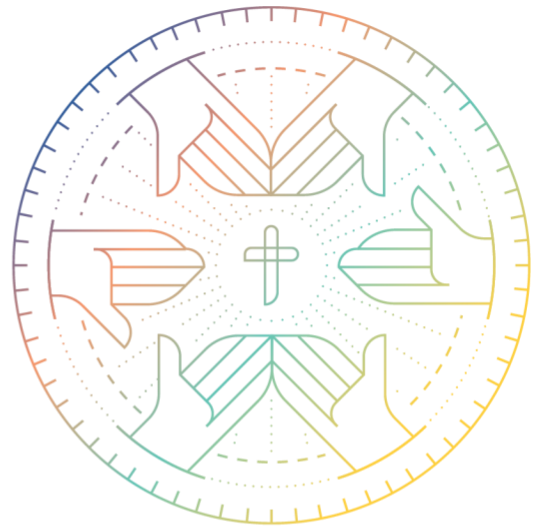


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

Who is your favorite mom in Scripture?

OR

What's one way you and your mom are the same?

OR

If you could give any gift to your mother (now or in the past), what would it be and why?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

What most stood out to you from this week's sermon? Have you ever heard a Mother's Day sermon on Jochebed? 😊

Choose a word that describes your mother. Why did you pick that word? Note: we recognize that some parenting situations are very painful and leave a person with emotional scars. *This question may be partly fun and partly painful, but either way, it can be a bonding moment for the group.*

INTO THE WORD (10 MINUTES)

HOST Guidance: Because the story of Moses' birth is a familiar story to most, we will focus most of our attention on the Application section.

Read Exodus 2:1-10 and Heb. 11:23. Discuss with your group the incredible step these two parents took to protect their child. Why did they do it? What emotions must they have been feeling? In what ways must they have been trusting God in this situation?

How can prioritizing personal trust in God positively impact your ability to trust God with your loved ones?

When faced with challenging situations, do you find it easier to trust God for yourself or for your children? Why? If you aren't married and have no children, which do you think would be easier and why?

HOST Guidance: As David said, Moses' parents refused to follow the dictate of Pharaoh to have Moses killed. They refused to participate in what can only be called genocide. Instead, they followed the word of God and the convictions of their own heart and disobeyed Pharaoh. God, in turn, provided sovereign care over Moses and his parents.

Read Psalm 139:13-18. While the story of Moses' birth and his parents' bold action precede the writing of Psalm 139, what do we learn from this Psalm that would have given Moses' parents courage?

How does Psalm 139:13-18 inspire you as you trust God with the lives of your children or loved ones?

When we consider Jochebed's forethought, courage and planning regarding Moses, what do we learn about her as a person and a devoted follower of God?

HOST Guidance: This wonderful psalm teaches us that God is present from the beginning of conception, and is intimately involved in the womb and in the forming of each individual person. To know that God is there from the very beginning and watching over our well-being causes us to certainly trust him. He will be with us in the ups and downs of life. He has not left us alone. If he cares about the smallest of details, and his thoughts toward us are innumerable, then we can have confidence that he is with us today, no matter what we may be facing. These are tremendous truths that can breathe hope and trust into our care for our children and loved ones.

APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

Can you think of a time in your life when you trusted God's plan without knowing the outcome and acted in accordance with your trust in God? Share that experience with your group.

David said that hope does not mean that your life will be "problem-free." In fact, he said that hope often becomes more powerful and real in the midst of adversity and disappointment.

- Have you experienced these truths?
- Are you in a situation now where you need to be reminded of this?
- Perhaps someone you care about could use this encouragement. Can you share it with them?

Sometimes life doesn't go according to plan. Jochebed trusted God even while she lost the opportunity to name her son, raise her son, or be a part of his adult life. Yet, God sovereignly used her son, Moses, as an integral part of the story of redemption.

- What elements of this story breathe hope and trust into situations in your life where things haven't gone according to plan?

If you're a parent, which one of these seems most important to you today? Or, which one of these might be an encouragement to a parent you care about?

- Be intentional

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- Understand the urgency
- Teach them to know God over knowing about God
- Don't simply attend church; belong to the church
- Pray like crazy!
- Let go

Are you where you want to be in your faith? If not, what steps can you take to get there?

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the example of Jochebed. She teaches us so much about being intentional, tenacious and hope-filled in our relationship to our children or our loved ones. Though we become discouraged, may we never lose hope as we pray like crazy for those we love. May you work in the lives of our children and loved ones with the same great care and purpose you demonstrated toward Moses. We love you and we trust you. Amen.