

THE MANY FACES OF MIRIAM

Miriam knew what it was to experience h_____ and despair, terror and d_____, slavery and freedom, unimportance and prominence, obedience and d_____.

AT TIMES OUR CALL IS TO BE O_____

Then she (Jochebed) placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. 4 His sister (Miriam) stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. Exodus 2:3b-r NIV

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. Exodus 2:7-8 NIV

What do we deduce about her characteristics, just from this little incident?

She's protective, c_____, brave, enterprising, quick-witted, and c_____.

AT TIMES OUR CALL IS TO BE W_____

- She was there to see the impact of 10 plagues on the Egyptians
- She was there to celebrate the P_____ meal and have blood from a lamb covering her door to protect from the death angel.
- She was there in the intense p_____ of Pharaoh's armies.
- She was there feeling the pressure of their backs against the waters of the Red Sea.
- She was there when the Lord p_____ the seas and the Hebrews rushed across.

19 When Pharaoh's horses, chariots and horse men went into the sea, the Lord brought the waters of the sea back over them, but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground. 20 Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron's sister, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women followed her, with timbrels and dancing. 21 Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted.

Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea." Exodus 15:19-20 NIV

Note that it calls her a p_____.

Note that she is a leader of w_____.

This is the very first mention of d_____ in Scripture:

AT TIMES OUR CALL IS TO BE R_____

Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite. 2 "Has the Lord spoken only through Moses?" they asked. "Hasn't he also spoken through us?" And the Lord heard this. Numbers 12:1-2 NIV

Interesting that they talked “against” Moses rather than talking “_____” Moses.
What’s another name for that? G_____!

Do you think Moses’ wife was the real problem or just a convenient reason for their complaint?

4 At once the Lord said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam, “Come out to the tent of meeting, all three of you.” So the three of them went out. 5 Then the Lord came down in a pillar of cloud; he stood at the entrance to the tent and summoned Aaron and Miriam. Numbers 12:4-5a NIV

9 The anger of the Lord burned against them, and he left them.

10 When the cloud lifted from above the tent, Miriam’s skin was leprous—it became as white as snow. Aaron turned toward her and saw that she had a defiling skin disease, 11 and he said to Moses, “Please, my lord, I ask you not to hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed. 12 Do not let her be like a stillborn infant coming from its mother’s womb with its flesh half eaten away.” Numbers 12:9-12 NIV

Why was only Miriam struck with leprosy?

Notice the word “_____” from Aaron

13 So Moses cried out to the Lord, “Please, God, heal her!”

14 The Lord replied to Moses, “If her father had spit in her face, would she not have been in disgrace for seven days? Confine her outside the camp for seven days; after that she can be brought back.” 15 So Miriam was confined outside the camp for seven days, and the people did not move on till she was brought back. Numbers 12:13-15 NIV

What do you think she thought of when she was out there?

What do you think she was like when she came back in?

Notice that Moses did not d_____ himself.

In the first month the whole Israelite community arrived at the Desert of Zin, and they stayed at Kadesh. There Miriam died and was buried. Numbers 20:1 NIV

Looking back, she was a g_____ example, and she was a b_____ example

We can see ourselves: Always loved and r_____.