

# GENESIS 49- EXODUS 4

## WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

### WEEK IN REVIEW

We finished Genesis this week and jumped into the book of Exodus! Jacob blesses his twelve sons, who eventually become the twelve tribes of Israel. However, there is a very special blessing given to Judah. Jacob says, "The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his" (v. 10). A scepter was a staff that symbolized absolute authority over a nation or tribe. When Jacob says this, he is referencing someone whose throne will be established forever: Jesus Christ. Joseph goes to bury his father Jacob. His brothers asked him for forgiveness, and Joseph says, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives" (Genesis 50:20). God takes what the enemy means for evil, and He turns it for good.

Exodus begins with a new Pharaoh in charge who did not know about Joseph. The new Pharaoh saw God's people as a threat because they were too many and too mighty. God's people were in slavery in Egypt and the Egyptians "made their lives bitter with harsh labor" (Exodus 1:14). However, God's people kept growing in larger numbers and Pharaoh came up with an evil plan to stop this. He ordered all the first born Hebrew boys to be killed. However, the women who delivered the babies followed God instead of Pharaoh, and let the babies live. One of these babies was named Moses. In order to save his life, Moses' mother placed him in a basket and placed him in the Nile River, and he got picked up by Pharaoh's daughter! Pharaoh's daughter called Moses' mother to take care of him. God once again used what was meant for evil, and He turned it for good.

Moses grew up and saw how terribly his people were treated by the Egyptians. He made a big mistake and killed one of the Egyptians. He ran away out of fear to the land of Midian. As Moses was shepherding the flock of his father in law Jethro, and the Lord appeared to him in the form of a burning bush. The Lord said to him, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." The Lord told him, "I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." This was a big task and Moses responded saying, "Who am I?" The Lord promised that He would be with Moses. It was by the power of God, not by the power of Moses that the Israelites would be set free. Moses was still fearful and came up with lots of excuses for why he couldn't do this. Moses asked for proof that this was real, and God gave him three signs. When God asks us to do something, most of the time it requires faith. Faith is complete trust or confidence in someone or something. It is not about our power and might, but it is God working in and through us!

## FAMILY GUIDE

<b>BIG IDEA:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● God takes what was meant for evil, and He turns it for good!</li></ul>
<b>KEY STORIES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Jacob's blessings</li><li>● New Pharaoh</li><li>● Burning Bush</li><li>● Excuses, Excuses</li></ul>
<b>KEY VERSES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Genesis 49:10</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his."</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Exodus 3:10</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>PEOPLE/ WORDS TO KNOW:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Scepter</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ A staff that symbolized absolute authority over a nation or tribe.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Faith</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Complete trust or confidence in someone or something</li></ul></li></ul>

## Reflection Questions

<b>1.</b>	What did Pharaoh do as a result of the Israelites growing in number?
<b>2.</b>	How did Moses feel when God asked him to do something big?
<b>3.</b>	What did the Lord remind Moses of when he was fearful?
<b>4.</b>	What is faith? When is a time you have had faith?