



The Harness Devotional

May 18 - May 23

Verse: Exodus 1:17, 20, and 21

Exodus 1:17 - The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live.

Exodus 1:20 - So God was kind to the midwives, and the people increased and became even more numerous.

Exodus 1:21 - And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own. (NIV)

Worship Song for the Week

[Trust and Obey \(Hymn\) - Don Moen \(Hymns of Hope\)](#)

The classic lyrics—"For there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey"—perfectly capture the simple, world-changing faith of the midwives.

Monday - Day 1: The Higher Authority

Focus: "The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do..." (1:17) In a world of loud demands and intimidating leaders, the midwives stayed anchored in a higher "fear"—a deep reverence for God that outweighed their fear of Pharaoh.

Opening Prayer: Lord, help me to prioritize Your voice above the noise of the world. Give me a heart that fears You more than I fear the disapproval of people.

Reflection: What "Pharaoh" (fear, pressure, or expectation) is currently trying to demand my obedience over God's word?

Tuesday - Day 2: Courageous Disobedience

Focus: "...they let the boys live." (1:17) True faith is active. The midwives didn't just disagree with Pharaoh in their hearts; they took a physical risk to protect what was holy. Courage is often found in what we refuse to do.

Opening Prayer: Father, give me the strength to stand for what is right, even when it is inconvenient or dangerous. Let my actions reflect my convictions.

Reflection: Is there a situation where I need to "just say no" to something that compromises my values, even if it's the popular choice?

Wednesday - Day 3: The Kindness of God

Focus: "So God was kind to the midwives..." (1:20). God is not a distant observer. He sees the quiet acts of integrity that no one else notices. His kindness follows those who stand in the gap for the vulnerable.

Opening Prayer: Lord, thank You for Your kindness. Remind me today that You see the hidden choices I make to honor You, and that You are a Rewarder of those who seek You.

Reflection: When have I experienced God's "kindness" or peace after making a difficult, but right, decision?

Thursday - Day 4: The Multiplication of Blessing

Focus: "...and the people increased and became even more numerous." (1:20) When we are faithful in our small sphere (like two midwives), God uses that faithfulness to bless the "many." One act of obedience can have a massive ripple effect.

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, use my small "yes" to create a big impact. I offer You my daily tasks and decisions; multiply them for Your glory and the good of others.

Reflection: How might my current faithfulness be paving the way for a blessing that reaches far beyond myself?

Friday - Day 5: A Legacy of Provision

Focus: "And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own." (1:21) In that culture, having a family was the ultimate sign of security and legacy. Because they protected others' families, God established theirs.

Opening Prayer: Lord, I trust You with my future and my legacy. Thank You for being the One who builds my house and secures my life when I put You first.

Reflection: Do I believe that God is able to provide for my personal needs while I am busy serving His purposes?

Saturday - Day 6: The Reward of Reverence

Focus: (The Full Passage) The names of the powerful Pharaohs of that time are often forgotten, but Shiphrah and Puah are immortalized in Scripture. God honors those who honor Him.

Opening Prayer: Father, help me to live for the "Well done" of heaven rather than the applause of earth. Let my life be defined by a holy reverence for You.

Reflection: Looking back at the midwives' story, how does it encourage me to trust God's sovereignty in my own difficult circumstances?