



Weekly Booster

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Facebook Contributors

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Barb Cunningham,

Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,

Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,

Jeff Hiser, Jodi Anderzhon



Jochebed: Moses' Strong, Faith-Inspiring Mother

Jochebed models for contemporary women an infectious courage to fear God instead of people and a firm faith in his promises and providences. God honored her steadfast purpose by using one of her sons, Moses, to deliver the Hebrews from Egyptian servitude and by appointing her other son, Aaron, as high priest. Her daughter Miriam became the leader of the Hebrew women, and Jochebed's entire tribal family was selected by God to lead the rituals of worship for his people.

Western minds cannot comprehend the terror tactics of ancient pharaohs. Idolatrous and corrupt, they held nothing but contempt for the mysterious Yahweh of their Israelite underdogs. Hatred, hostility, and hard labor were facts of life. Yet this one woman, acting as a caring and resourceful mother, soared above the evil around her. God saw Jochebed's heart, heard her prayers, and intervened on her behalf. Her fame lives on through the lives of her remarkable children (Numbers 26:59).

The author of Hebrews records that Moses left Egypt, "not fearing the king's anger" (Hebrews 11:27), and that his parents before him were "not afraid of the king's edict" (Hebrews 11:23). The important thing is not so much who you are but what you do to meet the challenges and responsibilities that come.

Continued page 2.

Bible Verse Humor –

2 Kings 2:23 “From there Elisha went up to Bethel. As he was walking along the road, some boys came out of the town and jeered at him. “Get out of here, baldy!” they said. “Get out of here, baldy!”

RemindersMay 13th

Men's Bible Study – 8:00 a.m.

May 16th

Ad Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

May 17th

Study with Pastor David - Noon

Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.

Choir – 6:45 p.m.

May 18th

T.O.P.S. – 5:30 p.m.

****Worship Assistants are needed
for May 28th and June**

**** Fellowship Volunteers needed
sign-up in Fellowship Hall**

Jochebed- Continued from page 1.

Jochebed took her motherhood very seriously, nurturing her children in the Lord with conscientious devotion. Surely she must have been the chief influence unto God in the preparation of these children for the great tasks God gave to each in leading his people out of bondage.

The initiatives of this Levite mother are noteworthy. She “became pregnant . . . gave birth to a son . . . saw that he was a fine child . . . got a papyrus basket for him” (Exodus 2:2– 3). These actions denote a fearless and focused woman of faith. Her motivation and its results are highlighted by the writer to the Hebrews:

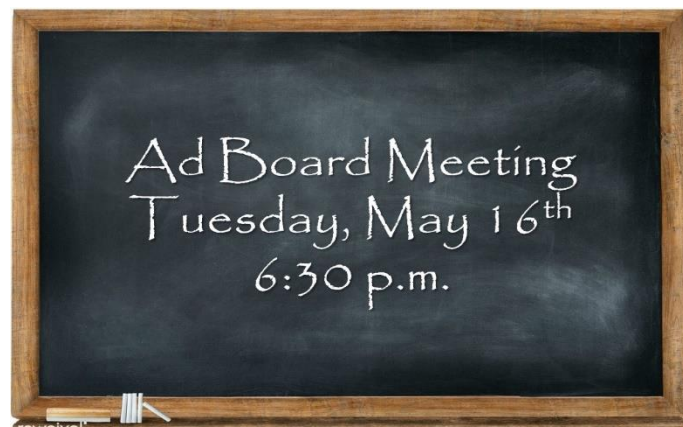
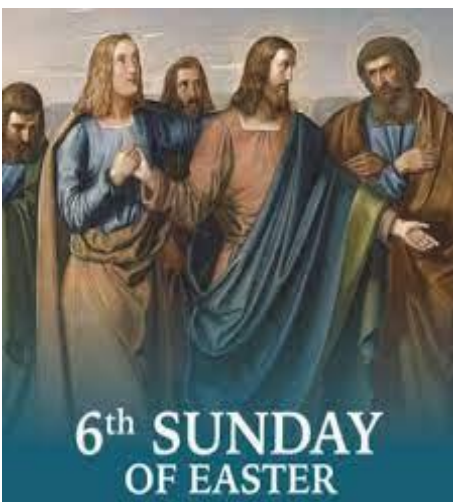
By faith, Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. Hebrews 11:23

She circumvented the edict to destroy her baby, placed him in the Nile River (Exodus 1:22), and surrounded him with the protection of a watchful sister (Exodus 2:3– 4). God used her courageous acts to position her son, God’s choice, in the house of Pharaoh.

For Reflection

Do you sometimes feel surrounded by evil or frustrated about a seemingly hopeless situation? Be alert to the opportunities God gives you and trust him for the way out.

Adapted from content in the NIV Woman’s Study Bible. HarperCollins Christian Publishing. NIV Weekly Blog, All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, May 8, 2023.



Bible Verse Humor –

*Song of Songs 7:4 Your nose
is like the tower of Lebanon
looking toward Damascus.*

Volunteers Needed

**LAST PERSON LEAVING
PLEASE TURN OUT LIGHTS
AND LOCK DOORS**

First United Methodist Church

**Please wear your
name tag on
Sunday mornings**

**Church Office Hours**

**** Children & Jr.-Sr. High
Sunday School finished
until September 2023
Questers (Adults) 10:30**

****Chancel Choir –**
Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

The front door to the church
will be unlocked during
office hours and closed only
for errands and lunch.

Monday
9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00

Tuesday
9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00

Wednesday
CLOSED

Thursday
9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00

Friday
9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00

Please continue to call in
advance if you need in the
church to make sure
someone is in the office. If
you reach the answering
machine please leave
your name, number, and
a brief message and your
call will be returned. Calls
after 2:00 p.m. may be
returned the next
business day.



Who offered to make tents for
Jesus, Moses, & Elijah?

- a) John
- b) James
- c) Judas
- d) Peter

Where did Lazarus live?

- a) Jerusalem
- b) Bethany
- c) Jericho
- d) Samaria

Who did Abraham order to
find a wife for Isaac?

- a) Sarah
- b) His brother
- c) a female servant
- d) His oldest servant

**Check page 4 for answers from
the previous week.**

Birthdays and Anniversaries

14th – Raymond Berlin

16th – Jean Stribling

17th – Rainn Mayer

18th - Dennis Bayless, Olivia Livengood

19th – Darrell Jones, Anna Peterson

20th – Shelly Hamilton

****See a wrong birthday or anniversary, or need
one added, please call the office, or send an
email to office@shen.church**

**Shenandoah First United
Methodist Church**

200 Church St.
Shenandoah, IA 51601

Phone 712-246-2081

Church E-mail
office@shen.church

Same address – a new look at
<https://shen.church>



<https://shenchurch.onechurchsoftware.com/>



United Methodist Church,
Shenandoah, IA

<https://www.facebook.com/methodist.church.shenandoah>



Services are now on our Youtube
channel only.

<https://www.youtube.com/@shen.church8192/streams>

***Prelude/Postlude/Accompanist: Terry Stafford**

Call to Worship

Leader: Let praise-filled voices be heard near and far.

People: Praise the One who gives us life and does not allow us to stumble in the darkness.

L: We have journeyed through the wilderness,

P: but You lead us to peace and to rest.

L: Come and listen to what God has done.

P: God has listened. God has paid attention.

L: God did not turn away from my prayer,

P: nor did God hold back loyal love for me.

“A Witness to Hope”

Old Testament Reading:

New Testament Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Gospel Reading:

Songs

All Creatures of Our God and King #62

All My Hope (screens)

I Was There to Hear Your Bounding (screens)

For the Beauty of the Earth #92

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship - 105

Online Worship – 13

Our Mission:

“Know & Serve God by Sharing Christ's Love.”

Our Vision:

“We will grow in holiness, our community will thrive, & we will make a difference in our world.”

**Answers for May 7th are b) Jesus a) teacher b) Nineveh
Quiz s hints – Q1) Matthew Q2) John Q3) Genesis**



City Wide Clean-up has been set for Thursday, May 11th through Saturday, May 13th. You must live within the city limits. You are asked to bring items to Shenandoah Sanitation, 1207 W. Ferguson Rd.

Items Accepted: unwanted trash, junk, or unwanted materials from your house & property.

Items NOT Accepted: electronics, oil, wet paint, tires, asbestos. Refrigerators must have the compressors removed or lines removed, or they will not be accepted.

Citizens are asked to remain in vehicles at all times. There will be staff on-site to unload. If you have questions please call Shenandoah Sanitation, at 712-246-3350.

Food Pantry Needs for May

pineapple, mandarin oranges, cinnamon applesauce, soda and graham crackers, jelly, powdered milk, tuna & chicken helpers, pasta (any variety), ketchup, mustard, spices, cereal, shampoo and conditioner, and soap.



by Rick Warren

As a pastor, I'm most often asked this question: "Why is this happening to me? I don't understand it. I thought I was pursuing God's dream, but now I'm ready to give up." Sound familiar?

You see when you don't understand the six phases of faith, you may become resentful, even depressed. You will certainly worry. You may become fearful about the future. And, worst of all, you won't be able to cooperate with what God wants to do in your life.

But when you understand the six phases that God takes every believer through—and he takes us through them over and over—then you can say, "Oh, I see, I'm in stage four right now," or stage six or stage two. You will understand what's going on, and you'll be less likely to get discouraged when times are tough.

So let me introduce you to the six phases of faith and their role in pursuing God's dream.

Faith Phase 1: Dream

How does God build your faith? He always starts with a dream. Nothing happens until you start dreaming. You have to get an idea, a vision, a goal, or a target. When God wants to work in your life, he gives you a dream about what he wants you to do and the impact he wants you to have in the world.

Faith Phase 2: Decision

You have to make the decision to go for it! Nothing will happen to your dream until you wake up and put it into action. For every ten dreamers in the world, there is only one decision-maker. The only way to move forward in faith is to decide to take a risk.

Faith Phase 3: Delays

When you pursue your dream, there is always a waiting period. Why does God make you wait? Because God wants to work on *you* before he works on your project. The purpose of the delay phase is to teach you to trust God and to be patient with his timing. How you handle God's waiting rooms of life is a clear measure of the strength of your faith.

Faith Phase 4: Difficulties

Not only will you have to wait, but you will also have problems while you're waiting. There are problems even when your dream lines up with God's dream because God is working on your faith and character.

Finally, the difficulties become so bad that you come to your limit. You've tried everything, you've exhausted all your options ... and now you've reached the fifth phase of faith.

Faith Phase 5: DeadEnds

In the dead-end phase, the situation deteriorates from difficult to impossible. If you are at this stage, congratulations! You are in good company. Even the apostle Paul experienced dead ends. He wrote, "*We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.*" (See 2 Corinthians 1:8-9.)

God not only can raise people from the dead physically but also can raise people from the dead emotionally. He can raise a dead marriage. He can resurrect a dead career. He can breathe new life where all hope has died.

Faith Phase 6: Deliverance

In the end, God delivers. He performs a miracle. He provides a solution. God loves to turn crucifixions into resurrections, hopelessness into victory, and dead ends into deliverance. Why? Because he gets the glory.

What Phase Are You in Today?

Has God given you a dream? That's what phase one is about. If you don't have a dream, then you're not living—you're just existing.

Maybe you are in phase two. You have a dream from God but have not made the decision to pursue it. You're still sitting on the fence. You think you're waiting on God, but God is waiting on you. God's word for you in the decision phase is, "Go for it!" Heaven is cheering you on!

You might be in phase three right now. You have a dream and have made the decision, but now it's been delayed. You're asking God, "Why hasn't my prayer been answered yet?" If you're in phase three, remember, you're in God's waiting room. Don't detour, and don't get ahead of God either. Wait for him to open the right door.

Perhaps you are in phase four—you are being tested. What difficulties are you facing while you wait for the dream to be fulfilled? God says, "I know exactly what you're going through. I see it. I'm watching. Don't think I've forgotten you, because I haven't."

Or maybe you are in phase five and are thinking, "I've hit the wall. I'm at a dead end. I'm ready to give up." Well, you're right where God wants you. God is saying to you, "Hang on! Keep on believing! Don't give up!" You're on the verge of phase six: deliverance.

Do you expect God to deliver you? God is faithful. What he promises to do, he will do. Where God guides, he provides. But it doesn't happen overnight. You go through the phases of the dream, the decision, the delays, the difficulties, and the dead ends ... and then comes the deliverance.

Look at this verse: "*God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams!*" (See Ephesians 3:20.) It's as if God says to you, "Think of the greatest dream for your life—I can top it." That's the kind of dream God has for you. It's bigger and better than any ambition, goal, or desire you could ever dream up on your own.

Are you ready to do what God created you to do? God's dream awaits you.

Adapted from *Created to Dream: The 6 Phases God Uses to Grow Your Faith* by Rick Warren.