

Courage in the Dark

Series: Seeing in the Dark (msg 1) **Date:** October 3, 2021

God's promises are the only sure footing in dark times.

- Genesis 15:13–16

Exodus 1:1-21

- *Exodus 1:1–7*
- Genesis 1:28
- Matthew 28:19–20
- *Exodus 1:8–11*
- *Exodus 1:12*
- Matthew 16:17–18
- *Exodus 1:13–16*
- John 15:20
- *Exodus 1:17–20*

When we can't see in the dark, we need moral courage to trust God's promises.

- *Our moral courage begins in preaching the gospel.*
 - 1 Corinthians 9:19–23
- *We need wisdom for the sake of the gospel.*
 - Matthew 10:16
 - Acts 5:29
 - Exodus 1:21
 - Matthew 24:14

sermon discussion

RECAP THE SERMON

Read Exodus 1:1-22. Spend some time discussing the passage. What stood out or what did you notice? What questions did you have about what you read? Next, discuss the sermon. Was there anything new that you learned, anything that confused you, or anything that stood out to you?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Describe a time in your life when you felt you were in the dark and had to wait for God to act or respond. Where did you turn or what did you do while you waited?
2. **Read Genesis 15:1-5, 13-16.** What were the promises that God gave to Abram?
3. God's people have always relied on his promises to help them remain faithful in difficult times. What promises of God have you found most helpful to lean on when you've waited in the dark for God to act or respond?
4. **Read Exodus 1:8-14.** What do you remember about Joseph? Why was he significant in the history of Israel?
5. **Read Exodus 1:15-22.** Shiprah and Puah (the Hebrew midwives) were put in a difficult situation by Pharaoh. What do you think it would have been like to be in their shoes? What motivated them to disobey Pharaoh and how did God respond to their decision?
6. **Read Matthew 10:16-20.** How does Jesus tell us to respond when we face persecution or hardship because of our faith?
7. When have you felt the call to share the gospel or take a stand for your faith even though you knew it might be unpopular? Are there any situations currently where you need to share your faith or take a stand?

GOING FURTHER

As we go through the book of Exodus, you'll find suggestions for how you and your group can go further. Feel free to do one of them or several.

Memorize: *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.* **1 Peter 2:9** *ESV*

Watch the Bible Project on Exodus 1-18: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/exodus-1-18/>

Read Genesis 37, 39-45 on the life of Joseph: What hardships or setbacks did Joseph face? What enabled him to stay faithful to God and to not grow embittered or hardened towards others?

Read about Christian Martyrs who were faithful in the midst of suffering and persecution:

- Find modern day martyrs at persecution.org.
- Read *Fox's Book of Martyrs* ([free online here](#)).
- Read *Jesus Freaks: Martyrs: Stories of Those Who Stood for Jesus* by DC Talk.