

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT SHIPRAH, PUAH, AND JOCHEBED

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

Lesson 7 • November 7, 2012

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Tamar** has been helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read Exodus 1

2. For background, summarize the current status of the Israelites in **V1-7**.
3. What are the fears of Egypt's new king (Pharaoh) in **V8-10**?
4. To "deal shrewdly" means to deal wisely, effectively, and usually implies morally.
 - a) According to **V11-14**, what was Pharaoh's plan for dealing shrewdly with the Israelites, and what was the result?
 - b) Read **Genesis 41:41-43, 46-49, 53-57, and 47:23-26**. What difference might it have made if Pharaoh had done his homework regarding the history and impact of Joseph and the Israelites in Egypt?
 - c) In what situations are you prone to give into perceived fears versus doing your homework before you react?
5.
 - a) Who were Shiphrah and Puah, and what did the king tell them?
 - b) What did they do instead, and why? What excuse did they give to Pharaoh?

6. a) What do you learn about the fear of the LORD in:

Proverbs 1:7 _____

Proverbs 3:7 _____

b) From your own experience, what do you think the fear of the LORD means?

7. What was God's reaction to the midwives in **V20-21**?

8. Do you think it was right for the midwives to lie to Pharaoh? Why or why not?

9. What was Pharaoh's order in **V22**?

SECTION II: Read Exodus 2:1-10

10. a) Read **Numbers 26:59**. Who was Jochebed, and what did she do in **Exodus 2:1-2**?

b) What do you think may have been the punishment for her actions?

11. According to **V2** and **Hebrews 11:23**, why did she hide Moses? Comment on any of the reasons given.

12. Recount how the story continues in **V3-10**.

13. a) We know that Jochebed's actions were "by faith" according to **Hebrews 11:23**. Even so, speculate on the many ways she might have prepared and planned.

b) What truth comes to mind as you ponder Jochebed's example?

c) In what upcoming event or season in your life will you apply this truth?

14. List all of the ways you see the Sovereignty of God behind the scenes.

15. a) Clearly the midwives and Jochebed model a right fear of God and faith in action. How are you encouraged by their example, **especially** in light of the Sovereignty of God in this story?

b) Write a prayer regarding your answer in part **15a**.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Shiphrah, Puah, and Jochebed risked their own lives to stand for the sanctity of life. What do you learn from these verses about God's view of the sanctity of life?

Genesis 1:27-28 _____

Genesis 9:5-6 _____

Deuteronomy 12:31 _____

Psalms 139:13-16 _____

Jeremiah 1:4-5 _____

2. a) How has your view on this topic changed throughout your faith journey?

b) We recognize some have compromised knowingly or unknowingly in upholding God's view on the sanctity of life. If you or someone you know has compromised in this area, what assurance comes from the following verses:

1 John 1:9 _____

Psalms 25:7 _____

Psalms 103:8-12 _____

3. Suggested Memory Verse: **Psalms 139:13-14**

