

LifeGroup Study

Seven Women

SERMON SUMMARY

Before the burning bush, before the plagues, and before the parting of the Red Sea, there was a nursery. While Pharaoh attempted a "de-creation" through genocide, God responded with a "re-creation" through seven women. This series explores how the quiet courage of mothers, sisters, and even enemies subverted an empire, reminding us that God's greatest work often begins in the small, the vulnerable, and the overlooked.

KEY VERSE

Exodus 1:17 - The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live.

SERMON NOTES

<https://bible.com/events/49604859>

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. What ideas from the sermon caught your attention?
2. Read Exodus 1-2:10, noticing the role women play throughout.
3. Exodus 1:7 describes the Israelites as "fruitful and multiplying," using the exact language of God's mandate in Genesis. If Pharaoh represents the "Chaos" trying to undo God's order, where do you see "chaos" or "anti-life" forces working in our world today?
4. The midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, chose to "fear God" rather than Pharaoh (Exodus 1:17). In our modern context, what does it look like to practice "holy defiance"—choosing God's ethics over the pressures of our culture or workplace?
5. In a patriarchal culture, God chose seven women to launch His plan, largely because Pharaoh didn't see them as a threat. Why do you think God often prefers to use people the world considers "insignificant" to accomplish His biggest goals? (1 Corinthians 1:27)
6. The women in Exodus risked their lives to protect a child. Jesus tells His disciples that "whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25). How does the story of these women help us understand the "risk" involved in truly following Jesus?
7. Pharaoh used "power over" others to destroy; these women used "power under" (nurturing, hiding, protecting) to save. How can we model this in our lives? (Consider Philippians 2:5-7)
8. Paul describes his ministry in 1 Thessalonians 2:7 as being "gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children." How is God calling you to "mother" or nurture the faith of someone else in our church?
9. In Revelation 21:5, Jesus says, "Behold, I am making all things new." If Exodus is a story of God "re-constituting" His plan through these women, where are you currently asking Jesus to "re-create" or bring new life into a dead situation in your life?
10. Looking at the women of Exodus 1-2, which "role" do you feel most called to right now? Are you a Midwife (protecting life), a Mother (preparing a vessel), a Sister (watching and waiting), or a Daughter (crossing boundaries to show mercy)?

CLOSING PRAYER

Spend a moment in silence asking God to help the group see the "good" (Exodus 2:2) in their current struggles, just as Jochebed saw the "good" in her son amidst the decree of death.

Pray specifically for those in the group who are facing pressure to compromise their values at work or in society, asking for the "midwife courage" to fear God above all else.