

Introduction to Exodus
Lesson #1
Exodus 1:1-2:11

The word “exodos” is Greek and means “way out” or “departure”.
The English word “Exodus” comes from the Latin Vulgate translation of the Greek.
Exodus is the continuation of God’s story that began in Genesis.

- Author: Moses
- Audience: Israelites
- Purpose: God revealed His name and His character to the Israelites
To teach the Israelites who they are in relationship to God

Background - Exodus 1:1-8

1. Exodus opens when Israel had been in Egypt for over 400 years. What was Israel’s name before God changed it? (Genesis 32:28a)
 - Why did God change his name to Israel? (Genesis 32:28b)
2. Name the sons of Israel who originally arrived in Egypt 400 years prior. (Exodus 1:1-4)
3. How many descendants of Jacob originally traveled to Egypt? (Exodus 1:5a)
 - Which son was already in Egypt? (Exodus 1:5b)
4. While Israel was in Egypt, what took place during those 400 years? (Exodus 1:6)
5. When the family first arrived in Egypt, where did the Pharaoh tell them to settle? (Genesis 47:5, 6a)

6. What information is mentioned that becomes important for the next part of the story? (Exodus 1:8)

The King's Concern - Exodus 1:9-22

7. What was this new king concerned about? (Exodus 1:9)

8. Using Exodus 1:10:
 - What was the king's initial plan to deal with this?

 - What did he say might happen?

9. What plan did the king put into effect to make sure this did not happen? (Exodus 1:11)

10. Was that plan successful? (Exodus 1:12)

11. How was life for the Israelites described? (Exodus 1:13, 14)

12. When that plan wasn't having the desired outcome, the king tried a new approach. Whose help did the king enlist? (Exodus 1:15)
 - What did he tell them to do? (Exodus 1:16)

13. Was this second plan successful? (Exodus 1:17)

14. When the king summoned them and asked why they had not obeyed his orders, what did they answer? (Exodus 1:19)

15. Who was really in control of this? (Exodus 1:20, 21)

16. Nothing seemed to be working for the king. What was his third desperate attempt to slow down their population growth? (Exodus 1:22)

God's Plan - Exodus 2:1-11

17. God was ready to override the king's plans. Who did God choose to enact His plan? (Exodus 2:1)
 - Why do you think the text does not give their names?

18. How was this baby boy described? (Exodus 2:2a)

19. How long was the mother able to keep him hidden? (Exodus 2:2b)

20. The Pharaoh (king) said that all baby boys were to be thrown in the Nile river. What did this mother do? (Exodus 2:3)

21. Who was watching the baby? (Exodus 2:4)
22. The mother had chosen the location very carefully. Using Exodus 2:5, 6:
- Who went to that location?
 - Why was she there?
 - How was the basket discovered?
 - A slave was sent to get the basket. What happened when she opened it?
23. At this moment the baby's sister came out of hiding. What did she ask the princess? (Exodus 2:7)
24. What was the answer? (Exodus 2:8, 9)
25. When the child was weaned (age - 3), he was taken back to the Pharaoh's daughter. What did she do when he came to live with her? (Exodus 2:10, 11)

Think about it!

- Try to imagine you are the mother. What might you be thinking and feeling at this time?