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Reverend Dr. Brigitte A. Black

Ministry of Encouragement
Basket Weaving 102: Basket Weaving as Subversive Behavior
[Exodus 2: 1 -10](#)

We take classes for various reasons. Sometimes we take electives just to know the information. Mothers need to take basket weaving 101 and 102 to be effective as mothers in 2017. Basket weaving 101 teaches how to build a basket and 102 teaches how to make the baskets waterproof and floatable with tar and pitch. Pharaoh had signed an executive order to kill all Hebrew newborn boy babies by throwing them in the Nile river. Learning the art of waterproofing baskets is subversive behavior. Mothers you can undermine and overthrow evil government edicts by learning the art of waterproofing baskets.

The context of this story is an evil executive order – the conspiracy to destroy baby boys. The reason for destroying baby boys is to stop the proliferation of the Hebrew race. The Pharaoh was paranoid that the Hebrews would outnumber them and revolt against them. Jochebed had a boy baby and she devised a way to keep her son alive. When she realized, she could no longer keep the baby hidden she took a basket made of papyrus reeds and made it waterproof. She placed the baby in the basket and put it in the Nile River. The very river that Pharaoh was using as the agent of death became the river of life. The river was a dangerous place for human beings. There were many venomous reptiles, crocodiles and other animals that were hazardous to the health of humans in that river. She had faith that her basket would float and that her child would be saved.

Because of Jochebed actions we have a model in 2017 of how to save our boys from the ravishes of gangs, drugs, and the jungle called life. Mayhem happens. It rains on the righteous and the unrighteous. What does Basket Weaving 102 look like in 2017? The bible tells us in ***Proverbs 16:3, "Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed."*** Mothers pray and ask for wisdom in raising your children. Mothers devise a plan to save your sons from the warring madness of the streets. Then work the plan. Too many of our innocent children are being killed in the streets by those who are supposed to protect them and by those who look like them. A vital part of your plan must be raising them knowing God, loving God, and serving God. They cannot opt out of Sunday School and church for Sunday morning sports clubs. At some point, you may have to buy a one-way bus or train ticket to a quieter and simpler place and raise your children. You may have to put your child in a waterproof basket and float him down the Nile River to safety knowing God will take care of you, your sons and daughters. Mothers you must do what you have the power and strength to do. You have the wherewithal to save the children.

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Prayer

God of glory and God of grace, pour out Your power on Your people. Our streets are red from the blood of our children. Cure our warring madness. Grant mothers' divine wisdom and resources to raise and nurture children that love and serve You. Strengthen mothers' resolve to serve and love You wholeheartedly. Lord we thank you for our mothers and all that they have done, are doing, and will do in our spiritual development. Mothers get weary but they do not give up. Strengthen them for the journey. Bless mothers with wisdom, power and understanding. Provide mothers with the resources they need to survive and thrive. Comfort them as they deal with the vicissitudes of life. Shower our mothers with blessings of love, fortitude, perseverance, patience, gentleness and faith. Crown them with the wisdom of basket weaving and survival tactics. Heal their broken relationships and their bodies. Open the lines of communication between mothers and children, mothers and fathers, mothers and siblings, mothers and family and friends. Hear the prayers of our mothers and grant their petitions. You are the great and awesome God who is strong and mighty in battle. You are our protector and provider. Bless us to be a blessing to our mothers. Let their faith grow stronger as they teach us to be faithful. Comfort those who are mourning and grieving the death of their mother. This we ask in the name and power of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen!

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Stewardship Moment

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." ¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. ¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 2 Corinthians 9:6-12 NIV

Stewardship is a spiritual matter and fund-raising is a financial matter. Stewardship is how we live out the life that God has given us, Stewardship is related to how we respond to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We give when we believe in the mission and ministry of the church. We give because we trust God and are grateful to God for all the blessings bestowed on us. The question for each of us is, "How much money does God ask from me as a spiritual response of my faith?" We are to give as we have prospered. Our giving is our expression of thanks to God.

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Scripture

Exodus 2: 1 -10

The Birth of Moses

¹ Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, ² and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. ³ But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. ⁵ Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. ⁶ She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said. ⁷ Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" ⁸ "Yes, go," she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. ⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. ¹⁰ When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."