



GUIA DE ESTUDO

# "The Women Behind the Exodus" with Pastor Chad Stuart - May 9, 2026

Chad Stuart

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# The women behind the Exodus

The preacher began with John Glenn and Hidden Figures to show how history often remembers one famous name while overlooking the people who made the achievement possible. He then turned to the Exodus: Moses is the name everyone knows, but behind Moses were women whose faith and courage helped shape one of the most important stories in Scripture. The sermon’s central claim is that God works through overlooked people—women like Shiphrah, Puah, Jochebed, Miriam, and Pharaoh’s daughter—and that every person has a real role in God’s story, even when no one writes a movie about them.

## God uses the unnamed and the uncelebrated

He stressed that in Bible history and in the Exodus story, the spotlight usually falls on Moses, just as history often highlights John Glenn while forgetting Katherine Johnson. But the preacher argued that the Exodus would not have happened as it did without the faithfulness of women in the background. Shiphrah and Puah refused Pharaoh’s order; Jochebed protected her son; Miriam stayed ready to speak at the right moment; Pharaoh’s daughter chose compassion; and Zipporah acted in a moment of covenant urgency. The sermon insisted that God’s work is carried not only by public leaders, but by faithful people whom the world may never notice.



*Fear of God is the only fear that frees you from every other fear in life.*

— On Shiphrah and Puah

### PARA REFLEXÃO

#### Discuss the first vignette

1. Why do you think the preacher began with John Glenn and Hidden Figures before turning to Exodus?
2. What does the sermon suggest about the difference between human fame and God's recognition?
3. Why is it important that Shiphrah and Puah are named in Exodus 1?

## Shiphrah and Puah: fear of God above Pharaoh

The preacher said the lesson from Shiphrah and Puah is that fear of God frees a person from every other fear. They feared God more than Pharaoh, and that changed their response when Pharaoh commanded them to kill Hebrew baby boys. The preacher was careful to say the point is not merely civil disobedience, but that when you know who holds ultimate authority, lesser powers lose the ability to terrorize you. Their courage mattered because, without their actions, no Hebrew boys would have survived, including Moses.

### REFLEXÃO

#### Personal reflection on courage

Where are you being pressured by a “Pharaoh” in your life—an authority, expectation, or fear that is smaller than God?

Have you been living as if human approval, public opinion, or institutional pressure has ultimate authority over you?

What would change if you truly feared God more than anyone else?



*The lesson that I get from her is that faith isn't passive. It is courageous, and it includes action.*

— On Jochebed's faith

**APLICAÇÃO PRÁTICA**

**Jochebed's actions and modern parenting**

He emphasized that Jochebed's faith was not passive. She hid Moses for three months, then placed him in a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch before setting him among the reeds by the riverbank. The preacher highlighted that this was not simply anxiety—it was faith expressed through action. He connected this to parents, especially moms, who have children in their homes for only a little while. Like Jochebed, they must do what they can now, with intention, because the time to shape a child's spiritual life is limited.

**PARA REFLEXÃO**

**Discussion on faith and action**

- 4. In what ways did Jochebed's faith include action rather than passivity?
- 5. Why do you think the preacher treated placing Moses in the river as a greater act of faith than hiding him in the house?
- 6. What does it mean to "make it count" with the time you have with your children or those under your care?

**Miriam and Pharaoh's daughter: readiness and compassion**

The preacher saw Miriam as a picture of readiness: stay close enough, pay attention, and be ready when God opens a door. Miriam approached Pharaoh's daughter with a suggestion at exactly the right moment, and that readiness helped preserve Moses. Then he turned to Pharaoh's daughter, saying she did the right thing and the human thing. Though she was not part of the covenant people and lived under her father's decree, she chose compassion over compliance. She took in the crying child, paid his mother to nurse him, and named him Moses. Her act changed the course of history without her knowing it.



*Stay ready because you never know when god's gonna need you in the moment.*

— On readiness

**REFLEXÃO**

**Readiness in ordinary moments**

Are you living in a way that keeps you ready for God's interruptions?

Do you pay enough attention to recognize the moment when God places someone in front of you?

How might your next small, compassionate action change more than you can see right now?

**APLICAÇÃO PRÁTICA**

**Do the right thing**

The preacher urged listeners to learn from Pharaoh's daughter that sometimes the most spiritual act is to do the human thing in front of you. She saw a Hebrew baby crying and chose compassion, even though that went against her father's commands. He said we do not always need to see the whole story to play our part in God's story. In the same way, believers should respond to the concrete need right in front of them, trusting that God can use one act to alter the future in ways they may never imagine.



*Do the right thing. Do the human thing.*

— On compassion

### Zipporah and standing in the gap

The preacher described the strange scene in Exodus 4 where the Lord met Moses on the way and sought to put him to death. He said the point is that Moses was not fully faithful to the covenant sign given to Abraham, and Zipporah stepped in when Moses could not. She took a flint and circumcised their son, then touched Moses' feet with it, and the Lord let Moses alone. The preacher's takeaway was that sometimes one must stand in the gap for another person and do what is necessary for them to move forward in God's calling.

#### PARA REFLEXÃO

##### Covenant and responsibility

How does Zipporah's action connect with the preacher's theme of covenant faithfulness?

What does it mean to stand in the gap for another person?

Where might God be calling you to help someone else take the next faithful step?

#### APLICAÇÃO PRÁTICA

##### One prayer, one word, one act

He closed by calling the church to practical response. One prayer: "Lord, make me faithful in the moment I'm in." One word: faithfulness. One act: return to the Exodus story and study the lesser-known people for yourself. The preacher said that Scripture is God-breathed and useful, and that these familiar Bible stories still contain lessons for everyday life. The right response is not just admiration, but careful reading, personal obedience, and a willingness to play a small but real role in God's work.



*God does not wait and does not work with just the powerful leader.*

— On God's method

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**Closing prayer**

*Lord, make us faithful in the moment we are in. Teach us to fear You above every lesser fear, to act with courageous faith like Jochebed, to stay ready like Miriam, to do the right and human thing like Pharaoh's daughter, and to stand in the gap like Zipporah. Help us remember that Your story is built through ordinary people who may never be famous, but who matter deeply to You. Amen.*