**BCM Bible Study: September 2/3, 2020**

**Exodus 2: The Humiliation and Preparation of Moses**

Moses’ Birth: **Read Exodus 2:1-10**

* What hurdles does baby Moses have to overcome to survive?
  + What are some other Biblical births that occurred against the odds? (Isaac, Samson, Obed (to Ruth), Samuel, Jesus)
  + Consider the story of Obed who was born to Ruth. The story of Ruth marrying Boaz and giving birth to Obed is nothing short of miraculous. The end of Ruth tells us the significance of this birth: **Read Ruth 4:18-21**.
    - According to the author of Ruth, what is significant about Obed’s birth?
  + What do we learn about God’s character from the miraculous way he raises up these important people? What does he communication to us by doing things this way?
* How do you see God working Pharaoh’s own plans against him in this story?
  + How does the unexpected and surprising nature of God’s working give you hope during challenging times?
  + What is powerful about God bringing his servant right into the house of Pharaoh?
    - What does this tell you about the way that God renders salvation? How does Jesus embody this? (more on this later)

Moses’ Humiliation and Preparation: **Read Exodus 2:11-15**

* Moses commits a heinous act and pays the price. What does he lose by killing the Egyptian?
  + Not only is Moses rejected by the Egyptians, he is rejected by his own people. He lost everything because of this murder. When have you experienced great loss because of your choices?

**Read Exodus 2:16-22**.

* God blesses Moses in Midian with the favor of Reuel. In many ways, this time of Moses’ life is important preparation for him acting as Israel’s deliverer. How is Moses now better able to identify with his people by means of his time in Midian? (see esp. v22)
* CS Lewis defines humility this way: “Humility is not thinking less about ourselves; it is thinking about ourselves less.”
  + What do you think of this definition? Do you agree?
* Think again of the situations where you have experienced pain or great loss. In what way did you grow in humility through experiencing those situations?
  + **Read Romans 8:28**. What does this verse mean? How have you heard it misused?
  + Notice that humility is not primarily for the sake of Moses’ personal spiritual life; it is for the purpose of advancing God’s purposes. How might God be redeeming your past hurts to serve others?

Seeing Jesus in the Story

* In what way was Jesus’ incarnation an act of humble identification with you and all mankind?
* Jesus is the Savior through suffering – what does this mean?
* Christ could only defeat death by enduring it. Light must go into the darkness to shine. How does this inform the way we should carry out our call to be a light and make disciples?

God Hears: **Read Exodus 2:23-25**

* In what way are these verses comforting to you? In what way might they be frustrating?
* How does this chapter encourage you to trust God when you don’t understand his timing or the suffering around you?

Challenge

* Take time to think about/write out how God has redeemed or is redeeming your suffering. Consider these questions as you write:
  + How might God form through trials to serve others?
  + Who do you need to connect with in light of this?