

Exodus 1 | Moses Saved From Death

Exodus 1-2:10

Based on the NLT

Introduction

Abraham's descendants had to leave the land that God had given them because of famine. The family made their new home in Egypt, and the family grew and grew until it did become the great nation of Israel that God had promised it to be. But the king of Egypt noticed the growing nation in his land, and he was worried that they would overtake him. So he enslaved them...

Exodus 1:11-14

So the Egyptians made the Israelites (*Abraham's descendants*) their slaves. They appointed brutal slave drivers over them, hoping to wear them down with crushing labor. They forced them to build...supply centers for the king. But the more the Egyptians oppressed them, the more the Israelites multiplied and spread, and the more alarmed the Egyptians became. So the Egyptians worked the people of Israel without mercy...They were ruthless in all their demands.

Exodus 1:15-21

Then...the king of Egypt, gave this order to the *Israelite* midwives, "When you help the *Israelite* women as they give birth, watch as they deliver. If the baby is a boy, kill him; if it is a girl, let her live." But because the midwives *were good women*, they refused to obey the king's orders. They allowed the boys to live, too...So God was good to the midwives, and the Israelites continued to multiply, growing more and more powerful. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.

Exodus 1:22-2:4

Then *the king* gave this order to all his people: "Throw every newborn *Israelite* boy into the...river. But you may let the girls live."

About this time, *an Israelite* man and woman...got married. The woman became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She saw that he was a special baby and kept him hidden for three months. But when she could no longer hide him, she got a basket made of papyrus reeds and waterproofed it with tar and pitch. She put the baby in the basket and laid it among the reeds along the bank of the ...river. The baby's sister then stood at a distance, watching to see what would happen to him.

Exodus 2:5-6

Soon *the king's* daughter came down to bathe in the river, and her attendants walked along the riverbank. When the princess saw the basket among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it for her. When the princess opened it, she saw the baby. The little boy was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This must be one of the *Israelite* children," she said.

Exodus 2:7-10

Then the baby's sister approached the princess. "Should I go and find one of the *Israelite* women to nurse the baby for you?" she asked.

"Yes, do!" the princess replied. So the girl went and called the baby's mother. "Take this baby and nurse him for me," the princess told the baby's mother. "I will pay you for your help." So the woman took her baby home and nursed him.

Later, when the boy was older, his mother brought him back to *the king's* daughter, who adopted him as her own son. The princess named him Moses, *because* she explained, "I lifted him out of the water."

*clues as to the area of leadership
he has called you into?*

- *What did you like about this story?*
- *What bothered you?*
- *What had God promised Abraham's descendants? How did he fulfill that promise? (e.g. the midwives, Moses' family, Moses)*
- *How has God saved you for his promise? How did you contribute to your own salvation? (How did Moses?) Who had a part in it? How did each character contribute to Moses' salvation? (his mother, midwives, his sister, princess)(midwives were actually named because they were regarded as heroes...) Take some time to think back through your journey with God. As you journey back through your salvation story in your mind, stop along the way and thank God at each step for the people/circumstances that led you to Him.*
- *How have you responded since you've been 'saved'? What action have you taken regarding his promises to you, or regarding how these people have poured into you?*
- *Look at the decisions of each character or set of characters in the story: Abraham's family, the king of Egypt, Moses' mother, the midwives, the sister, the princess. When have decisions you've made or circumstances you've allowed yourself to be in affected someone else for their good? Spend some time thanking God for allowing you to be a part of that. Are there patterns in your contributions that seem consistent? That might give you*

Feared God/were good women

This phrase was replaced, because the phrase **feared God** in the Pentateuch referred to being "honest, faithful, trustworthy, upright, and above all, religious." The fear is a fear of God's punishment if he is not obeyed. The midwives knew what was right and wrong, and were more afraid of God's punishment if they did wrong, than of being put to death by the king of Egypt.