

# Sermon Notes – Sept 22nd, 2024

## Welcome to our Fall Preaching Series

Here at Sunset Bible Church, we love to preach through whole books of the Bible! We visit both Old and New Testaments, and in our preaching, we aim to equip God’s people to know, love, and obey God’s Word. We do this based on our conviction that the Bible is God’s inspired, inerrant, and authoritative word for all people in all places for all times. God has spoken and we do well to listen, believe, and joyfully obey!

## An Introduction To Exodus (READ the text)

- ⇒ The book of Exodus is the second book in the Bible. That also makes it the second book in the “Pentateuch” – the first five books in the Bible that are typically attributed to \_\_\_\_\_.
- ⇒ Exodus is a continuation of the story that began in Genesis. The connection is evident in the first verse (1:1) which also contains the original name of this book – “These are the names.” Only later did the book become known as “Exodus.”
- ⇒ Genesis, the book of “\_\_\_\_\_,” lays the foundation:
  - Who are the people we’re talking about & where did they come from?
  - Why are they in Egypt in the first place?
  - Why is the world so messed up?
  - Is there a larger storyline? Is anyone running this place?
  - Whatever happened to God’s promises to Abraham?
- ⇒ The Bible presents the story in Exodus as \_\_\_\_\_, not fables or fairy tales, and both the **themes** and the main **details** of Exodus show up repeatedly throughout the rest of the Bible. One helpful book here is, “Echoes of Exodus.” To understand the Bible, you need to know the “music” of Exodus!
- ⇒ As we study Exodus, we’ll hear familiar stories: Moses saved from the Nile, the burning bush, the Ten Plagues & the first Passover, crossing the Red Sea, the giving of the Ten Commandments, manna in the desert, water from the rock, building the tabernacle, glory (!) ... and so much more!
- ⇒ The Exodus is the first of two great “Redemptive events” in the Bible. It lays the groundwork for the second, that is, the Person & Work of Jesus Christ, the true \_\_\_\_\_.

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2. Think of this chapter as a stage play. There are 3 scenes and Moses is the main character in each. Watch how the time, location and supporting cast change. Choose a phrase or two from each scene that might serve as a summary. Explain / defend your choice to your group.

2:1-10 \_\_\_\_\_

2:11-15 \_\_\_\_\_

2:16-22 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Read Exodus 2 again carefully and mark the word **rescue** as well as any synonyms. In some cases, a **rescue** is implied but not explicitly stated. List below **who** rescued **whom** and from **what**.

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4. God is not mentioned in this chapter until verse 23, but He is nevertheless present the whole time. What four things are said explicitly about God?

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Where do you see Him working behind the scene?

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### **Time to PRAY** (Or do this at the beginning of your group time)

Share prayer requests that relate to the people in your group & PRAY for them!



Worship Next Sunday: September 29th, 2024  
“God’s Plan Is Sometimes In The Hands Of A Stranger”  
(Exodus 2:1-25) Pastor Jay Mosser

## Our Theme & Artwork (Cf. Galatians 4:4-7)

Our theme phrase for this study, “No Longer Slaves,” spans the storyline of the entire Bible. In the beginning God made a perfect world that soon after was enslaved to sin and corruption. The Bible is an unfolding story of redemption, atonement, deliverance, and glory. God Himself is the main \_\_\_\_\_ and the ultimate Reward. *Exodus is not simply a story of people gaining freedom; it is about people gaining freedom so they can know their great Redeemer! (19:4-6)*

## This Isn't The Promised Land (& the necessity of suffering) (1-14)

- ⇒ Very clearly the narrative is building to a moment of crisis. **Verse 8** is like a thundercloud, sounding an ominous, dark note that cannot be missed.
- ⇒ The details of the growing oppression are very human and very familiar. Fear, imagined danger, attempts to control, growing oppression, increasing relational \_\_\_\_\_...these are like a guitar string reaching its limit.
- ⇒ Note the words in 11-14. Are any of them familiar to you? Later, the salt water & bitter herbs at Passover will commemorate the many tears.
- ⇒ Necessity? Think about this: If there had been no suffering, would God's people ever have left Egypt for the true Promised Land? Would they have welcomed a deliverer? Would they ever have found God as their treasure?

## Who Does God Honor? (“A Memorial And A Name”) (14-21)

- ⇒ The story of the Hebrew midwives is iconic and often addressed in discussions of ethics. This isn't the only issue in the text, but it IS worth a robust discussion in your Community Group (if you choose to go there).
- ⇒ Did you notice that “the king of Egypt” (aka “Pharaoh”) is never named...but these two women are called by name? This is a very Jewish convention.
- ⇒ A modern example: The Book of Names at the Yad Vashem World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Jerusalem (**Isaiah 43:1**).

## Needed: A Redeemer! (22)

- ⇒ You can feel the tension reach a boiling point. Someone has to do something! This cannot continue! Please, help! (Spoiler alert: **2:23-25**).

## Responding in Faith And Obedience

- ⇒ In this entire text & story, God IS, in fact, at work – though His timing is different from ours. Do you ever wonder if God sees? (**Cf. Galatians 4:4**)
- ⇒ Are there life lessons you have learned through suffering? Could those lessons have been learned any other way? (**James 1:2-4**)
- ⇒ Part of a Passover Seder is remembering the tears from the past and how God was & is faithful to deliver us. What need are you asking God to meet?

# Community Group Notes

## Getting Started

Community groups are back! It's good to be together again! Take time to catch up on what's happened over the summer. Meet the new people in your group! Share any updates about your kids, your goldfish, or your summer adventures.

**Be Aware:** These questions are discussion starters and if they work well, you will actually end up doing fewer of them! There is more here than your group can do in 90 minutes. If you were to do only one question under each section below but had stimulating discussion along the way, it would be time well spent!

## Looking Back and Taking it Home (Review)

1. Read Exodus 1. What stood out to you in the sermon you heard last Sunday?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Discuss the statement of the midwives in v.19. Did the midwives lie? If so, was it a sinful lie? According to the text, why did they do it? Were there any risks involved?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Have you ever been ordered to do something you felt was morally and/or biblically wrong? Are there any situations on your horizon where you could face such a dilemma? How can you be prepared to do the right thing?

**Be Mindful:** These questions are NOT intended as homework but rather to be worked through together as a group. If you chose to do them ahead of time, be considerate of others in your group and share your answers cautiously!

## Preparing for next week's sermon (Do this as a group!)

1. In Exodus 2, we are introduced to one of the most important figures in all of Scripture. As you read this chapter, mark every reference to **Moses** (including **he** or **him**) in some distinctive way. List at least 9 things that you learned about Moses. See if you can do this using *only* exact words from the text. Let's get “just the facts” first, before we start drawing conclusions!