

**“First, Fear God” • Exodus 1:15–2:15**

Mt. Lassen Community Church • June 7, 2026

**Intro** • *What issues do you think Christians should be “conscientious objectors” over—even to the point of breaking the law or disobeying social mandates, red tape, requirements, fees, inspections, etc etc etc?*

Opening Text: Acts 5:28–30 • “We must obey God rather than men”

**Discuss** • *Read this passage again. What reason does the Council give for commanding the apostles to remain silent? To whom do the apostles first violate the “cease and desist” order to? Thoughts?*

Background to Exodus 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Scenario 1 • The Midwives deceive and defy Pharaoh**

**Exodus 1:15–16** • Pharaoh enacts a genocide; requiring the Hebrew midwives to carry it out. This is an example of how satan employs the “moral dilemma” strategy against God’s followers.

**Discuss** • *Another theme in this chapter is the sanctity of life. How does fact they “fear God” play into their story? What might these midwives say to our abortion culture today?*

Vs 18–21 • God blesses the midwives—for deceiving and defying Pharaoh! But God also mandates that His followers obey the governing authorities: Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2:13; Romans 13:1ff; Proverbs 24:21.

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**Discuss** • *What was the KEY issue that justified the midwives’ actions? Consider Acts 5: The apostles were also justified to defy the Council—why? How are these two stories connected? (Hint: life & death!)*

**Scenario 2 • Moses’ parents find a loophole**

**1:22–2:3** • Moses is thrown into the Nile, as Pharaoh commanded. One detail: he was first put in a boat! They obeyed the letter of the law...

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**2:4–9** • God rewards Moses’ parents for their actions \_\_\_\_\_

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**Scenario 3 • Moses murders an Egyptian**

**2:11–15** • Moses sees an Egyptian beating a Hebrew. First, *looking this way and that*, Moses kills the Egyptian and hides the body. He is found out. He is afraid. He flees from Pharaoh. **Moses doesn’t fear God—he fears man!** (Bonus: “Be sure your sin will find you out” (Num 32:23)—written 40+ years later by... Moses!)

**Discuss** • *What other options did Moses have besides murder?*

**CASE STUDY: Paying taxes...**

Surely we should find loopholes, or defy, or deceive... *Right!?*  
But: Jesus and Paul both teach to submit to the government by paying

taxes. And both were \_\_\_\_\_

**Consider Luke 2**—Why did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Bottom line:** When faced with a moral dilemma, we must FIRST, FEAR GOD—and then decide what to do that best honors and obeys Him.

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