

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

Exodus 2:1-10

Letting Go

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. Exodus 2:10a

As a kindergarten teacher, I've watched mothers struggle with separation anxiety on the first day of school. It is frightening to "let go."

In today's Scripture reading, Jochebed gave birth to a very special son during the time Pharaoh had decreed that all male babies be killed. Fearing for her son, she made a basket and waterproofed it with tar. She trained her daughter Miriam to watch the baby and placed the basket in the water where the royals bathed. When Pharaoh's daughter found the baby, Miriam knew to approach and ask her if she wanted someone to nurse him, thereby reuniting Jochebed and her son.

Just as mothers today spend time teaching their children, Jochebed must have taught Moses about God during the time she spent nursing the child. Because Jochebed was willing to "let go," her child was saved. God used Moses to lead the Jews to the Promised Land. Letting go is a series of steps that last a lifetime. Don't grow weary and give up. Prepare your children and pray for them continually.

PRAYER: Dear God, give us courage to let go and place our trust in you. Amen.

Carol Zook—Fort Wayne, Indiana

THURSDAY, MAY 16

Mark 6:30-32

Refreshed by Friendship

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." Mark 6:31

Every few months my friend and I meet at a beautiful park where we spend the day walking over miles of trails that wind through woods and prairie. We admire the varied landscape, catch up on the happenings in each other's lives, and enjoy laughing together about silly things.

At the end, I always return home refreshed and more joyful than when I left. My friend evidently feels the same way, for she closed our last meeting with these pleasant parting words: "I feel like myself again after being with you. This time is never a sacrifice."

Jesus calls us into his presence for that very reason. When we spend time with him and enjoy his company—whether through nature, faithful friends who reflect God's image, or times of quiet reflection as we listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit—we feel more like the people we were created to be.

PRAYER: God of renewal, thank you for refreshing our spirits. Amen.

Megan L. Anderson—Kokomo, Indiana