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Celebrate the King, Become like Christ, and Connect the Lost

# CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH

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CBCHOUSTON.ORG

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A close-up photograph of several tulips in various colors (purple, white, pink) with green leaves. A white tag with rounded corners is attached to the stem of a white tulip. The tag contains the text for the Mother's Day message.

## The Strength of a Mother's Faith

**Exodus 2:1-10**

*Happy Mother's Day!*

May 12, 2024

## Welcome to CBC

We are excited for you to join us in worship today. Our prayer is that through the singing of gospel truths, hearing the scriptures proclaimed, and being around the saints, you will leave edified and equipped to live on mission with God for His glory.

Preparation	Psalm 96:7-9 (CSB)
Welcome	Ray Yu
Adoration	This Is Amazing Grace What A Beautiful Name How Great Is Our God
Prayer	Sara Salazar
Scripture	Exodus 2:1-10 (NIV) - David Lee
Prayer	Pastor Kai Yuen Choi
Proclamation	The Strength of a Mother's Faith Pastor Kai Yuen Choi
Response	Turn Your Eyes
Offertory	David Lee
Announcements	Pastor Kai Yuen Choi
Benediction	Pastor Kai Yuen Choi

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## **Exodus 2:1-10 (NIV)**

**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."

### **Notes**

#### **Introduction:**

I. Jochebed's Courageous Actions

II. The Impact of a Mother's Faith

#### **Conclusion:**

# Pastor's Word by Pastor Donald Gardner

## "Tragedy is Sometimes an Opportunity that we may not fully Understand!"

This past week, I learned of a friend's death in California. As we know, life is precious and not to be treated lightly, for each of us is created under the careful direction and planning of our creator God! When life & death matters come, many of us quickly jump to the "what ifs" or "if only they had done this or that" types of responses regarding the matter. Yet, such thoughts by us seldom make any difference as the circumstances can seldom be undone or reversed.

A number of years ago, one of our Hong Kong missionary families returned to the USA for furlough after 4 years of ministry. With 5 children who had all been born overseas, this family was well known for being a larger family that had integrated pretty well within the overseas community during their 22 years there. After being back in the USA for a number of months, it was time for the missionaries to return overseas even as they left 3 of their children behind in various USA universities. It was at that time that one of their sons tried to explain his struggles with cultural adjustment in the USA and his lack of confidence to remain here "alone" from family. Yet, the missionaries had their commitment and "call" for returning to overseas service and departed. Three weeks went by as their son got a gun and committed suicide. What does this say? How hard was it for the parents who had, in faith, returned to overseas ministry roles?

We missionaries are just people with our own set of struggles and challenges. We are highly dependent on the "Call of God" to guide our decisions and direction. We are not guests overseas but have, hopefully, become part of the community in our adopted location. Like many Christians, the Romans 8:28 passage is sometimes painful and hard to grasp as it says, "All things work together for good to those who are called according to His purposes." Our earthly experiences and problems often push us to ask the "why" question of God? We can't see the future or the "good" that is supposed to be in our lives when all that surrounds us seems painful or disappointing.

I am not much of a "touchy-feely" kind of guy and don't usually enjoy spending great amounts of time with persons who are indecisive. Camping on past experiences or looking at how people have previously responded can't be a regular limiting factor of relevant decisions in the "here and now." There are simply all too many things that demand our Christian strength more than our indecision. Indeed, the Jesus that I see in Scripture was not afraid to stand up to challenges that arose on any given day and "own" His actions and ideas. The Jesus that I see in Scripture is not "second guessing himself" but boldly "activating" His theology with full expectation that His right actions will bring about God's desires. Certainly, the prayers of Jesus revealed His modeling of where His courage came from and showed us what we need to be doing more of! Yet, His prayers were followed with bold words and action throughout His life. My prayer is for more courageous Christians who do less gentle second-guessing with their lives, as they stand up and risk being a follower of the one who modeled bravery even to the cross. May we never fear persecution or a courageous faith but only fear becoming overly indecisive or insensitive toward others.



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