



STAGE 4

RESCUE FROM SLAVERY: EXODUS



PERSONAL PREPARATION DAY 1 - PROMISE SHAKERS

God appeared to Abraham and made certain promises 1) possession of the land of Canaan 2) become a great nation and 3) to be blessed and the means of blessing for the world. In those promises God shows that he's absolutely committed to his creation that's gone bad through sin. He's not going to destroy the world, but via these promises he's promising to renovate it!

By the end of Genesis, Joseph (Abraham's great grandson) had become a man of great power in Egypt. Through Joseph's influence all of Abraham's descendents had settled in Egypt so as to survive a severe famine.

Read Exodus 1

What parts of the promises to Abraham have started to be fulfilled?

At the same time, why does fulfilment of all the promises still seem a long way off?

Read Exodus 2:23-24; 3:15-17. What does God plan to do and why?

Though there were certain things (in Egypt, slaves, persecuted) that made God's promises look a bit shaky at this time, God hasn't forgotten what he said he would do. Are there particular promises of God that you are doubting at the moment? Pray about it.



PERSONAL PREPARATION DAY 2 - THE LORD WHO SAVES

Enter—Moses. He's got to be one of the top 5 most famous bible characters! Moses first meets God through a non-burning burning bush (Exodus 3). At that moment God has special instructions for him. Read Exodus 3:7-4:17. Take special note of what Moses says *every* time he opens his mouth. How would you describe Moses?

Moses is hesitant and scared but he'll be God's instrument to save the people from slavery in Egypt. Skim through Exodus 7-12. List the different 'plagues' God does through Moses so that Pharaoh will finally relent and let the Israelites go.

How do you feel about God who brings judgement like this on Pharaoh and the people of Egypt?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS - RESCUE FROM SLAVERY, EXODUS

Review: Get someone in the group to give a review of what we've learnt over the last 3 weeks. Use the 'big pictures' and explain the big ideas of each stage of Old Testament history



Stage 4 Big Idea: God rescues Israel from slavery in Egypt. God does this because of his commitment to his covenant with Abraham. God appointed Moses to be the leader and brought plagues as judgement on hard-hearted Pharaoh. By means of the Passover sacrifice, God redeemed Israel.

1. From the first 12 chapters of Exodus, how would you describe God?
2. How would you describe his relationship with the people of Israel?

Because of his covenant with Abraham and his descendents, God is utterly committed to them. He loves them. It's worth noting that God even describes Israel as his 'firstborn son' - 4:21-23. We won't get into it now—but stay on the look out for another Son of God who will appear many centuries later!

3. How would you describe Moses?
4. In each of the plagues, how does God show his desire to protect and save his people? See 8:22-23; 9:6, 25-26; 10:22-23.

Read Exodus 12

5. What is this last plague that God promises to bring on Egypt?
6. What must the Israelites do so that God will 'pass-over' their houses and not be punished?

The 'Passover event' is so important to the nation of Israel, it was to become the start of the Jewish calendar (Exodus 12:2) and the nation was to observe the Passover meal every year as a memorial to what God had done for them (Exodus 12:14-20).

7. Read Exodus 12:33-36. What is the outcome of the Israelites when they are rescued from Egypt?

The other great mighty act that God did to save Israel is that he miraculously gave them safe passage through the Red Sea and brought destruction on the Egyptian army. **Read Exodus 6:6 and Exodus 15:6-13.** Both times the same word is used to describe God's act of saving the Israelites.

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God releases his people from the alien power of Egypt and brings them to freedom, that is he 'redeems' them. The redemption from slavery in Egypt becomes the defining moment for the nation of Israel. In the Old Testament, this redemption event is constantly referred to. But by the time of the 1st century AD, Israel was looking forward to another time of redemption.

8. Read Luke 1:67-75 and Luke 2:36-38. Who will bring this redemption?

Exodus is a great rescue story. But it's only a prelude, a foreshadowing of a much greater rescue that Jesus will provide.

9. Consider how each of these characteristics of the Exodus finds its fulfillment in Christ:

A Sacrifice is Made: See Luke 22:7-19; 1 Corinthians 5:7.

From Slavery to Freedom: Romans 8:1-4; Galatians 5:1-6

From Poverty to Riches: See Ephesians 1:3; 2 Corinthians 8:9

10. Moses urged Israel to never forget the Exodus since it was the event which gave them their identity. The same is true of the cross for us. What steps can we take to never forget the cross? What things can threaten to push our attention away from Christ?

What can you pray about—arising from this study?

