



TEXAS A&M CRU

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INTRODUCTION

What is our goal for those you are leading? Most simply I would say that we want them to follow Jesus, to be His disciples for life. To follow Jesus we need to interact with Him through His word. Exodus will take us back to the foundational events of the Old Testament. The packet your group will receive will help them to spend time in the passage over the week and give them a few questions to think about. Our hope is that it would serve as training wheels that prepare them to study other books on their own. We would like for the material to give a basic framework and a place to record ideas as the student reads Exodus. As the leader you will need to use your group time well.

There is so much to this book that you will not be able to discuss it all. As with the Essentials of Spiritual Multiplication study, it would be helpful to use the process of Connect, Hear, Apply, and Tell.

Before the study:

Everyone in the group needs to work through the section for that week. Their participation in the discussion will be much more profitable that way.

During the study: (if 1:15 for this part of the small group time)

Connect: (around 10 minutes)

You want to connect the group to each other and to the topic for the week. It would be a good time to review what you've covered so far. Maybe ask a question or introduce an idea that relates to the week's topic.

Hear: (around 50 minutes)

Now you want to 'hear' what the Bible has to say through observation (what does it say?) and interpretation (what does it mean?). It may be helpful to read through the passage out loud together and then walk through it from beginning to end asking what was observed and what questions they had. With some of the longer passages you may need to focus on a portion of it. After you've moved through the passage, it's a good time to pull it together by asking, "What do you think is the main idea of the section?" or "What is Moses' point here?"

Apply: (around 10 minutes)

We don't want to end the semester just smarter. We want the Word to change our lives. You can't force those in your small group to take this step, but you can make sure you take the step yourself. And you can create an environment that assists your group in applying the scriptures to their lives. You want everyone to think about how they should live in light of what they've just learned or been reminded of. This needs to be practical and specific. Such as: 'I'm going to serve my roommate by keeping my part of the room clean and asking how I can pray for him' verses 'I'm going to be a better roommate.'

Tell: (around 5 minutes)

This is one more step in application and it's huge. If you tell someone what you've learned from reading the Bible it's much easier to continue engaging in spiritual things with that person and it may lead to an opportunity to share the Gospel. It also helps us to see that Bible study isn't just for us to know more and it's not just that we would live differently, but that we would share with others what has been given to us from the Lord. We must pass on what we've been given. This is an essential step in the process of spiritual multiplication.

First Week

So what will you do this week? For the first week, have fun with your group and let them get to know each other. Have snacks and drinks and create an inviting atmosphere. During the first week This first share what material you will be going thru (Exodus) and explain how it works (i.e. doing the work before hand). This means you need to be familiar with the format of the study to orient those in your group. Also, it would be good for you to read through the book. Spend a few minutes of your time discussing God's big picture and where Exodus fits into it.

The next week covers Exodus' introduction, chapters 1-2. Show them how to work through those first 2 chapters. Remind them how to observe, interpret, and apply.

As you read Exodus consider these themes as they play out in the book:

- The most important theme to get out of Exodus is who is God.
- The second theme is what they learn about Moses and his interaction with God and his leadership.
- The third theme is the response that people have to God and Moses. As you read you will see people responding with faith, anger, grumbling, and misunderstanding.

Thanks for leading! Please feel free to ask any questions you have along the way. I will be teaching it too.

Dan Dillard
daniel.dillard@cru.org
512-297-6815

BIBLE STUDY BASICS

(Be sure to share this sheet with the people in your Bible study so they can use it thru the week as they read the passage)

Pray

1. Ask God to open your heart and eyes to Him and to understand what He has written in the Bible.
2. Ask Him to help you to be focused, not distracted, and willing to grow.
3. Invite Him to meet you in your time studying His Word.

Read to understand the passage

1. Have someone read the passage out loud. Or read aloud together from www.esv.org.
2. Note the author, audience, characters, themes and historical context
3. Have everyone read it again to themselves and write on their printed-out passage
 - Circle repeated words or ideas.
 - Put a ? by words you don't know. Put an ! by things you thought were interesting.
 - Is an idea confusing? Write your questions in the margin.
 - Are there key transition words (if/then, therefore, but, because)? Draw arrows to visualize the connection between statements.

Discuss your observations

1. Was there anything that confused you or any words that you wanted to define better?
2. What stuck out to you? What questions do you have?
3. Was there anything helpful for you to write out?
4. What were some repeated words or ideas? (*Camp out here for a while)
5. *Optional Deep Dive: How do all these repeated ideas relate to each other?

Interpret what the passage says

1. What do you learn about God in this passage (who He is/what He does)?
2. What do you learn about yourself in this passage?
 - Follow-up question: what are we called to be or do in this passage?
 - How do you fall short of those standards? Why do you fall short?
3. How does this passage point me to Jesus and my need to be saved (how do you see the grace of God in this passage)?

Application

1. How can you see God more clearly because of this passage? How does that encourage or challenge you?
2. In light of what's true about God, how will that affect the way I live (attitudes, thoughts, actions)?
 - Tip: focus on the main theme expressed by the passage. Keep it short and practical.

Helpful Resources: your Bible's book introductions or footnotes, BlueLetterBible.org (or the app) for verse breakdowns and Greek/Hebrew word meanings, The Bible Project videos on YouTube, SonicLight Commentaries (<http://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes/>)

KEY REMINDERS

Suggested Calendar

- 8/30 - Social*
- 9/6 - Intro/Ch 1 -2:25
- 9/13 - 3:1-7:7
- 9/20 - 7:8-11:10
- 9/27 - 12:1-13:16
- 10/4 - 13:17-15:21
- 10/11 - 15:22-18:27
- 10/18 - Social*
- 10/25 - 19:1-24:18
- 11/1 -25:1-31:18
- 11/8 -32:1-34:35
- 11/15 -35:1-40:38
- 11/29 -Conclusion
- 12/6 - Social*



01 — Be with Jesus

Because Jesus said "... for apart from Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5, ESV), we realize our need for Him in every aspect of life and ministry. We depend on His Spirit moment by moment, yielding to Him as He instructs, abiding in Him and seeking to maintain a wholehearted devotion to Him.



02 — Pray for God's Word to change lives!

"Prayer lays hold of God's plan and becomes the link between his will and its accomplishment on earth. Amazing things happen, and we are given the privilege of being the channels of the Holy Spirit's prayer." - Elisabeth Elliot
If we want to see ourselves grow and others grow as learners of Jesus then we need to ask God to grow us!



03 — Faithfulness = Success

Be faithful with what you can control! You can invite people to come, you can study God's word and be ready to facilitate the time, you can meet lots of folks - but you can't ultimately make people come or cause the growth in their lives. We leave that up to God! Don't feel under the pile or the pressure to perform. But also remember you get out what you put in. You can't give away what you don't have.

Summary and Conclusion

As we conclude this study of Exodus, we begin by summarizing the big picture of the book as a whole. We will then review some questions for reflection in light of the entire Exodus account, all with a view to appreciating the book of Exodus in its entirety.

The Big Picture of Exodus

Over the course of this study we have seen that Exodus divides into two major parts. The first part (Ex. 1:1–18:27) records Israel's exodus from Egypt. God calls Moses to lead Israel out of their oppressive situation in Egypt, sends plagues against the Egyptians, delivers Israel at the Red Sea, and then guides them through the wilderness to the foot of Mount Sinai. The second part (19:1–40:38) details the covenant God made with Israel at Mount Sinai. As a response to God's gracious salvation through the exodus, Israel is here called to commit themselves to living according to God's word. After receiving God's covenant law and instructions for building the tabernacle, Israel violates the covenant by their idolatry of the golden calf. Once again, however, God shows himself to be gracious and forgives their sin. Israel then responds faithfully to God's word by constructing the tabernacle according to his specifications, after which he comes to dwell in their midst.

Putting both of these parts together, the book of Exodus shows us that the God of Israel graciously saves his people, forgives their sin, and pursues relationship with them. This basic storyline provides a marvelous foretaste of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, God has fully and finally saved his people by his grace. Because of Jesus' work on our behalf we are forgiven in God's sight, and through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit God has come to live in our midst.

*Excerpt from: *Knowing the Bible: Exodus* written by Matthew Newkirk, Crossway*

The NT sees the OT exodus story as the pattern for the ministry and death of Christ. In him God "dwelt [lit., "tabernacled"] among us, and we have seen his glory" (John 1:14). Jesus sojourned in Egypt, and then came out, fulfilling the pattern of Israel (Matt. 2:15, using Hos. 11:1). At the Last Supper, a Passover meal (cf. Exodus 12–13), Jesus referred to "the new covenant in my blood" (Luke 22:20), echoing Moses' words in Exodus 24:8. He also described his death as the exodus (ESV, "departure"; Gk. *exodos*) that he would accomplish at Jerusalem (Luke 9:31). As Jesus reenacted the exodus in his own life and death, so must his followers. Baptism into his death identifies the believer with the Israelites' passage through the Red Sea, and partaking of his spiritual food and drink identifies the believer with their experiences in the wilderness (1 Cor. 10:1–3). Finally, in heaven, believers shall sing the Song of Moses and the Lamb (Rev. 15:3; cf. Exodus 15). *Excerpt from *ESV Study Bible**

Gospel Glimpses

Throughout the book of Exodus we have seen many instances where God's grace is evident and the gospel is reflected. God saw his people in misery and suffering, and due to his compassion and covenant commitment he responded by saving them. He showed his power through the plagues and his mercy through the Passover, and despite Israel's doubts and grumbling as he delivered them, God continued to provide for them along the way. God's grace was the foundation upon which the law was given, and his mercy was demonstrated after Israel quickly violated that law. In the end, Israel experienced God's gracious presence as he descended upon the tabernacle and came to live in their midst.

- Has your understanding of the gospel (good news of Jesus) changed at all during the course of this study?
- Are there any particular passages in Exodus that have brought the gospel (good news of Jesus) home to you in a fresh way?

Whole-Bible Connections

Many images and events from Exodus are recalled and echoed throughout the rest of Scripture. For example, Israel's fruitfulness and multiplication ([Ex. 1:7](#)) alludes back to God's original mandate to Adam at creation ([Gen. 1:28](#)) and finds its fullest expression in the spread of the gospel through the church ([Acts 6:7; 12:24](#)). In addition, images such as God as the divine warrior, Israel as a kingdom of priests, and the tabernacle as a new Eden are all elaborated upon as the storyline of the Bible unfolds. In fact, the story of Exodus itself is a microcosm of the overall story of Scripture: God sees his people in need, saves them by his grace, and comes to live in their midst.

- What are some connections in Exodus to the New Testament that you hadn't noticed before?
- Has your understanding of the unity of the Bible been clarified through studying Exodus? How so?
- How does Exodus uniquely contribute to and clarify our understanding of Jesus?
- Are there any specific ways in which Exodus helps us understand the human condition?

Personal Implications

- As you consider the book of Exodus as a whole, what implications do you see for your own life?
- Consider especially the relationship between God's grace and his call for his people to obey him.
- What are the ramifications for your own life of Exodus's teaching on what it means to be a follower of God?
- What have you learned in Exodus that might lead you to praise God, turn away from sin, or trust more firmly in his promises?

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