

*Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. And he said to his people, "Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, ... Exodus 1:8-10*

### Key Insights ...

1. With the exception of Jesus, Moses was the \_\_\_\_\_ biblical figure. (John 1:17; Deuteronomy 34:10; Exodus 33:11)
2. Yet, he was far from \_\_\_\_\_.
3. And, he is the only biblical figure that God sought to \_\_\_\_\_ and yet referred to him as \_\_\_\_\_. (Ex 4:24-26; 33:11)

### The Preparation of a People ... Exodus 1

- I. A New Generation – \_\_\_\_\_ ... (vs. 1-7)
- II. A New King – \_\_\_\_\_ ... (vs. 8-14)
- III. A New Strategy – \_\_\_\_\_ ... (vs. 15-19)
- IV. A New Paradigm – \_\_\_\_\_ Amidst \_\_\_\_\_ ... (vs. 20-22)
  1. God's \_\_\_\_\_ was not dependent upon their righteous acts; or acts of obedience.
  2. God's \_\_\_\_\_ to the midwives was rooted solely in their \_\_\_\_\_.

### My Takeaway ...

1. No man can \_\_\_\_\_ the plans of God.
2. God's Word is clear, we must obey God ... and that includes obedience to the laws of mankind unless those laws are contrary to the Law of God ... then we must obey \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ God and \_\_\_\_\_ some Babies.

1. How would you define the Goodness of God to someone who is far from God? Consider their arguments that may include, "If God is good, how can evil exist in our world?"
2. Reflect and meditate on this verse 1 John 3:1 ... In contrast consider a couple of quotes from the book Children's Letters to God. Here are a couple of samples from that little book . . . "Dear God, If you give me the genie lamp like in Aladdin I will give you anything you want. Except for my chess set. And my money." One more . . . "Dear God: Thank you for my baby brother. But what I prayed for was a puppy."

These letters are all cute, but it's striking to me how many times these letters show kids trying to strike the same bargains with God that grown-ups do. Have you ever tried to bargain with God?

What does God "OWE" you? Think about this a while.

3. Reflect and meditate on Psalm 34:19-24. When and how does God display his goodness?

We've heard folks proclaim, "God is good!" when all is going well, but then doubt His benevolence when the blessings they envisioned don't materialize. Because God alone is good, only He can accurately determine what is best for each person. His kindness is expressed in more ways than simply provision of wealth, health, and relationships.

- How has God been good to you in . . . loving discipline?
- How has God been good to you in . . . wise limitations?
- How has God been good to you in . . . useful suffering?

If God is good (and He is) then consider giving thanks for His goodness . . . even when it may not feel good.

4. Reflect on this verse Psalm 34:8 ... It is tempting to interpret God's character on the basis of our circumstances. If evidence compels us to doubt His goodness, we must remember that while His gifts come in a variety of wrappings, they are always beneficial.

Take rest . . . lean on . . . learn to trust in God's unwavering character . . . God is Good, all the time

### Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

Oh, how I [we] love Your law! (Psalm 119:97) Love is complex! It is rooted in knowledge, exercised in willful decisions, and experienced in our affections. To love God is to love His word. It is His means to speak to us. Pray that we love His word more each day!

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### Key Insights ...

1. With the exception of Jesus, Moses was the **Greatest** biblical figure. (John 1:17; Deuteronomy 34:10; Exodus 33:11)
2. Yet, he was far from **Perfect**.
3. And, he is the only biblical figure that God sought to **Kill** and yet referred to him as **Friend**. (Ex 4:24-26; 33:11)

### The Preparation of a People ... Exodus 1

- I. A New Generation – **Blessing** ... (vs. 1-7)
- II. A New King – **Suffering** ... (vs. 8-14)
- III. A New Strategy – **Civil Disobedience** ... (vs. 15-19)
- IV. A New Paradigm – **Hope** Amidst **Tension** ... (vs. 20-22)
  1. God's **Goodness** was not dependent upon their righteous acts; or acts of obedience.
  2. God's **Favor** to the midwives was rooted solely in their **Fear of God**.

### My Takeaway ...

1. No man can **Disrupt** the plans of God.
2. God's Word is clear, we must obey God ... and that includes obedience to the laws of mankind unless those laws are contrary to the Law of God ... then we must obey **God** rather than **Man**.
3. **Fear** God and **Make** some Babies.

1. How would you define the Goodness of God to someone who is far from God? Consider their arguments that may include, "If God is good, how can evil exist in our world?"
2. Reflect and meditate on this verse 1 John 3:1 ... In contrast consider a couple of quotes from the book *Children's Letters to God*. Here are a couple of samples from that little book . . . "Dear God, If you give me the genie lamp like in Aladdin I will give you anything you want. Except for my chess set. And my money." One more . . . "Dear God: Thank you for my baby brother. But what I prayed for was a puppy."

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