

PRAYER

- Thank God for your mother who gave you life and helped you grow into the person you are today, even though your circumstances may not be ideal. Thank Him for working in your life, and ask for opportunities to share His goodness to others.
- No matter what trial you may face, pray that you will continue to rely on God and His promises. Ask God for the grace to believe in the purpose that He has for you and for those around you.
- Pray for courage and open doors so you can minister to those who are going through a difficult time.

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Beauty in Strength

A Courageous Mother

WARM-UP

- Share one thing that you admire about your mother.
- What were your mother’s dreams for you? Can you tell us more about them?
- Was there a time you had to muster the courage to take a stand against a wrong deed? Tell us what happened.

WORD *By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict.*

HEBREWS 11:23

(Read also **EXODUS 2:1-10.**)

Facing difficult situations with faith takes a lot of courage and strength. But as we trust God and His promises, we will see that He can work in our midst and turn things around. Today, we will look at how Jochebed, Moses’s mother, put her faith and full confidence in the Lord—and how God, in turn, honored her faith with blessing and providence.

1 | In the midst of difficulty, we can act on our faith and be courageous.

²The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him three months. ³When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank. **EXODUS 2:2,3**

At the time Moses was born, there was an order to throw every male Hebrew child into the Nile because the Pharaoh of Egypt dreaded the Hebrews (Exodus 1:22). But instead of allowing fear to overcome her, Jochebed mustered up the courage to protect Moses. Knowing that they were God’s chosen people, she trusted the Lord fully and exercised her faith. As she held on to her faith, she had quiet confidence that Moses was an extraordinary child and God would protect and use him for His purpose (Acts 7:20). Like Jochebed, have you ever found yourself in an impossible situation? How did your faith in God help you overcome fear and face the difficulty with courage?

2 | When we put our hope in God, He will work in our midst and reward our faith.

⁵Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her young women walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. She took pity on him and said, “This is one of the Hebrews’ children.” **EXODUS 2:5,6**

(Read also **EXODUS 2:7-10.**)

Moses was born at a time of extreme hardship (Exodus 1:10-14). But even though the Pharaoh sought to destroy the Hebrew people at that time, along with their newborn sons, God had a different plan. Jochebed’s act of faith and courage was rewarded by God with blessing and providence. He used the Pharaoh’s very own daughter to rescue Moses. Though aware that he was a Hebrew child, the Pharaoh’s daughter was moved with compassion and even sought Jochebed’s help in nursing her own son (Exodus 2:9). Not only was Moses spared from death, he was also reunited with Jochebed—a clear example of how God works in our midst when we put our hope in Him. How has God worked in your life and honored your faith? What does Ephesians 3:20 say about how He answers our prayers?

APPLICATION

- Has God given you a promise which seems to be against all hope? What can you do to grow strong in your faith as you wait for His plans to unfold?
- How can you inspire others to put their hope and confidence in God? What is one act of faith that you can do to help those who are facing a difficult situation?
- What can you do to show your love for your mother? Honor her today.