This annotated DVD includes slides inserted for reflection. Simply pause the DVD as these slides appear and facilitate reflection as described below, adapting as necessary.

Unless otherwise indicated, reflection below is for small groups at tables. If the learning group is larger than 10, consider forming 2 or more groups, as needed.

This Midrash (imaginative re-telling of a biblical story in the style of our Jewish kin) is based on Exodus 1:15-15:21. It is intended for a single session, with reflection along the way. Insert break(s) as needed.

Distribute participant notes to all present. Place Bibles on tables—enough to share. Supply scrap paper.

Slide 1:
Who are God’s agents in protecting Moses from death at the hands of Pharaoh?

Invite participants to review Exodus 1:15-2:10 and reflect on the agency of women in the story, in discerning and carrying out the will of God.

Slide 2:
Reflect on the change in Moses’ fortunes. How might he feel about his new occupation?

Invite participants to review Exodus 2:11-3:1 and identify the changes in Moses’ circumstances. Facilitate sharing of insights with whole group.

Slide 3:
What else connects this story to Genesis 1?

 Invite participants to glance ahead in the story and look for other common elements (e.g. water, wind, darkness, chaos, God’s activity). Facilitate sharing of insights with whole group. Start a list on flipchart.

Slide 4:
Sacred Name of God
YHWH
I am who I am...
I will be who I will be.

Review slide and check whole group understanding. Invite comments.
Slide 5:
Reflect on Moses’ reluctance and God’s persistence.

*Invite participants to reflect individually on their own calls and excuses for saying “not me Lord” and jot or draw.*

Slide 6:
Reflect on the audacity of our ancestors. How do we feel about being so bold in prayer?

*Invite participants to reflect individually on above question in light of their experience of personal and public prayer, then pair and share.*

Slide 7:
What new connections do we detect between this story and Genesis 1?

*Invite comments from whole group and add to list started earlier.*

Slide 8:
Reflect in silence. Jot or draw.

*Allow a few minutes for this part of the story to sink in and for participants to jot or draw in response.*

Note:
The final section of the DVD highlights the connections between the sea story and baptism and gets more theologically dense. Feel free to pause and reflect, or rewind and repeat, as needed.