

**Journey's of Faith**  
**The Journey to the Palace**  
**Exodus 1:1-22; 2:1-10**  
**January 31, 2010**

## **Introduction**

1. In our world today, the media belittles biblical family values. Motherhood does not get much encouragement from our society. The feminist movement deplores the concept of a mom staying at home; and the crowd who defends abortion rights sends a message about motherhood that is undesirable. In reality, motherhood is the most influential role on planet earth!
2. A school teacher gave her class of second-graders a lesson on magnets and how they have the ability to pick objects up off the ground. The next day the teacher gave her kids a pop quiz. She said, "My name has six letters and I pick up things. What am I?" When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was surprised to find that almost half of her students answered the question not with the word *magnet* but with the word *mother*. The children had concluded that *mothers* pick up things-not *magnets*.
3. *Newsweek* stated that the average mom at home works ninety-two hours a week. Another study found that if a typical mother were paid for all the duties she did in the home, she would earn an average of \$138,095 a year in the business world. This figure comes from the tasks accomplished by a mother in an average day. You see, in an average day a mother can be a taxi cab driver, a counselor, an engineer, a carpenter, an accountant, a judge, a motivational speaker a teacher, a chef, a supervisor, a personal assistant, an event coordinator, an administrator, and a preacher. You combine all those jobs together, and you couldn't pay a mother enough. Paying \$138,095 a year sounds cheap. The work that most mothers do is priceless! (Newsweek.com, May 14, 2007)
4. The Bible says that a virtuous 'woman, a godly mother, is priceless!
5. **PROVERBS 31:10** *Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.*
6. **PROVERBS 31:28** *Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.*
7. Moses was born into a wicked world during the time of the Egyptian bondage. During this period in history, the Jews suffered four hundred years of difficulties. One of the greatest trials and most reprehensible acts committed by the Pharaoh was his command to the Jewish midwives to kill the male babies as they were born. Moses' mother Jochabed acted wisely in the face of great danger. There is much to be learned from her journey of faith.

### **I. The Protection of Jochabed**

1. *Exodus 2:1-5*
2. Jochebed had a child named Moses whom she wanted to protect from Pharaoh's evil command to kill all baby boys. God's plan, however, went beyond merely protecting the baby from death. It involved giving Moses the foundation to be a man greatly used by God. From our text, we gain a glimpse of Moses' childhood as he begins his journey for the faith.
3. *Proverbs 1:8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother*
4. **A. From the threat of evil**
5. Jochebed hid Moses from the evil influence that threatened him.

6. **HEBREWS 11:23** *23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.*
7. Wickedness in Moses' day threatened to eliminate God's chosen people. While Pharaoh was planning the extermination of the Jewish people, God was preparing their emancipation in the protection of baby Moses. God not only saved Moses from death, but He had a special mission for him to accomplish-a purpose given to him at birth. He was to be the leader of Israel, and God would guide him every step of the way on his journey for the faith.
8. The faith of Jochebed gave her the courage to protect Moses from the threat of evil. She chose to put her life in danger in order to preserve and shelter Moses from the threat of wickedness.
9. Hidden in a small basket on the Nile River, Moses was protected from Pharaoh's order. God's hand was evident as the princess felt pity for the child. She further insured Moses' protection from Pharaoh's wicked command.
10. Just as Satan attempted to destroy the Jewish race in Jochebed's day, he is trying to eliminate future generations of Christians today. Yet, even when evil is rampant, God is willing and able to lead and protect his children on their journey.

### **11. B. From the attack of Satan**

12. Jochebed not only protected Moses from the threat of evil, she also protected him from a direct attack from Satan. Satan's purpose was to destroy the entire nation of Israel and he was accomplishing it by attacking the family.
13. Satan is trying to destroy the Christian family in our world today by turning the hearts of children against their parents and infiltrating their lives with wickedness.
14. In this evil day, God is calling parents to be like Jochebed-willing to protect their families from the evil that is so prevalent in our society. There are several key ways in which we can protect our children:

#### **15.1. Set boundaries.**

16. **PROVERBS 4:1-2** *1 Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. 2 For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.*
17. One student gave a humorous definition of a grandmother: "Someone who comes to visit ... and keeps your mother from spanking you!"
18. While this definition may be true in many cases, God has still placed authority into His institutions. The family is God's institution, and as parents, we are required to establish boundaries for our children.
19. Standards and guidelines are not designed to rob joy; they are designed to protect.

#### **20.2. Give warning**

21. **PROVERBS 1:7** *7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*
22. Illustration Keri was four years old and an incessant talker. This made it difficult for her parents and even her grandparents when it was time to put her to bed at night. One evening, Keri's grandfather was putting her to bed, but she just wasn't ready to stop talking. She had said her prayers, been tucked in, and had been told "good-night," but she wasn't ready to be quiet! Her grandfather reminded her again that it was time to stop talking and go to sleep, to which little Keri replied, "But Papa, my mouth is not empty yet!"
23. The average parent will readily admit that when it comes to giving warning, they do it often! However, it is important to remember the following quote: "Strictness does not ruin children. Harshness ruins children." As parents, we must ask God for wisdom to be strict, but not harsh in our warnings as we strive to protect our children.

### 24. 3. Set an Example

25. *II Timothy 1:5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.*

26. We've all heard the saying (and have probably repeated the saying), "Do as I say. Don't do as I do!" Children, however, may not always do as you say, but they almost always do as you do!

27. In making an effort to protect our children from Satan's attacks, it is imperative that we maintain a consistent and godly example before them in all areas of life.

### 28. 4. Be wise to that which is good.

29. *ROMANS 16:19 19 For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.*

30. Illustration A grandmother was trying to teach her grandsons not to be so mean to girls. Two of her grandsons were playing marbles when a pretty little girl walked by. "I'll tell you!" said Jake to JD, "when I stop hating girls, that's the one I'm going to stop hating first."

31. Even at a young age, we need to teach our children to be wise concerning that which is good. The world is doing a very good job at advertising that which is evil, and sadly many young people are very knowledgeable about the wickedness of our day. May we do our part as parents to uplift and teach that which is good.

### 32. 5. Teach the Word of God.

33. *DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.*

34. Teaching God's Word to our children is essential. The Bible is our sword and main source of protection against the evils of this world.

35. In Deuteronomy, we find the command to diligently teach our children from the Scriptures. If your teaching cannot be described as diligent and purposeful, perhaps an adjustment should be made for the sake of your children's protection.

### 36. 6. Practice forgiveness.

37. *EPHESIANS 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.*

38. May our children always rest in the security of our forgiveness. How we thank the Lord for the forgiveness He has shown to us!

39. Yet, we must also express that same forgiveness to our children. May they rest in the comfort and protection that our forgiveness can provide.

## II. The Provision of the Lord

1. *Exodus 2:5-9*

2. Satan is attacking the Christian family through drugs, immorality, alcohol, music, and worldly lifestyles. These threats are part of a frontal attack, one that is directly aimed at destroying your child and home. We can thank the Lord for the protection He provides against these attacks! Just as He provided for Moses as he floated down the Nile, He wants to provide for us as we press forward on our journeys for the faith.

### 3. A. He provided a place for Moses.

4. God's grace is clearly seen throughout Moses' journey and specifically as God brings him to the palace to be cared for.

5. Before the Egyptian princess thought to call for a nurse, God planned for Moses' own mother to raise him in the palace and provide a foundation of godliness. Many believe Jochebed was able to train and teach him until he was five or six years old.
6. In spite of the unusual circumstances, God allowed Moses' family to provide for him.
7. *1 TIMOTHY 5:8 8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.*
8. God's unique provision prepared Moses for his future. Having the foundation of godliness instilled by his mother, Moses was then educated in Pharaoh's court. This gave him a knowledge of the inner workings of the palace, which he would later need as God's ambassador to that court.
9. **B. He provides principles for us**
10. *EPHESIANS 6:4 4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*
11. God commands us to train and teach our children.
12. **Illustration** Often there is a gap between what is actually said and what the child hears. While teaching a group of children, a children's pastor was answering the question, "What is God like?" As he was explaining the eternity of God, he made this statement, "God is eternal." A young child quickly questioned what she heard. "God is a turtle?" she asked. She understood what was said in light of words familiar to her! We must remember to teach in ways that can be understood by a child!
13. God commands us to bring up our children in the nurture of the Lord. Nurture speaks of discipline.
14. In 1 Timothy 5:14, it is referred to as "guiding the house." *"I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully"*
15. While many parents discipline out of a spirit of frustration and anger, may we exercise godliness and discipline our children from a heart of love.
16. We must also nurture in a home of order. Often, chaos and confusion can breed unruly children. May our homes be a place of loving correction and godly order as we seek to raise our children.
17. Raising godly children also requires admonition, which is teaching.
18. *Proverbs 1:8-9 say, "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck."*
19. May we never underestimate the importance of teaching. The choices young people make later in life will be greatly influenced by the protection and training they received in their early years.
20. Like Jochabed, may we purposefully teach our children on a daily basis. John Wesley, the great preacher of years gone by, said, "I learned more about God from my mother than from all the theologians in England."
21. *PHILIPPIANS 4:9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.*
22. The greatest way to provide for your family is to pray that each one would know Jesus as his Saviour.

### **III. The Purpose of Moses**

1. *HEBREWS 11:24-26 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; 26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.*

2. Like each one of us, God had a purpose for Moses. The purpose He had for Moses is the same purpose He has for us today. May we be challenged by the example of Moses, and be determined to fulfill God's purposes for our own lives.
3. **A. To identify with God's people**
4. Moses grew up to be a man who purposed to identify with God and his people. He refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, and in doing so fulfilled God's purpose of identifying with Him.
5. God also commands this same identification from us. He desires that we identify and fellowship with God's people through the institution of the local church.
6. Parents should become concerned, when a teen is bent on acceptance from a peer or, world system.
7. **HEBREWS 10:25** *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*
8. **B. To separate from sin**
9. Illustration A little boy was traveling with his mother over the holidays. As they approached the airline ticket counter the little guy informed the agent that he was two years old. Suspiciously, the agent looked down at the boy and asked, "Do you know what happens to little boys who lie?" The young traveler smiled, "Yep, they get to fly for half price!"
10. No matter how young or old we are, God desires that we separate from sin! Just as Daniel of the Old Testament, we must personally determine to separate from sin.
11. **DANIEL 1:8** *8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself*
12. **C. To wait on God's reward**
13. The third purpose learned from the life of Moses is to wait on God's reward. God blesses those who follow Him on their journey. Earth's riches pale in comparison to the great rewards given by God.
14. Moses' journey for the faith was a journey of protection, provision and purpose. It is a journey on which God leads all of His children. May we rest in his protection, trust in His provision, and live out His purposes for our lives. May we protect, provide for, and give purpose to the next generation starting out on their journey for the faith.