

# God Rescues His People

Date: 7.12.2026 | The Birth of Moses  
Scripture: Exodus 1-2:10

## CENTRAL TRUTHS



### PRESCHOOL:

God takes care of His people and keeps them safe.

### YOUNGER KIDS (K5-2ND GRADE):

God protected baby Moses and cared for His people when they were suffering.

### OLDER KIDS (3RD-5TH GRADE):

Even when Pharaoh tried to harm God's people, God protected Moses and continued His plan to rescue Israel.

### STUDENTS:

In the midst of oppression and suffering, God sovereignly preserved Moses, demonstrating His faithfulness to His covenant people and preparing the way for their deliverance.

### ADULTS:

Exodus 1–2 reveals God's covenant faithfulness amid oppression as He sovereignly preserves Moses through unlikely means to accomplish His redemptive purposes. Even when earthly powers oppose Him, God remains present, faithful, and actively working to rescue His people according to His promises.

## MEMORY VERSE

*And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew. Exodus 2:24-25*



## DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

*Although the Bible stresses the sanctity of truth and condemns violations, several passages commend and reward deceiving bad people. God does this sometimes to punish the wicked, enable a righteous person to fulfill an assigned mission, and save innocent people needing protection. Daniel R. Heimbach, Fundamental Christian Ethics, 299-300.*

## BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS

The book of Exodus (“going out”) continues the story that began in Genesis. Genesis ended with Jacob’s family safely living in Egypt because God had used Joseph to preserve them during the famine (*Genesis 37–50*). What began as a family of about seventy people (*Genesis 46:27; Deuteronomy 10:22; Acts 7:14*) had now grown into a great nation, just as God promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Exodus opens by reminding the reader of Jacob’s sons, especially Joseph, connecting the story directly back to Genesis and showing that God remained faithful to His covenant promises (*Genesis 35:11–12*). Joseph is listed last among Jacob’s sons, and his death is specifically mentioned, highlighting the important role God used him to play in preserving Jacob’s family and the future nation of Israel (*Genesis 50:20*).

Exodus can be divided into two main sections. *Chapters 1–18* tell how God rescued His people from slavery in Egypt through Moses. These chapters focus on Israel’s deliverance from bondage, God’s protection during the exodus, and His guidance and provision on the journey to Mount Sinai. *Chapters 19–40* describe how God established Israel as His covenant people and taught them how to live as His holy nation.

Moses wrote Exodus about 3,500 years ago. The book covers about forty years of history and begins around 350 years after Joseph’s death. During those centuries, the people of Egypt forgot Joseph and no longer remembered how God had used him to save their nation from famine. The years between Genesis and Exodus were long enough for many people to forget God’s faithfulness and the history of His people. Egypt had become the most powerful kingdom in the known world, advanced in science, mathematics, architecture, engineering, and military strength. Yet despite Egypt’s power and influence, God was still fulfilling His promises exactly as He had said He would.



The book is written in the third person, with Moses serving as the narrator. Moses also wrote the rest of the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible, during Israel's forty years of wandering in the wilderness. In Genesis, Moses primarily records the lives of others, but in Exodus, he becomes one of the central figures in the story. Throughout the book, we see Moses as Israel's deliverer, lawgiver, prophet, judge, leader, and spiritual father. Most importantly, however, Exodus is a story about God Himself. God is the true Deliverer who rescues His people and remains faithful to His covenant promises. Moses wrote these events for the generation of Israelites preparing to enter the promised land under Joshua's leadership. Knowing he would not enter the land himself, Moses wanted the people to remember God's faithfulness in the past so they would trust Him moving forward.

The apostle Paul later explained that the events in Exodus were written as examples and instruction for believers (*1 Corinthians 10:6,11*). *Romans 15:4* teaches that "whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." Exodus is not just Israel's history; it teaches us about God's character, His faithfulness, and His plan of redemption.

The first two chapters of Exodus set the stage for the entire book. They connect Exodus back to Genesis, explain how Israel became enslaved in Egypt, introduce Moses, and remind the reader that God had not forgotten His covenant with Abraham and his descendants (*Exodus 2:24; 3:6-8,15-17; 6:2-8*).

*Exodus 1:7* says that the people of Israel were "fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them." This language echoes God's command at creation for people to "be fruitful and multiply." God was blessing His people and fulfilling His promises. Jacob's family had become the nation of Israel.

But Israel's peaceful life in Egypt did not last. "A new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph," came to power (*Exodus 1:8*). Pharaoh saw Israel's growing population as a threat and feared they might join Egypt's enemies if war broke out. He told the Egyptians, "The people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us." To control them, Pharaoh chose to "deal shrewdly" with them by making them slaves. The Egyptians placed harsh taskmasters over Israel and forced them into bitter labor making bricks, building store cities for Pharaoh,

and working in the fields. Their lives became harsh and bitter under slavery.

Yet Pharaoh's plan failed. "The more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad" (*Exodus 1:12*). Instead of weakening Israel, the oppression only revealed God's continued blessing and faithfulness. The Egyptians became fearful because they saw that Israel continued to grow stronger despite the suffering.

When slavery failed to stop Israel's growth, Pharaoh turned to murder. He commanded the Hebrew midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, to kill every Hebrew baby boy at birth (*Exodus 1:15-16*). Pharaoh especially feared the Hebrew sons because he worried they would one day join an enemy army against Egypt. But these women feared God more than they feared Pharaoh and refused to obey his evil command. Their courage demonstrates a major theme throughout Exodus: God's people are called to fear and obey God above every earthly ruler or circumstance (*Acts 5:29*). Because the midwives trusted God, Israel continued to grow and multiply. God honored the faithfulness of these women, who protected life rather than participating in Pharaoh's evil plan.

Frustrated, Pharaoh then commanded all the people of Egypt to throw every Hebrew baby boy into the Nile River (*Exodus 1:22*). It was during this dark time of suffering, slavery, oppression, and attempted genocide that God raised His deliverer—Moses. Through faithful women like Shiphrah, Puah, Moses' mother, and Moses' sister, God continued to preserve His people and to carry out His covenant promises.

*Exodus 2* records two important moments when God preserved Moses' life: first as a baby (*2:1-10*), and later as a young man (*2:11-22*). The narrative quickly narrows from Pharaoh's threat against the nation to one Levite family and their newborn son. Moses' mother saw that he was "a fine child," showing that even in infancy there was something special about him (*Acts 7:20; Hebrews 11:23*). Out of love and faith, she hid him for three months.

When she could no longer hide him, Moses' mother placed him in a basket among the reeds of the Nile River while his sister watched nearby. In God's providence, Pharaoh's daughter came to the river to bathe and discovered the baby. She recognized that he was a Hebrew child, yet she "took pity on him" (*Exodus 2:6*). Ironically, the

very household that ordered the death of Hebrew baby boys became the means God used to save His chosen deliverer.

Moses' sister bravely approached Pharaoh's daughter and offered to find someone to care for the child. For a Hebrew slave girl to speak so boldly to Pharaoh's daughter required great courage. Pharaoh's daughter agreed, and Moses' own mother was brought to nurse and care for him. Amazingly, the woman who risked everything to save her son was even paid by Pharaoh's household to raise him.

Eventually, Moses became the adopted son of Pharaoh's daughter and was raised as an Egyptian prince with all the wealth, education, and privilege of royalty. At the same time, because he was cared for by his birth mother during his early years, Moses would have known his Hebrew heritage and identity. Pharaoh's daughter named him Moses, meaning "drawn out," because she drew him out of the water (*Exodus 2:10*). Even from infancy, God protected Moses and prepared him for the future work of delivering Israel from slavery.

The opening chapters of Exodus remind us that God always keeps His promises. Even when His people suffered under slavery and oppression, God had not abandoned them. He was working behind the scenes to preserve His people and prepare a deliverer. Moses points forward to Jesus Christ, the greater Deliverer who came to rescue His people from a greater slavery—the slavery of sin. Just as God rescued Israel from bondage in Egypt, Jesus came to save sinners through His death and resurrection so that all who trust in Him can be forgiven, rescued, and brought into God's family forever.

## TELL THE STORY

### *Exodus 1-2:10*

The Biggest Story Storybook Bible - God Raises a Deliverer

The Jesus Storybook Bible - God to the Rescue

Hey Oh! Stories of the Bible - Baby Moses

For many years, Jacob's family lived safely in Egypt. At the end of Genesis, we learned how God used Joseph to save his family during the famine and bring them to Egypt. What started as a small family of about seventy people grew into a huge nation, just like God had promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God had kept His covenant promises, and the people of Israel continued to grow and multiply.



But as time passed, things in Egypt began to change. Joseph died, and eventually a new Pharaoh became king over Egypt. This Pharaoh did not know Joseph or remember how Joseph had once saved Egypt from famine. He only saw that the Israelites had become very large and powerful.

Pharaoh became afraid of them. "What if they join our enemies in war and fight against us?" he thought. So Pharaoh devised a plan to control the Israelites. He forced them to become slaves.

The Egyptians made God's people work hard every day. They carried heavy loads, made bricks, built cities for Pharaoh, and worked out in the fields under cruel taskmasters. Their lives became bitter and painful. But something amazing happened—the harder the Egyptians oppressed the Israelites, the more the Israelites multiplied and spread throughout the land. God was still blessing His people just as He had promised.

Pharaoh became even more afraid. So he made an even more terrible law. He commanded the Hebrew midwives, women named Shiphrah and Puah, to kill every Hebrew baby boy when he was born. Pharaoh hoped this would stop the Israelites from growing stronger.

But Shiphrah and Puah feared God more than they feared Pharaoh. They refused to obey the king's evil command. These brave women trusted God and protected the Hebrew babies. Because of their courage, the people of Israel continued to grow.

Pharaoh was furious. He then ordered all the people of Egypt to throw every Hebrew baby boy into the Nile River. It was during this dark and dangerous time that God raised a deliverer named Moses.

A man and woman from the tribe of Levi had a baby boy. When Moses' mother saw him, she knew he was special. She hid him in her house for three months to keep him safe from Pharaoh's soldiers. But as Moses grew bigger, she could no longer hide him.

So Moses' mother made a basket and covered it so water could not get inside. Then she carefully placed baby Moses into the basket and set it among the reeds by the Nile River. Moses' sister stood nearby to watch and see what would happen.

At just the right time, Pharaoh's daughter came down to the river to bathe. She noticed the basket and had one of her servants bring it

to her. When she opened the basket, she saw the baby crying. Even though she knew he was a Hebrew baby, she felt compassion for him.

Then Moses' sister bravely stepped forward and asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Should I go get a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby for you?" Pharaoh's daughter agreed. So Moses' sister hurried home and brought back Moses' own mother!

Pharaoh's daughter told Moses' mother, "Take this child and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." Can you imagine that? Moses' mother got to care for her baby boy safely, and she was even paid to do it!

When Moses grew older, he went to live in Pharaoh's palace as the adopted son of Pharaoh's daughter. He was raised like an Egyptian prince with the best education, wealth, and training in Egypt. Pharaoh's daughter named him Moses, which means "drawn out," because she had drawn him out of the water.

Even though life seemed hopeless for the Israelites, God had not forgotten His people. Behind the scenes, God was protecting Moses and preparing him to become the deliverer who would one day lead Israel out of slavery.

Moses' story points us to an even greater Deliverer—Jesus. Just as God used Moses to rescue His people from slavery in Egypt, God sent Jesus to rescue us from slavery to sin. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, everyone who trusts in Him can be forgiven and become part of God's family forever.

## REBUILD THE STORY

1. Who came to Egypt with Jacob, and what happened to their family over time? (*Exodus 1:1-7*)
2. What did the new Pharaoh think about the growing number of Israelites, and why was he afraid of them? (*Exodus 1:8-10*)
3. How did Pharaoh try to control and oppress the Israelites? (*Exodus 1:11-14*)



4. What happened to the Israelites even while they were suffering under slavery and oppression? (*Exodus 1:12*)
  
5. What command did Pharaoh give to the Hebrew midwives, and why did the midwives refuse to obey him? (*Exodus 1:15-17*)
  
6. What did Pharaoh do after the midwives refused to kill the Hebrew baby boys? (*Exodus 1:22*)
  
7. How did Moses' mother protect him when she could no longer hide him, and who watched over him by the river?  
(*Exodus 2:1-4*)
  
8. How did God use Pharaoh's daughter to rescue Moses, and what does Moses' name mean? (*Exodus 2:5-10*)
  
9. The Hebrew midwives feared God more than Pharaoh. What are some situations today where obeying God might be difficult or unpopular?
  
10. Even when the Israelites were suffering, God was still working behind the scenes. How can this story encourage us when life feels hard or unfair?
  
11. God used unexpected people like the midwives, Moses' mother, Moses' sister, and even Pharaoh's daughter to protect Moses. What does this teach us about how God works through ordinary people?
  
12. Moses was rescued to become a deliverer for God's people. How does Moses' story point forward to Jesus and the rescue He brings from sin?

## GOSPEL EMPHASIS

In the book of Exodus, God protects Moses' life in amazing and unexpected ways. Even while the Israelites suffered as slaves in Egypt, God was still in control and faithfully keeping the promises He had made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Pharaoh tried to stop God's people through oppression, slavery, and even the killing of Hebrew baby boys, but nothing could stop God's plan. The more the Israelites were oppressed, the more they multiplied and prospered because God's sovereign hand was upon them. God preserved Moses through the courage of faithful women, the protection of his mother and sister, and even through Pharaoh's own daughter. Moses would grow up to become the deliverer God used to rescue His people from slavery and lead them toward the promised land.



Moses' story points us to an even greater Deliverer—Jesus Christ. Just as Israel was trapped in slavery in Egypt and unable to rescue themselves, we are trapped in slavery to sin and separated from God because of our sin. But God, in His love and mercy, sent Jesus to rescue us. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again so that everyone who trusts in Him can be forgiven and brought into God's family forever. Exodus reminds us that God always keeps His promises, protects His people, and provides the rescue we could never accomplish on our own.

## WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TEACH US ABOUT GOD?

Use your Attributes of God poster as a guide.

## PRAYER PROMPTS

God, thank You for always being faithful and for keeping every promise You make. Thank You for protecting Moses and the Israelites even during hard and scary times, and thank You for showing Your rescue plan through their story. Help us trust You when life feels difficult and remember that You are always at work, even when we cannot see it. Thank You for sending Jesus, the greater Deliverer, to rescue us from sin and bring us into Your family forever.



## THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING

*Exodus 2-4*