



# ONE BABY'S LEGACY

“Let my people go”  
Exodus 5:1

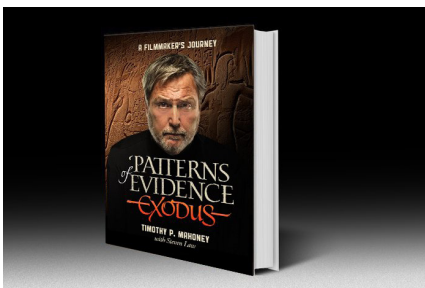
LIFE IS PRICELESS

## I. Introduction

IN THIS STORY TAKEN FROM THE EARLY LIFE OF MOSES, the great deliverer and lawgiver, we'll find forceful and compelling truths which speak into contemporary twenty-first century issues—particularly:

- **Life is priceless!** To honor life is to be honored by God.  
“Behold children are gifts from the Lord” (Psalm 127:3).
- **Work is worship!** We honor God as we serve Him and others in the work He has called us to do. “Whatsoever you do, you do it heartily unto the Lord” (Colossians 3:23).
- **Serving is Christ-like!** We are never more like Jesus than when we are serving.  
“I am among you as one who serves” (Luke 22:27).

As we prepare to engage the birth and calling of Moses from our text in Exodus 1:8–2:15, let's view a short video clip from a feature film from Timothy Mahoney, entitled *Patterns of Evidence—Exodus*.



[Click here to view the video](#)

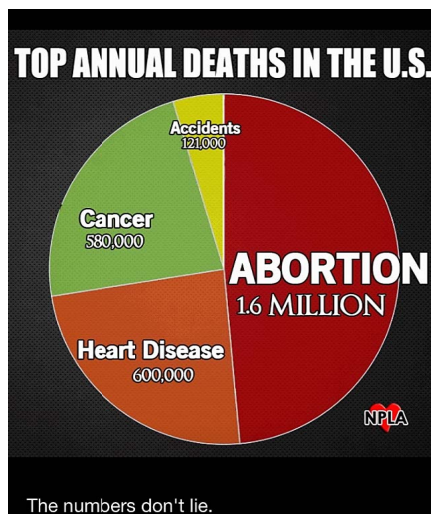
**"Let the Word of Christ dwell deeply in you . . ." (Col. 3:16).**

Pause to share a time of challenge and trouble when God showed Himself strong.

*I recall when*

*but God*

**And consider this unimaginable tragedy:**



## II. Consider the Way God Works and Join Him

*"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:9).*

Reflecting on the ways of God as He raises up Moses to deliver His people can provide us **hope, instruction, and faith:**

A. No matter how bad the circumstances, we find hope in the mysterious providence of God.

*"So they appointed task masters over them to afflict them with hard labor" (Exodus 1:11).*

*"Then Pharaoh commanded all his people saying 'every son who is born you are to cast into the Nile" (Exodus 1:22.).*

Circumstances could not have looked worse for the children of Israel, and yet, "faith is the substance of things hoped for" (Hebrews 11:1). "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents . . . and they were not afraid of the King's edict" (Hebrews 11:23).

Even when your circumstances look the worst, join Him in hope that He always knows, always cares, and in some way is at work!

■ As God declares "Life is Priceless," we find instruction in the obvious protection of God.

*"Behold children are gifts from the Lord" (Psalms 127:3).*

*" . . . but the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt had commanded them, but let the boys live" (Exodus 1:8).*

Consider that it is estimated by the Children's Defense Fund:

- Every 20 seconds a baby is born to an unmarried mother
- Every 32 seconds a baby is born into poverty
- Every 47 seconds a child is confirmed as abused or neglected

—The State of American's Children (2014)

■ Yet, notice how God honors those who honor life:

*"So God was good to the midwives" (Exodus 1:20).*

*"And it came about because the midwives feared God, that He established households for them" (Exodus 1:21).*

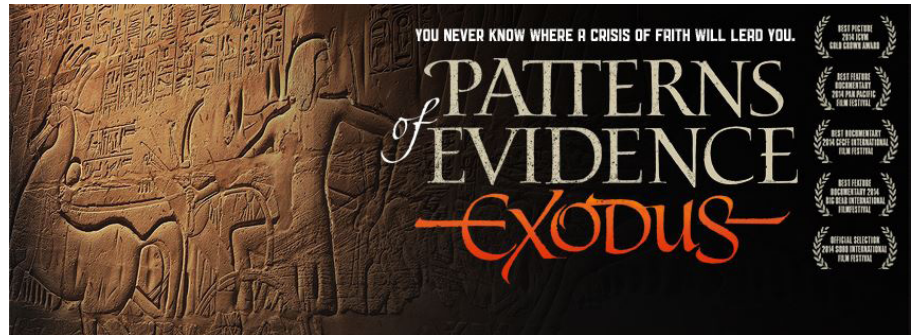
Scripture does not even mention this Pharaoh's name, but God honored the names of two midwives, Shiphrah (beautiful one) and Puah (splendid one)—without whom there would have been no Moses, David, Mary, Jesus!

B. Life is priceless! We find clear instruction for our life from God's obvious protection through pregnancy care centers, doctors, nurses, adoption workers, foster families, and a vast array of others who care for children as gifts from the Lord (Psalms 127:3).

Before leaving the eternally significant work of Shiphrah and Puah let's note two things:

■ First, their work and calling were just as significant as that of Moses the great deliverer.

- Second, the Bible’s authority is under attack with many even denying the Exodus. Let’s watch this short clip from Patterns of Evidence—Exodus, which gives startling confirmation of the Bible’s Exodus account.



[Click here to view the video](#)

C. Join Him in faith—where God leads, He provides.

“When she could hide him [baby Moses] no longer, she got him a wicker basket and covered it over with tar and pitch [much like Noah’s ark would be the first “deliverer”] . . . and set it among the reeds” (Exodus 2:3).

“The Pharaoh’s daughter said to her [Moses’ mother], ‘Take this child and nurse him for me and I will give you your wages’” (Exodus 2:9).

As God preserved the life of Moses, it’s consistent that the same God—Jehovah Jireh, Lord Provider—will provide abundantly. Moses was raised by his mother but in Pharaoh’s palace at royal expense.

Even as He could be trusted for Moses’ protection and provision, so He can be trusted for yours. Even as God’s guidance and blessing were evident in the calling and work of Moses, the same can be true in all that He has called you to do. Don’t forget the Kingdom impact through the work of two mid-wives.



L2-Listening to and hearing God for direction and discernment.

### Experiencing Scripture

It was said of Abraham the friend of God that the Lord paused to share with him all that He was about to do in Sodom and Gomorrah. This same Lord wants to reveal Himself to you in the work He has called you to.

#### ***Pause now and ask Him:***

*“Lord, I’m listening—how might You want to additionally fulfill your purposes through my work? Speak Lord—I’m listening” (1 Samuel 3:8,9).*

***Thanks Lord for Your friendship.***

### III. Consider the Work God Provides, and Embrace It

*“Now it came about in those days when Moses had grown up that he went out to his brethren . . .”*

- and looked on their hard labors
- and saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of the brethren
- he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand
- when Pharaoh heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses
- but Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh” (Exodus 2:11-15).

Even as we reflect on all God had called Moses to do, consider the work He has called you to. Your work is likely not to be a deliverer or lawgiver, BUT He has called you to it and placed you there.

As a teacher or shop owner, repairman or factory worker, salesperson or physician, consider your work as you reflect on Moses.

A. His work for you is based in purpose and passion.

Even as Moses identified with his brethren, he sensed their need and responded.

*In what ways does your work give you purpose?*

*In what ways does your work give life added meaning and motivation?*

*What passions or calling might you sense are being fulfilled through your work?*

**Work is worship!** We honor God as we serve Him and others in the work He has called us to do. "Whatever you do, you do it heartily unto the Lord" (Colossians 3:23).

B. His work for you is to be done in His strength.

*'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty" (Zechariah 4:6).*

Even with the best of motives, Moses first resorted to his own strength. Sound familiar? Your work and mine will never be all God intended until we view it through the lens of His calling and yield to His strength to accomplish it.

It's often said that during these 40 years on the backside of nowhere, Moses earned his "BN" degree—his "Be Nothing" degree. "Apart from Me you can do nothing," Jesus would say in John 15:5.

In this age of the Spirit, the perfecting of Christ-likeness in us through our work need not take 40 years, but the principle is glaringly important. Each Jesus follower is on this same sanctifying journey as His Spirit seeks to free us from our own Egyptian tendencies of self-effort and the flesh. Our work is often one of His best crucibles for Christ-likeness. Each moment of workplace gossip or jealousy, impatience or unkindness, entitlement or negativity speaks loudly to our own needed "BN" degree.

#### *Encounter Jesus*

*"Apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).*

Pause quietly to imagine these words from Jesus—spoken to you within the context of your work and calling. What evidences of self-effort and the flesh might He see, and He now wants you to see? Ask Him for change, strength, and power. Now celebrate with a glad heart as you hear Him whisper, "With me, all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).

**Pause and Reflect:** Consider how your work is not just work, but It provides opportunity for greater good, giving purpose to your days and your labor.

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**God not only wanted to remove His people from Egypt, but He also wanted to remove Egypt from His people!**



L1- Practicing thanksgiving in all things.



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**We are never more like Jesus than when we are serving:**



Watch this video called “The Florist”  
*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord not for human masters...  
Colossians 3:23*

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**Pastors interested in equipping people to see their work as worship can connect to:**

*Made to Flourish: A Pastor’s Network for the Common Good.*

[www.madetoflourish.org/](http://www.madetoflourish.org/)

### *Engage Fellowship*

*“Rejoice with those who rejoice” (Romans 12:15).*

Share together your reflections on finding higher purpose in your work, celebrating together in God’s leading and provision:

My work as a \_\_\_\_\_  
allows me to \_\_\_\_\_  
and I find purpose in \_\_\_\_\_

## **IV. Consider the Wonder of God Serving, and Imitate Him**

*“The greatest among you is one who serves” (Luke 22:26).*

The burden and calling of the midwives was to serve the Lord with newborn babies.

The burden and calling of Moses was to serve his people in the work God put before him.

It’s this wonder and mystery of serving that we see in the incarnation—that the Word would dwell among us and serve us all the way to the cross.

### ■ Serving children as gifts from the Lord

Beginning with our own children, grandchildren, and families—“He who provides not for his own family is worse than an unbeliever” (1 Timothy 5:8).

Extending into our charity and mentoring, our orphan care and protection of the unborn, might others say of us as it was the midwives of Moses, “So God was good to them” (Exodus 1:20).

### ■ Serving others through the work He has put before you

Even as we have reflected together on the historic work of Moses, we might easily minimize the kingdom impact of our work, and yet viewed through the framework of a Christ-like servant’s heart, you are extending His life and love right in the work where He has “planted” you. Consider this video segment entitled “The Florist”. (see sidebar)

Consider these significant Scripture references in the call of Moses:

“God heard their groaning” (Exodus 2:24).

“God saw...” (Exodus 2:25).

It’s the same in yours and my work! God sees every need and knows every story of those in the “traffic patterns” of our daily work. God hears each of their heart cries even as they intersect with us in our work. He sees and hears but do we? In closing, let’s focus on hearing what He hears and seeing what He sees.



L4- Rejoicing regularly in my identity as  
"His Beloved."

### *Experiencing Scripture*

*"I pray that the eyes of your heart [x] may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling . . ." (Ephesians 1:18).*

Pause together and pray for one another, claiming the promise of Ephesians 1:18 that we might "see and hear" as He does. Just as scripture notes Abraham as "the friend of God", rejoice together that you also are the **friend** of God and that He reveals Himself to you and involves you in kingdom purpose. Your identity is as one who God confides in and then co-labors with for eternal good. Ask God to bless the fruitfulness of the work He has called each of you to do.

*"Father, I want to see people as You see them as I carry out the work You have for me; as I reflect on the privilege—the wonder—of co-laboring with You for eternal good, my heart is moved with \_\_\_\_\_; continue to reveal Yourself to me as I impart Your life and love to those I serve."*