## Discussion Questions Exodus 1:1-2;4

1. Read Gen 12:1-3 What were the three promises of the Covenant God made with Abraham.? In the Hebrew Bible, the Book of Exodus begins with the word "And" (which is actually only one symbol in the Hebrew) and is missing in most English translations. Why do you think God began Exodus with that particular word? In what way does knowing this fact affect your understanding of the Book of Exodus?
2. Compare Gen 50:24-25 and Exod 1:1-10. What has changed from Gen 50 to Exodus 1? What does verse 7 tell us about the Israelites? How is this a fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham?
3. Read Gen 15:13; 46:4 and Exod 1:8-12 Where was God in His people's suffering? What was to be the results of the suffering of God's people in Egypt? (See Gen 15:14)
4. Exod 1:7, 12 and 20 are statements of blessings and multiplication. Despite being in Egypt, despite their being oppressed and threatened, what is happening to God's people? Why is this so? Why does God bless the midwives (See Ex 1:21; Acts 4:19)?
5. What were the decrees of Pharaoh regarding the Israelites? What was his motivation? Was it a valid reason to do what he did? Has the same motivation ever caused you to do something that you later regretted?
6. What was the result of the persecution of the Israelites? How did they respond? How did God Respond?
7. Have you ever felt "persecuted" for your faith in Christ? How did you respond?