God Builds Potential in Weakness February 12, 2023

*Exodus 2:1-10 Series: How God Shapes a Person for Impact*

Some of the most effective communication between student and teacher … takes place during silent periods. – Anna Muoio

Intro: “Surely, I wouldn’t have to go through anything else.”

1. It takes faith to do what’s right when God seems absent
2. God moves Jochebed to protect life as precious

v. 2 *The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him three months.*

Hebrews 11:23 *they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict*

Acts 7:20 *Moses was born; and he was beautiful*

Genesis 1:10 *And God saw that it was good.*

1. God moves Jochebed to believe in God’s deliverance

v. 3 *When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes …*

v. 3 *She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank.*

1. Even when we do all we can, it still seems like nothing’s working

v. 5 *daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river*

v. 6 *When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying.*

* Why is God’s silence so difficult to take?
* How might the story of creation have changed how Moses’ parents saw him? What about Noah and the ark?
* How might their circumstances have tempted them to give up?

1. It takes faith to act in hope when God seems absent
2. Miriam needed hope to watch what might happen

v. 4 *And his sister stood at a distance to know what would be done to him.*

1. Miriam needed courage to approach Pharaoh’s daughter

v. 7 *Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, “Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?”*

v. 8 *So the girl went and called the child's mother.*

1. God blesses acts of faith

v. 9 *And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, “Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed him.*

Romans 8:28 *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*

Matthew 10:30 *But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.*

* What are some of the natural obstacles that might have prevented Miriam from doing what she did?
* How do you prepare a child to act with this level of maturity at such a young age?
* Why is it so hard to believe the promise of Romans 8:28?
* What can God teach us in times when He seems silent that He can’t when His leading and reassurance is more obvious?

1. It takes faith to let go when God seems absent
2. Letting go the second time was even harder

v. 10 *When the child grew older, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son.*

1 Samuel 1:27-28 *For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.*

1. The story begins and ends with a name

v. 10 *She named him Moses, “Because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”*

Psalm 18:16 *He sent from on high, he took me; he drew me out of many waters.*

1. Patterns point to Jesus

The birth of a child signals the deliverance of God

Jesus like Moses was given a special name (Matthew 1:21)

Jesus and Moses were hunted by powerful foreign rulers

Jesus and Moses both initiate a new start for God’s people

Deuteronomy 18:15 *The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen …*

* Why would it have been so hard to give up her son the second time?
* Why does God sometimes ask us to let go of things that are valuable to us?
* What do you take away from this story about how to deal with God’s silence?

Study ahead: In our next study in Exodus, we’ll look at Exodus 2:11-25

Notes