

From Slavery to Freedom

Exodus study guide #2

Exodus 2 – lead up to Oct 14th

Diving into Exodus 2

1. Keeping in mind the slavery context of Exodus (see ch.1), read Exodus ch.2 as a group and then share your initial observations & responses.
 - What verses, themes or experiences catch our attention?
 - What parts surprised you, challenged you, encouraged you, or provoked questions?
 2. Look again at each character in the first half of this chapter – **Exodus 1:1-10** – Moses' mother, Moses' sister, Moses, Pharaoh's daughter, Pharaoh and God.
 - How is each portrayed in this chapter? What is revealed about each character through this story?
 3. Read again the story of vs.11-22. Of all of Moses's formative experiences, the narrator of Exodus chose to tell *this* story from Moses' life.
 - Why? Why might the narrator have chosen this part of Moses' story?
 - What does it tell us about Moses? How did his upbringing shape the man he was becoming?
 - Imagine Moses years later, a shepherd in Midian. How might the memory of his formative years shape his perception of himself, God, the world, and his role in seeking justice?
- **closer to home:** What formative experiences have shaped who we are and how we respond to injustice and the suffering of others?
4. Read again vs.23-35. This is really the first time that God is given the focus in the Exodus narrative.
 - How is God revealed in this text?
 - As mentioned in last week's study, the Exodus narrative first came into its written form during the Babylonian exile. How do you think vs.23-25 would have impacted the Israelites suffering in exile in Babylon?

WRAP UP: In a word or phrase, what in Exodus 2 most significantly lingers for you?

PRAY: *Take a few minutes to pray together into the things you've discussed, including praying for those who suffer in slavery today and our response. Pray that we would grow as a community who participate in God's rescuing grace.*