

Growth Group Discussion Questions

Fall Semester - Week 2

- 1. Did anything surprise, enlighten, or cause you to have questions regarding the "strange" story of the emergency circumcision of Moses' son by his wife Zipporah? (Exodus 4:24-26) Discuss.
- 2. Talk about the tension Moses may have felt growing up as Hebrew by birth but raised within an Egyptian culture and household. What do you think about the statement that God wanted him to *be* the message, not just deliver the message? How can this apply to you in our culture today?
- 3. Jesus often taught in parables, often without providing endings, points, practicals, or interpretations. How would you feel if you traveled on foot in uncomfortable or inconvenient settings and heard this type of teaching? What do you think was his expectation and hope for his listeners?
- 4. During the message, Paul mentioned that "Certainty can be the enemy of intimacy" and "Certainty can be the enemy of clarity". Do you think you could benefit from learning to love the tension of wrestling with the text (Bible), even if it means letting go of the craving for certainty? If so, what could some benefits be?
- 5. (Tension Extra credit) Do a search on bible gateway.com for "harden" and "heart" (or use a concordance). Thirteen such passages (NIV) are found in Exodus, many of which alternate between a description that God hardened Pharaoh's heart and that Pharaoh hardened his own heart. Which is it? Is this a contradiction? If not, how can we best understand the two different descriptions of the same event?