



# EXODUS

POST SUNDAY CONTENT STUDY GUIDE



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# INTRODUCTION

## OUR 12-WEEK SERIES

The book of Exodus, a word meaning “departure” or “going out,” was written by Moses (Ex. 24:4, 24:7, 34:27; Mark 7:10, 12:19; John 5:45-47; Rom. 10:5) around 1440-1400 BC. In God’s timing, the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt marked the end of a period of oppression for Abraham’s descendants (see Gen. 15:13) and the beginning of the fulfillment of the covenant promise of God to Abraham that his descendants would not only live in the Promised Land but also multiply and become a great nation (see Gen. 12:1-3, 7).

Exodus begins where Genesis leaves off as God deals with his chosen people, the Israelites. It records the events from the time Israel entered Egypt as guests of Joseph, who was powerful in Egypt, until they were eventually delivered from the cruel bondage of slavery into which they had been brought by “a new king of Egypt who did not know Joseph” (Ex. 1:8).

Chapters 1-15, the section we’ll look at in this series, describe the conditions of the Jews’ oppression under Pharaoh; the rise of Moses—the dominant figure in Exodus—as their deliverer; the plagues God brought upon Egypt for Pharaoh’s refusal to submit to him; and the Israelites’ eventual departure from Egypt, in which God’s people would be able to worship as “ones now set free.”

Although we won't be studying the rest of Exodus in this series, it's helpful to know something about it.

The middle portion of Exodus, chapters 16-34, is dedicated to the Israelites' wilderness wanderings and God's miraculous provisions for his people. But even though God gave them bread from heaven, sweet water from bitter water out of a rock, victory over those who attempted to destroy them, his Law written on tablets of stone by his own hand, and his presence in the form of pillars of fire and cloud, the people continually grumbled and rebelled against him.

In the last section of the book, chapters 35-40, Exodus describes the construction of the ark of the covenant and the plan for the tabernacle with its various sacrifices, altars, furniture, ceremonies, and forms of worship.

So why study this seemingly archaic book? First, the events of Exodus actually took place and can and should be read as part of the Christian story. Second, Exodus should also be read allegorically as pointing ahead to a time to come (see Gal. 4:24). The Israelites' situation in Egypt is intended to mirror the spiritual condition of the human race. As Israel was in bondage to Egypt, so all humanity is in bondage to sin. Only the miracle-working power of God, through his mediator, which forced Israel's release, can break the bonds forged by sin and make us truly free.

In Moses we see one serving as a foreshadowing of Jesus who came to set us, his people, free from our spiritual slavery and usher us into a better and eternal promised

land. Pharaoh reminds us of Satan, a great and tyrannical ruler, who seeks to oppress and enslave the people of God. The crossing of the Red Sea points ahead to our baptism, signifying our freedom with our enemy destroyed. The wilderness journey thereafter reminds us of our journey on this side of heaven, where we battle the enemies who come against us until that day, with perseverance, we finally enter the Promised Land.

In addition, the many sacrifices required of the Israelites were a picture of the ultimate sacrifice, the Passover Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. On the night of the last plague on Egypt, an unblemished lamb was killed and its blood applied to the doorposts of the houses of God's people, protecting them from the angel of death. This foreshadowed Jesus, the Lamb of God without spot or blemish (1 Pet. 1:19), whose blood applied to us ensures eternal life. Among the symbolic presentations of Christ in the book of Exodus is the story of the water from the rock in Exodus 17:6. Just as Moses struck the rock to provide life-giving water for the people to drink, so did God strike the Rock of our salvation, crucifying him for our sin, and from the Rock came the gift of living water (John 4:10). The provision of manna in the wilderness is a perfect picture of Christ, the Bread of Life (John 6:48), provided by God to give us life. In other words, the events and things learned in the exodus are part of our story, too.

Lastly, don't miss the fact that Moses, who is most closely associated with the Law of God, doesn't in fact lead the people into the Promised Land; Joshua (which is the

Hebrew name for Jesus) does. This reminds us that it's not keeping the Law that brings salvation, but only Jesus himself.

Over the 12 weeks of this series we will look at the first 15 chapters of Exodus, a section that begins with cries of slavery and ends with a song of deliverance whereby we learn much about God.

## **HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET**

- A week of daily readings with suggested memory verses are provided ahead of each Sunday's sermon in order to prepare the mind and heart. *(These readings are seen as supplementary to your other daily Bible reading and do not always correspond directly with Sunday's text.)*
- Mini introductions are provided in order to prepare you for the content of each sermon.
- A section is provided for taking sermon notes.
- The Post Sunday Content is intended to guide you in your Community Group discussions. Community Group Leaders can also write their own questions.
- The Family Discussion questions are to help parents talk through these stories with their children. You might go through the questions all at once or periodically through the week.

# WEEK 1: GOD SEES

## EXODUS 1-2

For those who have a belief, however faint, in the existence of God, some big questions usually follow: Does he care about me and my life? Does he see my hard times and those of the people around me? If he does, is he willing to do anything about? If so, what is his plan?

In this kickoff message we are dropped into the enslaved and desperate plight of the Hebrew people and discover a God who not only hears and sees but has a plan of rescue.

### KEY & MEMORY VERSES

*Exodus 2:23-25*

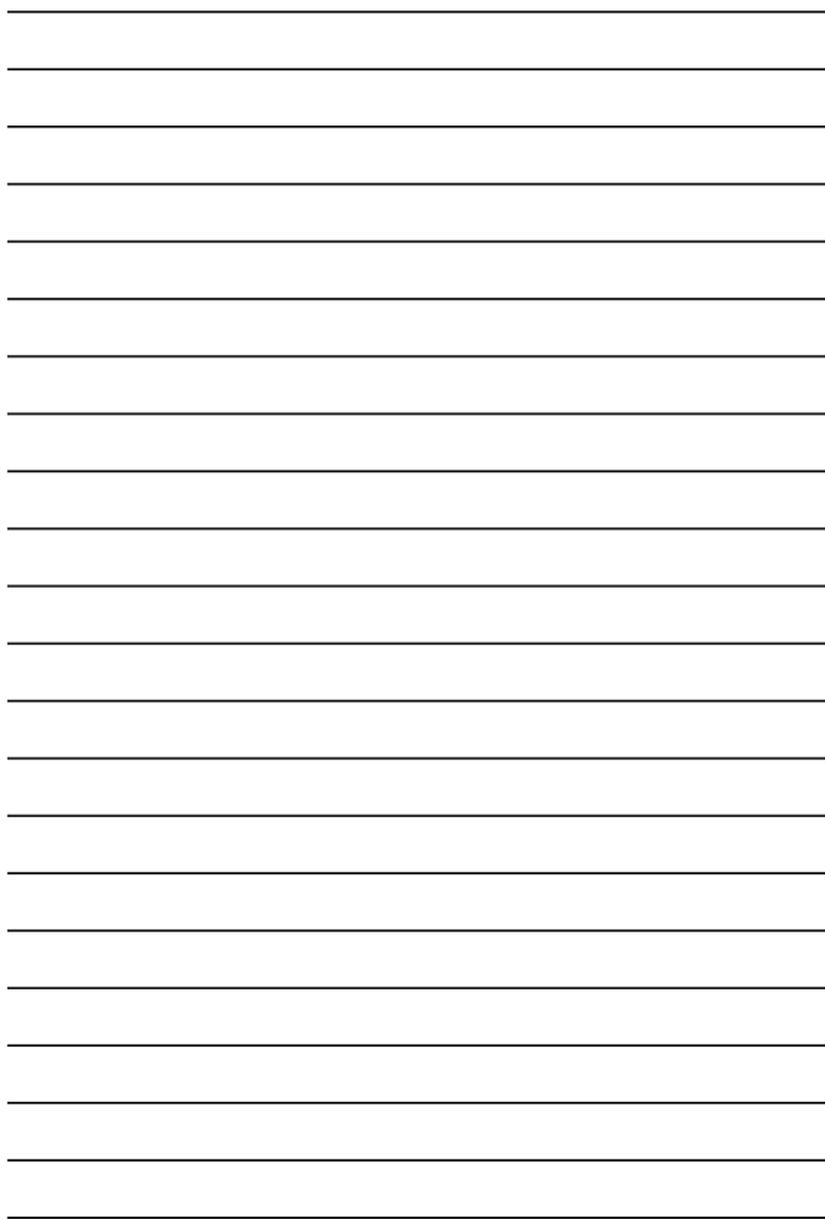
*During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.*











## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Does the way that God provided for and protected Moses encourage you? Why?
3. What political, economic, social, or spiritual slavery do you see in your own life and in your city today? What are some ways fear is used to control people?
4. How has God prepared you for ministry? Describe some lessons you've learned in places or seasons of being in a "palace" or a "desert" (wilderness).
5. Exodus 2:24-25 says, "God heard... God remembered... God saw... and God knew." Why does the passage point this out? Why is it important for us to recognize this?
6. What does it mean for God to "remember" his covenant with the patriarchs? How does this point to Jesus and encourage us to worship him?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Why did the new Pharaoh not like the Israelites?  
Had they done anything wrong?
2. How was Pharaoh trying to stop the Israelites from increasing? Did the way that Pharaoh punished them stop God's blessing? Can anyone or anything stop God's love towards us? Read Romans 8:38-39.
3. Sometimes we suffer for doing wrong and sometimes we suffer for doing right. How should we act during times when we are being punished for doing wrong? How should we act when we are suffering even though we didn't do anything wrong?
4. How did God look out for baby Moses? Can we save ourselves? Or do we need God to rescue us just like He rescued Moses? How has God looked out for you?

*Take some time to pray for each member of your family and thank Jesus for saving you when you were helpless.*

# WEEK 2: GOD REVEALS

## EXODUS 3:1-10

Chapter 3 introduces a significant change in the story of the deliverance of God's people from Egypt. In this chapter, we move from God's providential dealings in the life of the nation of Israel to God's direct intervention through Moses and the miracles he performed. We move from God's silence over the past 400 years to God's speaking directly to Moses from, of all things, a burning bush.

In this section we focus specifically on God's revelation to Moses, which is the basis for all that follows. It is the basis for Moses' obedience, as well as for the entire nation's. It is the basis for all of God's actions with regard to Egypt and to his own people. In many ways, the incident of the burning bush is critical to our understanding of God.

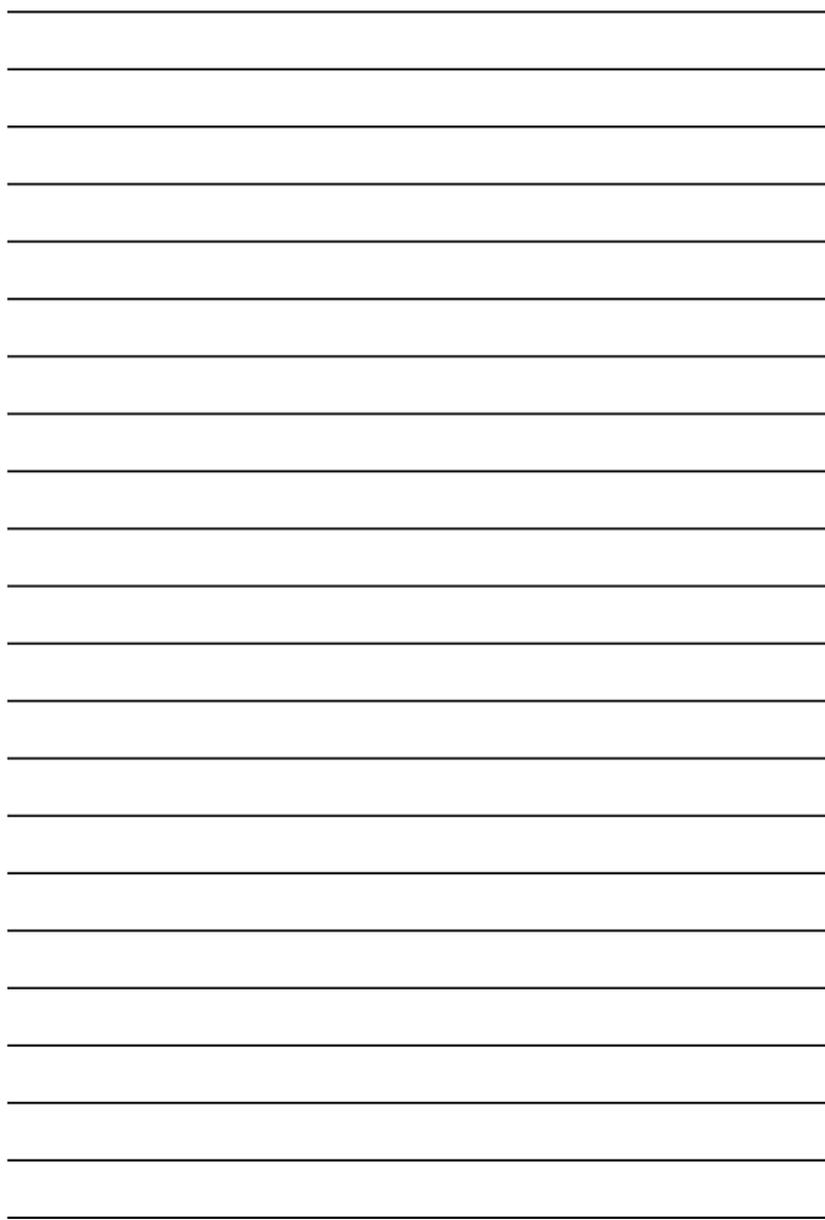
### KEY & MEMORY VERSE

*Exodus 3:6*

*And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.*











## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. What does the calling of Moses show us about God's heart? Describe this moment in your own salvation (and/or ministry).
3. What do you learn about the nature of God from the way he reveals himself to Moses in a burning bush? Why couldn't Moses approach God wearing sandals?
4. Read Exodus 3:7-10. What motivates God to act on behalf of his people and what is his ultimate purpose?
5. How does knowing this affect your understanding of God? How does it change the way you pray?
6. In Exodus 3:10, God says, "Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." What does this reveal about how God carries out his salvation in the world?
7. What is significant about the location of this mountain?
8. Who could God be sending you to? Who in your life is crying out for liberation?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. How did God show himself to Moses? Do you think this is like anything Moses had ever seen before? Why do you think that God revealed himself this way? Is God like anything else that we've ever seen? Can you think of any other ways that God has chosen to reveal himself to us? Read Colossians 1:15-20.
2. How did God know that the Israelites were being afflicted? (Hint: verse 7). What does the fact that God saw and heard the Israelites tell us about God? Does God see everything that we are doing? Is this comforting or scary? If God hears us, then what should we talk to him about?
3. Why did God come down and meet with Moses? (Hint: verse 8). If milk represents the things that we need and honey represents the things we like, what is the milk and honey in your life?

*Take a moment to pray and thank God for all the ways he has provided for you as a family, and ask each other how you can pray for one another.*

# WEEK 3: GOD CALLS

## EXODUS 3:11-4:17

Often we want God to intervene in the madness that is the world around us, but when that intervention involves us, we have a great ability to come up with all sorts of reasons for God to use someone else. "God, send someone, just don't send me!" "God, do something, just don't use me to do it!"

In this section Moses is called by God to go to Egypt to tell Pharaoh to set his people free. But Moses, feeling fearful and inadequate, comes up with a myriad of reasons why God should send someone else. "I'm not adequate for a task such as this," he cries.

Have you ever felt like that? Who hasn't? If you haven't, you may have bigger issues.

But it was while Moses was holding back that God did something earth-shattering: He told Moses his Name, a Name that means "the God who is always present." He promised to be with Moses, to help him, empower him, and support him with others along the way.

In this message we will see ourselves in the mirror as Moses tries to get out of God's commission. We will see how God calls us, not because of what we bring, but to bring glory to himself as he works in and through us.

## **KEY VERSE**

*Exodus 3:15*

*God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."*

## **MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 4:11-12*

*Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak."*

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 3:11-12*

**Tuesday**     *Exodus 3:13-14*

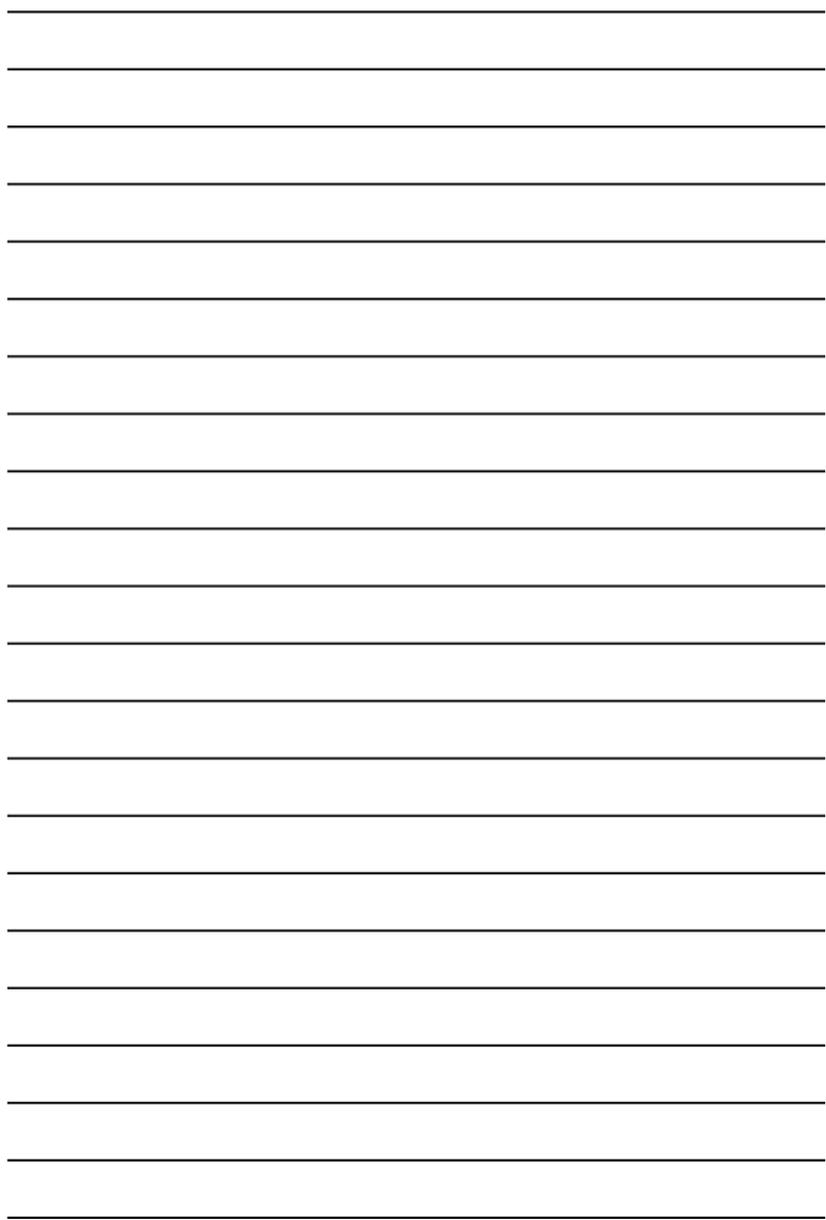
**Wednesday**   *Exodus 3:15-22*

**Thursday**     *Exodus 4:1-9*

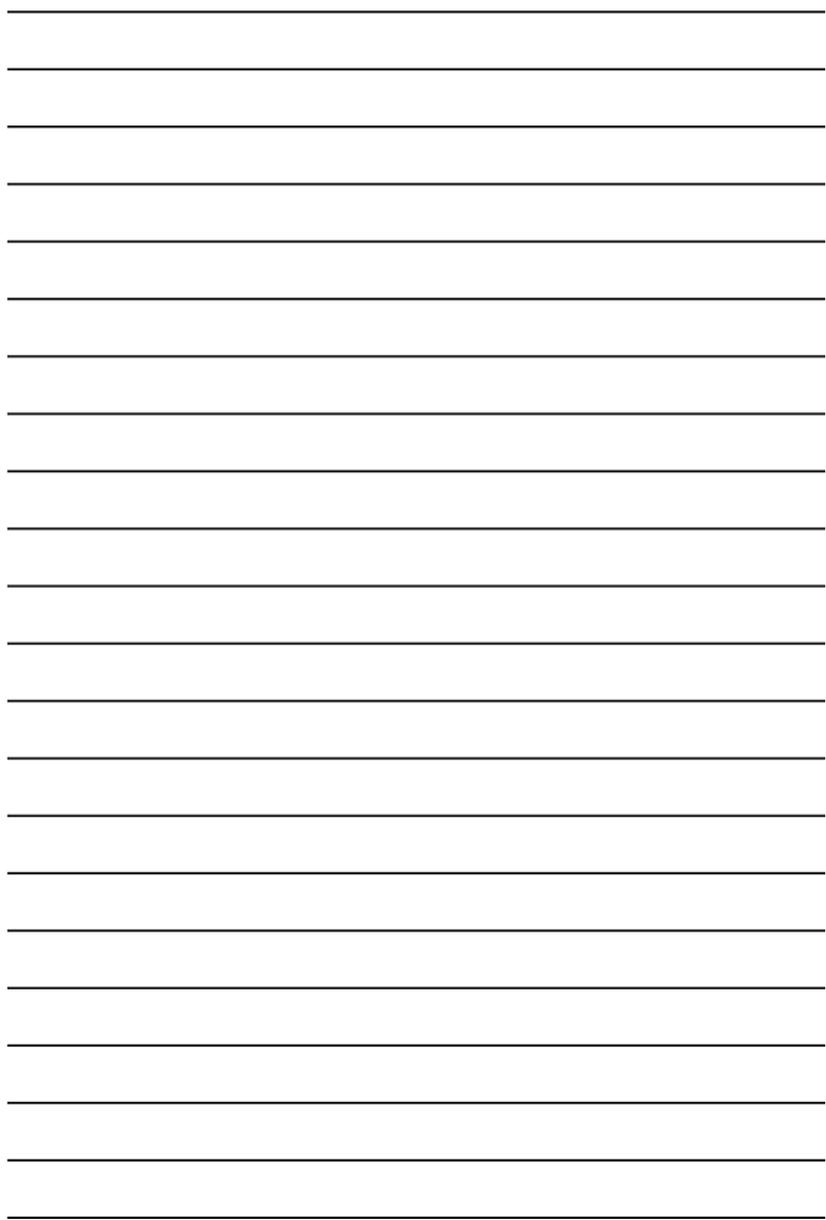
**Friday**        *Exodus 4:10-11; Matthew 10:19-20*

**Saturday**     *Exodus 4:12-17*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Describe a time you felt inadequate to accomplish something you knew God was calling you to do. How was your response similar to or different from Moses'?
3. What do you think limits God from accomplishing his purpose through you?
4. What does "I AM" express about the nature of God? How is that encouraging to those he sends on mission?
5. How are you feeling weak today? What truths do you find in this passage that give you peace and courage in your weakness?
6. Moses was given three tangible signs of God's power. What is the advantage of a tangible sign? How is the empty tomb even better?
7. We know that God saves and works through and for flawed people. How does that make you feel?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Why does God choose Moses? Is he the strongest, bravest, boldest or best at speaking? Sometimes God uses us because of the skills he's given us, but other times he chooses us even though we're not the best at some things. Can you think of something that you are good at that God wants you to use? Can you think of something that you are not good at that God wants you to do even though you aren't the best at it?
2. Why does God eventually get angry with Moses? Is it because Moses doesn't think that he can do it? Or is it because Moses doesn't think that God can do it? Why is one of these ok, but not the other?
3. What are some of the reasons that Moses is hesitant or afraid? How does God help Moses do what he commanded him to do? (Hint: Exodus 3:12, 4:12). What has God called us to do? Read Matthew 28:18-20.

*Pray as a family that we not be afraid to tell others about the love that God has for them.*

# WEEK 4: GOD'S HOLINESS

## EXODUS 4:18-31

In the previous section, God gave Moses repeated promises; in this section, he gives Moses a warning.

Why? Perhaps it's because we often misunderstand the promises of God. At times we equate God's promises with a life of ease, when God's promises don't imply that at all, but instead express his commitment to be with us when the obstacles are greatest.

In this section of text we are reminded of God's holiness and our call to be faithful and obedient to his instructions and commands. Moses' error, as revealed in this part of the story, was that he was called to lead his people but he wasn't even leading his own family and was almost destroyed because of it. We are reminded that if we are to be used by God to lead the masses, we must begin by first responding to him.

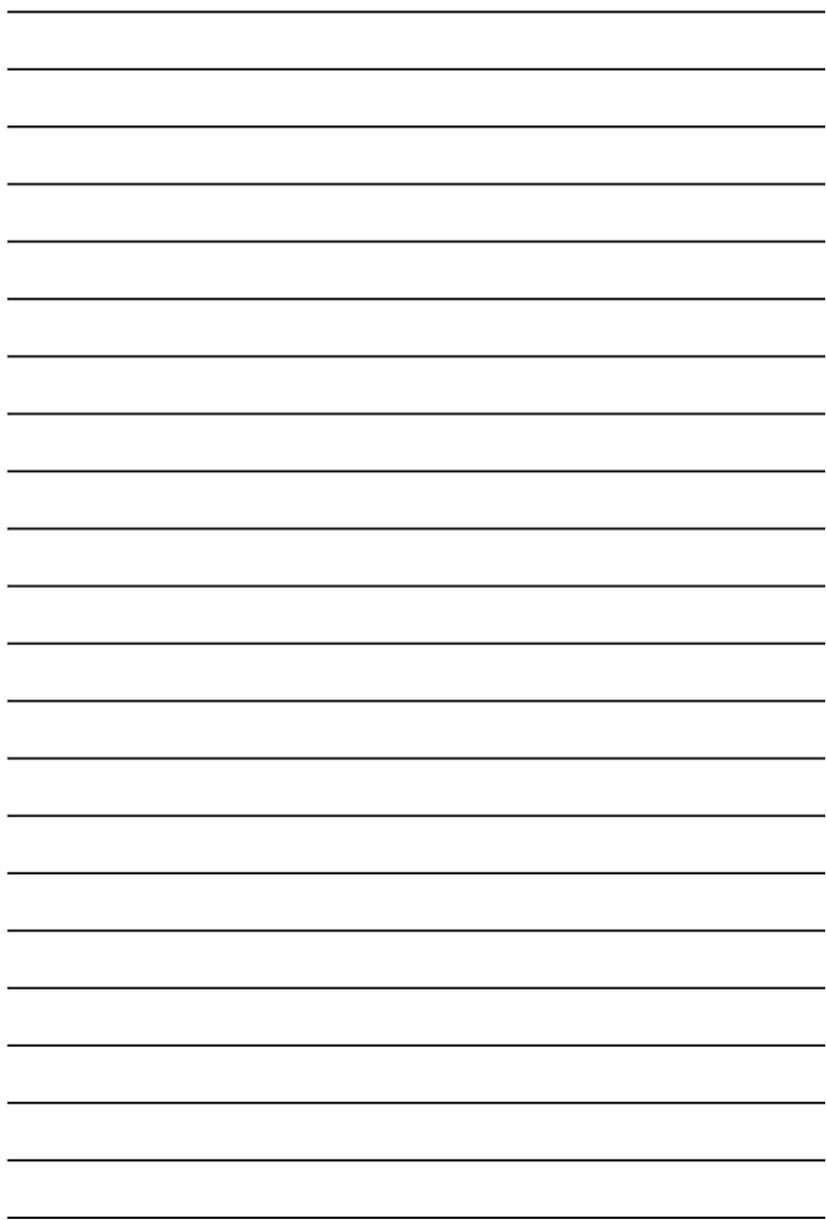
### KEY & MEMORY VERSE

*Exodus 4:31*

*And the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshiped.*











## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. What does Moses' staff represent? Why is that so important, and who does this point to?
3. Describe a time when you have taken a risk in obeying the Lord and found he provided what you needed as you did. Are you or should you be doing that now?
4. In what sense was the nation of Israel God's firstborn son? In what sense are Christians firstborn sons of God? In what sense is Jesus the firstborn Son of God?
5. Why does God want to free his son (Israel)? What do we learn about the goal of God's convicting and sin-freeing work? What does this teach us about the nature of sin?
6. Why does God come to kill Moses? What does this teach us about the basis of Moses salvation?
7. Read Exodus 3:16 and 4:31. What makes God's people worship him?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Moses was afraid of speaking in public, so God gave him Aaron to help him speak to Israel. What are you afraid of doing? Does God help you do the things that you can't do on your own? (Romans 8:26) What has God asked you to do that you need help with? Pray together for help doing the things we are supposed to do, but have trouble doing.
2. Why was God sending Moses back to Egypt? In verses 22-23, God calls Israel his 'son' and sent Moses and Aaron to tell Pharaoh to let Israel go. Can you think of anyone else who God has sent to set his children free? God did powerful signs through Moses in order to save Israel, but what powerful sign did God do through Jesus in order to save us?
3. God gave Moses the ability to show powerful signs to the Egyptians to prove that God was real. In the same way, God has given us the ability to show a powerful sign to prove that He is real. This sign is to 'love our neighbour as ourself'. (Mark 12:31) The sign that will help us show God to people will be the love that we have for one another! (John 13:35). How can you show God's love to your friends and neighbours this week?

*Pray as a family for opportunities to share with the people we know about Jesus.*

# WEEK 5: GOD'S VOICE

## EXODUS 5

As we arrive at chapter 5, Moses appears before Pharaoh for the first time. Pharaoh asks a central question of the book of Exodus: "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice?" (5:2).

Moses' request that Pharaoh release Israel for a temporary pilgrimage was thoroughly rejected as Pharaoh ridiculed Israel's God. But he didn't stop there. Pharaoh demanded that the slaves' quota of bricks be maintained while they were forced to also gather their own straw to make the bricks. This event leads to a crisis of faith for Moses as the Israelites cry out in anger against him.

Some questions come out of this part of the story: What do we do when victories don't come easily? When God is on our side, do we expect ease, with those who stand against us simply and quickly moving out of our way? And what do we do when those we lead grumble and complain because of their unmet expectations?

In this section we are called to guard against unrealistic expectations and to not panic when evil seems to be winning but wait patiently before our God instead.

## **KEY VERSE**

*Exodus 5:2*

*But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and moreover, I will not let Israel go."*

## **MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 5:22-23*

*Then Moses turned to the LORD and said, "O Lord, why have you done evil to this people? Why did you ever send me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has done evil to this people, and you have not delivered your people at all."*

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 5:1-2*

**Tuesday**     *Exodus 5:3-9*

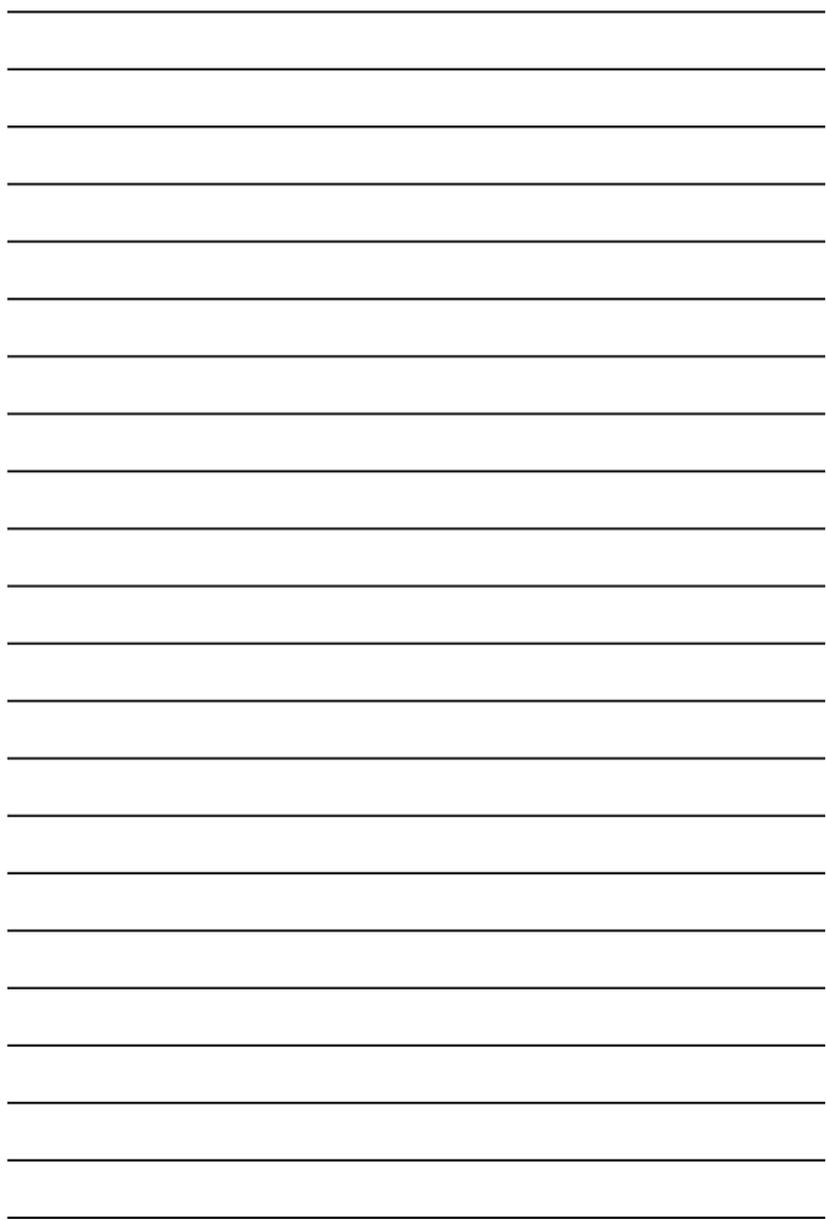
**Wednesday**   *Exodus 5:10-14*

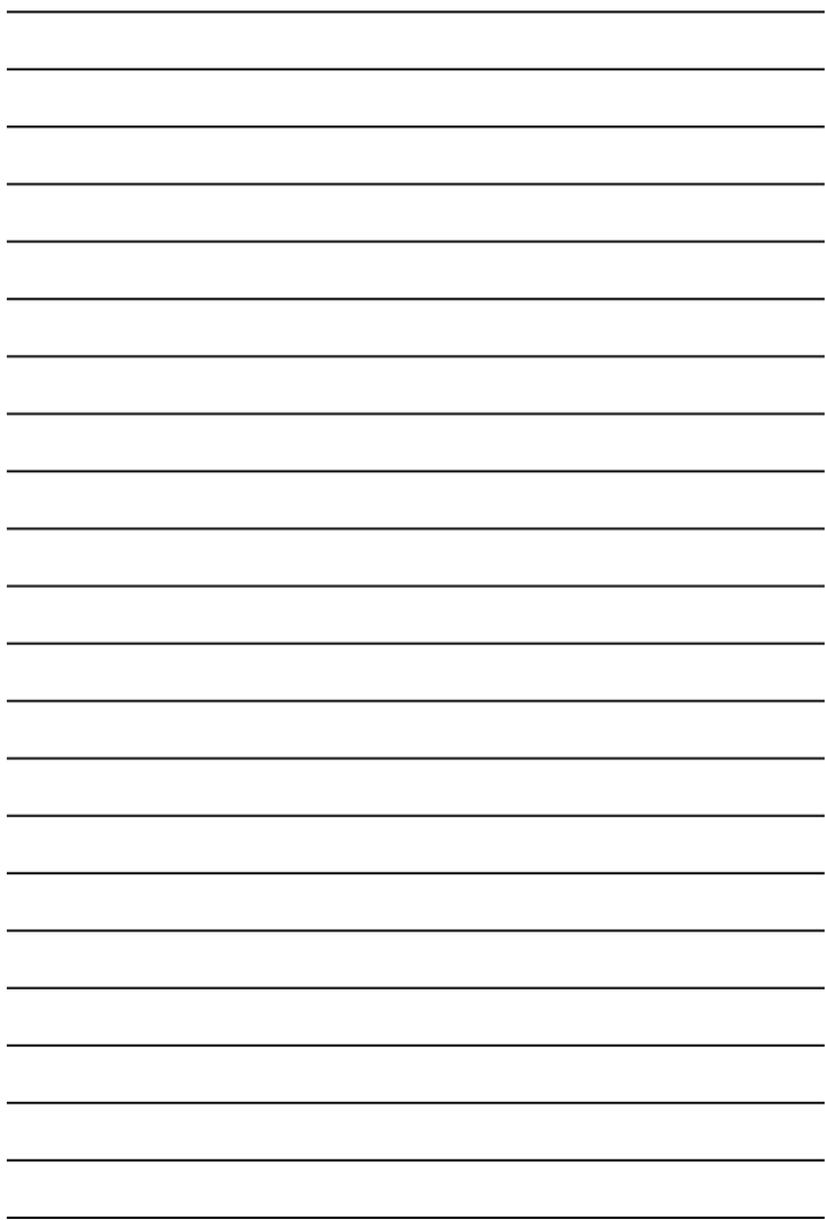
**Thursday**      *Exodus 5:15-18*

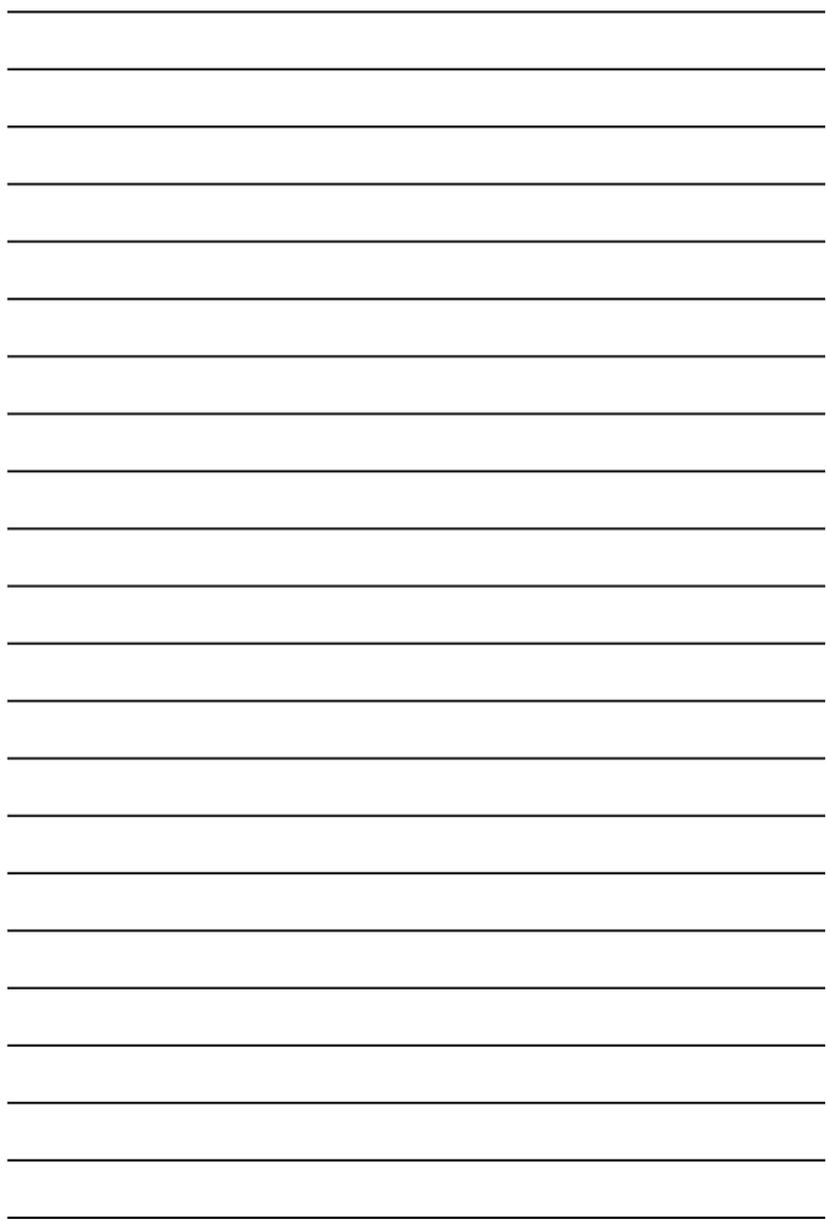
**Friday**        *Exodus 5:19-21*

**Saturday**      *Exodus 5:22-23*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Discuss a time when you were obeying God and experiencing more hardship as a result. What can we learn from this, according to Exodus 5?
3. Why does Pharaoh initially reject Moses and Aaron's request? What does this look like today in your life and in the culture around us?
4. When have you been tempted to think that not following God would be easier or better?
5. When was the last time you saw someone who was suffering become bitter, turn against the church or its leaders, and appeal to other sources for relief? Have you done this yourself? How can you help and encourage such a person to remain true to God?
6. What troubles are you facing? Will you see them as problems that need removing or as possible ways for God to change and grow you?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Sometimes when we are following God's ways, things may be harder at first, but in the end they will be better. Can you think of any times you have suffered for doing the right thing? Do you want to do the right thing, even if it means you will be unpopular, teased, or even suffer?
2. If we were only to read this chapter it might seem like this story is a sad story, but if we continue to read the rest of the Bible we learn that it has a very happy ending. Do you ever look at your circumstances and forget that you are only part way through the story? do you sometimes forget that God is at work even in the bad times?
3. Can you think of some things that the Bible tell us about what is ahead in order to help us not forget what God is doing? (Eternal JOY - Hebrews 12:2, Eternal LIFE - John 3:16, Eternal PLEASURE - Psalm 16:11)

*Pray as a family and ask that God help us remember and keep focused on what he has promised us.*

# WEEK 6: GOD'S ASSURANCE

## EXODUS 6

When Pharaoh increased the Israelites' workload (see the previous section), Moses was as upset as the people. But his response in the situation was more spiritual than theirs. He didn't blame others; instead, he went to God to express his anger and confusion. We can sense both emotions in Moses' prayer in the last two verses of chapter 5.

Is it wrong to blame others when things go wrong? Is it right to speak freely to the Lord? In expressing his emotion, Moses showed that he was willing to be totally honest with God. In coming to God, he also acknowledged God's sovereignty and power. Moses did not question God's ability but his timing—"Why not yet, God?" All of us have probably felt the same way at some point. We believe in God and his power and rule, but we wonder why he doesn't do something *now!*

In this section God graciously responds to Moses and assures him of his deliverance and plan but also reminds Moses that the timing is up to him. Lawrence Richards writes, "When our victories are easy, it's all too likely that we will lose sight of God. But when all is so dark and hopeless that we are about to give up, and then deliverance suddenly appears, we know what happened is of the Lord. Often God delays deliverance because he wants us to recognize his hand when he acts."

## **KEY & MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 6:6*

“Say therefore to the people of Israel, “I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.””

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 6:1*

**Tuesday**     *Exodus 6:2-9*

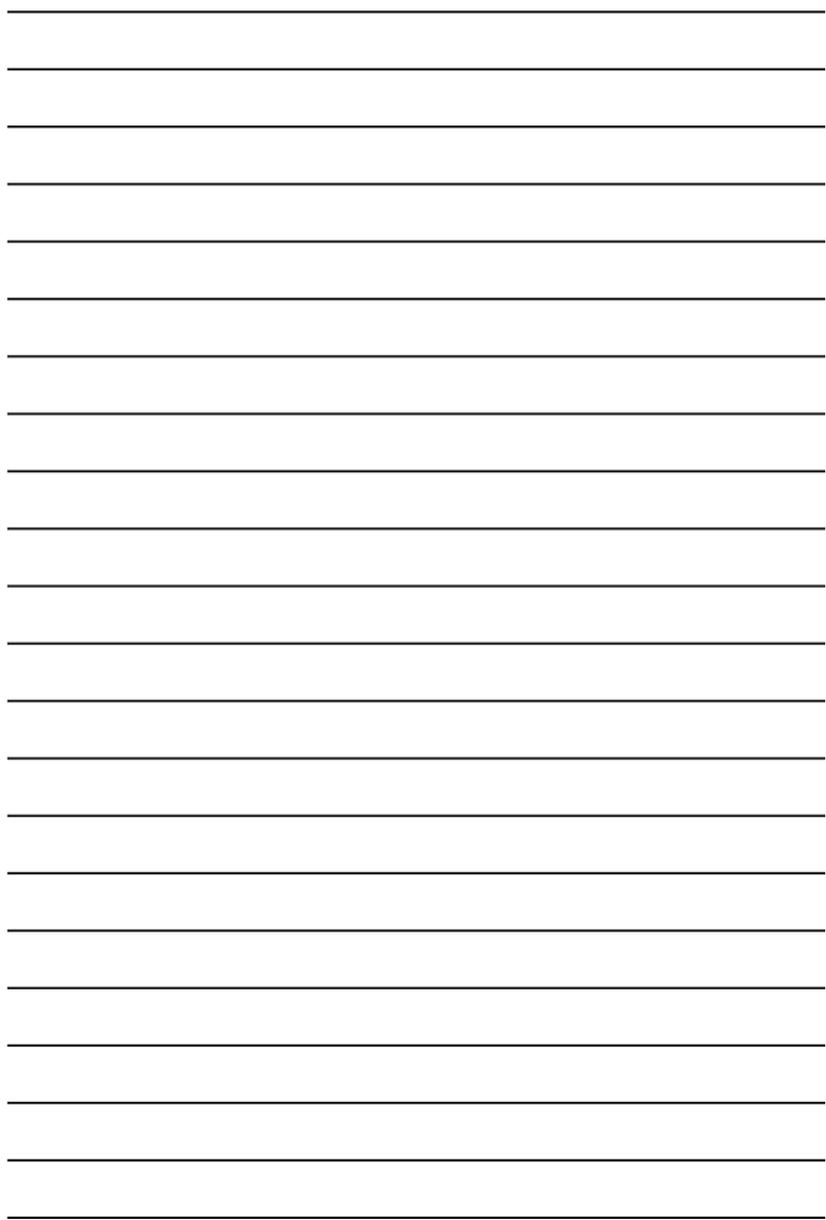
**Wednesday**   *Exodus 6:10-13*

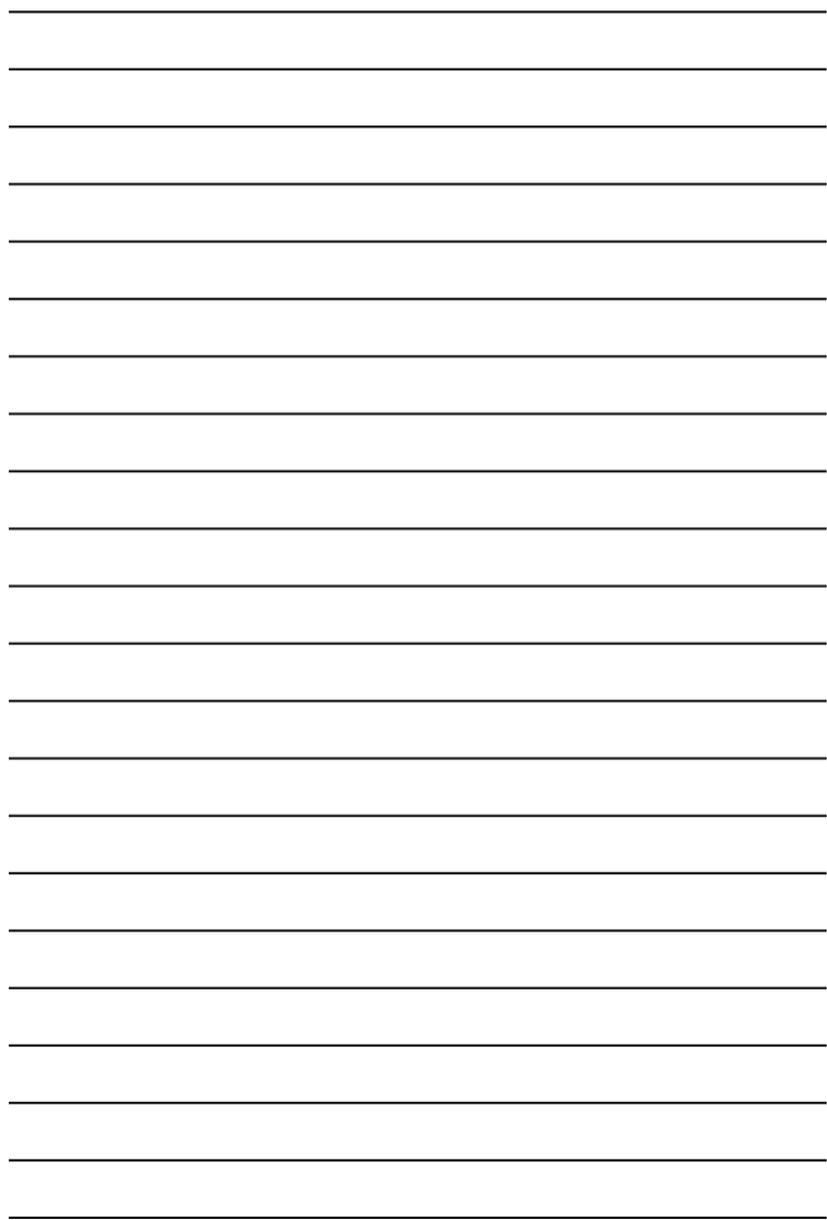
**Thursday**     *Exodus 6:14-25*

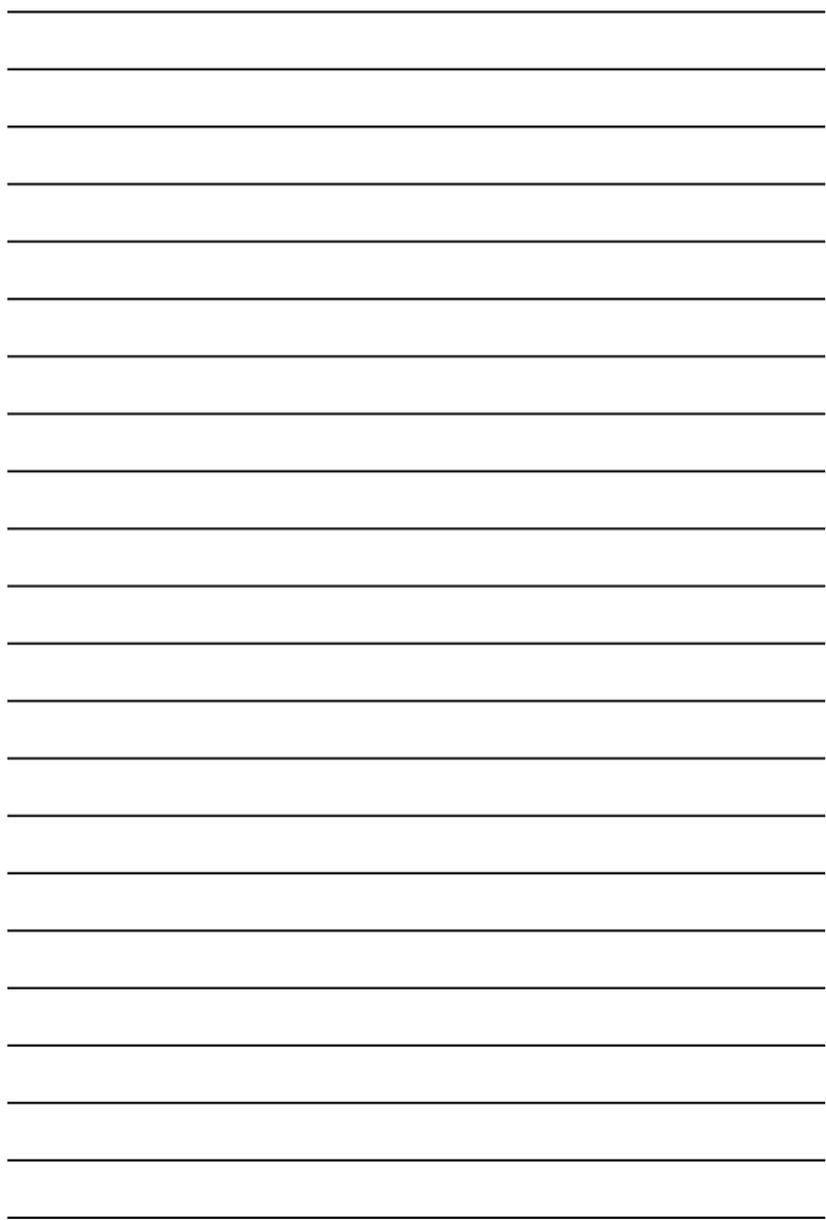
**Friday**        *Exodus 6:26-27*

**Saturday**     *Exodus 6:28-30*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Read Exodus 6:1-8. Why does God first respond to Moses' complaint by recalling his covenant and reiterating his promises? What do you think God was teaching him, and how would this apply to us when we go through difficulties?
3. What does this passage teach us about God's prerequisites for those whom he chooses to save?
4. How would remembering who the real, powerful, loving, promise-keeping God is actually affect you in the day-to-day?
5. Which aspect of salvation—liberation, redemption, adoption, or inheritance—has helped you the most in your everyday life?
6. In which parts of your life and thinking do you most need to be reminded that God is a God of grace?
7. What has Jesus liberated you from recently? In what areas do you need liberation? Take some time to pray for those in your group and in your life who are struggling with sin and need liberation.

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Verse 5 says that God hears the prayers and the groaning of the people and listens. Does it surprise you that God listens to the prayers of his people? When have you seen God hear and answer your prayers? What are you praying for now?
2. God has promised us lots of great things, but like the Israelites in the story today, we often get distracted by what's going on around us. They didn't want to listen to Moses, because their spirits were broken and they had forgotten how powerful their God was. It is important that we sometimes ask ourselves these questions: Is there anything too big for God? Is there anything that can stop God? Does God keep all of his promises? Even though it doesn't look like it sometimes, do we know that God is at work? Romans 8:28.
3. Read 2 Peter 3:9. What does this verse tell us about why God sometimes takes longer than we would like?

*Pray and thank God that he is bigger than any circumstance, that he hears all of our prayers, and that he will one day make all things new.*

# WEEK 7: GOD'S DISPLAY

## EXODUS 7:1-8:19

This section focuses on the first three plagues sent by God as motivation for Pharaoh to set Israel free. When Moses showed Pharaoh the signs God had given him, Egyptian magicians duplicated them. But soon God began to perform such powerful acts that the magicians told Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God" (8:19).

However, in spite of this display, and instead of setting Israel free, Pharaoh's heart was hardened. The text speaks of Pharaoh hardening his heart (8:15), of God hardening his heart (7:3), and of his heart hardening (7:14, 22). How do we reconcile this and what do we do, specifically, with the idea of God hardening Pharaoh's heart? The answer is that Pharaoh's heart was hardened as God displayed his power to him. As God displayed himself to Pharaoh more and more, Pharaoh's heart grew harder and harder. As Charles Spurgeon said, "The same sun that hardens clay melts wax." Pharaoh hardened his heart to God's mercy and power, and ultimately he hardened his heart against God.

What do we do in light of God's display of power? Do we respond with humility and obedience or, like Pharaoh, do we become harder and more resistant?

## **KEY VERSE**

*Exodus 7:5*

*“The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring out the people of Israel from among them.”*

## **MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 8:15*

*But when Pharaoh saw that there was a respite, he hardened his heart and would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.*

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 7:1-7*

**Tuesday**     *Exodus 7:8-13*

**Wednesday**   *Exodus 7:14-19*

**Thursday**     *Exodus 7:20-25*

**Friday**        *Exodus 8:1-15*

**Saturday**     *Exodus 8:16-19*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. What was the ultimate purpose of the plagues? (Read Deut. 4:34-35; Ex. 7:17, 8:10; Josh. 24:14; Isa. 42:8.)
3. Why is "Who is your God?" the most important question anyone will ever answer?
4. What is evidenced in our hearts when we dislike or protest God's judgment? Why is judgment so important?
5. How does it change your understanding of the plagues to know that they were not directed primarily at the people of Egypt but at their gods? What does this teach you about the nature and character of God's love?
6. What are the false gods demanding you to worship them alongside the one true God?
7. What gave the magicians their power? How does God's display of superiority in Exodus encourage you when you engage in spiritual warfare?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Why did God send plagues to Pharaoh and Egypt? Is it right for God to judge? How will God judge those who don't listen to the words of his Son, Jesus?
2. In the story Pharaoh's magicians produced similar results to the miracles that Moses and Aaron did. How did the magicians' fake miracles compare against the real ones? (Read Exodus 7:12). There are also counterfeit versions of the blessings of God. Can you think of things that promise to give what God gives to his people? (Some things God promises to give are peace, joy, pleasure, life, eternal life).
3. Will these counterfeit joys, pleasures and hopes be as good as the one that God promises his children? Why do you think that some people choose the counterfeit ones instead of the real version?

*Pray as a family for the trust that Gods ways are best, and the wisdom to spot and resist the counterfeits.*

# WEEK 8: GOD'S POWER

## EXODUS 8:20-10:29

In ancient times a nation's gods were credited with its successes. The more powerful the nation, the greater its gods seemed to be. But in these chapters the God of the Israelite slaves—our God—is shown to be far more powerful than the gods of the greatest nations on earth.

This message looks at plagues six through nine and how they make an utter mockery of the gods of Egypt and set the stage for the final and most dramatic plague of all.

It's important to note when walking through the plagues that however culpable Pharaoh was through his hardening and resistance, God was sovereignly moving behind, in, and through the scenes. God raised up not only Moses but Pharaoh, too. To what end? The answer is found in this section's key verse: "But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth" (Ex. 9:16).

### KEY VERSE

*Exodus 9:16*

*"But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth."*

## **MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 10:1-2*

*Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, that I may show these signs of mine among them, and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and of your grandson how I have dealt harshly with the Egyptians and what signs I have done among them, that you may know that I am the LORD."*

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 8:20-32*

**Tuesday**      *Exodus 9:1-12*

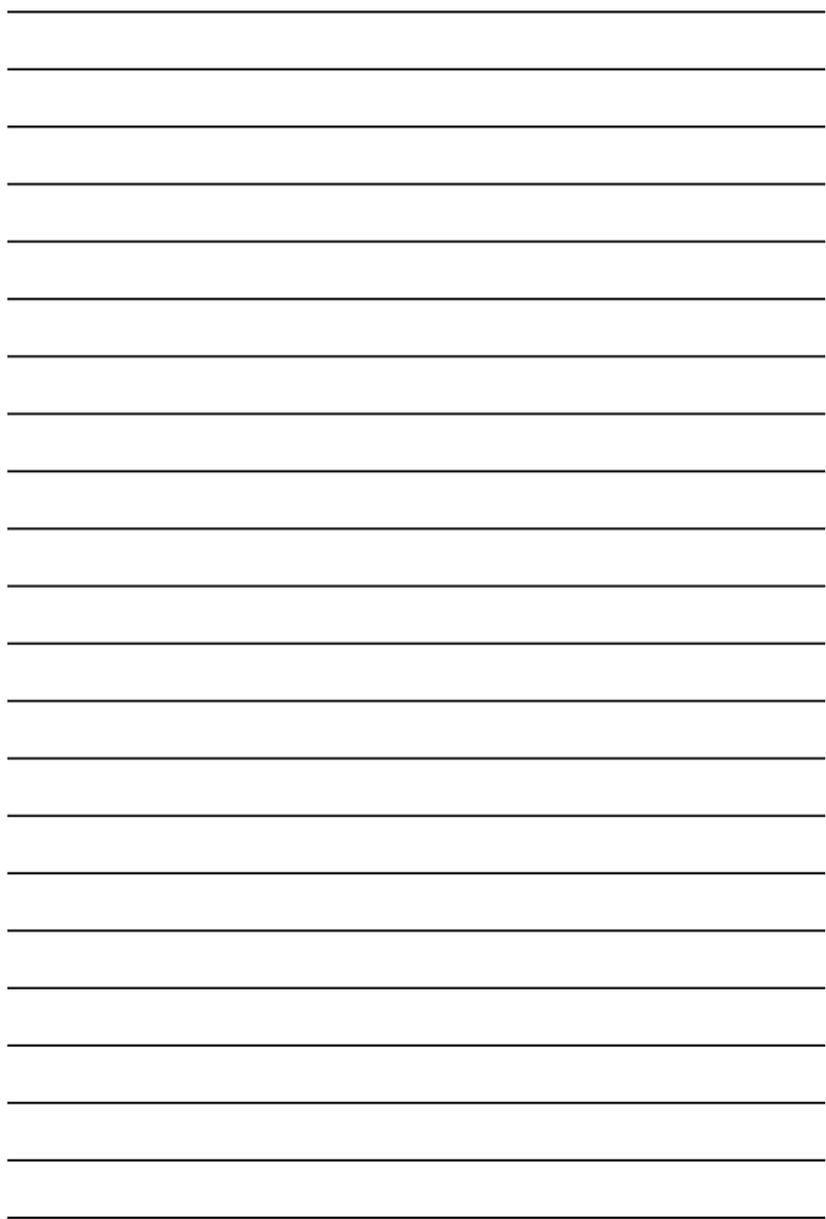
**Wednesday**      *Exodus 9:13-35*

**Thursday**      *Exodus 10:1-6*

**Friday**      *Exodus 10:7-20*

**Saturday**      *Exodus 10:21-29*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Why does God display his awesome power through the plagues? How does this reveal God's grace? (See Ex. 9:14-16.)
3. What serve as "gods of provision" or "gods of prosperity" for some today? Is it important to expose these counterfeits? Why or why not?
4. How is Pharaoh's false repentance after experiencing the plagues different from genuine repentance? What are some characteristics of false conversion to Christianity?
5. God was powerful enough to conquer Egypt's gods. What does this tell you about the power available to those of us who have the Holy Spirit today?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Exodus 8:22, 9:6-7 and 9:26. How come the Israelites were protected from the plagues but the Egyptians were not? Was it because of something that they did? God protected the Israelites from the plagues that he poured out on on Egypt, and he protects those that are his from the final judgement of hell. How do we become God's people? Romans 10:9 & 13
2. Pharaoh keeps saying that he will let the Israelites go, but then changes his mind. Why does he do this? Does God desire that we just say we will do what he asks us, or that we actually do what he asks us to? Is there any place where this is hard for you to do?
3. God desires that we have a heart that will be soft and listen to his voice. Do you think we naturally have a heart like this? If not, how do we get a soft heart? Ezekiel 36:26.

*Take a moment to pray as a family for soft hearts that will respond to Gods voice.*

# WEEK 9: GOD'S SACRIFICE

## EXODUS 11:1-12:32

With the first nine plagues now complete, the stage is set for the last plague—the greatest and worst of all. D.A. Carson writes, “The importance of this event cannot be overestimated. It signaled not only the release of the Israelites from slavery, but the dawning of a new covenant with their Redeemer.”

This final plague also paints a picture which shows that all people stand guilty before God, the avenger, and the only way they can be rescued is by something outside themselves—a sacrifice on their behalf.

1,500 years after this inaugural Passover—remembered every year with the feast of Passover—Paul wrote of Jesus being the Passover lamb who was sacrificed for all of mankind (1 Cor. 5:7, 11:25). John the Baptist said of Jesus, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world!” (John 1:29). On the night of his betrayal, during the festival of Passover, Jesus ushered in a new covenant with bread and wine, which connected the old covenant with what it pointed to: his death on the cross.

## **KEY & MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 12:13*

*“The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.”*

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 11:1-10*

**Tuesday**     *Exodus 12:1-6*

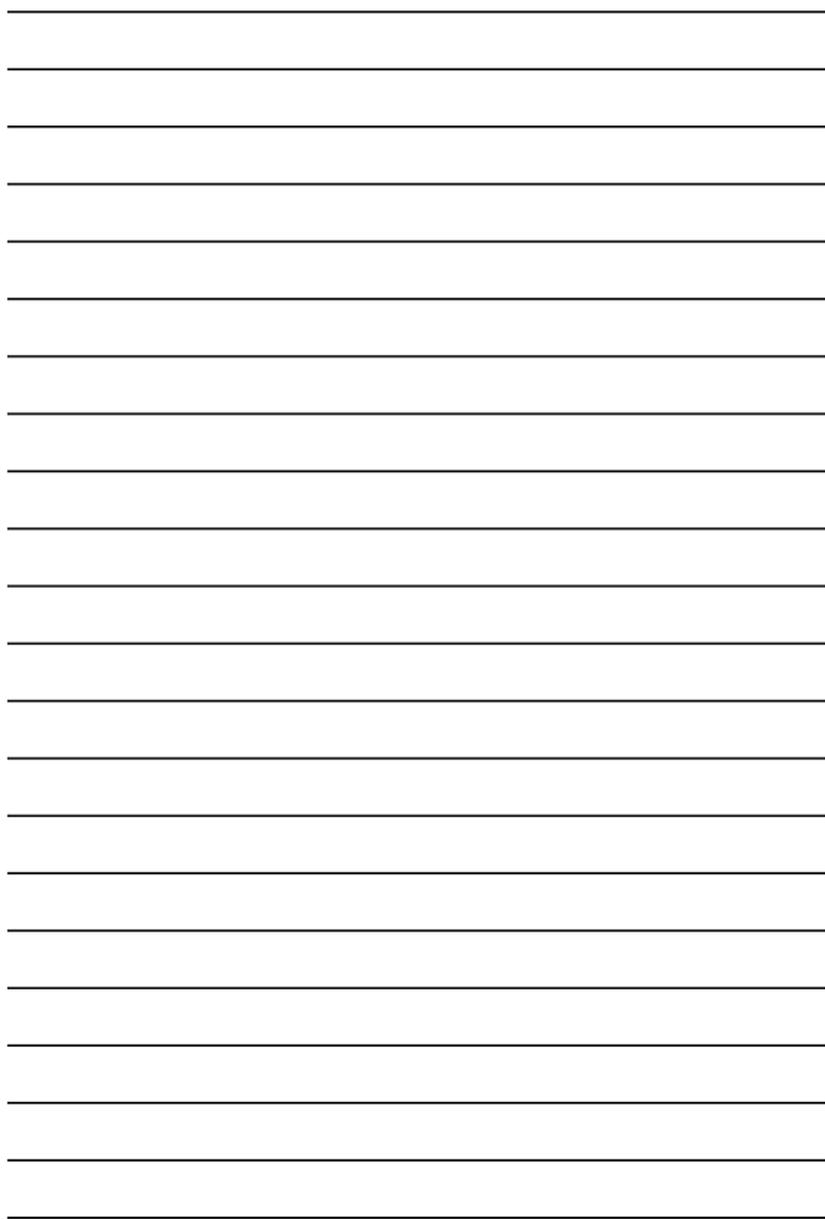
**Wednesday**   *Exodus 12:7-13*

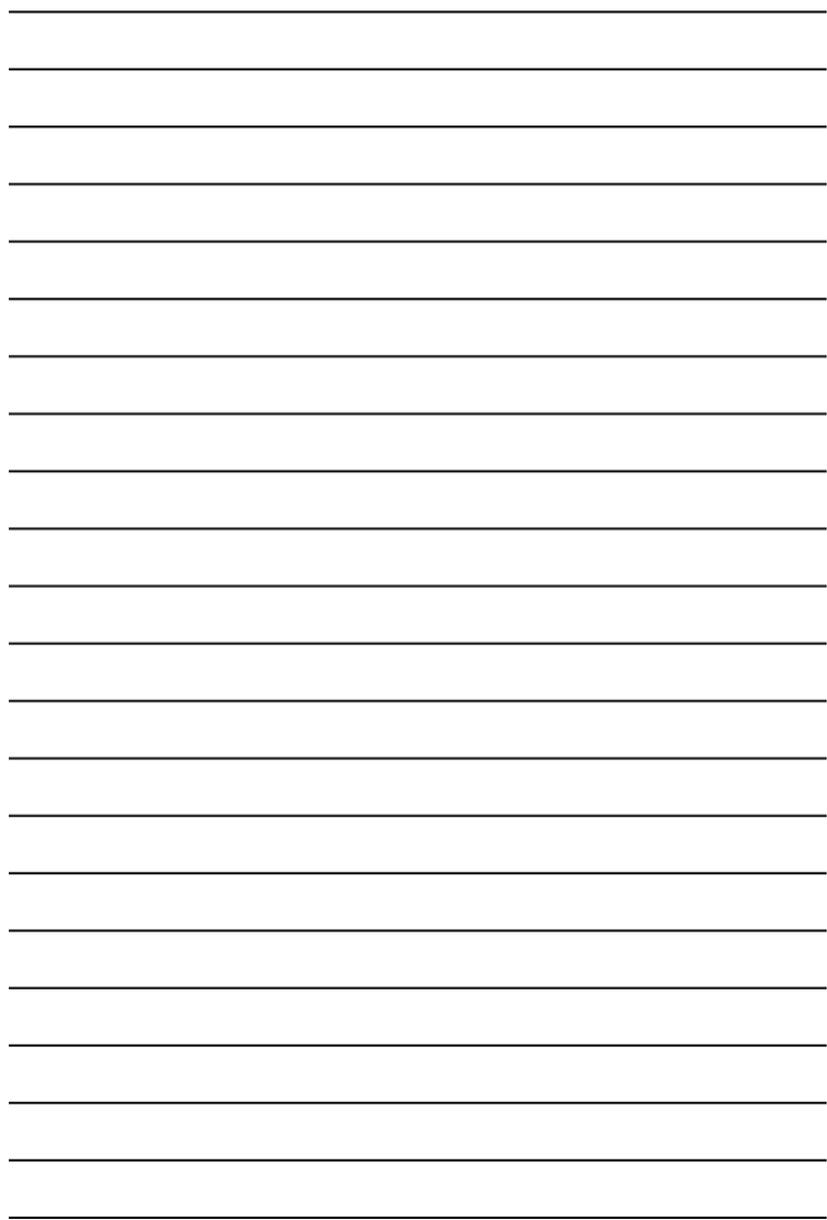
**Thursday**     *Exodus 12:14-20*

**Friday**        *Exodus 12:21-28*

**Saturday**     *Exodus 12:29-32*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. What does the perfect Lamb teach us about our ability to save ourselves?
3. Is substitutionary atonement important? Why or why not?
4. What does the Passover teach us about the essence of salvation?
5. In what areas of your life do you need to rely on God's work of salvation and his grace instead of your own effort?
6. Are there parts of your life where you need to ask God to point you to his Son so that you can trust more fully in his grace and forgiveness?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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## **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Before God sends the plagues he has his servants, Moses and Aaron, warn Pharaoh about what is going to happen. Are you God's servant? What does God want you to warn others about?
2. How many times did God send his servant Moses to warn Pharaoh? How often should we try to tell others about God's love for them?
3. In the final plague, the Israelites had to put the blood of the lamb of God on their doorpost in order for God to passover them. How does the lamb and the blood point forward to Jesus? What must we believe to be saved?

*Pray as a family for those you know who haven't yet believed in Jesus and for opportunities to share the good news with them.*

# WEEK 10: GOD'S FREEDOM

## EXODUS 12:33-13:16

Redemption!

When Pharaoh realized that all of Egypt's firstborn had been struck dead, he urged the Israelites to leave. The Egyptians were so eager to get rid of them that they "loaned" Israel whatever gold, silver, or clothing they asked for. There would be nothing to spend such wealth on in the desert, but later the people of Israel donated much of this wealth to be used in making the tabernacle, Israel's portable house of worship.

With Israel's departure, two practices were instituted to commemorate God's goodness to them: the Passover meal and the consecration of all firstborn. Passover was the first of seven annual religious festivals ordained by God. Passover was Israel's celebration of freedom, a yearly reminder of the God who exercised his power to tear a slave people from the grip of oppressive masters.

The consecration of all firstborn not only reminded the people how God had passed over their firstborn, but also pointed ahead to and was fully realized in Jesus, reminding us that if God gave himself for us, we should give ourselves to him. Whenever we remember what God has done for us, we are motivated to ask what we can do for God.

## **KEY VERSE**

*Exodus 13:3*

*Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. No leavened bread shall be eaten."*

## **MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 13:1-2*

*The LORD said to Moses, "Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."*

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 12:33-39*

**Tuesday**     *Exodus 12:40-42*

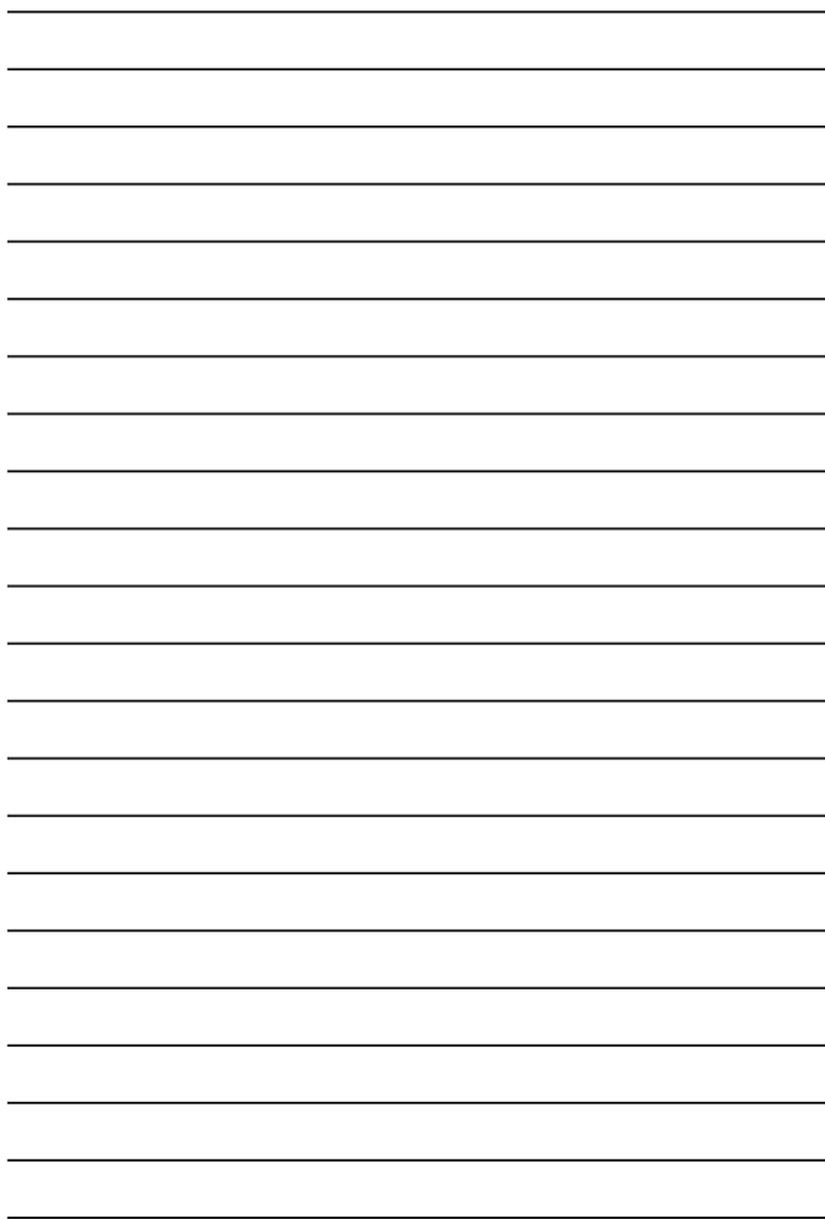
**Wednesday**   *Exodus 12:43-51*

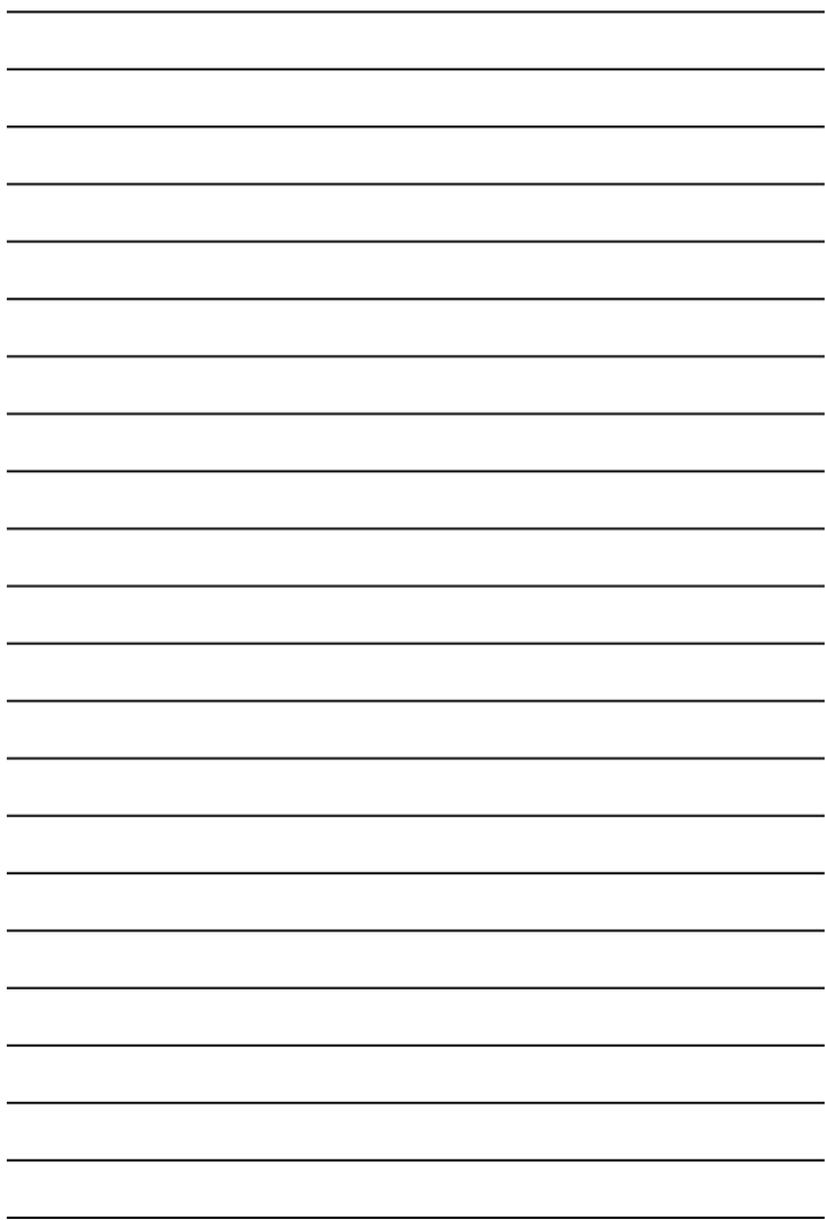
**Thursday**     *Exodus 13:1-2*

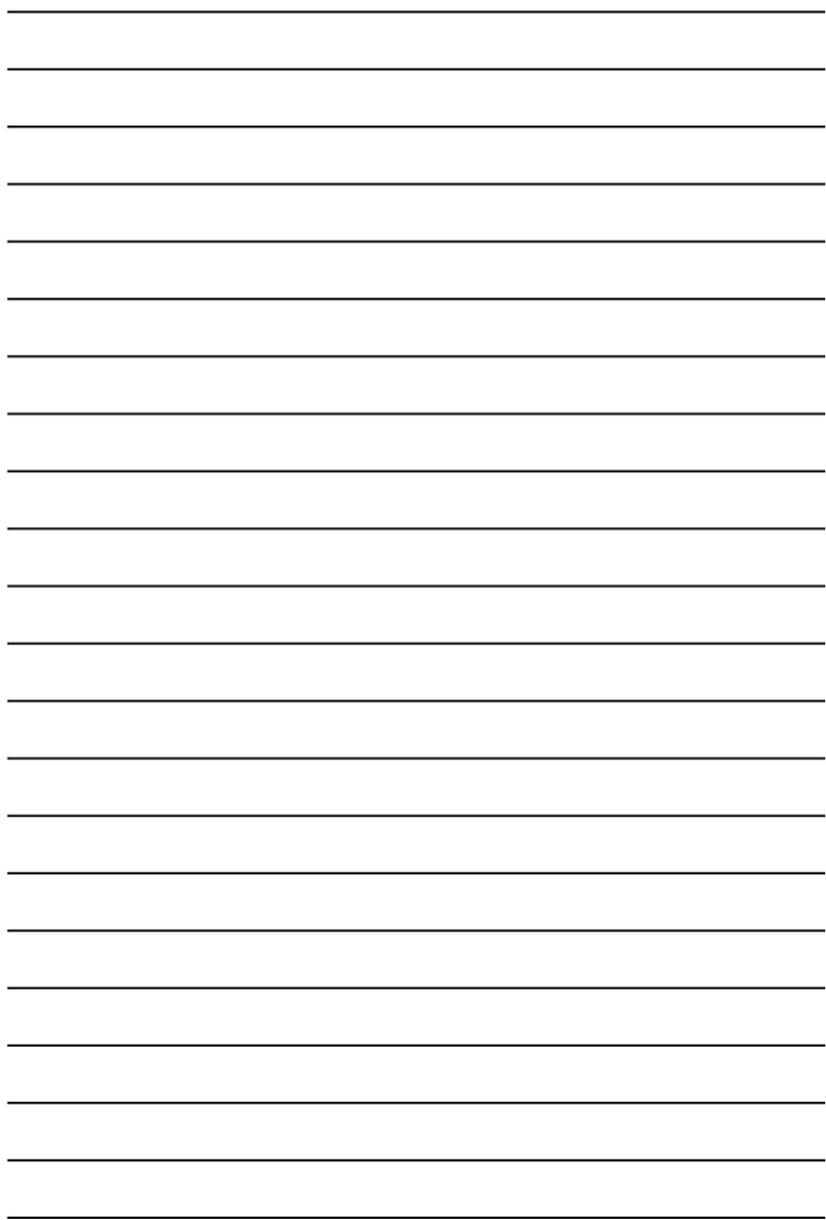
**Friday**        *Exodus 13:3-10*

**Saturday**     *Exodus 13:11-16*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Why was Israel granted grace? Why are Christians granted grace?
3. Why did God give Israel the Passover ceremony?
4. What does the feast of unleavened bread point to? What part does obedience play in obtaining deliverance? What part does obedience play after salvation?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 and 11:23-26. What are the similarities between Passover and the Lord's Supper? How can familiarity with Passover make celebrating the Lord's Supper more meaningful?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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### **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. When God freed the Israelites from Egypt, how did they leave? When God saves us from all of our sins, how should we leave our sins behind? What sins do you have trouble leaving behind? What does it look like to run away from your sins?
2. God told the Israelites to remember how he delivered them from Egypt by celebrating the passover once a year. How often should we remember what God has saved us from and thank Him for it?
3. Do we still sacrifice animals like God commanded the Israelites to do? (Hebrews 10:4-18) Why not?

*Spend a moment praying as a family, and thanking Jesus that he has taken our sin away from us.*

# WEEK 11: GOD'S RESCUE

## EXODUS 13:17-14:31

In this dramatic section of the exodus we see that Pharaoh just won't quit, to the point of his own demise at the hand of God.

This section records one of the most famous miracles of the Bible, where we see a sweet and theatrical depiction of what salvation truly is. Salvation is freedom from slavery and bondage to a tyrannical ruler and world system (see Ex. 14:5). How is one set free from this oppression? Only by the grace of God (see Ex. 14:13-14). And what (who) makes it possible to be set free? It comes only by way of a mediator standing between us and the "waters" of judgment (see Ex. 14:19-21).

### KEY VERSE

*Exodus 14:13*

*And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again."*

## **MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 14:30-31*

*Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.*

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 13:17-22*

**Tuesday**     *Exodus 14:1-9*

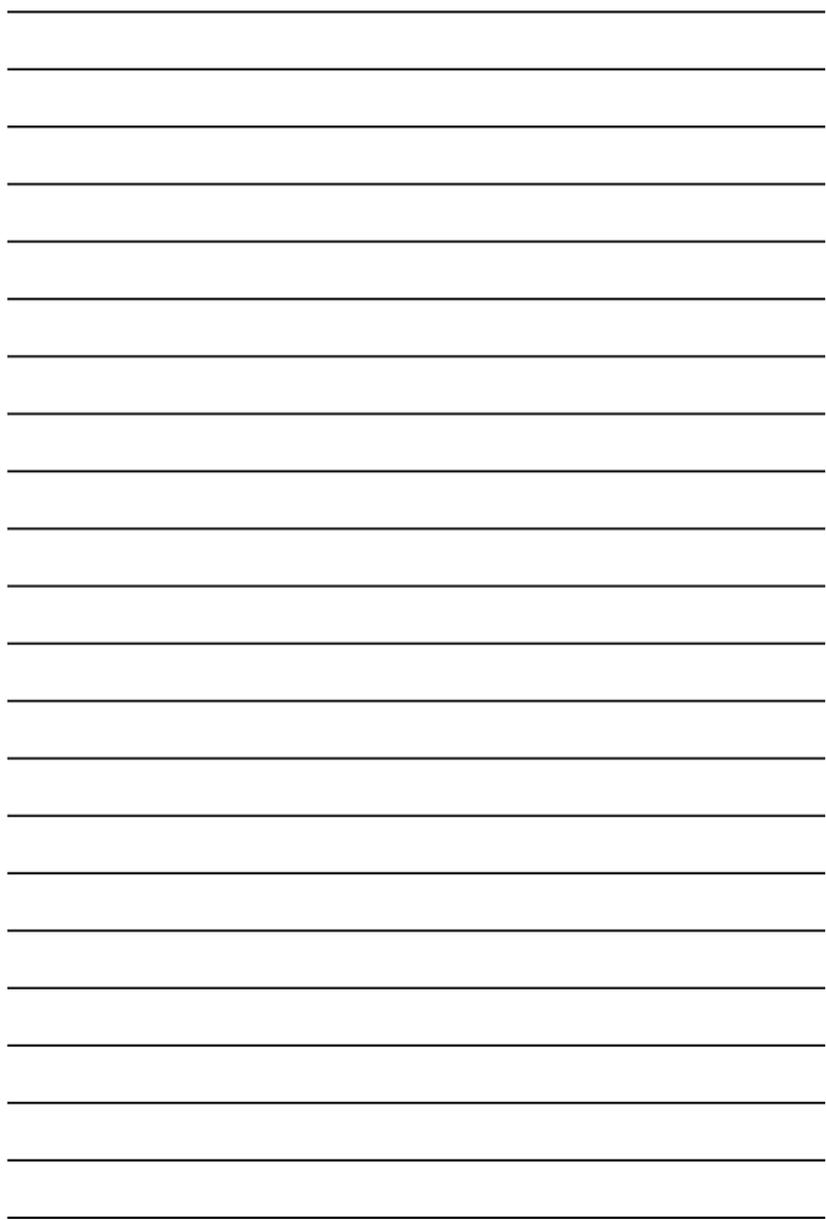
**Wednesday**   *Exodus 14:10-14*

**Thursday**     *Exodus 14:15-18*

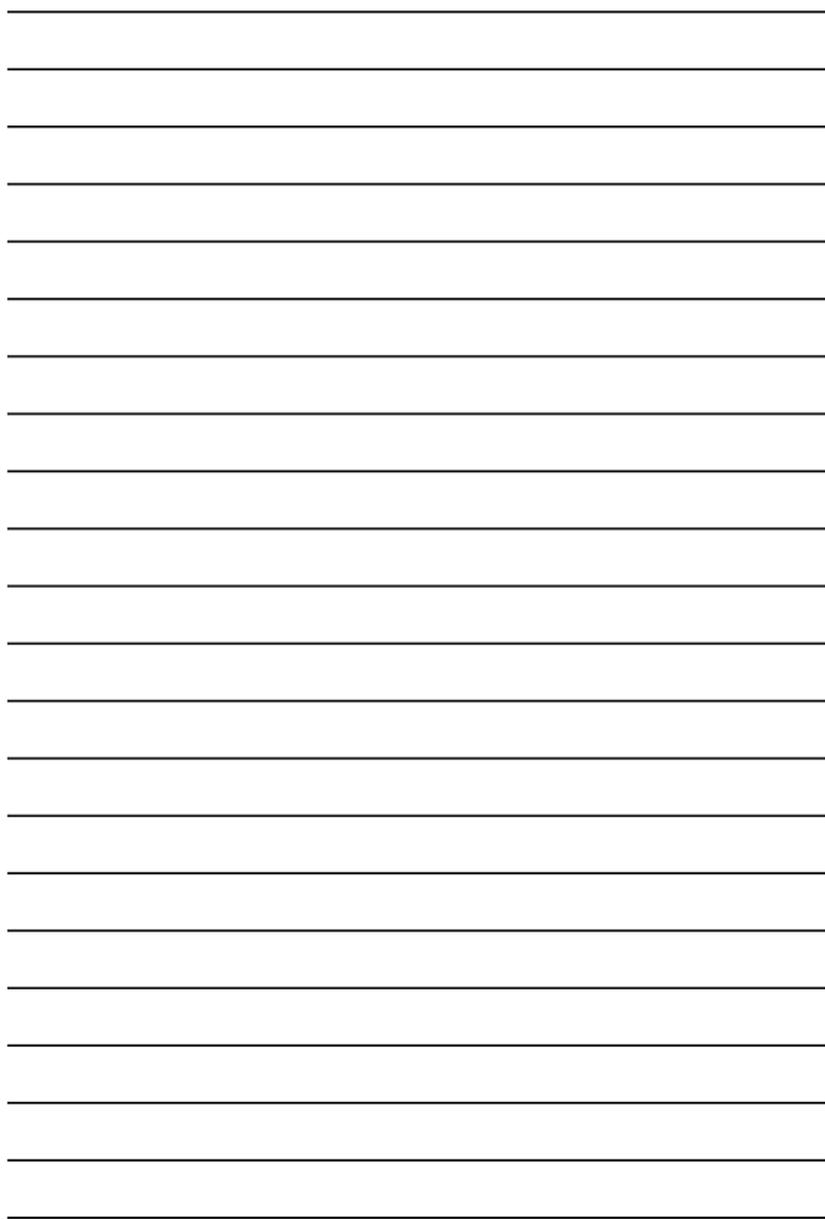
**Friday**        *Exodus 14:19-25*

**Saturday**     *Exodus 14:26-31*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. What was the advantage of the pillars of cloud and fire that were with Israel? What is the advantage of the Holy Spirit who is in Christians?
3. How do you normally react when life seems hopeless? How do you respond when your security or circumstances are threatened? How does this passage help us trust in the goodness and sovereignty of God?
4. When is it appropriate to "stand still" and see God's salvation? How does this help you practically today?
5. Have you "crossed over the Red Sea"? If someone asked you how you know you're a Christian, what would you say?
6. What kind of bondage are you currently experiencing? How can the truths of Exodus help in this situation?
7. We learn in the book of Exodus that the forces which oppose faith and obedience to God might be stronger than people, but they are not stronger than God. Does this encourage you? Does it change the way you view your life and the fallen world we live in?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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# WEEK 12: THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## EXODUS 15

What does God set us free to do? The answer is worship. God sets us free so we can worship him. The song Moses wrote, recorded in this section, reminds us of three things primarily: who God is, what God has done, and what God will do for his believing people.

The song of Moses is certainly not the end of the story in the book of Exodus—a whole journey is just beginning!—but it does remind us that our minds and hearts need to be constantly filled with God’s Word, in teaching, in the sacraments, and in worship, so as not to lose heart and forget while we journey toward our Promised Land.

### KEY VERSE

*Exodus 15:2*

*“The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.”*

## **MEMORY VERSE**

*Exodus 15:13*

*"You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.*

### **BIBLE-READING PLAN**

**Monday**      *Exodus 15:1-3*

**Tuesday**      *Exodus 15:4-10*

**Wednesday**      *Exodus 15:11-12*

**Thursday**      *Exodus 15:13-18*

**Friday**      *Exodus 15:19-21*

**Saturday**      *Exodus 15:22-27*









## **POST SUNDAY CONTENT**

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Which attribute or action of God stuck out to you or encouraged you the most, as it pertains to your own life?
3. Has God ever put you in an impossible situation and then brought you through it? What is the value of this kind of experience for you and for God?
4. What is your favourite Christian song and why? Is it important to have good theology in worship song lyrics? What is the purpose of singing songs to God?
5. How do grumbling and anxiety evidence weak faith and ingratitude? How did God respond to the grumbling and anxiety of Israel?
6. Do you consciously make time to enjoy (worship) God for his grace in saving you and freeing you from bondage? How will you remember to enjoy him this week?

*Community Group Leaders, feel free to write a couple of your own questions for your group:*

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# SOURCES

“For the Love of God” – D.A. Carson, Crossway, 1998.

“365 Day Devotional Commentary” – Lawrence Richards, Victor Books, 1990.



*This booklet has been prepared for the body of Westside Church as a supplement to our 2015 series called Exodus.*

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# THE ROUNDTABLE PODCAST

A bi-monthly discussion focusing on topics from the current sermon series, as well as occasionally featuring current events and guest speakers.

[wchurch.ca](http://wchurch.ca)



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Westside's musicians write fresh music and arrange timeless hymns for our Sunday gatherings and recording. Many of these songs are available online. Our hope is that these songs will help to equip and encourage your worship of Jesus throughout the week!





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