

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of July 6, 2014

This Week's Focus: The providence, promise and presence of God in our salvation.

This Week's Text: Exodus 1-3

Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. **Jude 1:5**

Exodus may be primarily about Moses, but it will utterly fail in its purposes if the life of Moses and the experiences of ancient Israel do not lead you to see the One who is like unto Moses! Anthony T. Selvaggio

<u>Related Texts</u>: Genesis 3:15, 12:1-3, 17:2, 46:2; Jude 1:5; John 8:34; 2 Peter 2:19

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- How has God spoken to you regarding the sermon and/or text?
- Exodus 1 opens with the Hebrew word "and," connecting it to the book of Genesis. Discuss the significance and the trajectory of that truth.
- In what ways do you see God's providence working in the life of the Israelites going into Egypt and preparing them for their departure?
- Spiritual slavery is serving and worshiping anything more important than God, treasuring anything more than God. How does spiritual slavery manifest itself in your life? What are some of the consequences? What is the way of escape?
- Discuss the many ways God protected Moses, particularly how he uses evil to accomplish His will. How hard is it to trust God in the midst of trials and hardships? In what ways can you find comfort and encouragement in the story of Moses's birth?
- Why was Moses interested in the burning bush and what does that teach us about our encounter with God?

- Moses has an encounter with God through the burning bush. What does fire teach us about God? Reference Hebrews 12:28-29 and Exodus 19:17-25.
- Do remember your first encounter with God? Can you share it with your Community Group?
- Why was Moses not consumed? Who was the mediator? Reference Exodus 3:2.
- Read and discuss the slavery and mediator-deliverer motif in Exodus in light of the "true and better Moses". Reference John 8:31-36 and 56-59.

Gospel Celebration:

- The Gospel is the true way of deliverance and freedom.
- Jesus is the only one who is worthy of our complete and all-inclusive service and worship.
- Jesus is the only Master than can truly set us free.

Next Week's Text: The Gospel according to Moses. Exodus 12