

God is watching over us Mothering Sunday
Ex. 2:1-10 John 19:25b - 27

Introduce baby Zachary with lots of excitement and 'show'

Born 12th Nov 7lb 10oz

Emma & Tim were excited Preparations? Whats needed? - room, bed, clothes etc

Sent **picture**s round to friends

Invited people over to '**meet**' him

Lots of excitement and lots of people got to know of his arrival very quickly

A bit **different to the baby** we heard about in our reading today, a baby who had to be kept a secret, a baby who became known as Moses which means 'I drew him out of the **water**'

Lets watch this short film clip '12 Jan 2014 Baby Moses by the River'

Poor little Moses - being put in a basket and hidden among the reeds until Pharaohs daughter, the kings daughter, came and found him and rescued him.

How do you think his Mum might have felt as she prepared his basket and set him afloat in the reeds?
It can be scary being a Mum or Dad sometimes.

They have to make difficult decisions.

For Moses Mum it was very difficult. No mum would want to do what she did, but she wanted to protect her son and this was the only way she knew how

CHILDREN go out for few minutes to do craft activity and come back in in a few minutes to hear what happened to **Moses**.....

Parents... it's true isn't it? Sometimes you have to make **DIFFICULT** decisions on behalf of your family. You have to make **TOUGH** choices on behalf of your children

I can't imagine what Moses Mum must have felt like.

It was hard enough when he was first born, to keep him hidden and not let people know about him, but then when he was just a few months old she had to make an almost impossible **decision**...
She made a decision that she thought was the best that she could do at that time.

And it did work out OK.

God was watching over baby Moses

Maybe some of us have questions about decisions that our parents made concerning us, things we don't understand, things we would do differently if we were the ones making the **decisions**...

Maybe for some of us, the roles have now been reversed and we are the ones in a caring, parent role for our **parents**.... and we may have to make decisions that affect them, decisions that we agonise over and make the best choice that we can given the information that we **have**....

God was watching over Moses AND He watches over us

The pain and anguish that Moses mother must have felt
The fear she must have had

And I wonder what Pharaoh's daughter must have been feeling?

She found the baby and quickly realised that he was a Hebrew baby, one that had been 'thrown' into the river - one who, at the express order of her father, should have been killed!

I wonder if she had doubts about what she was doing?

What would her father say if he found out that she had saved one of the babies that he had demanded be killed?

And what about years later when Moses had grown up, and his Mother took him to Pharaoh's daughter who 'took him as her son' ?

Lots of questions. Lots of emotions. Lots of concerns. Lots of unknowns.

Lots of decisions made. And all with God watching over Moses.

This baby, this boy, this young man who should have been killed at birth but ended up, in effect with 2 mothers and dual nationality!

It is hard to begin to imagine the enormity of the scenario, of putting ourselves in this mum's shoes

With all the fear attached to it

Fear of Moses' mother... that her baby boy was going to be killed

Fear of his sister as she hid and watched to see what would happen to him

Maybe even fear for Pharaoh's daughter as in effect she went against his orders

God was much bigger than their fears

God is much bigger than our fears

Whether we are parents or not, there are people we care about, people that we may even have some responsibility for. And we have to make decisions that affect them and they can be hard to make.

God is watching over us and those we care about

And God is bigger than our fears

If we think of the account from John's Gospel that I read

We read that Jesus, whilst hanging on the cross, looked over and saw his mother, distraught, horrified, afraid... and He saw one of his best friends - John and he told them to care for one another as Mother and son.

Even at that point, that point of excruciating pain, Jesus was watching over his Mum and his best friend

We can read in the Psalms that God NEVER sleeps nor slumbers

He is always attentive. Always keeping watch over us.

Moses went on to do incredible things for God

Things that his mother could never have begun to imagine

He grew up as an Egyptian Prince - as a Hebrew he was born a slave to the Egyptians

He was a shepherd

He encountered God in incredible ways - including a burning bush

He led the Hebrew people through the waters of the dead sea

God told him the 10 commandments that he wrote on tablets of stone for the people

It wasn't all positive... he did also kill someone in a fit of anger and in his fear he turned and fled

But God was still watching over him and had a plan and purpose for him