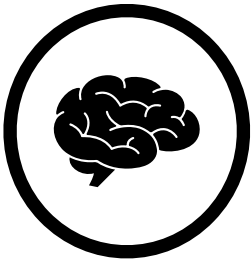


SERMON NOTES

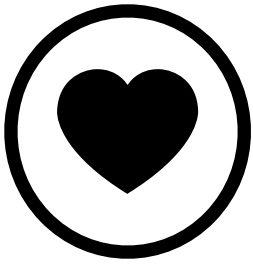
5th February 2023 | Exodus 1:1 - 2:10 | God of Providence



Exploring the text

Questions for reflection:

1. What were the three promises that God made to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3)? How does knowing this affect our understanding of Exodus?
2. What were the commands of Pharaoh in regard to the Hebrews? What do you think was motivating him?
3. What words and themes re-occur? What emphasis do these suggest (see vs.7, 12, 20)?
4. Why do you think the midwives did not obey Pharaoh?
5. Do you think the midwives were truthful when questioned by Pharaoh? Is this an acceptable form of lying?
6. List the different women in the passage. Who are they and what did each one do?
7. Do you think there is any irony in this story?



Connecting our hearts

Questions for reflection:

1. 'Anti-fragile' is a word that describes things that grow under pressure, trauma and disorder. Would you agree that the church is anti-fragile? Why do you think this is?
2. Stu highlighted that the oppression of God's people escalated? In what way?
3. Stu referenced Genesis 15:13-14 and Genesis 46:3-4. How would these two passages have sustained the people of God during their time in Egypt?
4. Stu said that the Doctrine of Providence was at work in this story and defined it as: how God is continually involved in all things sustaining all things by his wisdom and power, working within all things to direct all things to fulfil his purpose. Do you agree with this definition?
5. How can we see God's providence at work in this story?
6. The Heidelberg Catechism says that the doctrine of providence, helps us to be can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing in all creation can separate us from his love. Do you agree?



Living it out

Questions for reflection:

1. How can we look for the providence of God in our lives?
2. Memorise Romans 8:28 and use this verse as a prayer for each day this week.
3. How might God use you this week in His providential care of others?

Use the below space to write you own prayer of response