

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of January 22-28, 2024

“GOD’S UNSEEN PROVIDENCE”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What is the most meaningful blessing you’ve experienced or received this week?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Exodus 1:8-2:10

1. What is the historical and cultural context of the passage? What is the significance of Pharaoh’s ignorance regarding Joseph? How might Pharaoh’s fear of the Israelites becoming too numerous relate to modern-day political concerns?
2. Explore the courage shown by the midwives. What do you think about the fact that they seemed to have lied to the pharaoh in order to justify their disobedience to his orders? Can you recall a time when your obedience to authority conflicted with your conscience or moral values?
3. Discuss the concept of “fearing God” as mentioned in the passage. What did it mean for the midwives to fear God more than Pharaoh? In your decision-making process, do you prioritize the fear of God over the fear of human opinions or consequences? How?
4. Reflect on the providence and timing of Moses’ birth. How do you see God’s hand at work? Why is it hard to trust in God’s sovereignty? Can you share a personal experience?
5. Moses’ mother made a difficult choice to place him in the Nile. Do you think this was an act of faith? Why or why not? Reflect on a recent decision you had to make. How can you ensure that your decisions are made in faith?
6. Share your thoughts and experiences about the “I don’t know” prayer. How is this a prayer of surrender and of faith?

NEXT STEPS

The providence of God never stops working in your life.

- ☐ I will put my hope in God’s ability to be God.
- ☐ I will obey God rather than men.
- ☐ I will cultivate a grateful and trusting heart in the providence of God.
- ☐ I will practice patience and trust that God is working behind the scenes.

☐ *Don’t forget to:*

- ☐ Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God’s Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for eyes that see, recognize and appreciate God’s providence in your life.
- Pray for courage to do what is right.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who’s going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING GUIDE

January 22 Exodus 1:6-22
January 23 Psalms 17:7-12
January 24 Exodus 2:1-10
January 25 Numbers 11:1-23
January 26 Exodus 2:11-22
January 27 John 16:25-33
January 28 Psalms 67