

Courageous Parents: Raising Children That Can Change the World

Exodus 1-2

We can overestimate the influence of the environment.

📖 Exodus 1:8–11 (NIV) “Then a new king, who did not know about Joseph, came to power in Egypt. ⁹ “Look,” he said to his people, “the Israelites have become much too numerous for us. ¹⁰ Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country.” ¹¹ So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor...”

1. Faith is found in the worst of times.

📖 Exodus 1:15–17 (NIV) “The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, ¹⁶ “When you help the Hebrew women in childbirth and observe them on the delivery stool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live.” 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.”

📖 Exodus 1:18-22 (NIV) “Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, “Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?” ¹⁹ The midwives answered Pharaoh, “Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive.” ²⁰ So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, He gave them families of their own. ²² Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: “Every boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live.”

2. Hope is delivered in the worst of times.

📖 Exodus 2:1-2a (NIV) “Now a man of the house of Levi married a Levite woman, ² and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son.”

We can underestimate the influence of our involvement.

1. You can maximize your influence by seeing how God made them.

📖 Exodus 2:2b (NIV) “When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months.”

📖 Proverbs 22:6 (KJV) “Train up a child in the way he should go: And when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

📖 Hebrews 11:23 (NIV) “By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict”

2. You can impart a lot of faith in a short amount of time.

📖 Exodus 2:3–10 (NIV) “...when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.”

📖 Exodus 2:5-10 (NIV) “Then Pharaoh’s daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. ⁶ She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. “This is one of the Hebrew babies,” she said. ⁷ Then his sister asked Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?” ⁸ “Yes, go,” she answered. And the girl went and got the baby’s mother. ⁹ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you.” So the woman took the baby and nursed him. ¹⁰ When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh’s daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, “I drew him out of the water.””

📖 Hebrews 11:24–27 (NIV) “By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. ²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. ²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw Him who is invisible.”

Digging Deeper: Is courage a requirement for good parenting? If complaining about the culture doesn’t change it, what will? In what ways have you seen



God do great things in the midst of terrible circumstances? How has God grown your faith? If you have children, do they know that you see something special in them? Moses’ parents show that it’s possible to impart a lot of faith in a short amount of time—in what ways are you doing that?