



THE STORY OF MOSES AND THE LIBERATION FROM EGYPT

READER: And so Pharaoh commanded the death of all sons born to our ancestors enslaved in Egypt. But Shiphrah and Puah, the midwives present at the births, refused to obey Pharaoh and did not distinguish between sons and daughters (Exodus 1:15–17). When one Israelite woman gave birth to a son, she hid him from the Egyptians. After he grew too old to hide, she put him in a basket and placed it among the reeds in the Nile. His

older sister hid nearby to see what would happen to her brother. When Pharaoh’s daughter came to bathe in the river, she found the baby in the basket. The baby’s sister offered to find her an Israelite woman to nurse the baby. The woman she brought was the baby’s own mother. When he grew older, his mother returned the baby to Pharaoh’s daughter, who adopted him. She named him Moses, meaning “I drew him out of the water,” and raised him in Pharaoh’s court (Exodus 2:1–10).

TOGETHER: Moses was adopted by the Egyptian royal family and grew to manhood as a prince of Egypt. When he was grown, he saw an Egyptian taskmaster beating a Jewish slave. Moses killed the taskmaster and was forced to leave Egypt, fleeing to the land of Midian (Exodus 2:11–15). At an oasis, Moses came upon the daughters of Jethro, a Midianite priest, as they were drawing water from a well. Moses protected the women from a band of bullying shepherds. After the daughters told their father what happened, he invited Moses to their home and soon offered Zipporah, his oldest daughter, to Moses as a wife (Exodus 2:16–21).

READER: God heard the cries of our ancestors in bondage in Egypt (Exodus 2:23–24). One day while Moses was tending Jethro’s flock, God appeared to Moses through a “burning bush,” a bush that burned but miraculously was not consumed (Exodus 3:1–3). God commanded Moses to return to Egypt and to tell Pharaoh to free the Israelites from slavery and oppression (Exodus 3:7–4:17). On the journey, danger to Moses and his family was averted by the bravery and quick thinking of his wife Zipporah (Exodus 4:24–26).

TOGETHER: In Egypt, Moses spoke the word of God to Pharaoh, saying, “Let my people go!” (Exodus 5:1). When Pharaoh refused to release our ancestors from slavery, God afflicted the people and land of Egypt

- קַדֵּשׁ
Kadeish
First Cup of Wine
- וְרַחֵץ
Ur'chatz
Washing Hands
- כַּרְפָּס
Karpas
Green Vegetable
- יַחַד
Yachatz
Middle Matzah
- מַגִּיד
Magid
Telling the Story
- רֹחֵץ
Rochtzah
Washing Hands
before the Meal
- מוֹצֵיא/מַצָּה
Motzi/Matzah
Matzah
- מָרֹר
Maror
Bitter Herbs
- כּוֹרֵךְ
Koreich
Hillel Sandwich
- שְׁלַחַן אוֹרֵיךְ
Shulchan Oreich
The Meal Is Served

The Seder Service
before the Meal