

Week Three: The God Who Saves His People

Exodus 10:1-14:20

Question

What does it mean to be saved? How are God's people saved and from what are God's people being saved?

Key Verse

"And Moses said to the people, 'Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.'" — Exodus 14:13-14

Session Introduction

The Great I AM is revealed as a mighty warrior who fights for his people. In the most dramatic action of God other than Jesus' resurrection, the Hebrews were rescued from their cruel bondage and tyrannical enemy. Their persecutor was dealt a fatal blow.

As the Hebrews fled Egypt following the ten plagues culminating in the Passover, they were led to a seemingly impossible situation. On the one side, Pharaoh's chariot army pursued and on the other side stood an impassable barrier. But Yahweh saved his people. As Moses set his staff in the waters, they parted, thus providing the path of deliverance for the Hebrews and setting forth the path of destruction for the Egyptian chariot army.

Anticipating the New Exodus through Jesus, the parting of the sea foreshadows the great salvation wrought through the cross and resurrection. Our baptism into his mighty acts delivers us from the three great powers of evil: Satan, the world, and sin. Through Jesus, we are transferred from the dominion of darkness into the marvelous light of the kingdom of God. One day, our mighty warrior will deliver us from a final enemy, death itself.

Reading Plan: Week Three

<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Reading</i>	
15	Sept 6	Exodus 10:1-20	
16	Sept 7	Exodus 10:21-11:10	
17	Sept 8	Exodus 12:1-20	
18	Sept 9	Exodus 12:21-39	
19	Sept 10	Exodus 12:40-51	
20	Sept 11	Exodus 13:1-22	
21	Sept 12	Exodus 14:1-20	

Exodus: Leaving Egypt

Opening Prayer

Lord, you are a warrior who fights for his people. Thank you for the great salvation that you have given to us in your Son, Jesus Christ. We have been delivered from the powers of evil and darkness and transferred to the kingdom of your Son. Give us joy in the freedom of your grace and power. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Getting Started

1. What is the biggest danger you fear or worry about in this world?
2. Have you ever had the experience of someone fighting for you? What does that feel like?

Sinai: Meeting at the Mountain

Watch the Video

Video Notes

God gives either salvation or judgment. The dramatic rescues of the Bible always demonstrate both the mercy of God and the justice of God, the blessings and the curses. In the story of Noah's ark, while Noah and his family were saved in the ark, the corrupt population of the world was judged in the overwhelming flood. The merciful deliverance of the Israelites, their salvation, meant severe judgement for Egypt. In the same way the cross and resurrection represents a victorious triumph over the spiritual forces of evil.

Seek repentance unto salvation. As Moses was sent as Yahweh's agent of salvation, Jesus came to save his people from their sins—that is the meaning of his name (See Luke 1:21). Yet, while Yahweh wins the victory, we still must choose by faith to walk in that victory. For the Israelites, it meant walking through the parted waters of the sea. For us, it means turning and walking by faith in the confession of Jesus as Lord. The Scriptures promise that *“if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved”* (Romans 10:9).

Baptism signifies our salvation. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 1:1-3: *“For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea...”* The great deliverance of the Israelites through the waters of the sea was Israel's baptism into their salvation. In the same way our water baptism signifies our salvation and points to the reality of the great victory of Jesus over evil on our behalf. Our warrior has won the battle for us; now we must learn to walk in his victory.

Shema: Hearing God's Covenant Word

Read Exodus 14:1-31: Crossing the Red Sea

3. Even though the people of Israel had seen the power of God in their redemption through the Passover, they still doubted God for their ultimate deliverance from Egypt. What do you observe about the people's response to Moses and the Lord in Exodus 14:10-13? Do you resonate with it? How does the Lord reassure them?
4. In Exodus 14:15-16, what do you see as the requirements of prayer and faith-filled action?
5. The Egyptians realized that the Lord fights for his people (14:25). How does this

knowledge encourage you in your exodus from the tyranny of sin and evil powers (See Hebrews 2:14-15)?

6. Why was this dramatic action on God's part so important for the people of Israel to experience and witness (See Exodus 14:30-31)?

Tabernacle: Journeying with Glory

7. Just as the people were freed from their slavery in Egypt by passing through the waters of the Red Sea, so we are freed from our spiritual slavery when we pass through the waters of baptism (See 1 Corinthians 1:1-3). Discuss this correlation.
8. In our baptism, we renounce Satan and the spiritual forces of evil that rebel against God, the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God, and sinful desires that draw us from the love of God. How does God save us from these powers and forces?
9. God would not only redeem us through the cross, but also deliver us from the bondage of sin and death. How does Paul describe our need for deliverance in Romans 7:18-25?
10. Drawing on the themes of the Exodus, Paul writes: *"He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins"* (Colossians 1:13-14). Do you see yourself as having been saved by Jesus' deliverance and redemption?
11. If not, would you want to call on his name for salvation today?
12. If so, what is a personal action step of faith that you will make this week as one who has been "transferred" from one kingdom to another?

Prayer Requests

You may want to share prayer requests with one another. There's a Prayer & Praise Journal found on p. 46 where you can keep track of your group's requests. Have someone close in prayer or pray together as a group.

Closing Prayer