Aug 21 | Sunday Courageous Women, a Compassionate Princess, and an Evil King Read Exodus 1:8-17, 2:1-6



22 | Mon - How did we get here? | Read Genesis 41:33-43 and 46:31-34

Jacob's son Joseph, sold as a slave by his treacherous brothers, had risen to become second only to the Pharaoh. Joseph's foresight and wise planning had provided an abundance of food. Reconciled to his brothers, Joseph invited his family to live with him in Egypt. This temporary move became a four hundred year stay. Have you ever found yourself 'living' somewhere you never intended to go? Were God's purposes still fulfilled?

23 | Tue – Looking Ahead | Read Genesis 50:22-26

Joseph believed his extended family would someday return to the land God had promised to his great-grandfather Abraham and he made his brothers swear an oath to take his bones back with them. Do you have a vision for the future that is so strong you know it will happen, even if you are not around to see it? If you do not, ask God to give you a worthy purpose you can invest your life in that will continue after you are gone.

24 | Wed - Powerful Fear | Read Exodus 1:6-14

Long after Joseph and his generation died, a new king came into power that did not know their history. He distrusted their loyalty and saw the Israelites as a threat. Fear caused him to oppress them, forcing them into hard labor in an effort to reduce their population. Do you ever find yourself misjudging others and reacting out of fear, even though later those fears proved to be unfounded? What could you do differently the next time?.

25 | Thu - Brave Women | Read Exodus 1:15-22

Shiphrah and Puah were powerless midwives but they respected God and in the end their courage defeated the most powerful man in their world. When you face a challenging situation, what gives you courage to do the right thing, even when you do not know the outcome? Does it help to identify core values and ask God to help you stick to them?

26 | Fri – Desperate Measures meet Compassion | Read Exodus 2:1-10

Ordered to throw her baby in the Nile, Moses' mother "obeyed" by placing him in a water- proof basket and putting it in the river. The basket floated within sight of the king's daughter. She recognized the baby as an Israelite child but compassionately disregarded her father's edict and adopted him. Imagine the great joy of Moses' mother when she was hired to care for her own baby...legally! Have you ever surrendered someone or something to God only to have them or it returned to you? It could happen.

27 | Sat – Failure has its benefits | Read Exodus 2:1-22

Now a grown man, Moses tries to address injustice by his own efforts and it was a catastrophe, causing him to flee for his life. Yet God mercifully provided a new home in a safe place and a new family. Have you ever failed miserably yet experienced God's mercy toward you? Do you find yourself being more compassionate when you see others fail?

August 28 | Sun - A Burning Bush, a Reluctant Prophet, and the NAME of God

