

Exodus 1:15-22

¹⁵Then the king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶“When you serve as midwife to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a son, you shall kill him, but if it is a daughter, she shall live.” ¹⁷But the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but let the male children live. ¹⁸So the king of Egypt called the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and let the male children live?” ¹⁹The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” ²⁰So God dealt well with the midwives. And the people multiplied and grew very strong. ²¹And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²²Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall cast into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live.”

Background

This Sunday we launch our new series, Summer of Impact, as we look at lives of lesser-known men and women within Scripture who made a giant kingdom impact. Today, Pastor David will introduce us to two women whose brave actions in the face of challenging circumstances saved the lives of many others. While we may never find ourselves in the extreme situation of Shiphrah and Puah, we should always strive to courageously obey God for the good of others and for the glory of God.

Service Notes

What is your biggest takeaway from today's message?

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Instructions

This discussion guide is to help you facilitate a conversation with your small group. The “Getting Started” section serves as a quick opener and introduction to the group conversation. In the “Talk it Over” section, feel free to use all or only some of the questions. Again, our hope is to have meaningful and encouraging conversations around the passage used in the sermon, not simply answer all the questions. Give each member of your group opportunity to respond. Take your time. Finally, the “Live it Out” section is to help identify a specific next step. Use these questions as a guide to find practical ways to apply the passage to our everyday life.

Getting Started

- ▼ What stood out to you in this week’s sermon? What is one thought from the message that made you hopeful? What prompted questions? How can you pray for you this week?

Talk it Over

- ▼ **Read Exodus 1:15-22.** What were the risks for the midwives if they disobeyed the orders of the king of Egypt? How did their response demonstrate wisdom? How did their obedience lead to blessings from God? How should this produce confidence and hope in our lives? In what ways can the principle “obedience leads to blessings” be misunderstood?
- ▼ **Read Proverbs 1:7 | Psalm 111:10.** Shiphrah and Puah did not listen to the king of Egypt because they “feared God.” What do you believe it means to fear God? How does fearing God lead to courageous obedience? What are some other examples in Scripture of people whose “fear” of God led to acts of courageous obedience?
- ▼ You may never face a situation like the midwives, but what would courageous obedience look like in your life right now?

Live it Out

- ▼ What is the most important lesson you have learned from this week’s message/passage? In what ways can you apply this in your life?

