

MAY 31, 2020

A CAUTIONARY TALE

* _____ CAN BE AN _____.

*WE HAVE A GOD WHO _____ WHEN WE _____.

*KEY QUESTION: HOW IMPORTANT IS _____
TO YOU?

*KEY QUESTION: HOW DO YOU _____ WHEN
YOU GET THE _____ YOU LONGED FOR?

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT FROM THE MESSAGE (5-31-20)

*The Israelites were God's chosen people and during the famine that took place during the lifetime of Joseph, a large number of Israelites settled in Egypt. While there, the Israelites continued to grow in numbers, but the ruler of Egypt became insecure and put slave masters over the Israelites. In spite of being oppressed, Exodus 1:12 tells us that *"The more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread."*

-What mindset do you believe is required in order to turn "adversity into an opportunity?"

-Can you think of any ways that recent events related to the covid 19 virus have opened the door for the Christian community to have a greater level of influence?

*For 430 years the Israelites remained slaves in Egypt. How do you typically respond when God doesn't respond in what you would consider a timely manner?

*Eventually God spoke to Moses from a burning bush and said: *"I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey"* Exodus 3:7-8

-How does it make you feel to know that God sees our misery, hears our cries, and is concerned about our suffering?

*Moses reluctantly accepts God's call to be his spokesperson and returns to Egypt where he challenged Pharaoh to let God's people go. Multiple times we read, *"This is what the Lord says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me."* Why do you think communal worship is so important to God?

-Why is communal worship important to you and how has this season of not being able to worship together impacted your view of communal worship?

*Because Pharaoh was resistant, God sent a series of plagues including frogs that come out of the streams, canals, and ponds and they covered the land. Pharaoh asked Moses to pray for relief, which came; but then we read in Exodus 8:15, *“when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart.”*

-How does adversity typically impact your prayer life?

-Why do you think there is a tendency to return to old patterns when we find “relief” from our pain and problems?

*What is one thing from this morning’s message or this discussion that resonates with you?

*Take a moment to close in prayer.