

Sermon Discussion Guide- Week of May 15, 2021
The Great Escape: Who Made You King? Exodus 2:11-25
Pastor Temple- Contemporary Service, Pastor Conway- Traditional Service

Getting Started- Life Updates, Prayer Requests & Opening Question (15 min)

- Anything to share about personal events or faith experiences since you last met?

- Are there joys or concerns that you would like to share with the group for the closing prayer time or for group members to hold in prayer during the week? (please note them below for later)

- **Opening Discussion Question-** What kind of events or experiences make you the most angry?

Review the Sermon (15 min)

Please read aloud the scriptures from this week's sermon message and then discuss the questions which follow as time allows. There are more questions than you will have time for, so it is ok to be selective.

Exodus 2:11-25

¹¹ One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. ¹² Looking this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³ The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, "Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?" ¹⁴ The man said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and thought, "What I did must have become known." ¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well. ¹⁶ Now a priest of Midian had seven daughters, and they came to draw water and fill the troughs to water their father's flock. ¹⁷ Some shepherds came along and drove them away, but Moses got up and came to their rescue and watered their flock.

¹⁸ When the girls returned to Reuel their father, he asked them, "Why have you returned so early today?" ¹⁹ They answered, "An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds. He even drew water for us and watered the flock." ²⁰ "And where is he?" Reuel asked his daughters. "Why did you leave him? Invite him to have something to eat." ²¹ Moses agreed to stay with the man, who gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses in marriage. ²² Zipporah gave birth to a son, and Moses named him Gershom, saying, "I have become a foreigner in a foreign land." ²³ During that long period, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. ²⁴ God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. ²⁵ So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them.

1. If you had to give a one-minute summary of the sermon message this week, what would you say?

2. This week's scripture could be viewed as three different scenes; #1- verses 11-15, Moses' conflict and fleeing from Egypt, #2- Verses 16-22, Moses finds a new life and wife in the wilderness, and #3- Verses 23-25, the ongoing oppression of Hebrews in Egypt and the Lord's awareness and compassion for them. In scene 1 (verses 16-22), what do you believe were some of the thoughts and feelings behind Moses' decision to kill the Egyptian?
3. In verse 14, Moses' fellow Hebrews ask him "who made you ruler and judge over us?" Why do you think the Hebrew people did not appear to be accepting Moses' leadership?
4. What do you believe could have been some of Moses' internal dialogue with himself as he fled into the wilderness away from the Pharaoh who was trying to kill him?
5. In scene #2, verses 16-22, Moses encounters Midianite women at the well and defends them against the shepherds without killing anyone. How did Moses' time in the wilderness seem to change him?
6. Why would Reuel, Father of the women and priest of Midian, take such an interest in Moses?
7. What other Old Testament stories does this one bring to mind?
8. In scene #3, verses 23-25, the Hebrews back in Egypt and the activity of God are in view. How had the lives of the Hebrew people changed since Moses left them?
9. What do these verses tell us about what God was doing during that time and about His character?
10. What was the "covenant" that the Lord remembered?

Other Related Readings (10 min)

1. Would a volunteer please read aloud Genesis 15:1-16.
2. What promise does the Lord give to Abraham in verse 4-5?
3. How does Abraham receive that promise (verse 6)? How does this passage foreshadow Christian faith in the New Testament?
4. Long before the birth of Moses, the Lord predicted in scripture both the enslavement of God's people in a foreign nation for 400 years and their deliverance from it (verses 13-16). While the events of today's reading came as a surprise to Moses living it in real time, it did not surprise the Lord. How does the full scope of God's knowledge, power and righteousness bring comfort or assurance to God's people living by faith in a fallen world today?

Personalizing and Applying The Message (10 min)

1. As you reflect upon the sermon and the scripture readings above, what are points of encouragement or challenge for you personally?
2. Of the character issues discussed today, which ones are you most contemplating in your personal life?
3. Dwight L. Moody said, "Moses spent 40 years thinking he was somebody; 40 years knowing he was nobody; and 40 years discovering what God can do with a nobody." This week, what do you believe God is working in you and through you to be a blessing to others?
4. Are there particular past failures that God has brought you through that you would be willing to name and give God glory for with the group?

Witness and Closing (10 minutes)

- Have you noticed persons or groups of people being treated unfairly that are within your sphere of influence? What right response might you offer this week in Christian witness to them as well as those treating them unfairly?
- A volunteer may conclude by leading the group in prayer about the joys and concerns shared earlier in the meeting