

MESSAGE SUMMARY

In Exodus 1–2, you learn that God often does His deepest work in hidden seasons. While God seems silent as Israel suffers under Egyptian oppression, He is actively multiplying His people, preserving a deliverer, and keeping His covenant promises. Through faithful obedience by ordinary people like midwives, mothers, daughters, and shepherds, God frustrates Pharaoh's plans and moves His redemptive story forward.

Before Moses ever confronts Pharaoh publicly, God shapes him privately. Forty years of obscurity in Midian prepared Moses for leadership, humility, and dependence on God. What looks like delay is actually development. What feels like absence is really preparation. Hidden seasons are not wasted seasons; they are where God forms His people and prepares salvation.

MAIN POINTS

1. Hidden Flourishing - God multiplies His people in places of pressure and oppression (Exodus 1:7–14; Genesis 50:19–20).

Supporting Truths: God keeps His promises even in hostile environments. Israel grows from a family into a nation under oppression. Pharaoh's fear reveals God's blessing; multiplication cannot be stopped. God honors faithful women (Shiprah and Puah), while Pharaoh remains unnamed. Human power cannot cancel divine promises. *Takeaway:* God is at work even when circumstances seem stacked against you.

2. Hidden Faith - God uses ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary purposes (Exodus 1:22; Exodus 2:1–10). *Supporting Truths:* Faithful obedience often looks small but carries eternal impact. Moses' rescue echoes Noah's ark, salvation through water. God turns Pharaoh's household into a refuge for Israel's deliverer. God rewards obedience; Moses' mother is paid to raise her own child. Moses' birth foreshadows Christ's deliverance from a murderous king (Matthew 2:13–16). *Takeaway:* Faithful obedience in private moments advances God's public plan.

3. Hidden Formation - God shapes His servants long before He sends them (Exodus 2:11–25). *Supporting Truths:* Moses has passion and a sense of justice but lacks God's timing. Passion without character leads to failure. Forty years in Midian shaped Moses into a shepherd, servant, husband, and father. God removes Egypt from Moses before using Moses to confront Egypt. God hears, remembers, sees, and knows the suffering of His people. *Takeaway:* God develops character in obscurity before granting responsibility in public.

Big Idea: Hidden seasons are where God does His **deepest** work.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does Exodus 1–2 show that God is sovereign even when He seems silent? *Possible Answer:* God is multiplying Israel, preserving Moses, and remembering His covenant despite oppression. His silence is not absence but purposeful action (Exodus 1:7; 2:24–25; Romans 8:28).

2. Why is Exodus considered the foundational salvation story of the Old Testament? *Possible Answer:* Exodus reveals God as Redeemer who rescues His people through sacrifice, substitution, and deliverance pointing forward to Christ (Exodus 12; Luke 9:31; 1 Corinthians 10:1–4).

3. Where might God be preparing you right now instead of punishing or delaying you? *Possible Answer:* God often uses waiting seasons to grow faith, humility, and trust (James 1:2–4; Psalm 66:10).

GOSPEL CONNECTION

Exodus is the gospel before the Gospel: God hears the cries of enslaved people and sends a deliverer, yet Moses ultimately points beyond himself to Jesus. Moses delivered Israel temporarily, but Jesus, the greater Moses, willingly entered death to save sinners eternally, confronting sin, Satan, and death itself (Hebrews 3:1–3). If you're not yet a believer: turn from self-reliance and trust in Jesus as your true Deliverer. Salvation is not earned; it is received by faith. For believers: repent of impatience, self-promotion, and distrust in God's timing. Believe again that God is at work, even in your hidden seasons.

Your hidden seasons are not wasted. Don't mistake God's silence for God's absence. Before God uses you publicly, He forms you privately. Will you obey Him in obscurity and trust Him with the outcome? Hang in there...He loves you!

DAILY DEVOTIONS

Monday – God Hears the Cry of the Enslaved

Key Verse: *“During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help... and God heard their groaning.”* (Exodus 2:23–24)

Reflection: God is never indifferent to suffering. Even when He seems silent, He hears every cry and is already moving toward redemption. Exodus reminds you that God’s compassion always precedes His deliverance.

Application Question: Where do you need to trust that God hears you, even if nothing has changed yet? **Possible Answer:** You can trust that God hears because He is faithful to His covenant and attentive to His people’s cries (Psalm 34:15).

Prayer Response: Lord, thank You that You hear my prayers even when I feel unseen. Help me trust You when I can see your hand at work, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Tuesday – A Deliverer Is Being Prepared

Key Verse: *“Exodus is the gospel before the Gospel.”* (cf. Exodus 1–2)

Reflection: Before Israel ever sees deliverance, God is already preparing a deliverer in hidden ways. Moses’ rescue points beyond himself to Jesus, who would become the ultimate Deliverer. God’s salvation plan is always unfolding, even behind the scenes.

Application Question: How does knowing God prepares deliverance ahead of time strengthen your faith today? **Possible Answer:** It reminds you that God is sovereign and intentional, never reacting but always redeeming your circumstances. (Isaiah 46:9–10).

Prayer Response: God, thank You that You are always ahead of my need. Help me rest in Your perfect plan of salvation and timing, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Wednesday – Temporary Rescue vs. Eternal Salvation

Key Verse: *“Moses... was faithful in all God’s house... but Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory.”* (Hebrews 3:2–3)

Reflection: Moses delivered Israel temporarily, but Jesus delivers eternally. Where Moses was saved from death, Jesus willingly entered death to save sinners forever. Exodus prepares your heart to see the greater glory of Christ.

Application Question: Why is it important to trust in Jesus rather than any temporary rescue? **Possible Answer:** Only Jesus defeats sin and death completely and offers eternal salvation (John 11:25–26).

Prayer Response: Jesus, thank You for giving Your life to save mine. Help me place my full hope in You alone, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Thursday – The Greater Moses

Key Verse: *“Consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession.”* (Hebrews 3:1)

Reflection: Where Moses fled into the wilderness after failure, Jesus entered the wilderness in obedience. Where Moses confronted Pharaoh, Jesus confronted sin, Satan, and death itself. Jesus succeeds where every human deliverer falls short.

Application Question: How does Jesus’ obedience encourage you in your own walk of faith? **Possible Answer:** It gives you confidence that Christ understands temptation and empowers you to follow God faithfully (Hebrews 4:15–16).

Prayer Response: Jesus, thank You for walking the path of obedience perfectly. Strengthen me to follow You with faith and courage, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Friday – From Exodus to the Cross

Key Verse: *“The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”* (Luke 19:10)

Reflection: Exodus shows God rescuing His people from slavery; the cross shows God rescuing sinners from sin. What began with Moses finds its fulfillment in Jesus. The same God who delivered Israel offers you freedom and new life today.

Application Question: How should the gospel shape the way you live in gratitude and obedience? **Possible Answer:** The gospel motivates joyful obedience, humility, and worship, not fear or self-effort (Romans 12:1).

Prayer Response: Father, thank You for the gift of salvation through Jesus. Help me live each day in response to Your grace, in Jesus’ Name, Amen.