



Gospel Community Notes & Questions

Title: God Prepares A Deliverer

Text: Exodus 2:1-25

Theme: The Lord uses both the miraculous and the mundane to prepare you to participate in his rescue of others.

Teaching Notes: Exodus 1 ends with the recognition that Israel needs a deliverer, and Exodus 2 begins with the birth of that deliverer. But before Moses can save anyone, he himself needs to be saved from near certain death. In the eighty years that follow, God uses both the miraculous and the mundane to prepare him to partner with Yahweh in the stunning rescue of God's people.

Outline:

1. Prepared by Protection. (vv. 1-4; Hebrews 11:23)

- The author deliberately likens God's rescue of baby Moses inside a basket (*tebah*) to God's rescue of Noah and his family inside the ark (*tebah*).

2. Prepared by Providence. (vv. 5-10; Acts 7:17-22)

- Providence = God's preservation + guidance + concurrence with humans.
- The water intended to kill Moses saved him. Pharaoh orders his death, but Pharaoh's own daughter rescues and raises him – and even pays his very own mother to nurse and nurture him.

3. Prepared by Passion. (vv. 11-22; Acts 7:23-28; Hebrews 11:24-26)

- Moses was passionate about identifying with his people and rescuing the innocent and the afflicted from the hands of an oppressor.

4. Prepared by Patience/Perseverance. (Acts 7:23, 29-30)

- For the first 40 years of his life, Moses was the prince of Egypt. For the next 40 years, he was a nobody in the wilderness.
- God used the wilderness to strengthen certain tendencies and traits in Moses' life and to starve others.

5. Prepared by Pain. (vv. 23-25)

- The Israelites had to grow sick and tired of where they were before they could be ready to follow God when he came to lead them out.
- It's hard for God to reach the comfortable; it's easy for him to reach the desperate.



Questions to explore individually and with your group:

1. What's what thing you learned or observed from Exodus 2?
2. Share a time when you believed God was calling – or inviting – you to do something specific (including obedience to something in his Word), yet everything that followed seemed like an obstacle or a detour to that calling. How did that situation make you feel?
3. Looking back over your life, what are some instances when God protected you from harm (physically or spiritually)? What did he protect you from?
4. Why do you think this story is written in a way that draws a deliberate comparison to God's rescue of Noah and his family?
5. In your own words, talk about what the providence of God is and what it means to you. In what ways is it like "the fingerprints of God"?
6. Give a few examples of providence both from the Bible and from your life.
7. Moses had a passion to identify with his people and deliver them from the hand of the oppressor. What's something you're passionate about? How does that passion show up in your life?
8. If you've ever spent significant time in the "wilderness," waiting on the Lord, what in hindsight was he strengthening in your life and what was he starving?
9. C.S. Lewis referred to pain as *God's megaphone to rouse a deaf world*. What do you think he meant by that? How has God used pain graciously in your life to make you desperate for him and for his coming kingdom?
10. What one actionable thing will you do this week in response to this message?

Prayer Prompts:

1. Praise the Lord for sending a deliverer to Israel – and for sending another ultimate deliverer to the world – in the form of a divinely protected baby. Praise him for having an ultimate, good purpose for waiting and pain.
2. Acknowledge what hinders you from being all-out desperate for God. Confess what makes you comfortable, what takes your focus off the Gospel, what distracts you from following God into the fullness of all he has for you.
3. Ask God to open the eyes of your heart to perceive ways he's already working in your life through things like protection, providence, passion, patience, and pain. Ask him for the wisdom to see where he's leading.