

# If my people pray

## Letting Go and Trusting God – Exodus 1 & 2 Message Reflection Guide

Throughout history, Mary the mother of Jesus has been held in high esteem. And rightly so! She was singled out by God to deliver the long-awaited Messiah.

But before we get lost in the significance of her life, let's take a look at what it meant for her to surrender to the assignment. Living in a small backwater Galilean village where everyone knew everyone else's business, she would have to live with the perceived shame of her premarital pregnancy. Explaining to her mother the visits of the angel and the Holy Spirit probably didn't calm things down. To say nothing of the devastating interruption that her pregnancy would bring to her plans to marry Joseph. And while we are thinking about Joseph, what would she tell him? Would he believe her?

In light of these personal ramifications, her response to the angel who told her the news about her role as Jesus' mother is amazing: *"Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word"* (Luke 1:38 ESV). Her words remind us that a life of significance is most often preceded by a heart eager to surrender to God's will regardless of the cost.

### Conversation Starter

When you placed your rock on the table at the end of the service, what were you surrendering to God?

### Getting Into The Scriptures Read aloud Exodus 1&2

Pastor Jason said **"As we pray, we must continually pursue a lifestyle of wholehearted surrender."** What does it mean to you to do something wholeheartedly?

**Control is damaging.** How do you respond when people try to control you? How has control negatively impacted your life?

**Surrender is freeing.** Why do you believe that God wants to set us free? What is His motivation? How has worry kept you from feeling free?

**Surrender is rewarding.** How did God reward Jochobed's willingness to surrender? How have you experienced blessing from God by surrendering?

How does this account of Moses point to the life of Jesus and the freedom He obtained for us?

### Making It Real

Is there someone in your life that you are trying to control? How has that affected your relationship with that person? What would it be like to let go of that control and ask them to forgive you?

What area of your life are you struggling to trust God with?