּלָה דָּלָה לָנוּ וַיִּשְׁקֵן אֶת הַצֹּאן: (כ) וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל בָּנָתָיו וַאֲנִי לָמָּה זֶה עֹזְבֶתֶן אֶת הָאִישׁ קַרְאָן לוֹ וַיֹּאכַל לֶחֶם: (כא) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה לְשִׁבְתָּ אֶת הָאִישׁ וַיִּתֵּן אֶת צִפּוֹרָה בִּתּוֹ לְמוֹשֶׁה: (כב) וַתֵּלֶד בֶּן וַיִּקְרָא אֶת שְׁמוֹ גֶרְשֹׁם כִּי אָמַר גֵּר הֵייתִי בְּאֶרֶץ נְכַרִּיָּה:

...and discuss the following questions based on what you read.

- 1) What do you think it was like for Moshe to grow up in the royal palace, was he treated like everyone else or different? Does this remind you of another Jewish person who lived in Egypt?
- 2) Why did Moshe go out of the palace to see his people? How did he know that he was Jewish and not Egyptian?
- 3) How many times did Moshe save someone in need?
- 4) Do all of the people Moshe defended have something in common? Are they different in any way?
- 5) Why was Moshe always getting involved in other people's problems?
- 6) [Middle School Question] What was it that enabled Moshe to notice the suffering of his people? See Seforno below. What is the Seforno trying to teach us that was so special about Moshe?

Seforno

He made it his concern to take a benevolent interest in the afflictions suffered by his brethren.

ספורנו

וירא בסבלתם. נתן לבו לראות בעני אחיו.