

**Lesson 193**

**TEXT** Exodus 1:22; 2:1-10; Hebrews 11:23

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES** Exodus 6:20; Hebrews 11:24-26

**OBJECTIVE** The students will be able to explain, using the example of Moses' mother, that when they have a need they can safely commit it to the Lord, and be assured that God will supply the need if it is in harmony with His will.

**KEY VERSE FOR ANSWER** Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. — Psalm 37:5

**KEY VERSE FOR SEARCH** For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. — 2 Timothy 1:12

**ANSWER  
TITLE:** **In God's Keeping**  
**SEARCH  
TITLE:** **Moses' Mother**

**REFERENCE INFORMATION**

While the Bible does not make any statement concerning the righteousness of Amram and Jochebed, Moses' parents, we can have no doubt that they were serving the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to the best of their ability and not worshiping the gods of Egypt. The historian Josephus says that the Lord appeared to Amram in a dream and foretold that the child they were about to have was to be the one who would deliver the Israelites from Egyptian bondage.

The story of Moses' birth is thoroughly Egyptian in its setting. He was born in Goshen in the country of Egypt about 1571 B.C. His mother made extraordinary effort for his preservation because of the decree Pharaoh had made which stated that all the male Hebrew children were to be

put to death. She had to break the law of the land in order to save her child. For three months the child was hidden in the house. Then, through much thought for his safety, he was placed in a prepared basket among the reeds in the river. His sister, Miriam, stood at a little distance to keep watch over him. Pharaoh's daughter discovered the baby and took him from the water and named him Moses. She needed a nurse for him, so Miriam came out from where she had been hiding and asked if she should go and find a Hebrew woman to be his nurse. She brought Moses' own mother to care for him. Jochebed's faith in God enabled her to see her son raised to manhood by the daughter of the very king who had ordered his destruction.

**YOUR OPENER**

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# Moses' Mother

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**KEY VERSE:** For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. — 2 Timothy 1:12

## RESPONSES

1. Many answers may be given. Point out that she safely committed her need to the Lord, thereby exemplifying complete trust. Have the students define *trust*. Their comments should bring out that it means, "assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone else."

2. Hebrews 11:23 says they were not afraid because of faith. Following your students' responses to the second part of the question, discuss 1 John 4:18. Stress that we must recognize our weakness before God's strength can be perfected in us.

3. First, one must define what *safe* meant. If it meant the child would live, she had no assurance. However, if it meant that Moses was safe in God's care no matter what happened, she had great assurance. God had put into her heart the same assurance that Paul possessed, though he declared it thousands of years later. (See our key verse.) The point is that if we keep our hands off a matter, we can be assured that God will supply the need according to His will. But what happens when we put our hands back on it? We are then relying on our own wisdom or

Who can find a virtuous woman? Amram was married to one named Jochebed. She so thoroughly ingrained the teachings of her God into her son, Moses, that all the allurements of the heathen palace never eradicated those early impressions. He had the finest education Egypt afforded, but it did not turn his head or cause him to lose his simple childhood faith. Perhaps Jochebed's greatest virtue was her success in imparting to Moses the virtue of trusting God.

1. "Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river . . ." (Exodus 1:22). Through this commandment, the river became a symbol of grief and terror to every Israelitish mother. What virtue did Jochebed display in overcoming that dreadful symbol?

2. Why do you think Moses' parents were not afraid of the king's commandment? Under those circumstances, what would your reaction have been?

3. What assurance did Jochebed have that Moses would be safe when she placed him in the ark and laid it on the brink of the river among the flags? Consider the word "safe" in reference to the key verse.

## ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION NOTES

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4. How did the teachings of Moses' mother influence him? See Hebrews 11:23-26.

5. One of the great virtues that both Jochebed and Moses had was that of faith. Describe how this virtue was evidenced in their lives. How might the course of their history have been changed had they not exemplified this?

6. Give an example from your own knowledge or experience of one who committed something to the Lord and saw a need supplied.

7. Why do you think it is so difficult to reach a place of complete trust? See 2 Corinthians 3:5.

8. What specific needs do men have that should be committed to the Lord?

strength, and thus become subject to failure.

4. Rehearse some of the events in Moses' life where his godly virtues were displayed. Discuss the value of training up a child in the way he should go, so that when he is old, he will not depart from it. See Proverbs 22:6.

5. Jochebed evidenced faith by entrusting her child to God. Moses showed his faith in God by refusing to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with God's people. He was willing to obey God's commands even when they seemed extraordinary. If he had not exercised this faith, Moses would never have been the one to lead God's people out of bondage. Without this faith, the miracles recorded in God's Word which occurred at the hand of Moses, would never have provided an example and encouragement to believers through the ages.

6. After discussing the examples, show that no one has ever truly committed his way to God and regretted it. The regrets occur when we interfere.

7. Discuss the nature of man to attempt to be self-sufficient. The world teaches us to be self-motivated. What does God's Word teach us? See also Psalm 118:8 and Proverbs 3:5-6.

8. Allow students to rehearse man's many needs, great and small, and then focus their attention on man's spiritual needs. Your students should understand that all have needs that are beyond man's ability to supply. If we are to live in harmony with God's will, we must commit our needs to the Lord. See Psalm 37:5.

## YOUR WRAP-UP

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## SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS

What kind of person was Moses' mother?

Why do you suppose Moses was found by Pharaoh's daughter?

If Moses' mother had not been a praying mother, how could this story have been different?

How do you know God will take care of you?

In what ways does He take care of His children?

What is required on our part to secure answers to prayer?

In the ANSWER story, as Jochebed hid her baby in the reeds, what word did she use to indicate her confidence in God?

## THINGS TO DO

You will need a dish of water, two matches, and a floating candle. The thought here is to do what seems impossible. Ask if the students think fire will keep burning on water. Light the first match and place it into the water; of course it will go out. Then light the floating candle. Liken this to how we need God's help to carry us along. Refer students to the verse, "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:5). Moses' mother had to trust the Lord to take care of Moses out on the water in the little basket made of bulrushes. Point out that God rewarded her efforts and took care of the child in what appeared to be a very difficult situation.

Bring to class a picture of a potter's wheel, and a lump of clay. We compare Jesus to the potter. Let's imagine that we are the clay. Jesus (the Potter) puts the clay on the wheel. If a lump appears in the clay, do we trust Jesus to work it out, or say, "Now I see what's wrong. I can work it out"? Do we leave it with Jesus or do we try to help Him? Let the class "help." What are the results? (This would also work as a review.) What would have happened to Moses if his mother hadn't trusted God to take care of the problem?

Moses' mother went to God when trouble came to her home. We have a promise we can turn to when our trials come. Psalm 46:1 says, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." It means He is right there when you need help. Write each of the words from this verse on 3x5 cards. Mix the cards up and then have your students try to put the verse in its correct order. Discuss the verse with them, showing Moses' mother as a good example of one who used this promise even though the Psalms had not yet been written.

## Answers for ANSWER

### I'll Trust God

When we have a need we can ask God to help us and He will. Moses' mother trusted God too. What did she ask for? Start with the circled letter and move from letter to letter, right and left, up and down, but not diagonally. Write the answer on the lines provided.

On the lines below list some things that you would like to give to God, knowing that He will take care of them.

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