

WEEK 1 · 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018 · EXODUS 1:1-22

1. What do you think it means for a person to be truly free?

- 2. A key verse in Exodus is 9:1.
 - · What was the purpose of Israel's freedom?

 How does it relate to a definition of freedom that Jesus gives in John 8:32?



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- What was the decision the midwives had to make and what might that have been like for them?
- In what ways do you find yourself having to make similar decisions today? What have you learned about honouring God in spite of consequences?
- If you're facing situations like this right now, why not take a few moments to pray together about them.
- 4. God's plan was to build a new nation his people Israel. In what ways did Egypt try to stop that? What happened? What does this teach us about God's plans?

5. Jesus promised that he would build his church — a gathering of believers beyond number. Have a think about reasons why this seems really difficult or even impossible in our city. How does what we're learning help us pray with greater faith?





WEEK 2 · 7TH OCTOBER 2018 · EXODUS 2

 Pharaoh wants Hebrew boys killed and yet Moses ends up being weaned by his own mother before being raised in Pharaoh's household as a prince. How does this example of God finding a way encourage you to trust him?

2. Exodus 2 covers about 80 years of Moses' life — 40 years as a prince in Egypt, 40 years as a shepherd in Midian. What was Moses' future role and how would these things have prepared Moses for this?



3.	Have a look at James 1:2-4. What is the purpose of trials in our lives? What is God producing? What have you learned about what it takes to finding joy in trials?
4.	It can be tempting to view God as far off when life is difficult. • What does Exodus 2:23-25 reveal about this?
	• What else do we learn from Psalm 139:1-6 and Acts 17:8?
5.	How would your perspective of the things you are praying for change if you fully grasped how close and intimately involved God is in your life? Why not take some time to pray together about all that is going on for you with this new perspective.



WEEK 3 · 14TH OCTOBER 2018 · EXODUS 3:1 - 4:18

- 1. In Exodus 3, God speaks to Moses really clearly and in a way he would surely never forget.
 - Given what happened to Moses after this, why do you think such a clear encounter was so important?
 - What's the clearest God has ever spoken to you? What made you sure it was him?
- 2. As God calls Moses, he tells Moses who he is 'I AM.' This can also be translated as, 'I cause to be.'
 - What do we understand about what this means from verses 14-15?
 - What else so we learn from Exodus 34:6-7?



- · Why is John 8:58 significant in this?
- 3. For the last 400 years Israel had been living in Egypt who believed in many gods (polytheism), that everything was somehow divine (pantheism) and that you could worship whatever combination of 'gods' you wanted.
 - In this context, why was the revelation of Yahweh so important?
 - How might this shape a conversation with someone who believes that all gods are basically the same?
- 4. In light of God calling Moses, what reasons did Moses give for why it shouldn't be him? (See 4:1, 10 & 13). In what ways can you relate to these excuses? What are some others you may have come up with?
- 5. Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5.
 - What does Paul say is or is not important when it comes to successfully sharing the good news of Jesus with people?
 - How does it compare to what you would expect?
 - · How does this affect your view of how much God can use you?



WEEK 4 · 21ST OCTOBER 2018 · EXODUS 4:18 - 6:27

1. As Moses obeys God, life for the Israelites actually got far harder (see 5:15-23). Can you think of a time when choosing to follow Jesus or honour God made life harder rather than easier? What was that like?

2. "God's timing only sometimes coincides with our expectation, and his idea of the hardships we need to go through only sometimes coincides with our idea of how much we can take." (Douglas Stuart) To what extent can you identify with this quote?

- 3. Israel were about to see something new of God (6:1); he was about to take Israel through something that would profoundly shape what came to mind when they heard God's name.
 - What comes to mind when you hear the name of Jesus?
 What has shaped that view?
 - Just like Pharaoh (4:2), people in our world can hold very different views — what are some of them?
 - What step could you take to help reduce the gap between what you and others think about Jesus?
- 4. As God reminds Israel of his promises to them (6:6-9), we learn that Israel was too discouraged to listen. And yet, it's in our most difficult times that we most need to remember the truth about who God is and what he has done.
 - What do you think it looks like for your group to help one another through the hardest times and remind one another of truth? What's helpful? What might not be?
 - Why not spend some time praying for one another, especially where some of you are facing really difficult situations.





WEEK 5 · 28TH OCTOBER 2018 · EXODUS 7:1 - 10:29

1. Was there anything in Sunday's message that was new or interesting to you? What challenged you most?

- 2. As we think about the plagues on Egypt, it's important to see the purpose.
 - What was God doing according to Exodus 7:4 & 9:16?
 - Have a look at Romans 1:18-25. What did people do that meant God needed to reveal himself?



- 3. Each plague was targeted at a specific god that Egypt worshipped. Yahweh was showing himself as superior.
 - What does Psalm 96:4-6 tell us about these gods? How is Yahweh distinct?
 - · What are some gods that people worship today?

- 4. Exodus is clear that God had a role in hardening Pharaoh's heart but is also clear that Pharaoh still had meaningful choice.
 - How do the following verses show this? (Exodus 8:19, 9:17 & 10:7)
 - What are some of the things that can stand in the way of us truly repenting of the idols in our lives? What is helpful here?
- 5. Galatians 5:13-14 shows that the purpose of freedom in Christ is not to serve our own desires but to love and serve one another. Why not take some time to pray for one another, that God would help us live more free every day to serve one another in love.





WEEK 6 · 4TH NOV 2018 · EXODUS 11:1 - 12:51

- 1. Compare Exodus 11:5 and 11:7.
 - What does God consider when making a distinction between people?
 - · How does this fit with Exodus 12:13 & Romans 3:23.

2. This is a stark reminder when it comes to thinking about the 3 people in our world who don't believe in Jesus and that we're praying for. Who's in your 3 and how can we pray together with you?



3. The Israelites were commanded to get rid of yeast (11:19); something that is used throughout the Bible to represent sin. What do you think about the following quote and in what ways have you found it to be true?

"And as a Christian, he is not saved by his practical holiness but by the blood; but if he indulges in evil, in thought, word, or deed, he will have no true enjoyment of salvation, and no true communion with the Person of the Lamb." — Mackintosh

- 4. Read Exodus 12:24-27. What does it show about the purpose of remembering the Passover and the next generations?
 - What did Israel do with this and what happened? (Judges 2:10-11)
 - Why not take some time to pray for parents and the children and volunteers in Kids Zone and even for local schools.
 - In what ways can you practically support the next generations hearing about Jesus?



WEEK 7 · 11TH NOV 2018 · EXODUS 13:1 - 14:31

- 1. God prescribes two sacred practices for when Israel arrives in the promised land.
 - What is the purpose of these practices? (Exodus 13:9 & 14:14)
- 2. As the church, Jesus instituted two practices for us to follow as well baptism and communion.
 - How does baptism remind us of the story of salvation according to Romans 6:3-4 and Colossians 2:11-12?
 - What does communion remind us of according to 1 Corinthians 11:23-26?
 - Why do you think Jesus intended for these two practices to be regularly carried out in church community?



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٥.	The purpose of all of these practices was (and is) to help
	people remember what God has done for us. Why not take a
	few minutes and share some of how you came to believe in
	Jesus Christ as Lord for yourself?

- 4. This week's passage shows how God led Israel to impossible place to show them that only he could deliver them out of slavery and into freedom.
 - · Read Ephesians 2:1-10.
 - · How is this same narrative shown in this passage?

5. In light of this and this week's message, how might you approach a conversation with someone who believes that all gods are the same?



WEEK 8 · 18TH NOV 2018 · EXODUS 15:1-21

- 1. What is your favourite song of all time? What about worship song?
- 2. Psalm 96 says, 'Sing a new song...' It's like the more we see of God, the more reason we have to worship.
 - What was the occasion of the songs in Exodus 15 being sung?
 - As you look at Exodus 15, what are some of the reasons they found for praise?
- 3. Exodus 15 shows us that someone wrote a song they used creativity to celebrate what God had done. What creative skills do you have? In what way could you use them to express praise or help others to praise?



- 4. Have a look at Ephesians 5:19-20.
 - What does it tell us about the purpose of praise in church community? Why is it important that we share the things we're praising God for with others?
 - What are you learning about God at the moment that is giving you reason to be thankful?

- 5. Worship through song is important but it's also vital that we see worship more widely.
 - What do the following verses say about worship? (Romans 12:1 & Colossians 3:23)

 What does worship as a lifestyle look like for you in light of these verses?



WEEK 9 · 2ND DEC 2018 · EXODUS 15:22-17:7

Having trusted God for freedom, Israel is now learning to trust God for direction and for provision.

- 1. In the challenge of life, Israel remember Egypt with rose-tinted glasses, forgetting the harsh life of slavery. (Exodus 16:3) Do you ever look back on life without Jesus fondly? Are there things you miss? What do we have in Jesus that is better by far?
- 2. Israel wrestles over God's provision of manna in the desert.
 - How much did God provide for them? (Exodus 16:17-18)
 - What do the following verses teach about God's provision? (Proverbs 30:8-9 & Philippians 4:11-13)



3.	How do you find trusting God to provide all you need in
	everyday life? What have you learned?

- 4. God tells Moses to strike the rock with his staff so that water will be poured out. (Exodus 17:5-6)
 - Using the following verses, identify how this event points to Jesus (Matthew 26:31, 1 Corinthians 10:4, John 7:37-39)
- 5. The water points to the Holy Spirit being poured out on those who believe in Jesus Christ. In Ephesians 5:18, Paul tells us about our need to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - If you were continually overflowing with the Holy Spirit, what would people around you notice? What would you notice?

 Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to those who ask (Luke 11:13), why not spend some time praying together that this would not just be a verse in the Bible but a living, daily experience.



WEEK 10 · 9TH DEC 2018 · EXODUS 17:8-16

- 1. What's your favourite place to pray?
- 2. Without the help from God, Amalek were prevailing over Israel it gives the sense that Amalek surged and Israel was overwhelmed. What are you noticing in our culture and city where it seems like the enemy of God is winning an overwhelming victory?
- 3. One of the themes from Sunday's message was prayer and it's a powerful way for us to face these issues.
 - What does Ephesians 6 teach us about prayer?



 Are there other verses you know that have influenced how you pray?
Why not spend some time now praying together for the things you talked about in question 2. This week is also a good time to pray over Christmas services and the people you have either invited or want to invite.
Moses was able to persevere because of the support of Aaron and Hur. Have a look at Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. • What are the 3 reasons that these verses give for why two are better than one?
 As you think about following Jesus, what are the times when you need the support of others the most?
• What are the ways you could be a support to others?

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