

*Read the fourth chapter from The Story (pgs 35-46) or Exodus 1-18 in one sitting. Consider doing the reflection questions on three separate days to put space between your learning and allow for better and deeper retention. If three separate reflection times aren't practical, you may choose to read and answer all three days' questions in one extended personal devotional time.*

## **Day One**

1. Moses' parents faced a dilemma: obey Pharaoh and allow their child to perish, or hide their son and possibly incur the punishment of Pharaoh (page 35 or Exodus 1:15-22). Imagine yourself in their situation. What would you have done and why?

2. Moses' mother "technically" obeyed the command to cast her son into the Nile (page 36 or Exodus 2:1-4), though her real intent was to give God an opportunity to deliver him. What difficult problem are you facing right now? Make a short list of things you could or should do, and another list of things you have to completely leave up to God. Pray about both lists, and then identify which action point should be your next step.

## **Day Two**

1. The injustice Moses saw needed correction (page 36 or Exodus 2:11-15) but Moses' solution—murder—was criminal. What injustice around you angers you so much you might be tempted to do what is wrong to make it right? What is an alternative action that would still make a difference, but not compromise your integrity?

2. Moses doubted his ability to complete the assignment God gave him (page 38 or Exodus 3 & Exodus 4:1-17), so God reminded Moses of the capacities He had built right into him. What would you say are the main gifts and abilities God wants you to use for His work? How might you use those gifts and abilities this week—maybe even in ways that scare you some?

## **Day Three**

1. The Egyptian magicians counterfeited some of the extraordinary acts of God (page 40 or Exodus 7:8-24). What do you believe are spiritual counterfeit experiences happening these days? How do you think Christians can be taken in even by other Christians? How can you be discerning without becoming judgmental or cynical?

2. Newfound freedom brought hardships (pages 45-46 or Exodus 15:22-27, Exodus 16:1-36, Exodus 17:1-7) and the Israelites were selective in what they chose to remember about their life in Egypt (page 45). What are some of the challenges "freedom" (being a Christ-follower) brings to you? In what ways does the "old life in Egypt" (your pre-Christian life or the life non-Christians live) seem better than what you have now? What lie(s) trip you up and make that seem plausible?