

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 1**Focus:**

God prepares us to fulfill His purpose.

Lesson 1**Bible Basis:**

Exodus 2:3-10, 15; 3:1-10; Acts 7:22

Lesson 1**Memory Verse:**

For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.
—Philippians 2:13

Students will watch a video about a paralyzed rodeo champion as they explore how we are prepared for certain tasks.

Materials:

- Whiteboard and marker

Greet your students as they enter. While everyone is getting settled, ask your students about any hopes or dreams they have for the future—how would they like to spend their lives? If nothing stood in the way and they were guaranteed some level of success in whatever they attempted, what would they choose to do? Engage in conversation until everyone is ready to begin.

So, say you've decided what you would do with your life if you could do anything and nothing was standing in your way.

- **How would you prepare for your chosen profession?** (Answers will vary depending on your students stated choices.)
- **Would your choice alter anything you do today? In other words, would you have to move, or would you spend less time playing video games or watching TV and more time practicing something?** (Help your students think through what might help in a particular chosen profession. Someone who wants to be a champion surfer would probably need to move close to the ocean to practice; an Olympic figure skater would need to take lessons and work out all day—maybe even be tutored rather than go to public school, etc.)
- **Considering those life changes, would you still want to choose the same profession, or would you want to go a different direction? Why?** (Answers will vary.)

Now imagine that, at the last minute, after all the preparations you've made, something happens to stop your plans! How would that feel to spend all that time preparing with a purpose only to have it fall through? Give your students a short time to express their thoughts and then share the following video clip with them [2:05]:

Amberley Synder, a paralyzed horse rider, comes to Salinas to inspire others

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLwkzOrkMjs>

Amberley had a purpose and she didn't let her accident get in the way of that. Instead, she outfitted herself with physical therapy, a special saddle and other gear, and relearned how to do what she loved. She also trained a horse to respond to her commands without the use of her legs—all of this was so she could continue to fulfill her goal. Our lesson today is about how God uniquely prepares us to fulfill a specific purpose. Let's see how God went about preparing Moses for what He had in mind for him.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Get Ready

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 1**Focus:**

God prepares us to fulfill His purpose.

Lesson 1**Bible Basis:**

Exodus 2:3-10, 15; 3:1-10; Acts 7:22

Lesson 1**Memory Verse:**

For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.
—Philippians 2:13

Materials:

- Internet access
- Index cards
- Pens/pencils
- Optional: Colored markers or pencils

If your class is meeting online, invite them to bring index cards and pens/pencils to class.

Walking with God doesn't always look like we think it will. It's not always a straightforward path. As Moses was growing up as a prince in Egypt, he had no idea the turns his life would take. Earlier we watched a video about Amberley Snyder—her life didn't turn out the way she thought it would either.

- **What kind of inspiration might Amberley's story give someone?** (Don't give up, keep trying, don't let setbacks stand in the way of what you're gifted to do, etc.)
- **Elsewhere on the Internet, Amberley talks about how much stronger her faith is since her accident. How might that fact add to her inspirational impact?** (It might help people keep persevering in faith, even when things get difficult or you can't see God's plan.)

We may not have a life-altering accident like Amberley or as wild a life story as Moses, but God still uses difficult situations in our lives to prepare us to fulfill His purpose. Take a minute to think about a difficult situation in your life. It could be something major, like the death of a loved one or a disability, or it could be something that seems smaller like not making the basketball team or face-planting in front of your friends.

Hand out index cards and pens/pencils (or invite students to have them ready at home). Ask your students to sum up the difficulty they thought about in a word or two and write it on one side of their index card. Then, ask them to flip the card over and list possible ways God could use that situation for His purposes. (Examples: If I have a really hard time in math but persevere and keep trying anyway, maybe someday I'll be extra understanding to a younger child who is also having difficulty with math. Or, if my parents went through a divorce, maybe God will use me to help a friend through their parents' divorce. Encourage them to brainstorm several ways that God could use their struggle to prepare them for His purpose.)

If time allows, hand out markers or colored pencils. Ask your students to turn their card back to the front where they wrote down their difficult situation. Have them make the word(s) they wrote into something beautiful. Maybe they'll choose to extend the lines of the letters into flowers, or make the word look like the foundation of a house or the tail of a kite.

Share the following music video about Amberley as your students work [3:42]:

Amberley Snyder's Ride on Faith

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kj0cztXCoDg>

End in prayer, thanking God for using every situation to prepare us for His purpose. Ask God for the strength and courage to persevere in faith through even the most difficult situations.

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