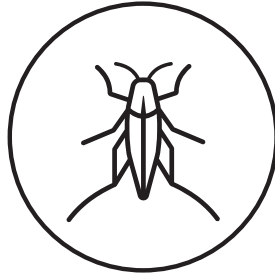


EXODUS 5-10



Moses regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

Hebrews 11:26

Take it in turns and read all of Exodus 5-7 as a group. Before you read, take note of the Exodus themes - see last page.

THE STORY

1. Where is the 'drama and action' as you read this story, and what's your reaction/questions to it?

2. In these early moments of Moses' confrontation with Pharaoh, what do we learn about this ruler of Egypt?

3. What do we learn about the Israelites from these chapters in Exodus?

4. See Exodus 6:1; 6:6-8 & 7:3-5. According to the LORD what are His purposes in His dealing with Pharaoh and the Israelites?

Note - Exodus 6:6 is the first time that we encounter the important biblical word, 'redeem'. Later on, the Israelites will sing to the LORD who redeemed them (Exodus 15:13).

5. It's worth noting something about the words "work" and "worship" in these chapters. The words translated "work/working" in 5:9 and 11, and "servant" in 5:15-16 have the same root word as "worship" in Exodus 4:23. It's like we might say "church service" ie. to serve is to work. This word for Israel's service of God at the tabernacle will appear many times later in the book of Exodus. What's at stake in this contest between Pharaoh and the LORD?

Now take it in turns to read Exodus 8-10.

6. What do you notice about the power of Pharaoh's magicians as the various plagues come to Egypt?

7. What do you notice about Pharaoh's willingness to let the Israelites go as the various plagues come to Egypt?

8. What do you notice about how God continues to speak of His purposes in sending these various plagues to Egypt?

GOD, JESUS CHRIST & US

9. How do these verses relate to Jesus and the gospel?

You might like to check out any of these verses & discuss?

Colossians 1:13-14; Romans 9:14-24

10. What can we take away as examples, positive and negative, for God's people today? In answering this, you can speak generally, but try to make it personal too.

11. Talk about how each of us should respond to this passage, whether it be worship and praise, repentance, thankfulness, petition, ...