## HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERED

# Compassion

#### Exodus 1:8-22

Eventually, a new king came to power in Egypt who knew nothing about Joseph or what he had done.

He said to his people, "Look, the people of Israel now outnumber us and are stronger than we are.

We must make a plan to keep them from growing even more. If we don't, and if war breaks out, they will join our enemies and fight against us. Then they will escape from the country."

Exodus l:lla So the Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves. They appointed brutal slave drivers over them, hoping to wear them down with crushing labor.

### **Exodus 1:11b** They forced them to build the cities of Pithom and Rameses as supply centers for the king.

But the more the Egyptians oppressed them, the more the Israelites multiplied and spread, and the more alarmed the **Egyptians became.** 

So the Egyptians worked the people of Israel without mercy.

They made their lives bitter, forcing them to mix mortar and make bricks and do all the work in the fields. They were ruthless in all their demands.

Then Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, gave this order to the Hebrew midwives, Shiphrah and Puah:

"When you help the Hebrew women as they give birth, watch as they deliver. If the baby is a boy, kill him; if it is a girl, let her live."

But because the midwives feared God, they refused to obey the king's orders. They allowed the boys to live.

So the king of Egypt called for the midwives. "Why have you done this?" he demanded. "Why have you allowed the boys to live?"

"The Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women," the midwives replied. "They are more vigorous and have their babies so quickly that we cannot get there in time."

### Exodus 1:20 So God was good to the midwives, and the Israelites continued to multiply, growing more and more powerful.

And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.

Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Throw every newborn Hebrew boy into the Nile River. But you may let the girls live."

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To sympathetically and empathetically be moved by the sufferings of others, to the point that one is compelled to help alleviate their sufferings through action.

**Holy Spirit empowered** compassion must always be an attribute of God's people because things are not the way **God originally intended** them to be.

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Holy Spirit empowered compassion will always compel us to act on the behalf of others who do not have a voice.

#### Holy Spirit empowered compassion will always cost us something.

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#### Holy Spirit empowered compassion will always cost us something.

**Holy Spirit empowered** compassion flows from our vertical relationship with God and into our horizontal relationships with others.

**Holy Spirit empowered** compassion is not predicated on what people do or don't do, nor is it predicated on what they deserve or don't deserve; it is all about the unlimited love of our **Heavenly Father.** 

**Holy Spirit empowered** compassion often has an eternal ripple effect on families, generations, and the **Kingdom of God.** 

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