

TEXT: Exodus 7-12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- Easter services | March 30 & 31
 - The Weekender | April 12
 - Kids Camp | June 11-13
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Big Idea: Jesus is the Lamb

Icebreaker: When someone asks you to describe yourself, what descriptor do you use first?

Exodus 7:10-13, 20-25

The Egyptians are suffering and trying to find clean water any way they can as a result of Pharaoh's hardened heart. Pharaoh represents the people and their hardened hearts.

- After seeing Pharaoh's actions impacting all of the Egyptians, what can we apply to our own lives?

Exodus 11:1-7

God demonstrated his mercy to the Egyptians in each of the plagues, proving His power over their false gods.

- How do we see God's power over the false gods of our lives and culture today?

Exodus 12:5-13

God's final plague is to point the Israelites to the hope they have through the shed blood of a sacrifice in their place. It wasn't mere knowledge that saved but faith exercised in applying the blood to the doorpost. The only distinction between the Israelites and the Egyptians is that God provided for his people a substitute, the blood of another, a lamb.

- In what ways do we believe that we are better than unbelievers, not as bad as them, instead of fully understanding the truth of the Gospel?

Exodus 12:21-23, 29-32

Finally, Pharaoh understands God's power and begs the Israelites to leave. The false gods have been proven to be weak, powerless, and inattentive to the Egyptians.

- In what ways have you experienced false gods being unable to save and deliver as they promise?
 - This man who once controlled the nations. Who commanded the greatest army on earth. This man who was worshipped and feared is left broken and begging a slave and his sheep herding brother for a blessing before they leave.
 - The false gods of Egypt promised salvation but they only delivered death. God's shaming of the gods of Egypt through Moses, a deliverer, is a foreshadowing of his ultimate victory through the true-and-better Moses, the deliverer, Jesus.

Overview

- List the different elements that God commanded to be part of the Passover. Which ones seem the most significant to you? Why?
- Chapter 12 goes back and forth between describing the first Passover Israel observed in the land of Egypt and giving instruction for how the Passover should be kept in subsequent years and generations. What does this passage say are the different purposes between the first Passover and future ones?
- God commands Israel to keep the Passover as "a memorial" "throughout your generations" for the purpose of teaching children about God's salvation. How are events and traditions most helpful in teaching new Christians (children and adults) about God's salvation? Share some good and bad examples.