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|  | **Core Bible at Home** | **[20 min]**  |
|  | **Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1–4:17).** |

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| Supplies* Bibles
* paper
* markers
* pencils (1 per person)
* cups of water (1 per person)

 **Discuss Evidence**            Say: **You have 30 seconds to find as much evidence as you can that the people in your family are real. Ready? Go!**                  Ask: **• What evidence did you find that your family members are real? Everybody call out your answers.**             Say: **It’s pretty easy to prove someone standing right here is real. You can see them, touch them, and hear them.****But today we’re learning that God is real. What evidence is there that that’s true? After all, we can’t see him, hear him, or touch him the way we could with our families.****Let’s look at an encounter Moses had with God and search for evidence that God is real.** **Hear God**            Say: **One way you know your family members are real is that you can hear them. And we’ll see that Moses heard from God!****It all started when Moses saw a bush that was on fire…but it wasn’t burning up! As Moses got closer to check it out, this is what he heard.**            Read Exodus 3:4-6.            Ask: **• How does this show that God is real?**            Say: **Not only did Moses hear God say his name, plus identify himself as God, but God went on to tell Moses a lot. He told Moses he was going to rescue the people of Israel out of Egypt, where they were slaves. He told Moses he’d give the people of Israel a new place to live with plenty of food. He gave Moses specific instructions on what to do!****Let’s see what it would be like to hear God speak that clearly.**            Have one person in each family close his or her eyes while the other family members each say the first person’s name and gives a simple command that can be followed with eyes closed. For example, a partner might say, “Omar, clap your hands three times.” Make sure everyone gets a turn to hear and do commands.             Ask: **• How well could you hear your family members?****• Compare that to how well you hear God.**            Say: **Sometimes it can be hard to hear God the same way we hear a human voice. In fact, you may even start to wonder if God is real. But we just saw evidence that God can speak as clearly as your partner spoke to you. Plus, God still speaks today! It might not always be a voice we can hear, but God speaks to us through the Bible, through other people, through what we feel and sense in our hearts, and through his creation. We know God is real because Moses heard him, and we can listen for him today, too.** **Touch God**            Say: **Another sign your family is real is that you can touch the people in your family! We can’t touch God, but God did ask Moses to partner with him to do the work of freeing people from slavery. God said this.**            Read Exodus 3:8-10.            Say: **Here’s the thing: Moses didn’t really want to partner with God. The job seemed hard! But God had chosen Moses to be his leader. Moses didn’t get to touch God, but he did get to work with God…and that’s almost the same thing!****Let’s see how well you can work with a partner.**            Family members will form pairs and take turns leading each other across the room while one person has his or her eyes closed. To lead each other, partners will link arms.             Ask: **• What was it like working with your partner?****• What’s something you think you could partner up with God to do?**            Say: **God is real. When you and your partner linked up, you could work together to accomplish something. Even though we can’t touch God, we can work with him to do important work like telling people about Jesus or showing his love. When we do God’s work, we often feel his power working through us!** **See God**            Say: **A third sign your partner is real is that you can see your partner. I’m looking around our room, and I can’t see God. But let’s look for visual evidence of God in Moses’ story—and make visuals we can see, too.**            Explore these four visual signs from God as follows. * Burning bush (read Exodus 3:1-3): Have everyone draw flames on a piece of paper, then set their papers on a couch or table to make it appear on fire.
* Snake staff (read Exodus 4:1-5): Everyone will throw a pencil to the floor and see if it turns to a snake. Then they’ll hold it between two fingers, right in the middle of the pencil, and wiggle it back and forth so it looks like it’s bending.
* Snowy hand (read Exodus 4:6-7): Everyone will dip their hand in a cup of water so it’s wet, then hold it behind their back and wipe it on their shirt so they can show that it’s dry.
* Bloody water (read Exodus 4:8-9): Everyone will color a scrap of paper bright red, then dip the paper in a cup of water and swirl it around until the water turns red. (If red is not available, use a different color instead.)

            Say: **Wow! God is real! Moses didn’t see God himself (at least not in this Bible story), but he sure saw a lot of miraculous signs that proved God is real! We made silly imitations of the signs, but they were nowhere near as amazing as the real signs from our real God!****But you know, I think we see signs around us that God is real, too. They’re called God Sightings. God Sightings aren’t times we see God like we see a person, but they’re times we see evidence that God is real and at work around us.** Share your own example of a way you’ve seen God at work in everyday life. It could be as big as a miraculous event or as simple as a beautiful sunset or a dog’s tail wag.            Ask: **• Tell about a God Sighting you’ve seen.**             Say: **When we see these God Sightings—whether they feel big or small—they’re signs that God is real. They’re ways to see God!****So Moses got to the burning bush where he saw a sign that God is real. Then he heard God and had a whole conversation with him about how to set the Israelites free from slavery. Then God gave him even more visual ways to prove that he’s real. And after that whole experience, Moses went on to partner with God to do something amazing.****God is the same real God today that he was for Moses. In fact, God told Moses a name that shows God is the same all the time.**            Read Exodus 3:14.            Ask: **• What do you think the name “I Am” means?****• How does that name show God is real today like he was in Moses’ time?**            Say: **“I Am” is a name that shows God is always the same. He just is! So we can pay attention to how God is real as we listen for him, work alongside him, and look for God Sightings.** |
|  | **Craft** | **[20 min]**  |
|  | **Flaming Door Curtains** |

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| Supplies* red, orange, and yellow crepe paper streamers
* red, orange, and yellow construction paper
* glue sticks
* staplers
* washable markers

Easy Prep* Make a sample craft to show kids.
* Cut out red, green, and orange construction paper triangles.

 **Make Flaming Door Curtains**            Show kids the sample craft you made. You might even hang it in your doorway and let kids walk through it. Set out the supplies to share, and have kids follow these directions to make flaming door curtains.* Tear 12 long strips of crepe paper, four of each color. The strips should be long enough to hang in a doorway—at least 6 feet long.
* Tear one more strip of crepe paper that’s the width of a doorway. Use your classroom door to measure!
* Staple one end of each long strip to your doorway-width strip so the long strips hang down.
* If you have time, use markers to add flame shapes to your crepe paper strips, or glue “flame” triangles on.

 **Talk About It**            Ask: **• What would you do if you saw a burning bush like Moses saw?**            **• What would you do if you saw flames in your doorway…but your house wasn’t on fire?**            Say: **God is real, and Moses saw that firsthand when he saw the burning bush. When you get home, you can hang these curtains in your bedroom doorway so you can walk through the flames every time you enter or exit your room! Whenever you walk through the flames, ask God to show you that he is real.**            Have kids take their doorway curtains home and hang them in their doorways. Remind kids that they should never play with real fire. |