

Women in the Word
Exodus 7:14–8:32

February 22, 2017

GO! | *The Story
of Exodus*

1. Through Moses, God has announced to both the Hebrew people and to Pharaoh that He will bring His people out of Egypt and into their own land. Read Exodus 6:9 and record the Hebrews' reaction to this announcement.

Read Exodus 5:1-3 and record Pharaoh's reaction. Specifically, write down Pharaoh's question.

What do you think Pharaoh is really expressing in this question?

2. Read Exodus 7:14-25. From verse 16 what is it that Pharaoh has failed to do? What will the consequence be?

Look closely at verse 19 and list all the water sources and locations that will be affected.

Try to imagine this experience and record the everyday activities that would be affected by a plague of this magnitude.

3. From Exodus 7:23-25 describe Pharaoh's reaction to this catastrophe and to the consequences experienced by his people.
4. Considering your own history with God, have you ever been like Pharaoh and repeatedly refused to obey something God has communicated? What attitudes and ideas caused you to harden your heart in this area?

5. Read about the second plague in Exodus 8:1-15. God is very detailed in this warning. List every person and every place that will be infested with frogs.

What is Pharaoh's request in verses 8-10 and what is Moses' answer?

While it seems surprising that God would negotiate with hard-hearted Pharaoh, what is God's purpose, expressed in verse 10, for agreeing to Pharaoh's terms and time?

What can Pharaoh and everyone else learn about God from all these actions? See also Joel 2:13 and 2 Peter 3:9.

6. Read about the third plague in Exodus 8:16-19. The prior plagues followed a sequence of events: a warning/instruction, the plague begins, the magicians perform and Pharaoh refuses to obey. What is different about the sequence of events in this plague?

Look closely at verse 17. How much of Egypt's dust was affected and who suffered?

7. What conclusion do the magicians draw during the plague of gnats?

List some truths about God that have been made known to all the people in Egypt through these events. Read Psalm 8:3-5 for added insight.

8. The fourth plague is described in Exodus 8:20-24. How is it different from the earlier plagues?

What can we learn about God in His protection of the Hebrews in Goshen? See also Ezekiel 34:11-13.

9. Pharaoh responds in Exodus 8:25-32. Read these verses and describe the two compromises Pharaoh tries to make in verses 25 and 28.

Why is Moses unwilling to compromise?

10. What warning does Moses give Pharaoh in verse 29?

Consider and share some of the ways we try to cheat God today.

Share some examples of wrong ideas we have about God and ourselves when we try to cheat Him.

11. How does Pharaoh respond when God relents? If Pharaoh's heart had been soft, what could he have learned about the Lord, the God of the Hebrews?
12. Make a list of different words or expressions that you might use to describe Pharaoh's hard-hearted attitude and behavior toward God.

Identify one or two of those words that might sometimes describe your own heart toward God.

Record a truth about God that you can rely upon to counter that attitude in the future.

13. Write out your personal prayer request in a few words to share with your small group.

Women in the Word
Exodus 9 and 10

March 1, 2017

GO! | *The Story
of Exodus*

1. Make a list of some of the ways you have witnessed and experienced the power of God.

2. We are continuing to study the plagues that oppressed the people of Egypt. What does Exodus 9:13-16 teach us about these plagues and their purpose?

Think about Pharaoh's constant refusal to let God's people depart from Egypt. What things in our lives might blind us to the great power of God that exists all around us?

What does Romans 1:18-25 teach us about the reasons some people ignore the power of God?

3. Read Exodus 9:1-7 to learn about the fifth plague. Describe this plague and God's goodness to His people.

God used the plagues to judge the false gods of Egypt and show Himself superior to them. The fifth plague of the death of livestock was a judgment on the bull god Apis who represented fertility, and Hathor who was a goddess with a cow head that represented love, beauty and motherhood. How were these false gods proven powerless in the fifth plague?

What will God soon command His people as they leave a land filled with false gods? Read Exodus 20:1-4.

4. Read Exodus 9:8-12. In this sixth plague, human health is targeted. Who specifically did the boils affect?

Why might Pharaoh still have the powerless magicians in his presence with Moses and Aaron?

What powerless things do unbelievers keep in their presence when facing life's difficulties?

Moses and Aaron threw handfuls of soot from the kiln that baked the bricks of Israel's labor. Explain this statement about the kiln in your own words: *The object which participated so largely in Israel's oppressive labor became the source of a painful health hazard for their oppressors.*

5. Read Exodus 9:13-26 to learn of the devastating seventh plague of hail. In what ways do you see God displaying grace in this plague?

If you were a slave who escaped the field when the hailstorm hit, how would you describe this day in your diary?

6. In Exodus 9:27-35 we see Pharaoh's response to this seventh plague. What are the new and the old responses of Pharaoh here when considering his past responses to the plagues?

What does Moses know to be true about Pharaoh and his servants according to verse 30?

What is Moses' hope for Pharaoh? Read verse 29.

Women in the Word
Exodus 11:1–12:28

March 8, 2017

GO! | *The Story
of Exodus*

1. Read Exodus 11:1-3. As the Lord speaks to Moses here, what does Moses learn about Israel's future?

Although Pharaoh was not a fan of Moses, how was Moses perceived by the Egyptians after the first nine plagues? Why might they feel that way about him?

2. Read Exodus 11:4-10. In verses 4-8, Moses is continuing the confrontation he began with Pharaoh in Exodus 10:24-29. Describe the final plague.

How will Israel be treated differently according to verse 7? Why?

What does Moses predict will be the response of the Pharaoh's officials after the last plague according to verse 8?

How does Moses leave this last confrontation with Pharaoh in verse 8?

3. Exodus 11:9-10 are summary verses of Pharaoh's actions and attitude before the final plague. In light of much unbelief in the world today, how does God's display of power in the face of Pharaoh's unbelief encourage your faith?

4. Read Exodus 12:1-14. In these verses, the Lord gives Moses and Aaron instructions for the first Passover. How does verse 2 suggest a new beginning for the nation of Israel?

The instructions for the very first Passover are given in verses 3-6. Describe the sacrifice that the Israelites are to make for the Passover as directed by the Lord.

How is the Passover to be observed in each home according to verses 7-11?

What is the distinctive characteristic of this celebration that points to the death of Christ? Read John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7 and 1 Peter 1:18-19.

5. In Exodus 12:12-14, the Lord describes the final plague. Are the gods of Egypt that the Egyptians have been worshipping able to protect them from the Lord's final plague?

What will protect the people of Israel from God's judgement and death?

6. Just as the Israelites were delivered from God's judgement, as believers we are protected as well. What is it that delivers us from sin and separation from God? Read Romans 5:8-9 and Ephesians 1:7.

7. Read Exodus 12:15-20. In these verses, God gives Moses instructions for a celebratory feast to follow the Passover called Feast of the Unleavened Bread. Record the unique features that characterize this feast.

8. Why is it important for all the leaven/yeast to be removed from their homes according to verses 15 and 19?

Leaven/yeast has a powerful effect when worked into a lump of dough. It is also a metaphor for sin in the Scriptures. Read the following verses and in your own words share what insight you gain into sin through the example of leaven/yeast.

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Galatians 5:9

In what way might the unleavened bread of the Passover remind us of Jesus? Read 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22 and 1 John 3:5.

9. Read Exodus 12:21-28. Moses delivers instructions to the elders of Israel concerning the Passover. How long should Israel continue to recognize the Passover after they leave Egypt?

What are they supposed to tell the next generations concerning the Passover?

10. Although the first Passover frees the nation of Israel from slavery in Egypt, it also serves to remind us of Jesus and the purpose of His death. In your own words, write out how Jesus, as the sinless Lamb of God, has saved you. Read Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Romans 5:8-9; Romans 10:9-10, 13 and Romans 8:1.

11. Write out your personal prayer request in a few words to share with your small group.

Women in the Word
Exodus 12:29–13:22
March 15, 2017



1. Read Exodus 12:29-32. Briefly describe what is happening in these verses.

How had God prepared the Israelites for the tenth plague? Refer to Exodus 12:21-28 for insight.

2. In verses 31-32, Pharaoh summons Moses and Aaron. Record the command that Pharaoh gives them.

Compare Pharaoh's command to the promise that God gave to Abraham in Genesis 15:12-14.

3. God executed justice to the Egyptians and granted mercy to the Israelites. According to Romans 6:23, what do we deserve for our sin?

In your own words, write a definition for mercy.

What do the following portions of Scripture say about God's mercy?

Psalm 51:1-2

Micah 7:18

Ephesians 2:4-5

4. Continue by reading Exodus 12:33-42. The firstborn of the Israelites had been redeemed from the tenth plague and now God was going to deliver the Israelites from their bondage of slavery in Egypt. How do verses 33-34 lead us to believe that the Israelites left quickly?

The reference to leaven is used throughout the Bible. Another word for leaven is yeast and it makes bread dough rise. According to 1 Corinthians 5:8 what does leavened bread represent? What does unleavened bread represent?

For the Israelites, leaving behind the leaven represented them fleeing from the bondage of slavery and believing in the truth of God's promises. Explain what leaving behind the leaven means to you as a follower of Christ. Refer to 1 Corinthians 5:7 and 2 Corinthians 5:17 for insight.

5. 430 years had passed since 70 of Jacob's descendants had entered Egypt and now roughly 2 million Israelites were exiting Egypt. What promise to Abraham had been fulfilled during those 430 years? Look at Genesis 12:2 for insight.

According to Exodus 12:42, who guarded the Israelites as they left Egypt?

6. Read Exodus 12:43–13:16. In this portion of Exodus, God establishes three ordinances to help the Israelites remember the Exodus. Each ordinance commemorates the Exodus, but each brings out a different aspect. Explain how each ordinance relates to the Exodus.

The Passover – Exodus 12:25-27

The Consecration of the Firstborn – Exodus 13:14-15

The Feast of the Unleavened Bread – Exodus 12:33-34 and 13:7-8

7. Reread Exodus 12:43-51. God instructed Moses and Aaron on the institution of the Passover. Who was to partake of the Passover and who was not to partake of it?

How did the people of Israel respond in verse 50?

8. The Consecration of the Firstborn was also a powerful reminder to the Israelites of God's merciful deliverance from bondage in Egypt. In the Old Testament, the firstborn son was redeemed by the offer of a sacrificial substitute. How did Mary and Joseph observe this Jewish ordinance? Read Luke 2:7, 22-24.

9. The Passover, the Consecration of the Firstborn, and the Feast of the Unleavened Bread were established by God to help the Israelites remember their deliverance from the bondage of slavery. What phrase is repeated in Exodus 13:3, 14, 16 that would remind Israel of God's power during their deliverance?

How does the ordinance of the Lord's Supper help Christians to remember their deliverance from the bondage of sin? Refer to 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.

10. Moses also instructs the Israelites to teach their children about their deliverance by God's mighty hand. What are some practical ways you can share your story of deliverance?

11. Finish by reading Exodus 13:17-22. God led the Israelites by way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. Why didn't He lead them by way of the shorter route to the north? What insight can we glean about the Israelites from this?

Along with the plunder they took from the Egyptians, what else did the Israelites take with them as they left Egypt? Why was this cargo so precious to them? Refer to Genesis 50:24-26.

12. The presence of God was *with* the Israelites as they journeyed through the wilderness. How did He make His presence known to them?

As a New Testament Christian, how does God make His presence known to us? Refer to John 14:16-17; Romans 8:9-11 and 1 Corinthians 6:19 for insight.

13. Hebrews 11:1-2 says, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation." How did Moses exercise this kind of faith as he led the Israelites out of Egypt?

Share a situation in your past when you had to exercise a faith like Moses. What helped you to have an "assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen"?

14. Write out your personal prayer request in a few words to share with your small group.

Women in the Word
Exodus 14 and 15

March 22, 2017

GO! | *The Story
of Exodus*

1. Exodus 14 begins the epic story of the children of Israel beginning their journey to God's Promised Land. The account begins several days into their journey when God changes their route. Read Exodus 14:1-9 and write down the specific instructions God gives the Israelites.

As the Israelites obey God, they find themselves in a unique position. From verse 9 what two obstacles surround them?

Who and what compose Pharaoh's army? List some adjectives that might describe them.

2. Read Exodus 14:10-18. As they see the Egyptians approaching, how do the Israelites react?

Review Exodus 1:13-14. What have they forgotten about their life in Egypt?

While they appear to blame Moses for taking them out of Egypt, what have they forgotten that is confirmed in Exodus 13:3 and Acts 13:17?

3. Look closely at Exodus 14:13-14 and record the straightforward and simple instructions Moses gives the Israelites.

What truth does Moses express in verse 14 that makes the simple instructions possible?

4. Consider your own life and fearful situations in view of these instructions. Record some specific steps you could take to help you follow each instruction.

Fear not:

Stand firm:

See the salvation of the Lord:

5. The stage is set in Exodus 14:19-20 for a great spiritual contest. What happens in verse 19 in preparation for the battle?

Refer to Exodus 13:21-22 and Nehemiah 9:19 and record the purpose for the pillar of cloud and fire prior to this point. Who was present in the pillar of cloud and fire?

The pillar of cloud and fire moved before them to guide them. As it moves behind them, what new idea do you think God is communicating?

6. Read the account of the miraculous Red Sea crossing in Exodus 14:21-31. Describe the events that allow Israel to cross the sea.

Consider and write down some of the laws of nature and physics that are overruled by God in this miracle.

From verses 24-28, list the different ways God intervenes and affects the Egyptians' crossing.

What truth do the Egyptians realize in the ensuing chaos?

7. In verse 31 how do the Israelites respond after observing the great power of the Lord fighting for them?
8. Reflect on your own life and share with your group a fearful experience in your past where God fought for you.

How does remembering God's power and protection impact your opinion of God and your desire to trust Him?

What specific steps can you take to help you remember God's mighty power in your life?

9. Exodus 15:1-21 is a song of worship celebrating what God has just done for the Israelites. Read it slowly paying careful attention to the glory of God expressed in song.

From verses 1-6, list a few words and lines that describe God's strength.

From verses 7-11, list a few words and lines that describe God's power.

From verses 12-18, list a few words and lines that describe God's sovereign control working out His plan.

10. The journey toward Mount Sinai begins in Exodus 15:22-27. Describe the difficulty they experienced both in the wilderness and at Marah.

How do the Israelites react to this new difficulty and how does God respond?

Considering it has only been three days since God miraculously delivered them from the Egyptians and the Red Sea, is the Israelite reaction surprising to you? Why or why not?

11. The Lord establishes a new rule for the Israelites in verse 26. This was a conditional rule as it was dependent upon both parties honoring their responsibility. What does God ask of Israel?

What does God promise in return?

12. Write out your personal prayer request in a few words to share with your small group.

Women in the Word
Exodus 16 and 17

March 29, 2017

GO! | *The Story
of Exodus*

1. Share a time in your life when you felt as if you were journeying through a spiritual and emotional wilderness. How was God a faithful Provider for you during that trial?

2. The Hebrews have entered a wilderness land and many don't yet understand that they must look to God to provide for their needs. Read Exodus 16:1-3. Who do they expect to meet their needs?

What other unwise thinking is directing their grumbling?

3. Read Exodus 16:4-8. What word does Moses repeat often to describe Israel's behavior throughout these verses?

What lessons can we learn from this scene when we face our own hardships?

What purpose is God attaching to His provision of bread from heaven?

What do Moses and Aaron desire for the Israelites to learn from God's provision of this bread?

Psalm 78:17-25 gives us more insight into this situation. Make a list of the attitudes and actions of the Israelites and a list of the attitudes and actions of God.

4. Read Exodus 16:9-21 and verse 31. An omer is slightly more than 2 quarts. How is the bread described that God provided for the Hebrews?

How did Israel obey God's instructions about this bread and how did they disobey?

5. Read Exodus 16:22-30. This is the Bible's first mention of the Sabbath. What is the origin of this special day? Read Genesis 2:1-3.

How does the Lord describe this day?

Why do you think some of the people disobeyed God and went out to gather manna on this day?

6. Read Exodus 16:31-36. God commanded Israel to remember His provision by keeping some manna to carry with them during their wilderness experience. Why is it important for us to carry with us the memories of God's provision throughout our lives? How can we do that well?

7. Read Exodus 17:1-7. What parts of this story remind you of the situation in chapter 16?

What question in verse 7 did the Israelites ask that is often in our hearts when we are waiting on God to meet our needs?

How do these verses answer this very question?

Joshua 1:9

Psalm 23:4

Psalm 34:17-18

John 14:16-17

Matthew 28:18-20

8. Read Exodus 17:8-13. This is the first time that Joshua is mentioned. What can we learn about his character from these passages?

We know that Moses' staff was not a magic wand. What might the staff symbolize and what did Israel's victory mean when considering this staff?

9. Read Exodus 17:14-16. The Amalekites would remain a harassing enemy of Israel until they were finally destroyed by King David. How did Moses celebrate their defeat in this first battle?

Who does Moses see as the General of the army of Israel?

10. Look back through chapters 16 and 17 and record the provisions of God. Look beyond His provision of food and water. Brainstorm a bit.

Read Philippians 4:19. Which needs will God supply in your life?

11. What can you admire about Moses after studying these two chapters?

12. Write out your personal prayer request in a few words to share with your small group.