

# Week Two: The God Who Redeems His People

## Exodus 5:22-9:35

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### Question

What does it mean to be redeemed by God? How does our redemption change the way we value relationships?

### Key Verse

*“Say therefore to the people of Israel, ‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.’ — Exodus 6:6*

### Session Introduction

Through the story of the Exodus, we learn new revelations about the nature of God. This week, we will see God revealed as the great redeemer.

The language of redemption comes from the marketplace, particularly the slave market. The Israelites were under the bondage of a cruel slave master who did not want to give up his captives. Their release would be costly.

In the case of the Egyptians, the price would be the death of the firstborn sons of Egypt. For the Israelites, God would redeem them with the blood of the Passover lamb. The angel of death “passed over” the nation of Egypt. Whoever had spread the blood of a sacrificed lamb would receive their freedom, be released from bondage, and be adopted as God’s son.

The costly redemption of the Israelites anticipated a greater Passover sacrifice in the costly sacrifice of Jesus’ death on a cross. Our liberation from the slavery and bondage of sin would come at a great cost. Jesus’ life was given as an atoning sacrifice to purchase our lives and adopt us as his children.

## Reading Plan: Week Two

| <i>Day</i> | <i>Date</i> | <i>Reading</i>   |  |
|------------|-------------|------------------|--|
| 8          | Aug 30      | Exodus 5:22-6:13 |  |
| 9          | Aug 31      | Exodus 6:14-6:30 |  |
| 10         | Sept 1      | Exodus 7:1-13    |  |
| 11         | Sept 2      | Exodus 7:14-25   |  |
| 12         | Sept 3      | Exodus 8:1-15    |  |
| 13         | Sept 4      | Exodus 8:16-9:7  |  |
| 14         | Sept 5      | Exodus 9:8-35    |  |

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## Exodus: Leaving Egypt

### *Opening Prayer*

Lord God, Heavenly Father, you have redeemed us from the bondage of sin and death. Thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ to be a perfect sacrifice and atonement for us. Help us to know your love and to see the value that you have placed on our lives as your people. In the name of your Son our Lord, Jesus Christ, Amen.

### *Getting Started*

1. What do people mean when they say, "I need to redeem myself"? What does it mean to be redeemed?
2. Where do you see human beings being de-valued or undervalued in our world today? How can we know that human life matters to God?

## Sinai: Meeting at the Mountain

### *Watch the Video*

#### *Video Notes*

**Life is valuable.** The Israelites had great value to the Pharaoh. But the bottom line is that they did not belong to him—they belonged to Yahweh, the Great “I AM.” As Moses said on behalf of Yahweh to Pharaoh, “Let my people go!”

**Hardness of heart has consequences.** The hardness of Pharaoh’s heart to the command of God would result in judgment and wrath for the nation of Egypt. For their rebellion, a series of ten plagues culminating in the Passover would be signs of the mighty arm of Yahweh and mighty acts of his judgement. Ultimately, Pharaoh would lose his firstborn son, as a result of refusing to release Yahweh’s beloved son (See Exodus 4:22-23).

**Jesus brought a New Exodus.** God has worked an even greater Exodus in Jesus Christ. Sin is the ultimate and greatest oppressor in our lives. Jesus has redeemed us from the power of sin by the shedding of his blood. By his sacrifice as a Passover lamb of atonement, he liberates us from the cruel bondage of sin in all its forms, in order that we might be delivered from the oppressive powers of Satan and the corrupt powers of the world. Jesus would later redefine the Passover meal to signify his body and blood given as redemption for the forgiveness of sins (See Mark 14:22-24). As the Scriptures teach, “*God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life*” (John 3:16).

## Shema: Hearing God’s Covenant Word

### *Read Exodus 6:1-13: God Promises Deliverance*

3. In Exodus 6:2-5, God acknowledges the difficulties in the relationship that he has with his enslaved people. What do you see as the main problem that is being named in these verses?
4. The phrase “I am the LORD” (Yahweh, “The Great I Am”) occurs four times in this part of the story. Why do you think that is so important that God repeats that statement again and again?
5. In the video, Charlie and Brooke spoke about the Passover as the fulfillment of God’s promise to redeem his people from slavery. How is Jesus’ death on the cross like the Passover (See Romans 3:23-25)? What does it mean that his blood is “*received by faith*”?

6. In Exodus 6:6-8, Yahweh makes a series of at least seven “I will” promises to his people. Make a list of them. Why was it so hard for the Israelites to even listen to these promises (v. 9)?

## Tabernacle: Journeying with Glory

7. The Exodus story describes the Israelites struggling with the tension between the reality of their current suffering and God’s promise of future redemption and deliverance. How is your experience like theirs?
  8. Read Romans 8:18-27. In these verses, the Apostle Paul describes the creation, our bodies, and even the Holy Spirit as groaning under the burden of slavery and futility as we await the fullness of our redemption. What assurance do you have from these verses that God cares about you even during this time of struggle?
  9. Read 1 Corinthians 5:6-8. What are the implications of “*Christ, our Passover lamb, sacrificed for us*”? How does your Passover redemption change the way you value your relationship with God, your relationship with yourself, and your relationship with others?
  10. What is one thing that you will do this week to represent a renewed sense of human value and worth in light of Jesus Christ’s act of redemption?
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## 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