

ONE STORY

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

WEEK 5
The Exodus

BEFORE THE SESSION:

- Look over the suggested questions to the right. Ask God to guide you to the ones that will work best for your group.
- Be prepared to get the discussion going in your group if they're not feeling it today.
- If you haven't already, take some time to read through Exodus 7-14. Be prepared to summarize it like a story for your group.
- Be prepared to help your members get connected with a place to serve on campus. Point them to lifepointchurch.org/serve.

THIS WEEK'S BIG IDEA

During a difficult time in their history, God redeemed His people and ultimately received the glory.

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK:

Next week we will read the remainder of Genesis along with Exodus 16-35. We will take a look at the amazing gift of God's presence with his people.

AS YOU READ...

...Think through how you have experienced the presence of God in your own life. Who, in your life, is not yet a Christ follower and needs to experience the presence of God? As you read, pray for them.

CONNECT

(10 min.)

Choose one of the following questions to begin your time together as a group. If your group has been together longer, you may want to skip question 1 in favor of question 2.

1. **If you were the last person on Earth, what would your life look like?**
2. **Share about a time when God led you in a new, radical, or unexpected direction. How did God show you His power and faithfulness? What were your emotions at the beginning of the experience? What did you learn about yourself and about God during this experience?**

EXPLORE

(40 min.)

Say something like, "Today we're going to take a look at a defining moment in redemptive history- the exodus of God's people from slavery in Egypt." Then guide your group through these questions...

3. **If you attended worship this week, what statement or experience stood out to you? What stood out during last week's reading?**

(Leader: Take some time to discuss any questions that may have arisen as your members read through this week's assigned reading.)

4. **Read Exodus 1:15-21. Why do you think the midwives risked disobeying the king? How did they serve the mission of God in a "behind-the-scenes" way? What did God do as a result? How are you serving at our church? What is God doing as a result?**
5. **As a group, take some time to summarize Exodus 7-14.**
6. **Do you think the Israelites ever doubted God's power during the 10 plagues? Why or why not? Do you think it ever seemed like Pharaoh's will was stronger than God's?**
7. **Read Exodus 14:31. What is the Israelites' response to God's powerful deliverance?**
8. **Read John 6:32, 33, 35, 51; John 7:37-38. How do you see Jesus in Exodus?**

TRANSFORM

(10 min.)

Say something like, "Today we've talked about the amazing story of God bringing His people out of captivity. And, the truth is, He's done the same for every Christ follower." Then wrap up your time by asking the following question.

9. **How can the story of the Exodus encourage and comfort His people today?**

Close by reminding your group of how to be prepared for next week's session. (See box on left.) Then pray together.

This Week's Study Notes:

What's Exodus All About?

Great Question! Here's a short introduction:

In Exodus, God fulfilled his promise to Abraham by multiplying Abraham's descendants into a great nation, delivering them from slavery in Egypt to journey to the Promised Land, and then binding them to himself with a covenant at Mount Sinai. Moses, under the direct command of God and as leader of Israel, received the Ten Commandments from God, along with other laws governing Israel's life and worship. He also led the nation in building the tabernacle, a place where God's presence can dwell among his people and where they can make sacrifices for sin. Most Jews and Christians recognize Moses as the author, writing sometime after the Exodus from Egypt (about 1445 b.c.).

Scripture Notes

Exodus 1:15-21

Pharaoh ordered the male babies to be killed because he feared the increasing number of male Israelites as a potential military threat.

Verse 17 speaks of fearing God. The Hebrew word for fear refers to piety, obedience, and true worship of God. The midwives deeply desired to please God even when their own lives were at stake. God honored their obedience (vv. 20-21).

Exodus 14:31

Prior to this miraculous deliverance, the Israelites had a morbid fear of the Egyptians (v. 10) and little respect for Moses (v. 11). Now they enjoyed a healthy fear of God and new trust in Moses' competence.

John 6:51

Like the Passover lamb, Christ's death means life to those who spiritually "feed" upon Him.

John 7:37-38

The vision in Ezekiel 47:1-12 of water flowing from the temple giving life to all the surrounding area is in view as Jesus, the new temple of God (2:19), provides the water of life to all who believe.

Leader Tips

AS YOU READ THIS WEEK...

- Think about and pray for each member of your small group.
- Think through the following questions:
 1. Who does God bring to mind as I read these verses? Why?
 2. What needs to change in my own life as a result of what I'm reading?
 3. To whom do I need to tell about these verses?

FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY WE RECOMMEND...

- Bible Commentary: Bible.org
- Bible Commentary: DesiringGod.org
- Pronouncing Biblical Words: Netministries.org/Bbasics/bwords.htm

