

Scene 1:

Miriam: Look, mom, it's Shiprah, your midwife, coming to check on you!
Jocebed: It's about time. This baby can't wait much longer, and neither can I!
Shiprah: Shalom. I'm sorry I've not been to see you sooner this time, but my whole life has been changed!
Jocebed: What do you mean, Shiprah?
Shiprah: Well, about this time last year the Pharaoh made a law that midwives were to make sure that Hebrew baby boys died in childbirth.
Jocebed: You mean you were ordered to kill them before they were born?
Shiprah: Yes, but we didn't do it. We knew God wouldn't want that, so we lied to the Pharaoh, and when he found out there were still Hebrew baby boys being born alive, we told him that Hebrew women were hardy and gave birth before we could get to them. And, he believed us.
Jocebed: You broke the law? Surely God wouldn't like that!
Shiprah: Yes, we broke the law, but God showed us that His law is higher. He has so blessed us this year that both me and my fellow midwife, Puah, who also didn't obey Pharaoh and kill all the baby boys, have now been given husbands and we are expecting our own children!
Jocebed: How can God bless disobedience to the law? That doesn't make sense. Our God is a God of law and order, not disobedience!

Scene 2:

Miriam: Mother, we can't hide my baby brother much longer. He's 3 months old now and Pharaoh's soldiers are bound to find out and kill him. Can't we just move somewhere else?
Jocebed: Move away? To where? Our people are here. We've been here 400 years, since our forefather Joseph brought us here to survive the famine. No, my daughter, like **Shiprah**, I, too, have prayed to God and He's given me a plan. We will put the baby in a basket and float him down the Nile River towards where the Pharaoh's daughter bathes. I hear she has a tender heart. And, he's a very cute baby!
Miriam: She is not a Hebrew, surely she will kill him!
Jocebed: His life is in God's hands. I believe if we'll turn him completely loose and give him to God, God can and will save him.
Miriam: Well, at least let me watch the basket in case it tips over. I'm a good swimmer. Besides, there are alligators in the Nile River.
Jocebed: Okay, but let me know what happens. I'll be praying.

Scene 3:

Princess: Well, what have we here? A floating basket! Fetch it for me!
Slave: Here it is, your Highness.
Princess: Oh, a darling little baby!
Slave: It's probably one of the Hebrew babies.
Princess: Why would it be floating in the Nile River alone?
Slave: Don't you know, your Highness? Your father has ordered the Hebrew midwives to kill all the baby boys born to the Hebrews.
Princess: No, I don't believe you. Why would he do such a thing?
Slave: He explained it very well to the Egyptians. It makes good sense—something about population control being the responsibility of every citizen. I remember he said that if we let foreigners keep having babies, they'll eventually take over our country. It's for the good of all the people.
Princess: How can killing a baby be good! It's a law I'll not keep. It violates a higher law—the law of life.
(entering) **Miriam:** Excuse me, your Highness, but I heard a baby crying and I know a wet-nurse who could make the baby stop crying.
Princess: Hurry, go and get her. And tell no one about it.
Slave: Surely, you don't intend to save all the babies your father has ordered to be killed?
Princess: No, only the ones that come floating by my way. I think I'll call him 'Moses' which means 'drawn out.'

Scene 4:

Jocebed: Miriam, why did you come back so soon? What happened?
Miriam: I don't have time to explain, mother. But, come quickly. You won't believe what God has done for us today!
Jocebed: Did God bless us, too, like Shiprah, for not obeying the Pharaoh?
Miriam: Yes, mother. He certainly did!
Jocebed: Praise be! Why doesn't God write down His laws so we can understand what He wants? If He would only tell us what is expected of us, we would certainly do it!
Miriam: Maybe we would, maybe we wouldn't. Maybe, someday He'll write His laws down in our hearts—that would be much better!
Jocebed: Yes, that would be wonderful—and God could do that. But, I'd still like to see at least 10 basic laws of God in writing for everyone to see!

Lawbreakers

(a skit based on Exodus 2:1-10)



Cast:

Jocebed

Miriam

Shiprah

Princess of Egypt

Slave Girl