

Bible Text New International Version	Who are the people involved and what is the situation?	What traits of God are displayed in this story? What are the traits of the people?	In what ways do you see yourself in this story? How is God inviting you to respond?
<p>Exodus 1:15-22</p> <p>¹⁵ The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, ¹⁶ “When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby 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. ¹⁸ Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, “Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?”</p> <p>¹⁹ The midwives answered Pharaoh, “Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive.”</p> <p>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.</p> <p>²² Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: “Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live.”</p> <p>Exodus 2:1-10 The Birth of Moses</p> <p>2 Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, ² and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. ³ But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket^a 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. <i>(continued)</i></p> <p>a. Ex 2:3 - The Hebrew can also mean <i>ark</i>, as in Gen. 6:14.</p>			

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<p>Exodus 2:1-10 - <i>continued</i></p> <p>⁴ His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.</p> <p>⁵ Then Pharaoh’s daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave 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.</p> <p>⁷ Then his sister asked Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?”</p> <p>⁸ “Yes, go,” she answered. So 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,^b saying, “I drew him out of the water.”</p> <p>Exodus 6:20</p> <p>²⁰ Amram married his father’s sister Jochebed, who bore him Aaron and Moses. Amram lived 137 years.</p> <p>b. Ex 2:10 - <i>Moses</i> sounds like the Hebrew for <i>draw out</i>.</p>			

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<p>Exodus 15:1, 20-21</p> <p>15 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.</p> <p>20 Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron’s sister, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women followed her, with timbrels and dancing. 21 Miriam sang to them:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“Sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.”</p> <p>Numbers 12:1-15</p> <p>Miriam and Aaron Oppose Moses</p> <p>12 Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite. 2 “Has the LORD spoken only through Moses?” they asked. “Hasn’t he also spoken through us?” And the LORD heard this.</p> <p>3 (Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.)</p> <p>4 At once the LORD said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam, “Come out to the tent of meeting, all three of you.” So the three of them went out. 5 Then the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud; he stood at the entrance to the tent and summoned Aaron and Miriam. When the two of them stepped forward, <i>(continued)</i></p>			

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<p>Numbers 12:1-15 - <i>continued</i></p> <p>⁶ he said, "Listen to my words: "When there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, reveal myself to them in visions, I speak to them in dreams. ⁷ But this is not true of my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house. ⁸ With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"</p> <p>⁹ The anger of the LORD burned against them, and he left them. ¹⁰ When the cloud lifted from above the tent, Miriam's skin was leprous^[c]—it became as white as snow. Aaron turned toward her and saw that she had a defiling skin disease, ¹¹ and he said to Moses, "Please, my lord, I ask you not to hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed. ¹² Do not let her be like a stillborn infant coming from its mother's womb with its flesh half eaten away."</p> <p>¹³ So Moses cried out to the LORD, "Please, God, heal her!"</p> <p>¹⁴ The LORD replied to Moses, "If her father had spit in her face, would she not have been in disgrace for seven days? Confine her outside the camp for seven days; after that she can be brought back." ¹⁵ So Miriam was confined outside the camp for seven days, and the people did not move on till she was brought back.</p> <p>c. Num 12:10 - The Hebrew for <i>leprous</i> was used for various diseases affecting the skin.</p>			

Reflections

Reflect on a time when you had to surrender a loved one due to circumstances out of your control. How did God work in your heart to bring you to that point of surrender? How did that impact your relationship with God? With the loved one?

Have you ever had difficulty respecting someone you knew well who was placed in a situation of authority? How did you respond? How has God called you to look at them differently?

