



## Sermon Notes from 24 February

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### Work Behind The Scenes (Exodus 1:1-22)

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Context - Exodus was one of the five Pentateuch books (the first five books of the bible) written by Moses. One of the themes in this book is God's faithfulness. ***Our faithful God works behind the scenes for the good of His people.***

How you can experience God's faithfulness in your life?

Develop a renewed vision of the following:

#### 1) Continuity with the past (v1-7)

If you want to experience God's faithfulness, you need to be connected with the historic past. 'Exodus' in original Hebrew means 'these are the names of'. Moses wrote Exodus in the light of Genesis. You see the similarity in Exo 1:1-7 and Gen 35:23-26 & 46:8, 27 of God's faithfulness in bringing the Israelites into Egypt. God also fulfilled His promise of multiplication (Exo 1:7 & Gen 1:28, 15:5-6). Scripture is beautiful when you see the rich connections and a faithful God working all things together for our good. When you see how God has been faithful historically to His people and how Christians in Christ are connected to this history, you appreciate God's faithfulness on the level of being connected to the rich spiritual heritage (Rom 9).

#### 2) Challenges when they come (v8-14)

2 Things from v8-14:

#1 It is very easy for us to focus on the negative when things turn bad and simply ignore existing evidence of God's faithfulness to us.

The first thing to do when challenges come is to look for clear evidence of God's faithfulness (v12). God is working behind the scenes, turning the bad for good. The spiritual growth of God's people today is a sign of God's faithfulness. ***Don't focus on the overwhelmingly negative; focus on the evidence of God's faithfulness happening in your life.***

#2 There will be times in life where it feels like God is not in the picture but is actually working behind the scenes to keep His promise to His people. ***Our faithful God can make His presence supernaturally and astoundingly clear, but He can also work behind the scenes for our good.*** When He does so, God might feel far away, and you feel like escaping (Ps 13:1). However, God is working, so focus on His work and not your work. ***Whatever you want to escape from, the voice you really need to hear and obey is the voice of the One who knows better.*** Hear and obey the voice of God!

#### 3) Commitment as a lifestyle (v15-22)

The motivation behind the mid-wives' decision was their fear, reverence and awe towards God. ***The God-fearing person is someone who is committed to walk the ways of God as a lifestyle.***

2 Things:

#1 If you don't believe in God, figuratively speaking, Pharaoh is your king. You live in fear of Pharaoh and are enslaved to him.

#2 If you believe in God, yet you do not fear him. You obey Pharaoh and not God.

***It is tragic to know only the God who is faithful to you in your disobedience, but not the God who is faithful to you in your obedience.*** God's faithfulness is best experienced by those who are committed to Him (v20).

It is Christ who first committed His life to us to redeem us, and by faith, we are able to commit ours to Him.

v15 - God is calling each one of us, like the two Hebrew mid-wives, Shiphrah (beautiful) and Puah (splendid), to come to Him and walk by faith to experience the fullness of His faithfulness in our lives.