



MAYFAIRKIDS

JESUS IS THE DELIVER

“WHO IS JESUS?” FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE - Week 8, October 8



JESUS IS THE DELIVERER

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

LUKE 4:18-19

Joseph’s family stayed in Egypt hundreds of years, and during that time their family grew, and grew, and grew, just as God had promised. A time came, though, when the Egyptians saw the growing group of Israelites and got nervous. *They are getting too numerous! Too powerful! What if they revolt?* And so the Egyptians forced the Israelites into slavery.

Once again God’s people needed saving, and they cried out to him. God heard their cries and sent them Moses, a man with a pretty unique past.

You see, Moses was born an Israelite but was raised as an Egyptian. How did this happen?

Sadly, there’s more to the story. Pharaoh decided to stop the Israelites from gaining too much power by killing all the baby boys. “Throw them in the Nile River!” he said.

It was right at this time that Moses was born. His parents saw that he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict, so they hid him for three months (Hebrews 11:23). When they could hide him

no longer, his mother made a basket of papyrus, coating it with tar and pitch, fashioning it into a miniature ark for her son, and placing it in the river.

When Pharaoh's daughter went down to the river to bathe, she found the baby, and she felt sorry for him. God used Pharaoh's own daughter to rescue the one who would rescue his people. So Moses grew up in the palace, as a son of royalty.

One day when he was grown up, he saw an Egyptian beating one of his own people. In anger he killed the Egyptian. Now he was in trouble! He fled Egypt and moved to the dry and desolate land of Midian.

It was there in the desert that God spoke to Moses. Oh, how often God speaks to us in desert places! God came to Moses in the form of fire, in a bush that burned without burning up. This was the first of many times Moses would see God in the form of fire—his burning presence, wonderful, scary, holy, overwhelming, and awesome.

"Moses! Moses! . . . I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey. . . . So now, go. I

am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt" (Exodus 3:4b, 7–8, 10).

Moses was scared. But little did he know how God had been equipping him. God always has a plan. Moses was equipped to talk to Pharaoh, having grown up in his house. He was equipped to lead God's people into the desert, a foreign place for them, because he had spent years as a shepherd in the desert of Midian. He would shepherd those people, much like he had shepherded sheep. Despite Moses's fear and reluctance, God would use him in marvelous ways.

Years later, another terrible king, King Herod, would make a law that all the baby boys who threatened his power be killed. Two young parents, Joseph and Mary, would take their son Jesus and flee to the land of Egypt. They would live there until God called them out again, just as he did with the children of Israel.

Jesus would become the deliverer, just as Moses was—a prince stepping down to save his dearly loved people. Just as God came down into the burning bush to rescue his people from slavery in Egypt, his Son Jesus would come down to rescue the world from their slavery to sin. He would be like Moses the deliverer, only so much greater. He would lead them not just to the promised land of Canaan, but to the promised kingdom of heaven, to forever freedom.



REFLECT

1. How does Moses point us to Jesus?
2. What do we need to be delivered from?
See Hosea 13:14; Matthew 6:13; Galatians 1:4.
3. How many times do you think the story of the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt is mentioned in the Bible? Why so often? See Exodus 20:2 and Deuteronomy 4:37 for examples.
4. Moses was not perfect, as Jesus was, and yet God used him. How might God be preparing you for service in his kingdom, or how might he want to use you today?

BIBLE REFERENCE EXODUS 1-4; MATTHEW 2:13-16

KEY VERSE LUKE 4:18-19