



We are spending the entire spring semester walking through the book of Exodus, and there will be parts we won't even get to for the sake of time. The story in chapter one opens up with the severe oppression of God's people, the Israelites, as they live in Egypt. They are living as slaves under the Egyptians, and chapter one closes out with Pharaoh asking the entire Egyptian population to help control the Jewish population by killing all of the Jewish boys who were born. To say it simply – this is a beyond horrible situation for the Israelites. Today, the title of our study is "Cry Out for Help." This is the next step in surrendering any burden to God. Have you cried out to God for help? Today, that's what we will discuss in our passage.

Key Passage: Exodus 2

Discussion Questions:

1. What happens to Moses in verses 1-10? Does this align with Pharaoh's instructions? Who's raising Moses? Who is paying to provide for his needs? What would Pharaoh think if he knew this was happening? What does this ironic turn of events teach us about God's providence in our lives?
2. How do the actions of Moses' mother compare to those of the Hebrew midwives in chapter 1? What do you think Moses' mom felt when Pharaoh's daughter summoned her to care for him on her behalf? What can we learn about courageous faith from Moses' mom? Can you think of a time when you came to a crossroads and had to take a bold step of faith?
3. What do we observe about Moses' character from verses 11-19? What qualities of leadership does he exhibit? How did God use Moses' time in Midian as a shepherd to prepare him to be the leader he would need to be to lead God's people out of Egypt?
4. Like Moses' 40 years in Midian, God has used seasons of solitude to shape people throughout the Bible (1 Kings 19:1-9 and Matthew 4:1-11). What similarities do you see in these times of solitude? How have you experienced similar seasons in your life?
5. Read Exodus 2:23-25. What drove God's people to desperate prayer? Why do you think God allowed the Hebrew people to become enslaved in Egypt? Are there any parallels to why God may allow us to experience various burdens?
6. Did God answer the prayers of His people immediately? What does this tell us about how God answers prayers? How can seeing the big picture in Exodus help encourage us as we pray for our most significant burden(s) during the 21 Days of Prayer?
7. What's one personal takeaway from today's study you can focus on this week?