

March 2 2025 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group
“Pharaoh Oppresses Israel: Even in the Darkness There Is Light” -- Exodus 1:1-22

Questions to Answer from the Text:

1. How many people went to Israel with Jacob (vv. 1-5)?
2. After Joseph died, what happened to his extended family (vv. 6-7)?
3. What changed for the worse for Israel in Egypt (v. 8)?
4. What concerned the new ruler in Egypt (vv. 9-10)?
5. What did the ruler in Egypt first propose to counter the problem he foresaw (v. 11)?
6. What happened with Israel when the ruler did this (v. 12)?
7. What policy did the king of Egypt establish after the previous one failed to curb the growth of the Israelite people (v. 13)?
8. What kind of labor did this program involve (v. 14)?
9. After this strategy did not work, what did the king of Egypt try to do next (vv. 15-16)?
10. How did the midwives respond when the king of Egypt commanded them to do this? Why did they respond as they did (v. 17)?
11. What excuse did the Hebrew midwives give the king of Egypt when he called them to account (v. 19)?
12. When this policy did not work, what plan of action did Pharaoh command next (v. 22)?

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

13. How would you answer this complaint: “If God really loved me, He wouldn’t let things get so hard and difficult in my life!”?
14. What are some reasons God ordains that His people go through hard and difficult times?
15. What are some lessons that you have learned when experiencing hardships?
16. Why can you trust that God is present and helping you during the hard trials and severe circumstances you encounter?
17. What verses of Scripture encourage God’s people to endure in difficult times?
18. If persecution and oppression often serve to grow the Church and make her strong, should we pray for God to send persecution and hardship to us? Why or why not?
19. How does persecution and oppression hinder the growth of the Church?

20. Why is the Church unable to be hindered from growing?
21. Are there conditions more harmful to God's people than persecution and hardships? If so, what might they be?
22. How could God bless the Hebrew midwives when (1) they disobeyed a superior; and (2) they deceived their superior?
23. God blessed the Hebrew midwives with families of their own. What does this tell us about the significance and importance of families? How does our culture depreciate and belittle families? In what ways does our society value families?
24. How does Exodus 1 advance the plan of God's redemption?