



Exodus 2:1-10

The Birth of Moses

1 Now a man of the house of Levi married a Levite woman, 2 and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. 3 But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. 4 His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.

5 Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. 6 She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said.

7 Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?"

8 "Yes, go," she answered. And the girl went and got the baby's mother. 9 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. 10 When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, ^[a] saying, "I drew him out of the water."

LIFE Community Leader's Guide

Sunday, February 4

Big Idea: Choose! The theology of your birth shapes you.

Key Verse:

Psalm 139:13-14:

13 For you created my inmost being;
 you knit me together in my mother's womb.
14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
 your works are wonderful,
 I know that full well.

Opening Question:

Bryan asked each person to consider the mythology of their birth. Take some time to share some aspects about your own birth that you feel comfortable sharing with others. This could be anything from the basic facts (height, weight, time) to feelings and circumstances surrounding that birth.

Study/Discussion Questions:

Read through the passage together

Observation Questions

1. List some of the characters mentioned in the text.
2. Whose name is the only one mentioned?
3. Who seems to be clearly left out?
4. What are the circumstances surrounding the birth of Moses?

Interpretation Questions

1. Bryan said that a person's birth story has a powerful effect on their life. Moses stands as a powerful figure in the scope of theology and history – possibly the second most influential person in history. Yet this powerful and influential man lived a life of faith, built on one decision of faith at a time. Moses' mother made some huge decisions of faith.
 - a. List some of her decisions or acts of faith.
 - b. What can be learned from her decisions as a parent?
2. Moses birth story was written in mythic proportions, yet all of it is true, none of it was fictional. Bryan suggested that the purpose of the birth story of Moses was to show that God was the true protagonist. The purpose of the story was to show that God's designs and God's purposes were what counted, not circumstances or mythic events. Bryan captured this by saying that the theology of your birth is what matters, and will shape you.
 - a. What can we learn about God from this birth story?
 - b. How do you think this shaped Moses?
 - c. What do you think Moses hoped the people of Israel would learn about God from hearing his birth story and seeing the decisions of faith that his mother made?
 - d. What can you learn about God and decisions of faith from Moses birth story?

Application Questions

Bryan said that the theology of your birth will shape you.

- a. Take some time and read Psalm 139 especially verses 13 and 14. Reflect on what these verses mean about your birth, your life now and what God hopes for you now.
- b. Do the same reflection about the life of other members of your family (spouse, mother, father, son, daughter).
- c. What would you change about the way you live your life to better reflect this new understanding of God and his purposes for you?
- d. What would you change about how you treat other members of your family based on this new understanding of God and his purposes for them?
- e. In the light of God having a specific purpose for each and every person he creates and in light of the fact that no child is an accident, no person is insignificant and no life is without purpose, take some time and pray together for each person in your group. Pray that they would find purpose and meaning and that together you would all seek to glorify God and become like His Son, Jesus Christ.