

PROMISES, PROMISES . . .

After Moses ran away to Midian, he probably had time to think about what happened. If he decided to write a letter to tell you all about it, what might he have said? Fill in the blanks in the letter below. Tell the story the way Moses might have.

Dear _____: [your name]

You won't believe what I did! A few days ago, I saw an Egyptian _____.

I was so angry _____.

The next day I saw _____.

When I tried to stop them, one said _____.

I got so scared I _____.

I was wrong because I _____
instead of following God's directions. The next time I try to do things
my own way, I'll _____.

Good-bye for now,
Moses

I'LL DO IT MY WAY!



¹Egyptians called their kings pharaohs. Many people believed the pharaohs were gods.

Pharaoh¹ decided to make slaves of the Hebrews. They had to work very hard making bricks to build Pharaoh's cities. The slave drivers were mean and often beat them. But the Hebrew people kept growing in numbers.

Read Exodus 1:15-17. What did Pharaoh order the midwives² to do? Why didn't Shiphrah and Puah³ obey Pharaoh?



SCRIPTURE SPOTLIGHT

Exodus 1:22; 2:1-3, 11-14

Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every boy that is

born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

Now a man of the house of Levi married a Levite woman, 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. But when she could hide

²Midwives were like nurses. They helped mothers give birth to their babies.

³Pronounced SHIF-rah and PEW-ah.

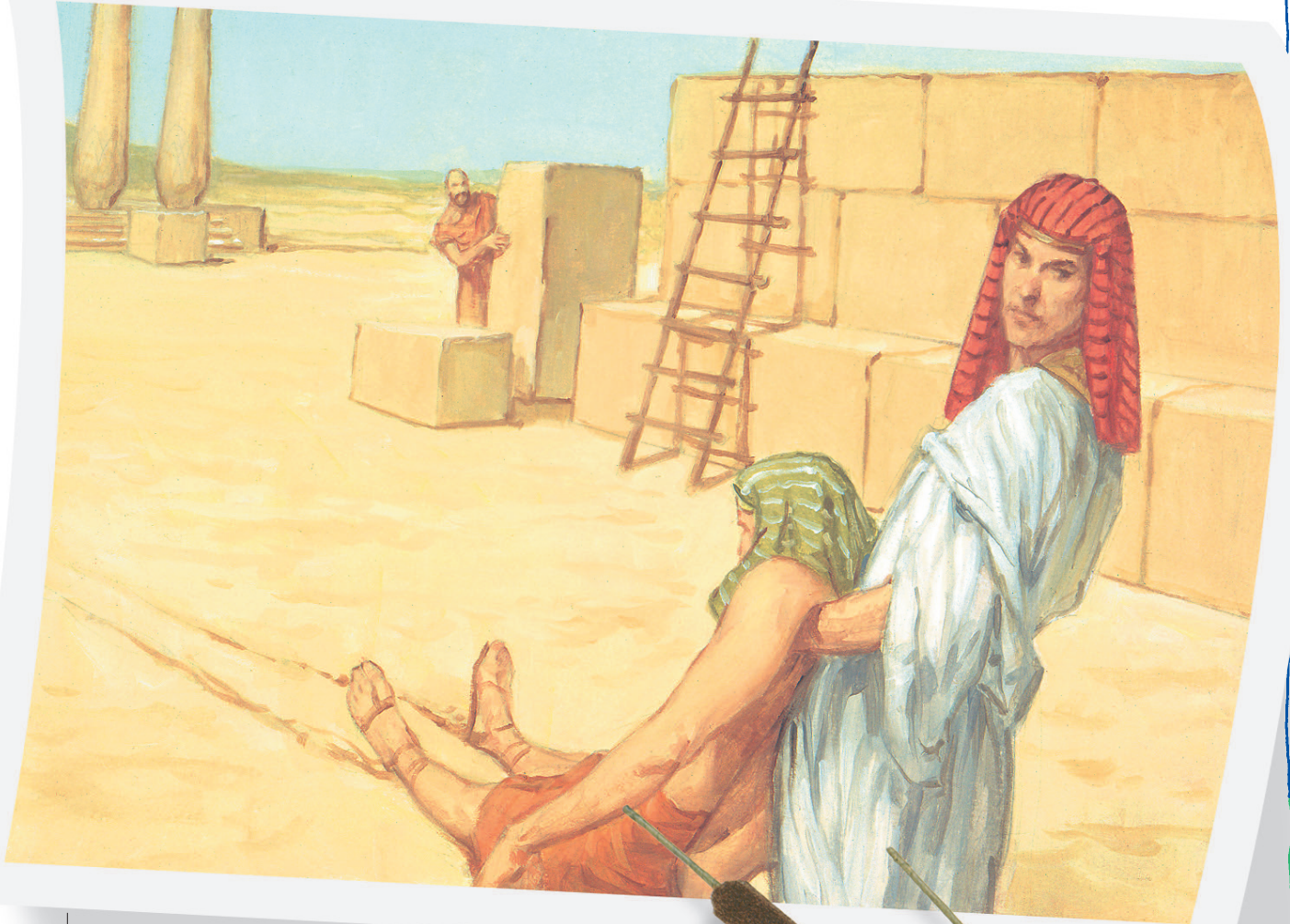
him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile.

Was it right for the midwives and the mother to disobey Pharaoh? Why?

One day, after Moses⁴ had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. Glancing this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked

⁴The name Moses sounds like the Hebrew words for "draw out," referring to the way he'd been drawn out of the river.





the one in the wrong, "Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?"

The man said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and thought, "What I did must have become known."

**What did Moses do to the Egyptian who was beating the Hebrew?
What did Moses do the next day?
Who was Moses trusting in? Why?**

When Pharaoh heard what Moses did, he tried to kill him. Moses had to run away to Midian.⁵

⁵Pronounced MID-ee-un. The country was named after Midian, a son born to Abraham and his new wife after Sarah died.

