



EXODUS

BIBLE STUDY

A Four-Week Study Guide for Individuals and Groups

AGES:
16+

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INTRODUCTION: ALL ABOUT THIS STUDY

Welcome to one of the most exciting and foundational books of the entire Bible—the Book of Exodus. What does the great Exodus have to do with Jesus, who came 1,500 years later? What does it have to do with us today? The answer is everything and everything. The Book of Exodus proves that while seasons, styles, languages, and many little things change, mankind's nature does not! Those starting out on their journey with Christ as well as those who've been with Him awhile will identify with God's messages to His people who easily made mistakes, were not used to His nature, and desperately needed to hear from Him.

Many Christians may not be aware that *the Book of Exodus does not cover the whole Exodus*. In fact, it only covers the first three months of the Exodus. The reason most people don't know the whole story of the Exodus is that they only study what's recorded within the Book of Exodus!

Why We Are Skipping Some Chapters

Exodus contains 40 chapters. We will focus on the first 20 chapters, plus three additional chapters that move the narrative of the Hebrew people forward. The other 17 chapters feature laws for establishing the tabernacle and other temporary and/or foundational issues. They will not be the focus of this study.

What's to be done each day?

Exodus is the second book in the Pentateuch (the five books considered to be written by Moses and the five first books of the Old Testament). Look for our 30-day study of Genesis if you haven't studied it yet. Exodus' words are so critically important to who we are as Christians—and what we know and don't know about God and ourselves. This beloved book will cover a one-month study.

You will have five days of study each week for one month, plus four days called Week in Review, one at the end of each week. Take more or less time as needed—the goal is to finish and relate what God said to the Hebrew slaves to us as modern Christians.

Despite all its comprehensive materials, the study is neither difficult nor terribly time-consuming. A day's work can be done in 30 minutes, but it can take longer, depending on how much time you'd like to give to the Application Questions, Optional Further Reading, and Further Bible Verses each day. The Week in Review will provide a chance to go over the big picture and glean a bit more of the messages.

The study is designed to be highly individualized, good for small groups and cell groups, but also fine for an individual just looking to improve their knowledge base.

What's to Be Done Each Day?

Our Table of Contents, following this introduction, shows the comprehensive list of chapters that will be covered in the course. Each day of the month-long study is clearly marked so that you'll always know where to pick up.

Each day you will complete the following mini-segments:

1. **DAILY READING:** You will read one or two chapters in each session, and sometimes the reading will include a study tool such as one of our timelines or our map.
2. **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS:** You'll be given six or seven questions that require either filling in the blanks, picking a multiple-choice answer, or answering True/False. Each verse is provided where the answer can be found, and the answers are also included at the end of each day's materials.
3. **APPLICATION QUESTIONS:** You'll receive two or three longer questions requiring thought and written answers. These are often an effort to get students to think of the passage in terms of how it affects them in postmodern times. These are highly subjective, so they don't come with answers, but you'll find many are covered in the ANSWERS section under APPLICATION HELP. Some questions will not require any help while others will contain prompts, explanations or further information.
4. **MAP OF EGYPT** during the era of the Exodus so you have the opportunity to visualize where events took place. As mentioned above, the map and timelines will be used in various lessons, but you can also enjoy them as useful Bible tools with other studies.
5. **Several TIMELINES** of the Exodus will help you clearly see what happened when. Was Moses alone when he heard the Ten Commandments or did the whole camp hear them too? Exactly how many times did Moses climb Mount Sinai, and who was with him? Who saw God?
6. **RECOMMENDED BIBLE VERSES**—While the miracles of Exodus are mighty and unforgettable, God repeats what He says to the Hebrew people in many other parts of the Bible. We will guide you to them. We suggest you take the time to read scriptures that expound upon the ones you are reading that day.
7. **ANSWERS & HELP**—The Short-Answer Questions are answered here, along with bits of intrigue and insight that can help when answering the Application Questions.
8. **WEEK IN REVIEW** Sections—At the end of each week, or each five days of study, you'll find a Week in Review section that reinforces what you learned that week for a final gleaning of this great material.

What are the MOST POPULAR VERSES, and what VERSION OF THE BIBLE do you use?

We try to create our studies in ways that any version of the Bible can be used. Nonetheless, we gravitate in research to two most popular so as to keep with common language to examine difficult constructs. This study was created using the KJV (King James Version) and the NIV (New International Version).

The most popular scriptures are found daily in this study as well as featured on one special day toward the end.

Their popularity today is derived by software that recognizes how many times a scripture is searched on popular websites. All of the 30,000+ scriptures have a ranking number. At present, the #1 position goes to John 3:16. The lowest is likely in the Minor Prophets, where rankings appear in the 31,000s!

With just a little time each day over the next 30 days (with one day of rest each week), you will have a wonderful opportunity to know well the Book of Exodus. By the end of the month, you will relate to the wandering Hebrew people and find remarkable how their desert journey can mirror our walk with Christ—the good, the bad, the ugly and the beautiful!



EXODUS

EXODUS STUDY TOOLS





Notable places from Bible times

Places from the Exodus story

Route of the Exodus

Small regions, borders unknown

Established cities or landmarks





Study Tool #1:

Map of the Exodus: 1446 - 1406 BC

This Map shows major points along the route of the Exodus. Some mentions in Exodus are not on the map. The reason is that the boundaries are either unknown or too highly debated. But enough are present that you can get the big picture of this long “walk.”

The Israelites could have walked the route God sent them on, with a population of as many as 2.4 million and all their belongings, in about three months. Joseph and Mary likely walked the direct route from Israel to Egypt with Jesus in a little over a week (the border was a bit closer to Bethlehem then).

According to Exodus 13:17-18, God took the people on this southern route as He knew they would be terrified passing through Philistine territory first (with many the size of Goliath). The Philistines lived on the curve of the Great Sea just below Jerusalem.

Highlighted stops along the route from start to finish:

- **Rameses** was likely a city before it was the name of a Pharaoh. The date of the Exodus has often been mistaken to have occurred in the 1200s BC instead of the 1400s. This is partly because Rameses is mentioned in Exodus 1:11, and a Pharaoh in the 1200s was Rameses II. Little is known about Rameses I. The people of Israel helped build Rameses, the city, before the Exodus.
- **Sukkoth:** Israel's first stop. Hereafter, God gave the people a pillar-cloud as a guide and a pillar of fire to give them light at night so that they could travel by day or night (Exodus 13:21).
- **Pi Hahiroth** is where Israel passed through the Red Sea as recorded in Exodus 14:2 and Numbers 33:8.
- **Marah and Elim:** The distance between Marah and Elim is short and offers us a great life lesson. The people began to complain in Marah because the water was bitter. God told Moses to toss a stick in the water and it became drinkable. Elim is where they camped next, and it housed 12 springs.
- **Rephidim** is the place of Israel's first battle. They were attacked here by the Amalekites (descendants of Amalek, grandson of Esau). Moses held up his arms to keep the Israelites winning the battle.
- **Mount Sinai:** Moses and the people heard the Ten Commandments at the base of Mount Sinai. Moses ascended Mount Sinai a number of times—possibly eight between his first ascension and when the people moved on. A little-known fact: The Israelites were at Mount Sinai just shy of a year (see Numbers 10:11-12).

- **Kadesh-Barnea:** This is where Israel halted next in order to send spies into the Promised Land, about a year into their journey. The spy expedition took 40 days. As told in Numbers 13, the returning spies displayed a lack of faith that spread through the camp and incensed God after all the miracles He had shown. For this, the Exodus was lengthened to 40 years, one year for each day of the spies' expedition. Some scholars feel the entire camp stayed at Kadesh for 38 years, while others feel Israel likely wandered about the wilderness and kept returning there. Kadesh has some other important biblical mentions: Abraham stayed there after the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah (see Genesis 20:1), and God appeared to Ishmael's mother Hagar at a well near there (Genesis 16:14).
- **The nation of Edom** denied Moses passage through their country on the King's Highway, fearing thieving and damage. Moses agreed to bypass them (Numbers 20), with the longer journey angering the people. They complained and brought upon themselves a snake plague.
- **The Armon River & Moab:** At the Armon River, Israel was attacked by the Amorites and ended up slaying their king and using their territory as a camp. The Moabites, having heard this, were terrified of them and allowed them to pass through. Moab is where the story of Balaam and the talking donkey occurred (Numbers 24). The Moabites may have been too nice, as they seduced some young men to make sacrifices and bring their women to the camp which brought on a final plague.
- **Mt. Nebo** is where Moses died and Joshua took over leadership of the Israelites. In the Book of Jude, we find a mysterious story of Satan arguing with Michael the Archangel over Moses' body there. Following a 30-day period of mourning for Moses, Joshua moved toward the assault on Jericho. This ended the Exodus.

For more information: These are just the highlights of Israel's journey to freedom and the Promised Land. For a complete list of their stops, see Numbers 33.



Study Tool #2:

Exodus Timelines 1446 BC - 1406 BC

Most biblical accounts of the Exodus cover either the background and the first year—which took place in 1446-1445 BC—or the end of the 40-year journey, which occurred in 1406 BC. Little is written about the 38 years in between. Hence, below are two timelines: One for the early Exodus events and one for the latter events. You will not be required to use this timeline to answer any questions in the study. It is for your own use for getting a big picture of the entire Exodus.

Timeline 1: Background & the Early Exodus

1800 BC	Joseph's Siblings Stay in Egypt, Multiplying	Exodus 1
1600 BC	Joseph Forgotten; Israelites Oppressed by New Leadership	Exodus 1:8
1539 BC	Pharaoh's Order to Kill Newborn Boys	Exodus 1:22
1525 BC	Birth of Moses, Adoption into Royal Family	Exodus 2
1486 BC	Moses Commits Murder; Flees into Midian	Exodus 2:11-12
1446 BC	Israelites Suffer under Slavery	Exodus 2:23
1446 BC	Burning Bush; Moses Sent to Deliver Israel	Exodus 3 - 6
1446 BC	The Ten Plagues on Egypt	Exodus 7 - 12
1446 BC	The Exodus Starts; Red Sea & Beyond	Exodus 13 - 14
1446 BC	Bitter Water Turned Drinkable	Exodus 15:22-25
1446 BC	Food Begins Falling from the Sky Daily	Exodus 16
1446 BC	Water Comes from a Rock	Exodus 17
1446 BC	Israel's First Battle: The Amalekites	Exodus 17:8-14
1446 BC	The Israelites Arrive at Mount Sinai	Exodus 19
1446 BC	Moses Receives the Commandments	Exodus 20
1446 BC	The Golden Calf & Moses' Anger	Exodus 32
1446 BC	Building the Tabernacle	Exodus 33 - 39
1445 BC	The Tabernacle Erected & Filled	Exodus 40
1445 BC	Aaron & His Sons Consecrated	Leviticus 8, 9
1445 BC	Tabernacle Dedication	Numbers 7 - 10
1445 BC	The People Complain	Numbers 11, 12
1445 BC	The Twelve Spies	Numbers 13
1445 BC	People Murmur at the Spies' Report	Numbers 14



Study Tool #2:

Exodus Timelines 1446 BC - 1406 BC

Timeline 2: Middle & Late Exodus

Halfway through their 40 years into the Exodus, a bit of history arises in the Book of Numbers. And it's a story not often heard.

An uprising was sparked by a Levite named Korah. It came to a head with 250 well-respected followers basically asking Moses why he acted so holy when "the fact was" that everyone in the camp was holy. Their insolent tone grew to the point where, even by today's standards, it's hard to read. Eventually Moses called a meeting and Korah's gang and their families disappeared into some strange sinkhole. The well-respected leaders were burned to death by a fire from heaven, and 14,000 dissenters died in a plague.

The following day, a staff made for Aaron actually budded and produced almonds. Moses put it in front of the Ark as a reminder not to rebel and divide the camp.

Deuteronomy picks up where Numbers leaves off, essentially. This timeline does not contain records and statutes—only historic events.

1426 BC	Korah's Rebellion	Numbers 16
1426 BC	Aaron's Staff Buds	Numbers 17
1407 BC	Water from the Rock at Meribah	Numbers 20
1407 BC	Aaron's Death	Numbers 20:22-29
1407 BC	The Bronze Snake	Numbers 21:6-9
1407 BC	Balaam, the Talking Donkey, and the Angel	Numbers 22 - 24
1407 BC	The Five Daughters of Zelophehad	Numbers 27
1407 BC	Joshua Chosen to Succeed Moses	Numbers 27:18-21
1407 BC	Conquest of Midian	Numbers 31
1407 BC	Zelophehad's Daughters Marry	Numbers 36
1406 BC	The Death of Moses	Deuteronomy 34
1406 BC	God Commissions Joshua	Joshua 1



Study Tool #3: Plagues of Egypt Timeline

Some apologists have attempted to derive exact dates for the Plagues of Egypt. Some of the plagues come with clues to dates. For example, we know there were seven days between the plague of blood and the plague of frogs because Exodus 8:1 tells us that. Some plagues don't describe the passage of time between them. But the events of the plagues, culminating in the first Passover, have allowed some to come up with the table below with the plagues and approximate dates based on biblical evidence:

The important issue is not whether every date is exact. These dates thwart some notions that Moses was pushing against Pharaoh for 10 years or so before the Exodus transpired. The plagues likely took place over approximately 40 days.

1. **Water turning to blood:** Exodus 7:14–24; Day 1
2. **Frogs:** Exodus 7:25–8:11 & 15; Day 1-5
3. **Lice or gnats:** Exodus 8:12–15/8:16–19; Day 6-10
4. **Flies:** Exodus 8:16–28 & 8:20–32; Day 11-13
5. **Pestilence of livestock:** Exodus 9:1–7; Day 14-15
6. **Boils (skin sores or scabs):** Exodus 9:8–12; Day 16-22
7. **Thunderstorm of hail and fire:** Exodus 9:13–35; Day 23-24
8. **Locusts:** Exodus 10:1–20, Day 25-31
9. **Darkness for three days:** Exodus 10:21–29, Day 32-34
10. **Death of firstborn sons:** Exodus 11:1–12:36; Day 35-40



Study Tool #4:

Ten Commandments Timeline

This timeline covers only the acquisition of the Ten Commandments—not the entire Exodus. It's special for two reasons: (1) Few researchers have attempted to cross-reference Exodus and Deuteronomy to get a complete picture, and (2) there are many misconceptions about the acquisition of the Ten Commandments.

Did you know Moses made MULTIPLE trips to the summit of Mount Sinai, not just one? And that God wrote out the Ten Commandments TWICE? Moses also spent 30-40 days at the top of Mount Sinai TWICE, not once.

Here is a compilation of Exodus 19-32 and Deuteronomy 5-10, which cover the events as Moses recorded:

Days at Mount Sinai	Where on Mount Sinai	Event	Bible Reference
Day 1	Base camp	Israel arrives at Mount Sinai, 100 miles from start	Exodus 19:1-2
	Mountain	Moses ascends for the first time; God tells him to return to base camp with a message of hope	Exodus 19:3-6
	Base camp	Moses descends; People told that God will speak before them in three days and to spend the time preparing	Exodus 19:7-10
Day 3	Summit	God descends to Mount Sinai and Moses ascends for the second time to the summit for a brief message on boundaries	Exodus 19:17-21
	Base camp	Moses descends and speaks to the people	Exodus 19:25
	Base camp	The Ten Commandments are heard by the whole camp	Deuteronomy 5:22
	Summit (God only)	Ten Commandments are written on two tablets by the hand of God while Moses is still in the base camp	Deuteronomy 5:22
	Base camp	People are fearful, tell Moses they will die if God speaks further to them, so God should speak to Moses only	Exodus 20:19
	Mountain base	Moses approaches the base of Mount Sinai	Exodus 20:21
	Mountain base	God tells Moses to have the people return to their tents and He would give Moses more statutes	Deuteronomy 5:30-31
Possibly day 5	Mountain base	Statutes and ordinances given to Moses at the foot of Mount Sinai	Exodus 21-23
	Mountain base	God tells Moses to come up the mountain with Aaron and 70 elders	Exodus 24:1-2
Day 6	Base camp	Moses first writes down all the ordinances in chapters 21-23	Exodus 24:4
	Base camp	Moses builds an altar to God	Exodus 24:4



Study Tool #4:

Ten Commandments Timeline

Days at Mount Sinai	Where on Mount Sinai	Event	Bible Reference
	Halfway up mountain	Moses ascends with Aaron and 70 elders	Exodus 24:9
	Halfway up mountain	Elders see God	Exodus 24:10-11
	Near to summit	Moses and Joshua only ascend	Exodus 24:12-13
Day 12	Summit	God calls Moses, who ascends to the summit alone, perhaps his third time there	Exodus 24:15
	Summit	Moses receives rules for the Tabernacle	Exodus 25-31`
Day 42	Summit	God gives Moses the tablets	Exodus 31:18
	Summit	God tells Moses the people have made an idol	Deuteronomy 9:12
	Summit	Moses rationalizes with God in defense of not destroying the people	Exodus 32:11-13
	Mountain	Moses goes down the mountainside.	Deuteronomy 9:15
	Basecamp	Moses throws and breaks the tablets	Deuteronomy 9:16-17
	Basecamp	Moses crushes the calf idol	Exodus 32:20
	Basecamp	Moses falls before the Lord, refusing food and water for another 40 days	Deuteronomy 9:18
Day 82	Base camp	God tells Moses to chisel two new stone tablets to replace the broken ones, plus create an ark	Deuteronomy 10:1
	Mountain ascending	Moses ascends Mount Sinai again with tablets	Deuteronomy 10:3
	Summit	God rewrites the Ten Commandments	Deuteronomy 10:4
	Basecamp	Moses descends and puts the tablets in the Ark	Deuteronomy 10:5



EXODUS

Introduction - Exodus 5



WEEK 1

Intro 1:

An Exodus FAQ

Welcome to the Bible book where God speaks often and clearly—and works the most miracles of all Old Testament periods! While taking the journey “home” with the Hebrews, you can learn from their first experiences of being introduced to our God up close and personally. Learn of the mistakes they made...and how you might apply to your life the lessons they learned during their journey.

Instead of a Bible reading, today we are asking you to read this FAQ about Exodus. These are general questions for which we provide answers. The Application Questions at the end are for your personal reflection.

EXODUS FAQ

1. **When was the Book of Exodus written and by whom?** The Book of Exodus was written by Moses during the Israelites' Exodus in the wilderness. It was likely the first or second book he compiled. He may have written Genesis first.
2. **Does the Book of Exodus cover the whole Exodus journey?** No, it doesn't. In fact, it only covers the first year out of the 40. The Book of Numbers picks up where Exodus leaves off, and the end of the Exodus (mostly speeches plus the death of Moses) is covered in Deuteronomy. The word “exodus” actually means “a departure,” even though Christians have come to use the term to cover the entire 40-year journey. So when you see statements like “the Exodus occurred in 1446,” this is technically correct, marking the departure of the Hebrew people from Egypt.
3. **If it only covers the start of the journey, why is the Book of Exodus so long?** Exodus is 40 chapters long; however, many chapters cover rules that applied to the people of the Exodus but don't directly apply to us today. Hence, we will be studying the chapters up until the laws start, including chapters one through 20, plus chapters 24, 32, 33, and 34. While we encourage the reading of the other chapters, we will be helping you glean the major events that occur.
4. **The Bible is broken down into portions, including history, poetry, epistles, Gospels, etc. What type of book is Exodus considered?** Exodus is the second book of the Pentateuch. The Pentateuch contains the first five books of the Bible, all written by Moses. Many Christians of today, including fundamentalists, evangelicals, Pentecostals, Baptists and other clans of Protestants who take the Bible very seriously, consider the books of the Pentateuch to be history. Others have dismissed their credibility due to pressure from academia and other subcultures. We feel this is unfortunate and have every intention of presenting Exodus as completely historic, including its evidence of the miraculous.
5. **What truth is there to the rumor that, according to the Egyptian accounts of history, the Exodus could not have happened at all?** For centuries,

EXODUS FAQ

opinions have differed as to the date of the Exodus. And yes, the very existence of the Exodus came under question when 20TH-century archaeologists began proclaiming there was no evidence supporting the occurrence of the journey of millions. While these theorists are no longer in the majority, the chance exists you could run into this argument, and there's no need to stumble over it.

A dating error likely sparked in part from the name "Rameses" appearing in Exodus 1:11, and the Pharaoh Rameses II held the Egyptian throne in the 1200s BC. Those who believed the Exodus happened in the 1200s BC began to have serious doubts when archaeologists and academics began calling it a myth.

As with other disputes about biblical truths, sometimes the only option is to wait for a correction. Among support documents that have surfaced for the biblically implied dates from the Exodus, scholars have turned up a list of 90 traditionally Semitic and Jewish names in an Egyptian slave/servant roster dated 200 years earlier. If we date the Exodus in the 1400s BC as opposed to the 1200s, pieces like this begin to fit together.

This document, known as Papyrus Brooklyn 35.1446, was discovered by Charles Edwin Wilbour in Egypt in the late 1800s and now is owned by the Brooklyn Museum in New York.

Don't many people still believe in the 1200s date? In the mid-20th century, nearly all scholars bought into a 1200s Exodus. If you remember The Ten Commandments movie starring Charlton Heston (1956), Rameses and Nefertiti were featured characters, and they didn't reign until the 1200s BC. Enough arguments exist for both dates of the Exodus that they have become known as the "late" and "early" theories. This study embraces the "early" theory, which dates the Exodus as beginning in the 1400s.

- 6. So then, over what years did the Exodus actually take place?** We accept the date of the Exodus starting in **1446 BC**. As the journey ensued for 40 years, it would have ended in **1406 BC** with the death of Moses at age 120. We know from Exodus 7:7 that Moses was 80 when he made his demands to Pharaoh, likely the same year as when he experienced the burning bush. You may want to refer to our Exodus Timeline as you study this material.
- 7. How many people participated in the Exodus?** This is another fun question surrounded by controversy. Since there are censuses in both Numbers 1 and Numbers 17, it would seem there should be no question. According to Numbers 1:17-46, the Israelite men of fighting age numbered well over 600,000. This figure implies a total Israelite population of about 2.4 million. This sheer size has sparked many an argument, but it is likely quite accurate. Exodus 1:9 states that the Hebrews now actually outnumbered the Egyptians. And it is easy, with this large a population, to see why the Hebrews were considered a threat and further enslaved. It is difficult to think of this many people trying to make the Exodus, let alone succeeding. But they actually didn't succeed well with so many fallen voices bringing chaos. The Exodus was extended to 40 years (see Numbers 14:34) and it was promised by God that only two of its adult initiators would enter the Promised Land: Joshua and Caleb.
- 8. How does Exodus relate to the other books in the Pentateuch? Aren't the books that follow it a lot of laws and numbers and lists?** Even many Christians are unaware of this, but Exodus starts where Genesis leaves off. Genesis explains how the family of Abraham's grandchildren and great grandchildren ended up in Egypt in the first place, and the Book of Exodus is about their first year in the wilderness while returning home to their Promised Land after nearly 400 years of enslavement.

EXODUS FAQ

Numbers does contain records but it also great stories about the Exodus. It picks up where the Book of Exodus leaves off, encompassing the stories after leaving Mount Sinai up until the people's arrival at Jericho. It includes well-known tales such as the Report of the Spies (which resulted in the Hebrews' 40-year wandering sentence) and Balak the Talking Donkey (Numbers 22).

Deuteronomy picks up where Numbers ends, covering the tail-end of the Exodus. It contains the story of the death of Moses, written by scribes, multiple speeches before the invasion of Jericho, plus a repeat of all the Mosaic laws. Hence the entire Pentateuch is filled with amazing stories. As for all the lists and cataloguing included in Numbers and Deuteronomy, these give our record a great deal of credibility that the records of other cultures cannot claim.

Optional Further Reading: [Did the Exodus Never Happen? Christianity Today, Kevin D. Miller](#)

[Hebrews in Egypt before the Exodus? Evidence from Papyrus Brooklyn, Institute of Biblical Archaeology](#)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** Looking at the FAQ, write a statement in your own words about what the Book of Exodus contains.

- 02** Pretend someone has said to you, “Archaeologists claim the Exodus is myth—it never happened.” Try to respond to that argument in your own words after reviewing the material in question #4 above.



Genesis 50:14-25 & Exodus 1

That's right—you are being asked to read part of the last chapter of Genesis before starting Exodus! Why is that? Many Christians don't realize that Genesis is a series of stories about the family of Abraham, and Exodus 1 feeds into the next era fairly seamlessly. The years covered in this lesson run approximately from 1800 BC, with the death of Abraham's great-grandson Joseph, to 1526 BC, with the birth of Moses. The text also covers a brief summary of the nearly 400 years in between.

Why are specific dates important when reading the Bible, especially the Old Testament?

It is important to get a view of the years passing and to know in what passage certain biblical heroes appeared and what God was doing with them. This has to do with the story God is telling in the Bible. While the Bible is made up of 66 books by 40 divinely inspired authors, the entire text can still be regarded as ONE story, culminating with the death and resurrection of Christ, and with stories on either side bearing out information about Him. What is God trying to tell each group? How is each group growing in love or casting God off?

When picking up a work of fiction—or any story—one wouldn't start reading the middle section first. It would destroy one's view of the growth of the character. In the Bible, we consider mankind the “character” and God the benevolent protagonist, the hero. To know why God treated Abraham differently than David, and then the Old Testament prophets, is to see the story of mankind actually unfold.

Enjoy the whole Bible—but understand the sequence.

This certainly doesn't mean one can't enjoy the books of the Bible where the story seems to ebb into poetry—such as Psalms and Proverbs. Books or portions thereof can be read at any time. It is important to know, however, that the history sections or any sections telling stories (such as the Gospels) follow a plot, and to get it up close and personally, one should take the time fairly early in one's walk to read with that Big Story in mind.

If you followed our Genesis study with this Exodus study, you are accomplishing just that by seeing God's interaction with early man, early followers and antagonists, and are watching how mankind bows and straightens with each passage, heading into the era of Moses.

Why is the Exodus important today?

The Exodus marks the first time God uses the miraculous almost constantly to prove Himself. Around 1500 years later, Jesus was still telling people to remember those miracles if they wanted to see God reveal Himself. He was speaking to us also. There are specific times in the Bible where God uses the miraculous greatly to reveal His power and loyalty:

- **The Exodus, around 1400 BC**
- **The Ministry of the Prophets Elijah and Elisha, around 700 BC**
- **The Ministry of Christ, around 0 BC**

Hence, we should be reading about this period with great care, and when we see God performing miracles, think of what He is likely to do today.

READ: GENESIS 50:14-25 & EXODUS 1

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 At what age did Joseph die? _____(Genesis 50:22)
- 02 What request did Joseph make his brothers swear to fulfill after his passing?
_____(Genesis 50:25)
- 03 True/False: Pharaoh wanted to oppress the Israelites because he was afraid of them.
(Exodus 1:10)
- 04 The more the Egyptians oppressed the Israelites, the more they _____.
(Exodus 1:12)
- 05 The midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, let the boy babies live because they _____
God. (Exodus 1:17)
- 06 True/False: The midwives' story to Pharaoh was that they couldn't get there in time to
kill the baby boys—they were born too quickly. (Exodus 1:19)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** The enslavement of the Israelites was prophesied to Abraham years earlier in Genesis 15:13-15. Compare this with the experiences of the Israelites in verses 12-13. What does this teach us about God's purposes and adversity faced by the people of God?

- 02** Review the story of Shiphrah and Puah, the two midwives. What can we learn from them in facing our own challenges? How else does their story inspire you?

Recommended Bible Verses on GOD'S PROMISES WHEN HE CALLS ON YOU: Psalm 32:8, John 10:27-28



Exodus 2: Moses' Birth and a Dreadful Mistake

READ EXODUS 2

Exodus 2 moves from the general predicament of Israel shown in chapter 1 to the narrowed focus on Moses and his family. It also reveals Moses committing a murder. See how the situation evolves such that Moses has little to gain at first...except humility!

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 How long did Moses' mother hide him? (v. 2) _____
- 02 True/ False: It was Moses' mother who nursed him. (v. 8-9)
- 03 Where did Moses escape to after running from Pharaoh? (v. 15) _____
- 04 According to verse 21, Reuel gave his daughter _____ to Moses to marry.
- 05 What did Moses name his son according to verse 22? _____
- 06 According to verse 24, when God heard the cry of the Israelites, He remembered His _____ with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 The enslavement of the Israelites in Exodus 1 can be a symbol of the captivity all humankind faces because of sin and death. Moses, who was sent to deliver the Israelites, can be seen as symbol of Jesus Christ, the deliverer of all humanity. What other similarities can you see between Moses and Jesus Christ?

02 Although Moses was raised among the Egyptians, he recognized the Israelites as his brethren. Moses' intervention in verse 11-14, however, resulted in a loss of position, home, wealth, and power—even though it was likely done in the name of fairness and justice. What does this teach us about Moses' character?

Recommended Bible Verses on IOSS: Philippians 3:7-8, Psalms 23:4



Exodus 3-4: The Burning Bush

READ EXODUS 3-4

Today we are introduced to one of the most famous miracles in history, the meeting between God and Moses at the burning bush. Yesterday we talked in length about the power of humility. Let's see where Moses' level of humility is at this point and how he got there.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 Jethro, Moses' father-in-law (also called Reuel in chapter 2) was the _____ of Midian. (3:1)
- 02 According to Exodus 3:2, the angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in a _____ within a bush.
- 03 In verse 3:5, God tells Moses to take off his sandals because the place where he was standing was _____.
- 04 According to verse 3:6, Moses hid his face because he was _____ to look at God.
- 05 True/False: God would make the Egyptians look at the Israelites with favor so that they would not leave empty-handed (3:21).
- 06 According to Exodus 4:10, Moses was slow of _____ and _____.
- 07 According to Exodus 4:21, God planned to _____ Pharaoh's heart.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** Despite being raised in Pharaoh's household, Moses found himself 40 years later in the wilderness, a stark difference in circumstances. Verses 10 and 13 provide a description of Moses' humility at this point. Why do you think God waited over 40 years between the murder and the burning bush to give Moses this important job? How might previous events have prepared him for greatness?

- 02** God showed great patience with Moses and his excuses by providing Aaron as a helper in verses 14-17. What does this teach us about God's compassion for us? And what do these instructions tell us about how we should accept God's messengers?

Recommended Bible Verses on STRUGGLES WITH FAMILY: Mark 3:21 & 3:31-35



Exodus 5: Pharaoh Reacts to Moses' Request

READ EXODUS 5

If God called Moses to this project, why did things start going wrong almost immediately? This also mirrors much of what we go through as we mature as Christians. It's why so many Christians will attest, "Most young believers can't guess what God will do next...you have to invest in the relationship." Watch Pharaoh raise a stink among the people that had them verbally attacking Moses instead of supporting him.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 Who went in to talk with Pharaoh? (v. 1) _____ and _____
- 02 True/False: Pharaoh recognized the LORD and His authority. (v. 2)
- 03 Moses and Aaron originally asked Pharaoh to let them take a journey into the wilderness lasting this many days: _____. (v. 3)
- 04 Pharaoh told the slave drivers to make the Israelites gather their own _____ for making bricks. (v. 7)
- 05 True/False: Pharaoh agreed to reduce the quota of bricks. (v. 8)
- 06 True/False: The Israelite overseers appealed to Pharaoh instead of God. (v. 15)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

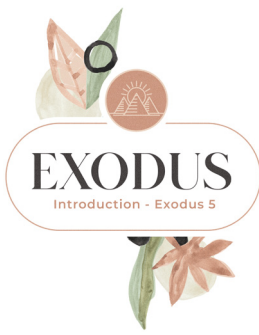
- 01** Chapter 5 appears to be the fulfillment of God's statement in 3:21 that He would harden Pharaoh's heart. And yet, James 1:13 tells us that God cannot tempt people to do evil. What do you think it means, that God hardened Pharaoh's heart?

Optional Further Reading: "Why did God Harden Pharaoh's Heart?"

GotQuestions.org. Also see the Further Reading choices at the base of this article.

- 02** In verse 22, Moses returns to the Lord and seems distraught that his efforts to persuade Pharaoh had such a negative effect on the Israelites. What can we learn from this situation, especially regarding our commitment to obedience?

Recommended Bible Verses on TRIALS THAT GET WORSE INSTEAD OF BETTER: James 1:2-4, Proverbs 3:5-6



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 2

1. 110 years
2. Bring his bones back from Egypt
3. True
4. Multiplied
5. Feared
6. True

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

In Genesis, we find that God had told Abraham of the difficulties his posterity would face in the next 400 years, which included enslavement and deliverance.

Persecution is not a new concept to the followers of God. As disciples labor in God's spiritual kingdom, adversaries often make the work harder and more difficult. However, God provides a way for His followers. Although the answer may not be immediate deliverance, He gives strength to His people so that they can continue the work and not buckle under the labor and problems facing them.

FROM DAY 3

1. 3 months
2. True
3. Midian
4. Zipporah
5. Gershom
6. Covenant

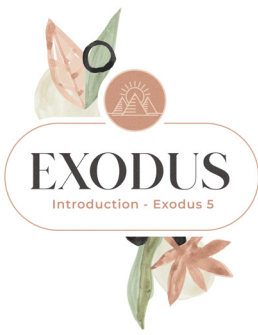
FROM DAY 4

1. Priest
2. Flame of fire
3. Holy ground
4. Afraid
5. True
6. Speech and tongue
7. Harden

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

Humility is so important in God's heroes because God needs them to move in certain directions without question, to fulfill His will. Proverbs 18:12 implies that God will bring humility to just about anyone He plans to exalt. But the humility can feel like destruction. If God allows us to be humbled, we should try to think of it as helpful to our relationship with Him, especially if we want to serve Him in bigger ways in the future.



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 5

1. Moses and Aaron
2. False
3. Three
4. Straw
5. False
6. True

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

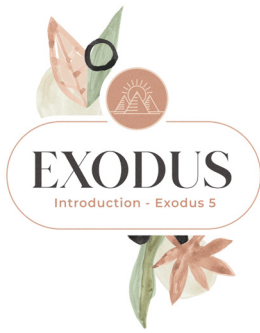
Two theories exist on what it means for God to harden a heart. One is that He actually does harden hearts, but most often this happens with world leaders. God can treat them a bit differently than the masses as their behavior can affect so many. According to this theory, God is known to move leaders, a little like moving pieces on a chess board, to derive an outcome fitting with His will. However, this doesn't mean that all related events will seem positive or enjoyable.

The other theory is that God does not interject His goodness upon man's free will, and the statement actually means that God allows fallen man's heart to harden, which would be the normal outcome of many experiences in a fallen life. He allows fallen nature to take its course instead of infusing it with the Holy Spirit, and the result is a hardened heart.

While both theories are interesting, it's important to note that God does not tempt, and God does not inspire evil.

Help with Question #2:

This chapter is just the first of many that show a very important Bible hero plunged into situations of torment before reaching that good and peaceful place. Of course, there would be no final regret from Moses, who appeared at the Transfiguration with Christ and is a household name 3500 years later. But his story helps us understand that the decision to obey God is not a one-time thing. Moses faced difficulties and doubts again and again, and had to decide whether to continue obeying God or abandon his talks. After we decide to obey God, often Satan will increase the pressure and exert even more energy in creating opposition for us. We must renew our decision to obey God, often daily.



WEEK 1 IN REVIEW

Here we are at the end of Exodus 5 with Moses, who was:

1. almost murdered as an infant,
2. then raised in royalty,
3. then banished to the outlands for an egregious sin,
4. then having lived there for more than 40 years, was approached by God and given orders.

What was Moses' mindset at this point? What condition is he in? Let's see how this relates to our Christian walks today.

Day 1: What answers from our FAQ did you find surprising? Why?

Day 2: Moses was fortunate as an infant that his mother may have thought God had big ideas for him. Yet it took 80 years for them to manifest. Reflect a time in your life when the Lord took a lot longer to manifest His plan than you ever would have guessed. Describe what happened. Then describe how this might affect a prayer request you are waiting on.

Day 3: We talked at length on Day 3 about seeing clearly what God is doing on the planet. If we get to this place through prayer and patience, it will be easier to see God's will for your life. How does this principle affect your life or your calling?

Day 4: One discussion from Day 4 covered the importance of humility among Christians. Name some things God has done in your life that brought you humility.

Day 5: One important topic on this day was God hardening hearts or allowing hearts to be hardened. Do you know anyone who appears to have a hardened heart? What are the symptoms? Are they always mean and evil, or are they nice sometimes too?



EXODUS

Exodus 6-13



WEEK 2

Genesis 6: Moses Loses Steam

READ EXODUS 6

Has God ever asked you to do something (or so you thought), and all your initial steps to fulfil His will start to go horribly wrong? Such can feel embarrassing and stressful, like you're losing your mind. But the old saying applied in Moses' day also: "Sometimes things have to get worse before they can get better." Watch Moses' situation go from off the wall to dire to unbelievable...and God is still in charge, not sweating at all!

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 True/False: God wanted to show Moses that it would be because of His mighty hand that Pharaoh would let the Israelites go...not by human strength. (v. 1)
- 02 God appeared to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as _____. (v. 3)
- 03 According to the covenant God made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the Israelites would receive the land of _____ as their possession. (v. 4)
- 04 True/False: When Moses told the Israelites what God had promised, they believed him. (v. 9)
- 05 Moses and Aaron's father was named _____. (v. 20)
- 06 What was Aaron's and Moses' mother's name? (v. 20) _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 In verses 1-8, the Lord provide reassurance to Moses of the task assigned to him, and that He remembered the covenant He made with the people of Israel. In what ways is this comforting? How have you also received reassurance from the Lord?

02 By the end of the chapter, Moses still seems reluctant go forward the task assigned to him, and gives repeated excuses in verse 30. His humility seems to prevent him from seeing the situation from the Lord's perspective. What is Moses missing here?

Recommended Bible Verses on HITTING THE WALL: 1 Peter 4:12-13, Psalm 34:17-18



Exodus 7-8: Blood, Frogs, Gnats, Flies (Start of the 10 Plagues)

READ EXODUS 7-8

Here's a great place to **use your study tool, The Ten Plagues of Egypt Timeline**, which not only reveals the plagues in chronological order, but approximate lengths of time between each. This will give you the Big Picture of the plague scenario as it befell Egypt.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 God told Moses that he would be like _____ to Pharaoh, and Aaron would be like his _____. (7:1)
- 02 How old was Moses when he spoke to Pharaoh? (7:7) _____
- 03 What did God turn the waters of the Nile into? (7:17) _____
- 04 God's second plague was a plague of _____? (8:2)
- 05 Verse 16 of chapter 8 tells us that God made the gnats out of this: _____
- 06 Per the plague of boils, "boils" is another term for _____.
(see Bible Timeline on page 12)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 In chapter 7 the Egyptians are shown to have very hard hearts. However, we can often see our likeness in all characters of the Bible. Have you ever experienced a personal time of stubbornness or hard-heartedness that hampered your spiritual growth? What happened to change the situation?

02 In response to the sequence of the plagues, scientists and skeptics have pointed out that the first four plagues would have naturally led to the fifth and sixth. In other words, if a circumstance arose naturally that poisoned the water, the next plagues are simply natural reactions and not miracles. What is wrong with the line of thinking? How does it explain away God's power?

Recommended Bible Verses on **HARD-HEARTEDNESS**: Proverbs 29:1, Romans 2:5



Exodus 9-10: Livestock, Boils, Hail, Locusts, Darkness (Plagues 5-9)

READ EXODUS 9-10

The plagues grow more intense the more times Pharaoh hardens his heart. He is quite fickle—though many of us can claim to have had a boss like this, or a coworker, or even a family member. Be thinking of how the chapters remind you of life today.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 True/False: The boils were so bad that the magicians couldn't even stand. (9:11)
- 02 According to chapter 9, verse 16, God raised Pharaoh up for the very purpose of showing His _____, and having His name proclaimed in all the _____.
- 03 Chapter 9, verse 26, says that the only place the hail did not fall was the land of _____ where the Israelites were living.
- 04 True/False: God hardened only Pharaoh's heart. (10:1)
- 05 True/False: Even though the passage tells us that God hardened Pharaoh's heart, Pharaoh was still responsible for his own stubbornness. (10:3)
- 06 How long did the darkness cover Egypt? (10:22) _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 In verse 9:30, Moses states that Pharoah does not fear God. People often don't like the idea of "fearing God." What do you think it means to "fear God." Is there another way we can interpret "fear" to more accurately reflect the situation?

02 During some, but not all, of the plagues, God protected the Israelites so that only the Egyptians were afflicted. In addition to showing God's power, it also proved His love for His people. What are some other examples of God saving His people from destruction?

Recommended Bible Verses on UNDERSTANDING GOD'S WILL: 1 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 11:6



Exodus 11-12: The First Passover

READ EXODUS 11-12

Often, God's instructions to Bible characters are lost on us. What's the meaning of all these instructions to the Hebrews about their Passover, and especially the meal? What does it mean for us today? In this reading we will look at some of God's instructions that are frequently misconstrued and see how we can reinterpret them correctly.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 God told the people to ask their Egyptian neighbors for articles of _____ and _____ (11:2).
- 02 True/False: Moses was respected in Egypt. (11:3)
- 03 In the final plague, God was going to strike down all the _____ in Egypt. (11:5)
- 04 According to chapter 12, verse 13, what would be the sign that would protect the Israelites from the final plague? _____
- 05 What were the Israelites told to dip into the blood? (12:22) _____
- 06 How long did the Israelites live in Egypt? (12:40) _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** Chapter 11 is brief and to the point. Chapter 12 begins with instructions for fasting, killing lambs, eating, and painting doorframes. Why did God provide such specific instructions for the Israelites? What comparisons can you find between the Passover and Jesus' death? How might the Passover apply to us today?

- 02** Verses 12:32-33 show a true change of heart in Pharaoh and the people of Egypt. Pharaoh had been humbled, finally accepted God's terms and agreed to let the people go, ALL without compromise. What can we learn from this about pride and humility?

- 03** The Book of Numbers states that as the Israelites are leaving the city of Rameses, they are passing by the Egyptians grieving their firstborn sons. What other images can you see clearly that make the start of the Exodus meaningful?

Recommended Bible Verses on GOD'S LAWS: Romans 13:1-7, Galatians 5:14



Exodus 13: God Gives Instructions

READ EXODUS 13

Today's reading shows us one situation where God appears to be very stern and demanding. Let's see what He was really up to in this critical chapter concerning the coming Passover.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 God told Moses to consecrate all the _____ of man and animal. (v. 2)
- 02 How many days were the Israelites told to eat bread without yeast? (v. 6) _____
- 03 According to verse 13, the Israelites were to “buy back” or redeem their firstborn child by offering a _____ in its place.
- 04 Whose bones did Moses take with him out of Egypt? (v. 19) _____
- 05 True/False: Joseph promised that God would visit the Israelites and bring them out of Egypt (v. 19).
- 06 God traveled with the Israelites in a pillar of _____ by day and a pillar of _____ by night. (v. 21)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** In verse 17, God said He would lead the Israelites around the Philistine land. What can we learn here from the relationship between God's omniscience and man's free will? How does it make the powers of God and His intervention even more astonishing?

- 02** The Israelites were led by God and blessed to have a pillar of cloud and fire going before them to show them the way. Although we are not given such a magnificent physical manifestation, how does God choose to lead us today?

- 03** Given the mighty miracles that the Israelites experienced, it can be frustrating to read about their behavior and constant questioning. What does this tell us about the ability of signs and miracles to convert us into believing Christians?

Recommended Bible Verses on GOD'S LIGHT: John 1:5, Psalm 27:1



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 1

1. True
2. God Almighty
3. Canaan
4. False
5. Amram
6. Jochebed

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #2:

Moses' lack of confidence is something we can all relate to. How many times do we strike out on a path, thinking it was designed for us by God—and suddenly, nothing is happening, or we appear to be making fools of ourselves in front of nonbelievers? How do we keep going?

First, we need to let our strength be replaced with God's strength. This happens in His timing, but if you are feeling pushed way further than your abilities, you might be close to the time of seeing this transition.

Second, we can't let our humility confuse us about God's strength. Our humility should help us see how much we need God's strength—it shouldn't blind us to God's strength (we shouldn't project our weaknesses onto God and think He can't help us). We often hear Christians saying, "I simply can't...[x, y, or z]." This is a great time to remind our brothers and sisters in Christ that their own strength can sometimes be in the way, and perhaps they need a rest.

FROM DAY 2

1. God, prophet
2. 80
3. Blood
4. Frogs
5. Dust
6. Skin sores or scabs

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

The challenges for Pharaoh in question #1 involve fear, pride, and money. Pharaoh is afraid he will look bad, and as a leader, he will have more trouble governing the people if or when they perceive him as foolish. The Hebrew slaves are saving Egypt huge sums of income. It is a bit like the deep South in the United States when it was full of slave labor. Slaveowners were stubborn about letting go because of the fortunes they would lose.

It is likely that if Pharaoh started to relent from pride and greed, and he actually said he would let the people go because he was afraid of their god, it is likely our God would have offered to bless him and Egypt in ways that would have saved his face—and would have been great for the economy!

Help with Question #2:

People can try to find nature in any of God's miracles. The virgin birth is a great example. While the birth was sparked by the Holy Spirit, Mary still carried the baby a natural nine months and gave birth the way other women did. Those who become skeptical of miracles with observations of nature, such as the order of plagues in the timeline, generally are stopping too soon in their questioning. You can always continue to ask, "Well, who caused that?" For example, people have found several examples of fish big enough to swallow Jonah, but the real question is, "Who put it there?" In this case, "Who turned the waters red?"

There are even some interesting scientific explanations for how God managed to target the first-born son and not daughter, or the first-born son and not the second-born.



EXODUS

Exodus 6-13

Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 3

1. True
2. Power, earth
3. Goshen
4. False
5. True
6. 3 days

FROM DAY 4

1. Silver, gold
2. True
3. Firstborn
4. The blood
5. Hyssop
6. 430 years

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

There are many comparisons between the first Passover and Christ's death. One of the reasons instructions were provided was to help people prepare for the Messiah. The lamb was meant to be a substitute for the Israelites—like Jesus, the Lamb of God, is the substitute for our sin. The lamb was required to be unblemished and male, like Christ was the only perfect man on earth. God took a very serious attitude towards the rite of celebrating the Passover. God doesn't want us to treat the Lord's Supper casually either. It is important that we regularly celebrate it as Christ Himself commanded.

Help with Question #2:

God had promised severe consequences to Pharaoh, and these were carried out just as He promised. Pharaoh had several chances to let the people go, but his overwhelming pride did not let him do it. We can see that those who lift themselves up in pride will be brought low. Pharaoh's fall was particularly great, as he lost part of his kingdom and his family. Pharaoh was humbled enough that he even requested a blessing, recognizing the reality of the Israelite God. People afraid of death show the same terror, heightened by their sudden realization that this God is real and is not playing.

Help with Question #3:

Another great image is doorways framed in blood—if we can get past a personal prejudice. We tend to associate blood with gore and violence in our culture. This is because we generally only see it when there's been an accident or we are watching violent TV shows or movies. But Leviticus 17:11 tells us that "the life of all flesh is in the blood." Blood is the organism that carries life and sustains life, and we should try to look at it as a wellspring and life source, not the manifestation of violence.



EXODUS

Exodus 6-13

Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 5

1. Firstborn
2. Seven
3. Lamb
4. Joseph's
5. True
6. Cloud, fire

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

There are many comparisons between the first Passover and Christ's 1. In chapter 12 we just learned that Israel had over 600,000 fighting men, an implication that there were around 2.4 million people participating in the Exodus. All had free will. Some think God's instructions to these people throughout the Pentateuch was very redundant. They think God was very strict. But what would it take to get all these fallen creatures with free will moving...and always heading in the right direction? God knew His people better than we know each other or ourselves.



WEEK 2 IN REVIEW

This week we saw the Ten Plagues of Egypt come upon the people of Egypt and multiple ways in which God let the Hebrew people know that He was with them. He was the source of their salvation, and is the source of ours. While the Exodus happened 3,500 years ago, it is still important to God that we see His miracles and understand from them what He is like. Let's ponder descriptive statements about Him as we complete the Week in Review.

Day 1, Exodus 6: As Christians we often hear the expression, "There is power in humility." Moses is often seen as the humblest man on earth, according to Numbers 12:3. But insecurity can sometimes be mistaken for humility. How are these attributes different? And what can we do to develop the more Godlike attribute of humility?

Day 2, Exodus 7-8: Sometimes God delivers believers miraculously; sometimes He holds out, to develop a depth of character and maturity in us as believers. Which has been your experience?

Day 3, Exodus 9-10: We sometimes see people bickering about God's intentions with a world event that captures everyone's attention—anything from an election of new leaders to a natural disaster. Especially once unbelievers become involved, God can be made out to be doing just about anything—or nothing at all! What are some ways we know that God is present and involved in today's world?

Day 4, Exodus 11-12: We can all think of times in our lives when God has moved (in our opinions) very slowly. Now think of a time when He moved quickly, either for you or something involving you.

Day 5, Exodus 13: In chapter 13, God tells the people how to start a family story about their experiences that would get passed down through generations. Psychologists now say that children with strong family identities tend to be more well-adjusted. What stories about your faith can you pass down to your children?



EXODUS

Exodus 14-19



WEEK 3

Exodus 14 & 15: Parting of the Red Sea

READ EXODUS 14 & 15

At this juncture, the people of Israel were on the move. A Map of the Exodus is provided, showing you many places named on the route, plus you will have some to add. If you look at the map often, with each day's reading perhaps, you will find that the places seem more real. You will have questions from the Map, so keep it close by!

Today we get to put ourselves at the crossing of the Red Sea, one of the miracles God wants us all to remember as one of His shows of strength and justice. Some of the details of this miracle are lesser known, and we can look at them and see how they relate to us.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 On the Map, write a note under RAMESES, the start of the Exodus: A city, not a Pharaoh!
- 02 True/False: God hardened Pharaoh's heart because He enjoys making people do things. (14:4)
- 03 According to verse 14:7, Pharaoh pursued the Israelites with over this number of _____ chariots.
- 04 Moses told the Israelites to be still because the LORD would _____ for them. (14:14)
- 05 God didn't only have Moses part the waters for the Israelites, but He had them cross on _____. (v. 16)
- 06 Verse 14:28 confirms that this person definitely died at the Red Sea: _____
- 07 According to 15:20 _____ took a timbrel and began to sing and praise God for the Israelites' deliverance.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** In Exodus 14:11-12, the people expressed their fears to Moses. It was this kind of focus that caused problems for the Israelites in the future. What alternative behavior would have been more pleasing to God? How can we use it as an example for our own lives?

- 02** Verse 21 tells us that God took all night to draw back the waters of the Red Sea. Think of a time in your life where God asked you to be strong and persist over a period of time. What did you learn from the experience?

Recommended Bible Verses on BEING TOO FEARFUL: 2 Timothy 1:7, Psalm 34:4



Exodus 16: Manna in the Desert

READ EXODUS 16

Here we see the people making mistake after mistake, very much like people of today who are entirely unfamiliar with the Lord and what He wants from us. Try to see if you would have fit in nicely with the Hebrew people (not a good thing!) or whether you would feel you had more grace. Again, you'll need your **Map of the Exodus**.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 Look back on your MAP and make two notations from the last chapter. MARAH was where the people dealt with bitter water. In ELIM the water was overflowing and good.
- 02 The events from today's reading take place in the Desert of Sin, which lies between Elim and Rephidim. Having very vague boundaries, it is not on your map but can be put there by you. Place the Desert of Sin between Elim and Rephidim. Note on the map that this is where manna and quail were given to the people.
- 03 The Israelites complained to Moses and Aaron because they had no _____. (v. 3)
- 04 The LORD told Moses that He would rain down this from heaven: _____ (v. 4)
- 05 True/False: It was really the LORD whom the Israelites were complaining against. (v. 8)
- 06 The only day the Lord would not provide food was on _____. (v. 25-26)
- 07 The people called the bread _____. (v. 31)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** The manna given to the Israelites was freely provided by God. What did the Israelites have to do in order to eat it? What biblical principle is at play here? Why didn't God provide the requisite amount for each family?

- 02** Review the statement from Exodus 16:12: "Then you will know that I am the LORD your God." What do you think this means? What signs or wonders have you witnessed in your own life that stand as a testament of God's power?

Recommended Bible Verses on THE NATURE OF GOD: James 1:13, Numbers 23:19



Exodus 17: Holding Up Moses' Hands to win a Battle

READ EXODUS 17

Today's reading brings us two great lessons: One about the importance of building faith, and the other about certain types of miracles. Read on to gain insight into two signs of weakness. One displeases God thoroughly, and the other actually pleases Him! **Keep your Map handy!**

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 Today's events take place at Rephidim. Mark on your map that this is where the Hebrew people were first attacked by the Amalekites. Also, it is where water sprung from a rock.
- 02 When the Israelites were at Rephidim, they complained to Moses because there was no _____. (v. 3)
- 03 According to verse 4, the Israelites were so angry, they were ready to do this to Moses: _____
- 04 Moses called the place where the Israelites grumbled _____ and _____ because they tested the LORD there. (v. 7)
- 05 Who attacked the Israelites at Rephidim? (v. 8) _____
- 06 Whom did Moses tell to go fight the Amalekites? (v. 9) _____
- 07 Who helped hold up Moses' hands? (v. 12) _____ and _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** The people started to complain when there was no water, likely thinking of their dire circumstance. However, we know that God had provided for them and this was another test. Why do you think people jump to “the worst possible scenario” without thinking of “the best possible scenario?” What are some steps we can take to prevent getting caught in this trap?

- 02** This chapter contains the famed story of Moses’ hands being held in the air so that the Israelites could keep winning the battle with the Amalekites. Why would the position of Moses’ hands matter in this story? Isn’t God performing the miracle?

Recommended Bible Verses on OUR WEAKNESSES: 2 Corinthians 12:9, Isaiah 41:10



Exodus 18: Moses & Normal Families (with Problems)

READ EXODUS 18

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 According to verse 1, Jethro was the priest of _____.
- 02 What were the names of Moses' sons? (v.4) _____ and _____
- 03 In verse 11, Jethro says that the LORD is _____ than all the other gods.
- 04 Because of what Moses told Jethro about God, Jethro brought to God a _____ and other _____. (v. 12)
- 05 How long did Moses sit as judge over the people every day? (v. 13) _____
- 06 Jethro told Moses that the work he was doing was too _____ for him. (v. 18)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** In verse 1, Jethro had heard about what God had done for Moses and the Israelites. How had he heard of this news, especially in a time when there was no TV, internet, radio, or newspaper? How does this show God fulfilling His purposes to let the surrounding nations know of His power?

- 02** Starting in verse 17, we see Jethro teaching Moses an important lesson of how to delegate. This likely prevented Moses from burnout. How can we similarly apply this advice so that we prevent burnout from happening in our own Christian walk?

Recommended Bible Verses on FAMILY DYNAMICS: Proverbs 4:1-27, Luke 12:52-54



Exodus 19: Adventures after Reaching Mount Sinai

READ EXODUS 19

The Hebrew people have had so many adventures already! Yet some say here is where the big-time events start. They reach Mount Sinai today, where all will eventually receive the Ten Commandments.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 On your map, make a notation on Mount Sinai which the people finally reached in this chapter. Note that the TEN COMMANDMENTS were given at Mount Sinai.
- 02 God told the Israelites that they would be His special possession if they kept His _____. (v. 5)
- 03 On what day did the LORD come down on the mountain? (v. 11) _____
- 04 According to verse 12, no one was allowed to touch the mountain or they would be _____.
- 05 True/False: Not even animals were allowed to touch the mountain. (v. 13)
- 06 According to verse 18, the LORD descended on Mount Sinai in this: _____.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 In verse 4, the Lord says He carried the people on eagles' wings. What do you think He means here? How is this imagery symbolic? (see Isaiah 40:31)

02 Starting in verse 12, it sounds as if we have a super strict God, one who will put people to death if they pass a certain point near the mountain. How might God instead be showing concern for His people as well as wanting proper respect?

Recommended Bible Verses on GOD'S LOVE: Romans 8:38-39, Deuteronomy 7:9



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 1

1. MAP NOTATION
2. False
3. 600
4. Fight
5. Dry ground
6. Pharaoh
7. Miriam

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

Some people are uncomfortable saying how they would have behaved better than the Hebrew people. However, this is one of the reasons God included tales like the parting of the Red Sea in the Exodus. God often reveals people at their worst to give us perspective—so that we can reflect on what good behavior is and how we can accomplish it.

FROM DAY 2

1. MAP NOTATION
2. MAP NOTATION
3. Food
4. Bread
5. True
6. The seventh day or Sabbath
7. Manna

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #2:

Many times in the Bible God has said things like, “Then the people will know that I am God.” It can sound, upon a superficial gleaning, like God wants all the attention. Man was designed to be attached to God and inspired by Him in the most basic of ways. God knows that man will not fare well without Him, and sayings of this nature are often for the benefit of man, not God.

FROM DAY 3

1. MAP NOTATION
2. Water
3. Stone him
4. Massah, Meribah
5. The Amalekites
6. Joshua
7. Aaron, Hur

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

People often say, “Hope for the best; prepare for the worst.” However, we seem to spend a lot more time dwelling on the worst, as if all the worry will send a solution into our heads. It most often doesn’t, and we are left with having worried for days or months about something that wouldn’t happen.

One rule of thumb is after an hour of worry, and a heartfelt prayer, if you don’t have the answer, move on to something else for a while. Many a severely stressed Christian has had to say, “There is nothing I can do about this now. It’s in the Lord’s hands.”

Help with Question #2:

While it is God performing the miracle (Moses is actually quite weak after several hours) there is power or energy often associated with the miraculous when it is manifest with humans. One name for it is the Greek word “dunamis.” In Mark 5:30 Jesus asks who touched His clothes because He felt the healing power or energy leaving His body. From this, the woman was healed of years of torment from a bleeding disorder. Moses is thought to have had this power at various times, and here is one. He is weak, but God is strong, and is using Moses’ gestures to generate energy and reveal Himself.

Optional Further Reading: [“Greek and Hebrew Definitions: Dumanis.” Bible Study Tools.](#)



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 4

1. Midian
2. Gershom, Eliezer
3. Greater
4. Burnt offering, sacrifices
5. From morning till evening
6. Heavy

FROM DAY 5

1. MAP NOTATION
2. Covenant
3. The third day
4. Put to death
5. True
6. Fire



WEEK 3 IN REVIEW

Next week we will see the Ten Commandments given to the camp and all the drama surrounding. This week we experienced the miracle of the Red Sea and saw great signs and wonders from a God who cares. Again, there are only three periods in Bible history that were rife with miracles. We are in the throes of them now. Jesus wanted the people to remember them 2,000 years ago—1,500 years after they happened—and God wants us to remember them appreciatively today.

Day 1, Exodus 14 & 15: The parting of the Red Sea is an astonishing miracle—one God doesn't want us to gloss over, even if we've heard it 50 times already. What are some others among your favorite Bible miracles?

Day 2, Exodus 16: Using your **Exodus Map**, catch up on any missing hand notes about what happened at each special place. Use our notes to help you fill in the holes:

- Ramses/Exodus 1:11/City built by Hebrew slaves for Pharaoh
- Sukkoth/Exodus 12 & 13/only references are their arrivals and departures
- Pi haroth/Exodus 19/Where the Israelites crossed the Red Sea
- Marah & Elim/Exodus 15/Places with bitter & abundant sweet water respectively
- Rephidim/Exodus 17/Where water sprung from a rock; where the Amalekites attacked
- Mount Sinai/Exodus 19/Ten Commandments were given here; the people created the golden calf here

Day 3, Exodus 17: Some Christians have testified that, in laying hands on a brother or sister, they felt power leaving their arms and hands. Those who have had hands laid on them say they can feel something like a vibration or a mild shock at one or more people's touch. They may be experiencing the dunamis we discussed in the Application Help on Day 4. If you or someone you know has experienced dunamis, the type of power often sensed in miracles, what happened?



WEEK 3 IN REVIEW

Day 4, Exodus 18: Delegating often takes skill, trust and good instincts. Think of a way Jethro's advice to Moses could help you in some area of your life.

Day 5, Exodus 19: In verse 10-12, the people were commanded to prepare to meet God. Their preparation including consecrating themselves and lasted three days. What does "consecration" mean? And are there any events that we as believers should consecrate ourselves for?



EXODUS

Exodus 20 - Most Popular Verses



WEEK 4

Exodus 20: The Ten Commandments Given to All

READ EXODUS 20

We've arrived at one of the most famous places in our Bible—God giving the text of the actual Ten Commandments. Many Christians don't know this, but the Exodus story of the Ten Commandments is also recorded in the Book of Deuteronomy. Today and tomorrow, we'll not only be looking at the Ten Commandments, but also what was going on surrounding their arrival. We'll debunk the myth that Moses heard the Ten Commandments all by himself at the top of the mountain, and that the whole thing only took 40 days.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 God told the Israelites that they shall have no other _____ before Him. (v. 3)
- 02 God told the Israelites that He would show love and mercy to a thousand generations of those who keep His _____. (v. 6)
- 03 What day was the Sabbath on? (v. 10) _____
- 04 What day did the LORD bless? (v. 11) _____
- 05 God told the Israelites to honor their _____ and _____. (v. 12)
- 06 The Israelites were told to make an altar of _____. (v. 24)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 In verses 8-11, God reveals some specific instruction for the Sabbath. In America, people make a very big deal out of hard work. We've almost lost the Sabbath as a day of rest because many people now work on Sundays. What are some ways we can recapture the spirit of rest on Sunday?

02 The Ten Commandments is a list of laws given to the ancient Israelites. Despite the passage of time and difference in culture, we may find ourselves struggling with one or more of these commandments. How are these laws relevant to us today? Is there one in particular that you find difficult to keep? What can you do about it?

Recommended Bible Verses on THE TEN COMMANDMENTS IN OTHER BIBLE TEXTS:
Deuteronomy 5, Matthew 19:16-30



Deuteronomy 9-10:1-4 & Exodus Timeline

READ DEUTERONOMY 9-10:1-4 & THE TIMELINE

We are leaving Exodus for the moment to see how the stories are mirrored in the Deuteronomy account that most people don't know about. You would have already seen Deuteronomy 5, the actual Ten Commandments, in yesterday's Recommended Bible Verses. Today we'll look at chapters 9 and part of 10. Note that in Deuteronomy, the entire camp is near Jericho, and the 40-year Exodus is coming to an end. Moses is looking back and telling what happened 40 years ago, which is why he may mention some places with which we are not yet familiar. We will also look at the **Ten Commandments Timeline** to see how many times Moses climbed Mount Sinai and for what purposes, etc.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 True/False: According to Deuteronomy 9:5, God finally was going to let the people into the Promised Land because they had become righteous.
- 02 True/False: According to verse 9:10, the commandments were written down by Moses
- 03 In verse 9:18, Moses fell down for this many days and nights: _____
- 04 In verse 9:13, God uses this now-famous expression to describe the stubborn people of Israel: _____
- 05 Verse 9:21 describes how Moses destroyed the golden calf by this means: _____

- 06 In verse 10:1, God asks Moses to make this along with two new stone tablets: _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** The first time the Lord gives the commandments, He inscribes them on tablets with His own finger (see 9:10), but Moses broke them in anger when he saw the people sinning. Moses ascends the mountain again, but this time, the Lord commands Moses to chisel the commandments himself (see 10:1). What do you think we can learn from these events?

- 02** In Deuteronomy 9:25-29, Moses presents a very reasoned case to God Almighty. Review Moses' words. How might a similar conversation heighten your own prayer and communication with the Lord?

Recommended Bible Verses on SPEAKING TO GOD: 1 Thessalonians 5:15-18, 1 John 5:14



Exodus 24 & 32: Waiting and the Consequences of Impatience

READ EXODUS 24 & 32

These chapters are full of a lot of action and also buried meaning. The readings are surrounded by laws and ordinances being given, and we are going to skip them to focus in on the stories. Chapter 24 falls between God writing out the Ten Commandments for the first time and Moses breaking them in anger, which he does in Chapter 32.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 In Exodus 24:4, Moses built this at the foot of the mountain: _____
- 02 According to verses 24:1 and 9-10, who else besides Moses saw God? _____

- 03 True/False: The LORD relented and did not kill the people because Moses interceded for them. (32:11-14)
- 04 True/False: Moses wrote the law on the tablets. (32:16)
- 05 When Joshua heard the people down in the camp, he thought it was the sound of _____ (32:17)
- 06 What did Moses do to the golden calf in this account? (v. 32: 20) _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01

Look at verses 24:15-18. Moses appears to have to wait a week near the summit before God calls him. Then he spends 40 days and nights up there. Think of times in your life where God might ask you to wait for something. How does Moses' experience inspire your patience?

02

In 32:1, the Israelites give an excuse for making the golden calf idol. There are times in nearly every Christian's life where we wonder if God has abandoned us or is doing anything about our problems. What can we learn from the people's mistake?

Recommended Bible Verses on WAITING ON GOD: Isaiah 40:31, Galatians 6:9



Exodus 33 & 34: The Last Days at Sinai

READ EXODUS 33 & 34

We only have two days left of study, plus one Week in Review! And tomorrow is a look-back as well, so today you are looking at the last stories in the Book of Exodus. The remaining six chapters will all be laws, instructions and ordinances. If you want the full effect of the Book of Exodus, we suggest that you read these chapters at your leisure, as well as others we skipped as the same types of things. Today, enjoy the last days at Sinai before the people move on.

TEXT QUESTIONS

- 01 According to Exodus 33:11, the LORD would speak to Moses _____ as one would speak to a _____.
- 02 In verse 33:18, Moses asks God to show him His _____.
- 03 According to verse 20, no one can see God's face and _____.
- 04 What did Moses do when God passed in front of him? (34:8) _____
- 05 According to verse 34:14, the LORD is a _____ God.
- 06 True/False: Moses did not eat or drink the entire time he was with the LORD. (34:28)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 01** God is offering the people a really sweet deal in verse 33:2. Even the Lord says He will not go with them, He says He will send an angel before them. Have you had a situation in your life where you felt God had prepared the way for you and your success? What happened?

- 02** Look at the list of details God uses to describe Himself in verses 34:6-7. Do any of these characteristics surprise you or seem out of place? In what ways has God manifested these attributes? You can use examples from Scripture or your own life.

Recommended Bible Verses on GOD FIGHTING FOR PEOPLE: Deuteronomy 20:1-4, 2 Chronicles 20:17



Exodus: Most Popular Verses

Exodus was written over 3,400 years ago, and yet it is still beloved and studied by people today. One way to know how an ancient holy book is affecting the people of modern culture is to track what verses they look up the most. In the Bible, the #1 Overall Bible Rank, or most searched passage, is John 3:16. Those verses rarely (if ever) searched for would rank in the 30,000s, as there are that many verses in the Bible! Read the most popular passages in Exodus and in the blank lines, jot notes on why you think these particular passages are important today.

#1 Most Popular Verse in Exodus: Exodus 3:14

Total Bible Rank: 136

"God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

Reflection: _____

#2 Most Popular Verse: Exodus 1:5

Total Bible Rank: 233

"The descendants of Jacob numbered seventy in all; Joseph was already in Egypt."

Reflection: _____

#3 Most Popular Verse: Exodus 20:8

Total Bible Rank: 283

"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."

Reflection: _____

#4 Most Popular Verse: Exodus 20:1

Total Bible Rank: 311

"And God spoke all these words"

Reflection: _____

#5 Most Popular Verse(s): The next 6 MPVs are all in the chapter containing the Ten Commandments, Exodus 20. It is understandable why the Ten Commandments have tremendous draw today, but it's interesting to see which commandments are drawing the most attention. We will count these all as #5, but see what strikes you about the importance our culture is putting on certain ones:

#5a is 20:8, "Remember the Sabbath to keep it Holy."

#5b is 20:3, "which is the first Command: you shall have no other gods before me."

#5c is 20:13, "You shall not murder"

#5d is 20:12, "Honor your father and mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."

#5e is 20:4, "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below."

#5f is 20:15, "You shall not steal."

Reflection: _____

#6 Most Popular Verse: Exodus 3:1

Total Bible Rank: 849

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God."

Reflection: _____

#7 Most Popular Verse: Exodus 5:1

Bible Rank: 896

"Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, 'This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.'"

Reflection: _____

#8 Most Popular Verse: Exodus 21:7

Bible Rank: 1,176

"If a man sells his daughter as a servant, she is not to go free as male servants do."

Reflection: _____

#9 Most Popular Verse: Exodus 34:6

Bible Rank: 1,329

"And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, 'The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,'"

Reflection: _____

#10 Most Popular Verse: Exodus 15:26

Bible Rank: 1,446

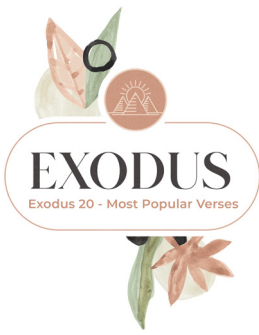
"He said, 'If you listen carefully to the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you.'"

Reflection: _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

01 MPV #8, Exodus 21:7, is obviously of feminist interest. Review the remaining verses 8-11 about female slavery. How did they show protection and additional consideration for these women?

02 The most popular verse within the Ten Commandments was, surprisingly, "Remember the Sabbath." Why would people want to know about the Sabbath today?



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 1

1. Gods
2. Commandments
3. The seventh day
4. The Sabbath day
5. Father, mother
6. Earth

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

We've all but forgotten how to celebrate the Sabbath. Some Christians say that Jesus never mentioned this commandment because He is our rest, and this commandment is now nullified. However, most Christians feel we need to honor God on the Sabbath. It's only partly about us needing rest. What we need more is to worship God without the distractions of the busy days in the week.

Help with Question #2:

When asked, Americans had many different answers as to which commandment is easiest to break/easiest to keep. There seemed to be almost a tie for easiest to break between coveting and taking the Lord's name in vain.

FROM DAY 2

1. False
2. False (written by God)
3. 40
4. Stiff-necked
5. Burned it in the fire; crushed it and ground it to powder as fine as dust; threw the dust into a stream that flowed down
6. Ark to keep the tablets in

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #2:

Deuteronomy 9:25-29 is not the only place in the Bible where people have presented strong opinions to God that God seemed not to share. Along with the two verses presented in the recommended reading, we also have Isaiah 1:18 (KJV), in which God encourages His loved ones to "come reason together" with Him. Christians will attest that when presenting an honest opinion before God, He will listen. James 1:5-6 tells us that God never says, "that was a stupid question" or, "I don't have time for this."

FROM DAY 3

1. An altar
2. Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and the 70 elders
3. True
4. False
5. War
6. He burned, ground, and scattered it on the water, and made the people drink it

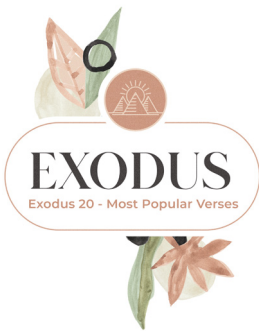
APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

The Bible is filled with stories where waiting was part of the plan preceding heroics. Noah was 600 years old before finishing the ark. Abraham got to the Promised Land with thousands of employees and had to wait through a famine that caused him to divert everyone to Egypt. David had to run from King Saul and hide in caves for around 13 years between killing Goliath and becoming king. Christ Himself didn't start His ministry until the age of 30.

Help with Question #2:

We often wonder if God is listening or doing something about our prayers. Like the people on the Exodus, God was quite busy; they were told to be still. They were slaves who could have had a nice month of leisure. They didn't have to cook or clean. They could have used the time to paint, write poetry, learn new games, learn new levels of prayer, and enjoy each other's company. We noticed God didn't tell the people how long He would keep Moses. He doesn't tell us when He will turn our situations around either. But that shouldn't be taken as an absence or lack of concern, or we run the risk of making an idol out of something.



Fill-in-the-Blank Answers

FROM DAY 4

1. Face to face, friend
2. Glory
3. Live
4. Worshipped him and bowed down
5. Jealous
6. True

APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #2:

We have noted in this study as well as others that the Bible is a reliable record that tells us much about God's character. We need this record because, being that we are fallen, we are not likely to see Him accurately without all sorts of prompts and nudges. Let's quickly dissect 34:6. The truths about the Lord mentioned include that He is (1) compassionate, (2) gracious, (3) slow to anger, (4) abounding in love, (5) abounding in faithfulness, (6) maintaining love to thousands of people, (7) forgiving wickedness, (8) forgiving rebellion and, finally (9) forgiving sin. We can take these as absolute truths about who God is. It's a good list to keep visible somewhere when we are praying for something over weeks and months. Instead of becoming impatient, we can become awestruck with His nature.

FROM DAY 5

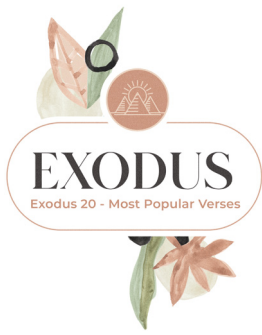
APPLICATION HELP

Help with Question #1:

Per Exodus 21:7, the great challenge with people throwing feminist arguments at the Holy Scriptures has little or nothing to do with God's intentions for mankind (which are always fair and kind). It has to do with the vast differences in the cultures. There was little freedom for women as long as they had to keep giving birth, often until they died. Hence, women were in much graver danger in the times of the Exodus through the times of Christ and onward. A woman couldn't own property, and female servants were quite vulnerable to the worst of abuses, including being sold as sexual slaves.

Read the entire passage to see God's full intentions (understanding that God is not differentiating here much between a female servant and a concubine; they are very different but rules of fairness apply in both cases):

⁷"If a man sells his daughter as a servant, she is not to go free as male servants do. ⁸ If she does not please the master who has selected her for himself, he must let her be redeemed. He has no right to sell her to foreigners, because he has broken faith with her. ⁹ If he selects her for his son, he must grant her the rights of a daughter. ¹⁰ If he marries another woman, he must not deprive the first one of her food, clothing and marital rights. ¹¹ If he does not provide her with these three things, she is to go free, without any payment of money.



WEEK 4 IN REVIEW

This week we saw the Ten Commandments given to the camp. How did the people respond? How would you have wanted to respond, had you been there? Where did the people go wrong? These questions can be answered now, as we're getting the whole picture of such a delivery.

Day 1, Exodus 20: In what ways can we start honoring God again on the Sabbath, beyond going to church? Do you think it is necessary to do anything further?

Day 2, Deuteronomy 9-10 & The Ten Commandments Timeline: Look again at Day 82 on the timeline. We see that Moses created the tablets in the base camp again, but God wrote on them after Moses brought them up Mount Sinai. How does that differ from what you thought happened previously?

Day 3, Exodus 24 & 32: There is always something about which we could show more patience. Write out a prayer to God, asking Him to help you with this; or if you currently have a serious situation that requires patience, ask Him to help you grow in the way He wanted these people to grow.

Day 4, Exodus 33 & 34: This finishes the stories of Moses up until the Ten Commandments are given and the people move on from Mount Sinai. Think of a detail from this study, either a story or a response wherein you surprised yourself with new inspiration. Review the message for your life going forward.

Day 5, Exodus Most Popular Verses: Which verse surprised you most as being quite popular today? Why?



Congratulations on finishing this study of Exodus! If you don't want to lose any momentum and find you are enjoying Bible history as much as we do, we suggest moving on with one final Optional Recommended Reading passage: Deuteronomy 5.

Most people know about the acquisition of the Ten Commandments, which happened the third month into the Exodus. But the rest of the Exodus is lost on them. Numbers and Deuteronomy cover those stories, though they are well buried in the type of lists that intrigue historians, but maybe not people just getting to know the Lord. Our next study will extract all the great stories from those books into one amazing 30-day study!