

Moses | Part 1 | Pastor Steve Wells | 01.12.2020
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Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:25-26

“**25** He chose to share the oppression of God’s people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin. **26** He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward.”

Read and Discuss Exodus 1 (NLT).

Pharaoh was concerned about the growing number of Hebrews--he decided to make their lives horrible in order to try to keep their numbers down and keep them as slaves. The Israelites continued to multiply even through the hard labor and terrible conditions.

- Have you been in a situation where someone tried to make you unhappy but you were able to continue and work through the difficulties? (Maybe a boss-coworker- family member-bully at school)

The midwives did not follow Pharaoh's orders. They feared God more than they feared Pharaoh.

- How do you think the midwives felt when they heard what Pharaoh wanted them to do?
- How do you think they felt disobeying him?
- Have you ever been in a situation where someone told you to do something you know is wrong?
 - What did you do?

Read and discuss Exodus 2 (NLT)

Moses' mother left her baby (Moses) in the reeds sending him down the river--putting full trust in God.

- Do you send your send your worries-problems-and fears “down the river” and put your trust in God?

Hebrews 11:24-26

“It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. **25** He chose to share the oppression of God’s people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin. **26** He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward.”

Moses, like all of us, had character flaws. One flaw was his anger. He let his anger overcome him and he killed the Egyptian. This action, like all actions, had a consequence and Pharaoh tried to kill Moses. Moses had to run away in order to move on from this mistake. God was still able to use Moses for the purpose He intended- in spite of the mistakes Moses made.

- Moses made a huge mistake. Not all mistakes are as large. If you feel comfortable, share about a mistake that you made that had consequences--OR give an example of a mistake that would have consequences. (Skipping school--not passing a class, Telling a lie--losing the trust of someone you care about, Breaking the law- going to jail or getting a ticket)
- Have you ever made a mistake so big that made you think you messed up the plan God has for your life?
 - Have you seen God’s plan working in your life AFTER that mistake?

Everything that happened in Moses' life was to prepare him for what God had planned. Pastor Steve said this morning often there is “Preparation before the Promise”. Just like Moses did not know the plans God had, we do not always know the plan He has for our lives. It is much easier to see the plan in hindsight.

- Can you think of something God was doing in your life to prepare you for something in the future?
- Can you think of a time you stepped out in faith and it prepared you for something greater than you expected?
 - How did you feel stepping out?
 - How did you feel once you realized what the plan was?

Faith is a forward-looking trust in the face of the unknown-that God is in control.