

Bible Stories for Adults

Let My People Go

Exodus 5 - 15

Opening

- Gathering: When have you looked at God's creation and marveled at His good and great power?
- Today's Focus: God has power over all of His creation and will use it and us to accomplish His Will.
- Key Verses: *I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you My power and that My name might be proclaimed in all the earth.* Exodus 9:16 (Romans 9:17)
- The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom.* 2 Timothy 4:18

Opening Prayer

Lesson

Moses Brings God's Word (*Exodus 5:1-5*)

What had God called Moses to do?

Exodus 3:9-10 = *Go to Pharaoh and bring my people out of Egypt*

Did the Israelites accept Moses as their deliverer?

Exodus 4:29-31 = *...and they believed. ...they bowed down & worshipped*

Who did Moses tell Pharaoh had sent him? = NIV translates YHWH as *The Lord*

Exodus 5:1 = *The Lord, the God of Israel - Yahweh* is from Hebrew for *I am*

How did Pharaoh respond to this request? = Warned that God *may strike us with plagues or the sword*

Exodus 5:2-3 = *Who is Yahweh? I don't know Yahweh*

What was Pharaoh most concerned with?

Exodus 5:4-5 = *Get the people back to work*

Who Is In Control? (*Exodus 5-6*)

What did Pharaoh do to show that He was in control? = *Make too busy to listen to Moses*

Exodus 5:6-9 = *Made Israelites get their own straw for making bricks*

What affect did this have on the Israelites?

Exodus 5:19-21 = *They blamed Moses & Aaron*

What affect did this have on Moses? = *Why haven't You rescued Your people?*

Exodus 5:22-23 = *Why did You send me? To bring trouble?*

Why was God waiting to rescue His people?

Exodus 6:1, 6-7 = *To show His mighty hand to Israel and the world.*

Did this explanation regain the confidence of the Israelites?

Exodus 6:9 = *didn't listen to him because of their discouragement & cruel bondage*

How did this affect Moses' confidence?

Exodus 6:10-12 = *How can I talk to Pharaoh if Israel won't listen? Plus, I'm a lousy speaker.*

Who did God remind Moses was in control?

Exodus 7:1-5 = *Pharaoh's rejection was part of God's plan to show His power & control*

How old were Moses & Aaron when they went before Pharaoh?

Exodus 7:6-7 = *Moses was 80 and Aaron was 83*

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Egypt's Magicians (*Exodus 7*)

What sign did God give Moses to show Pharaoh?

Exodus 7:8-10 = Turn staff into snake

How did Pharaoh respond to this sign? = Snakes trained to be like sticks

Exodus 7:11-13 = Had magicians do same, Aaron's staff swallowed others

Were the magicians able to duplicate any of God's other wonders?

Exodus 7:22; 8:7 = Copied Plagues 1 & 2 - blood & frogs

How did the magicians explain it when they were unable to copy Plague 3?

Exodus 8:18-19 = *This is the finger of God*, Pharaoh wouldn't listen

Where did the magicians get their power?

2 Thessalonians 2:9 = Their powers were the work of Satan

What is significant about the magicians during the plague of boils?

Exodus 9:11 = Satan's greatest magicians were disabled by God's power

The Plagues - God Uses His Nature, His Creation (*Exodus 8*) = God can use His creation to do His will
= Look for God's hand in your everyday experiences, Miracles of His grace are all around us

What was the first plague? = Red Tide (algae bloom)? Red sediment from Ethiopia?

Exodus 7:19-21 = Turned Nile water to blood, fish died, couldn't drink – Nile was life to Egypt

How did Pharaoh respond?

Exodus 7:23 = Ignored it (didn't take to heart) - Just a magic trick

What was the second plague? = Fish dead, don't eat frog eggs or tadpoles? Left polluted waters?

Exodus 8:2-3, 6 = Frogs came up out of the water

How did Pharaoh respond?

Exodus 8:8 = Asked Moses to get God to take away frogs & he'd let the people go

How did Pharaoh respond when frogs were gone at the time that he picked?

Exodus 8:12-15 = Hardened his heart, ignored Moses & Aaron

What was the third plague? = Fish dead, don't eat gnat eggs in water?

Exodus 8:17 = Dust throughout Egypt turned into gnats (&/or mosquitoes)

How did Pharaoh respond, even when magicians couldn't reproduce?

Exodus 8:19 = Heart was hard, Wouldn't listen

What was the fourth plague? = Maggots grew in heaps of dead frogs?

Exodus 8:24 = Ruined the land of Egypt with flies

What extra touch did God add beginning with this plague?

Exodus 8:22-23 = Plague covered all Egypt except Goshen

How did Pharaoh respond?

Exodus 8:28 = Said Israelites could go once the flies were gone

How did Pharaoh respond once the flies were gone?

Exodus 8:30-32 = Hardened his heart and wouldn't let the people go

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The Plagues - God Uses His Nature, His Creation (*Exodus 9-12*)

What was the fifth plague? = Disease from flies &/or frog heaps? – Egypt worshiped animal gods
Exodus 9:6 = Killed all the livestock of Egypt left out in the fields, except Goshen

How did Pharaoh respond?

Exodus 9:7 = Heart was unyielding, wouldn't let people go

What was the sixth plague? = Disease from flies &/or frog heaps?

Exodus 9:10 = Festering boils on men & animals

How did Pharaoh respond?

Exodus 9:12 = God hardened his heart, wouldn't listen to M & A

Why would God have hardened Pharaoh's heart?

Exodus 9:15-16 = Pharaoh raised for God's purpose of showing His power

What was the seventh plague?

Exodus 9:25-26 = Hail struck Egypt, except for Goshen

How did Pharaoh respond?

Exodus 9:27-28 = God is right, I am wrong; I will let you go

How did Pharaoh respond after God stopped the hail?

Exodus 9:34-35 = Hardened his heart, wouldn't let the people go

Why was Pharaoh's heart continually hardened?

Exodus 10:1-2 = To show God's power in a way His people would remember

What was the eighth plague? = Blown in by wind from Sinai desert

Exodus 10:13-15 = Locusts ate everything green in Egypt

How did Pharaoh respond when warned of the coming eighth plague?

Exodus 10:7-11 = Would let them go, but not with women & children

How did Pharaoh respond after locusts were gone?

Exodus 10:18-20 = God hardened his heart, wouldn't let people go

What was the ninth plague? = Ra, the sun god, was a chief god of the Egyptians

Exodus 10:22-23 = Three days of darkness everywhere except Goshen

How did Pharaoh respond?

Exodus 10:24 = Everyone can go, but livestock must stay

How did Pharaoh respond to Moses' insistence that livestock must go?

Exodus 10:27-29 = God hardened his heart, Moses to never see Pharaoh again

How many more plagues did God have planned?

Exodus 11:1 = One more and Pharaoh will let the people go for good, not just to worship

What was the tenth plague?

Exodus 12:29-30 = First-born of every Egyptian house was killed

How were the Israelites spared from this last plague?

Exodus 12:21-23 = Spread blood of Passover lamb over doorframes

How are we spared from the eternal death we deserve?

John 1:29 = *the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world*

What important ceremony reminds the Jews of how God set Israel free?

Exodus 12:24-27 = Passover, Bitter Herbs - slavery, Flat Bread - hurried departure

What important ceremony reminds us of how God sets us free?

Matthew 26:26-28 = The Lord's Supper

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The Exodus (*Exodus 12:31-41*)

How did Pharaoh respond to the tenth plague?

Exodus 12:31-32 = Told Israel to go

Why did the Egyptians help them leave quickly and with riches?

Exodus 12:33-36 = To appease Israel's God and stop the dying

How many people left in the Exodus? = Probably over 2 million

Exodus 12:37-38 = 600,000 men + women + children + others + livestock

How long had the Israelites spent in Egypt?

Exodus 12:41 = 430 years to the very day

Led by God (*Exodus 13*)

Why didn't God lead the Israelites along the direct highway to Canaan?

Exodus 13:17 = They weren't ready; No organization, law, unity, military

How did God lead His people where to go?

Exodus 13:21-22 = Pillar of cloud by day, pillar of fire by night

Why did God have the Israelites change directions?

Exodus 14:3-4 = Make Pharaoh think Israel was confused & pursue them

Cornered by the Egyptians (*Exodus 14-15*)

What did Pharaoh do after realizing that his slaves were actually gone?

Exodus 14:8-9 = Took his army and chased Israel

Did the Israelites trust God when they were cornered by the Egyptians?

Exodus 14:11-12 = Blamed Moses for bringing them into the desert to die

How did God save His people?

Exodus 14:21-22 = Parted the waters & Israel crossed on dry ground

How did God hold back the Egyptians while the Israelites crossed?

Exodus 14:19-20 = Put His cloud between Egyptian army & Israel

How did God slow the Egyptians' pursuit after Israel had crossed?

Exodus 14:23-25 = Threw them into confusion, wheels off their chariots

What did God do to show His selection and stop Egypt from further pursuit?

Exodus 14:27-28 = Closed the sea back & destroyed the Egyptian army

What affect did this event have on the new Israelite nation?

Exodus 14:31 = *The people feared the Lord & put their trust in Him & in Moses*

How did the Israelites respond?

Exodus 15:1-2 = Sang a song of praise and worship

Response

1. When have I blamed others for my troubles?
(*Exodus 5:1-9, 19-21; Genesis 16:1-5; 1 Kings 17:7-18; Ezekiel 18; Hosea 4:4*)
2. When have I blamed God and shut Him out during times of trouble?
(*Exodus 5:22-23; 6:9; Numbers 14; Ruth 1:12-13, 20-21; Job 40:1; Jeremiah 2:29; 29:11*)
3. Do I recognize God's power and miraculous signs at work in my life?
(*Exodus 4:1-12; 7:8-13; Numbers 20:1-2; 1 Cor. 2:1-5; 2 Cor. 12:7-10; Galatians 3:5*)
4. Have I hardened my heart in resistance to God's will in my life?
(*Exodus 7:13-14, 22; 8:15, 19, 32; Matthew 21:28-32; Mark 6:52; John 12:37-43; Revelation 3:20*)
5. Do I remember how Jesus, the Passover lamb, saved me from eternal death?
(*Exodus 12:1-13, 21-23; 1 Corinthians 5:7; 11:23-29; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Revelation 5:12; 7:13-17*)