“Where Was God During Israel’s 911?”

*Exodus 1*

Opening Question(s) – choose (a) or (b)

1. How many times have you moved in your lifetime? In the biggest move you made, who moved with you? Whom did you live behind? What was best or hardest about the move?
2. What is the best or worst boss you’ve had? What made him/her the best or worst to work for? What lasting impact, if any, did they have in your life?

Discussion Questions

1. **Read Exodus 1.** How does the beginning of this story (vv.1-7) connect to end of the previous story in Genesis (5022-26)?
2. Was the “exceedingly numerous” increase of the Israelites a blessing (v.7) or a curse (v.9)? What caused the new king of Egypt to look at the Israelites so differently than his predecessor(s)?
3. How has the perspective of the church in Canada changed on the last generation? Why?
4. What did the new king decide to do first about the Israelite problem (vv.10-11)? How successful was he with this approach and why (v.12-14)?
5. What was Pharaoh’s plan B? Plan C? How successful was he with these approaches and why?
6. Have you ever been in a job or situation where you were suddenly seen as a problem? How did you feel? What did you say or do?
7. Some people question where God was during 911. Where was God during Israel’s 911 type crisis in Egypt? When and where have you seen God appear (or seem absent) during a crisis?
8. What do you think about the midwives and their civil disobedience (v.17, 19)? Is what they do and say commendable, questionable, confusing?
9. Have you ever had to face a crisis of conscience at work? How did you handle it?
10. What general lessons or personal insights have you gleaned from this story?