

# Moravians Women's Association

Devotional Paper

October 2016

## Come, Journey with Me

Moses' life is recorded in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy

Refresh your memory on any part of it

This month Moses asks us to "Come Journey with Me" as we follow his life from his first months in hiding to his final years having led the Israelites to the promised land of Canaan.

Moses was born during a very dark time when a new warrior king reigned over Egypt. The Israelites were well known as a fighting nation and being larger in number than the Egyptians, the Pharaoh King became fearful that one day he would be overthrown. He ordered that all the baby boys born to the Israelites should be killed thus reducing their number in future generations. We are all familiar with Moses' mother initially hiding him and then placing him in a tar covered papyrus basket in the hope that his life would be saved. Miriam, his sister, acted as mediator when he was found and eventually adopted by the king's daughter. During his early years Moses was brought up in court with all the perks and privileges of a prince but he could not bear to see his country men being treated so badly and, one day in a fit of rage, he killed an Egyptian. When he was found out he feared for his life and fled to Midian where he met and married. It was here, in his years of calm and domesticity, where he experienced the next major incident in his life – his encounter with God on Mount Sinai in the burning bush (Exodus 3). God promised to be with him as he pleaded for the release of the Israelites. The ten plagues then followed which led to the eventual freeing of the Israelites and the miraculous crossing of the Red Sea. In all these events God was there as he was in the next part of Moses' life when he led the Israelites through thick and thin in the wilderness and to the edge of the Promised Land. There is too much to record here, suffice to say that Moses was a mediator of a covenant and constantly had to remind the people of God's saving power and faithfulness. Moses' life too was one of faith. In his early years he put faith in God above all the treasures of the Egyptian life style. Moses kept his faith and carried this covenant for the people through all the ups and downs of life as a leader. We see in Moses' life a young ordinary man who was sometimes hot headed and prone to rash actions. As he grew older he often became resistant to God's will yet with age also became more reliant on God as his faith deepened. He was a man with insecurities yet God used him in a tremendous way. He was not allowed to enter the Promised Land but just to glimpse it from the top of Mount Nebo. Moses died and was buried in the valley of Moab. What a life!!!

For Discussion

1. Moses is recorded as being an incredible human being (Deuteronomy Ch34 v 10-12). Discuss his life. Can you think of any more modern equivalents?
2. The story of Moses and the Israelites fleeing from their home land holds similarities to modern day refugees fleeing from Syria. The Israelites eventually reached their goal of the Promised Land. What of our refugees today? Do they find what they are looking for?

Diane Thornton