

5pm & 7pm Gatherings, Holy Trinity City  
Term 1, 2014

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Welcome to Exodus.

We hope this short booklet of Bible Studies will be very helpful in assisting you to mine the text of Scripture and draw out what God is saying in this great book of Exodus.

Before you begin – some pointers.

### **1. Read through Exodus in your Quiet times.**

Exodus is a rich book and although these studies will cover the chapters of Exodus, there will always be more to find in the text. Why not start reading through the book of Exodus in your quiet times – a chapter or so a day. You should find as you move through the studies that your regular reading of Exodus in quiet times will help you make connections which will be most helpful.

### **2. If you are using these studies in a Home Group.**

If you're using these Guides in a Home Group, it will be helpful that you have done preparatory work before you get to your meeting. This will be of great benefit not only to you, but to the other members of your group. The studies are actually written with small groups in mind.

Leaders – there is a 'Leaders Guide' to these studies. Please get in contact with Ken Noakes to get your e-copy. You will find that the leader's guide will help make sense of some of the more open ended questions.

(email: [ken.noakes@trinitycity.org.au](mailto:ken.noakes@trinitycity.org.au))

### **3. Using these studies individually.**

If you're doing these studies individually, let someone know you are doing so, and arrange a time to meet with them when you've finished (or even before) to let them know how your life is being changed by God's Word.

### **4. The Passover meal**

Please note that Study 4 covers Exodus 11-12 – the Passover. As such it creatively designed to be held over a (specific) meal. This will require some extra preparation.

## 4 | Exodus: From Slavery To Freedom

### 5. The Structure

To help with your planning, these studies complement a sermon series.

Week Number	Sermon Text	Bible Study Text
1	Exodus 1-2:10	Exodus 2:1-25
2	Exodus 2:11-4:31	Exodus 3-4
3	Exodus 5-6:12	Exodus 5-10
4	Exodus 6:28-12:51	Exodus 11-12 (over a Passover Meal)
5	Exodus 13-15	Exodus 14-17
6	Exodus 16-19	Exodus 19-20
7	Exodus 20-24	Exodus 32-34
8	Exodus 25-40	

### 6. Further resources

You may find the following books helpful in pushing you further.

- Alan Cole                      *Exodus*. Tyndale Series, Leicester: IVP, 1973.  
James K. Bruckner         *Exodus*. NIBC Series, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 2008.  
Philip G Ryken              *Exodus – Saved for God’s Glory*. PTW Series, Wheaton: Crossway, 2005.

Always surround your time looking into God’s Word with prayer, asking God to change your heart and life so that you – with God’s people – might become more and more like our Lord Jesus Christ.

We trust you’ll find the guides helpful, and we welcome any feedback you can give us as you use them.

To God be the Glory.

Naomi and Ken D Noakes



## **6** | **Exodus: From Slavery To Freedom**

3. What don't we (and would like to) know about Moses?!

*Read Exodus 2:11-15*

4. What do we learn about Moses in these verses?
5. What would a Jewish reader expect to happen next?

*Read Exodus 2:16-22*

6. What details do these verses add to our understanding of Moses?

*Read Exodus 2:23-25*

7. How are these verses both a summary and an encouragement?
8. What was the covenant that God remembered?

9. Does the phrase 'God remembered' imply that God had forgotten?

**A Bible Overview of Moses.**

*In two groups (on butchers paper):*

Questions to think about as you look at the following verses:

- (a) What does Moses do?
- (b) Why is he important?
- (c) What role/s does he play in Salvation history (the history of the way God has saved his people)?

<i>Group 1</i>	<i>Group 2</i>
Exodus 3:9-12	Exodus 19:7-9, 19-20;
Exodus 14:30-31	Exodus 20:21
Numbers 12:1-9	Exodus 32:30-34
Deuteronomy 18:15-19	Numbers 14:1-4
Deuteronomy 31:1-3, 24-26	Deuteronomy 18:15-19
Deuteronomy 32:45-47	Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Luke 9: 28-36	Luke 9: 28-36
Luke 24:44-47	Luke 24:25-27
John 1:17	John 3:13-15
John 6:14	Hebrews 3:1-6
Hebrews 3:1-6	

*For a later read and a good summary look at Acts 7:17-39.*

10. How does the Bible speak about Jesus in relation to Moses?

2

## Exodus 3-4

### Introduction

1. How do your friends view 'the divine'?

### God Speaks

*Read Exodus 3:1-6*

2. What questions arise for you from reading these verses?
3. What do we learn about God, His identity and His relationships with humanity?

*Read Exodus 3:7-10*

4. How does God describe the situation of the people?
5. What is his solution?

*What follows are five rounds of discussion – question and answer between Moses and God.*

6. Moses asks & God answers #1

*Read Exodus 3:11-12*

a) What is Moses' question?

b) What is God's answer?

7. Moses asks & God answers #2

*Read Exodus 3:13-22*

a) What is Moses' question?

b) What is God's answer?

c) What does 'I am who I am' (verse 14) mean?

8. What is significant about God telling Moses His name?

## 10 | Exodus: From Slavery To Freedom

### God's Name (excursus)

*In three groups*

9. What had God been known as prior to Exodus 3?

10. In Scripture God's name is used in many ways – How?

<i>Group 1</i>	<i>Group 2</i>	<i>Group 3</i>
Deuteronomy 12:5	Joel 2:30-32	Psalms 34:3
1 Kings 5:3-5	John 1:9-14 (c.f. John 20:31)	Psalms 103:1
Matthew 6:9	Romans 10:8-9, 13	Philippians 2:5-11 (esp 9-11)
		Colossians 3:16

*Debrief as a big group*

11. How is our understanding greater than what the Israelites in Egypt had?

12. If Israel were privileged to have God's personal name - how should we respond to what we know of God and his name today?

*Read Exodus 4:1-17*

13. Moses asks & God answers #3
  - a) What is Moses' complaint to God?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b) What is God's threefold answer?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
14. Moses asks & God answers #4
  - a) What is Moses' next complaint?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b) What is God's answer?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
15. Moses asks & God answers #5
  - a) What is Moses' request?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b) How does God respond?

## **12** | Exodus: From Slavery To Freedom

### **The Resolution**

*Read Exodus 4:27-31*

16. How do these verses act to tie up the threads of chapters 3-4?

### **The Application**

17. What motivates our belief in Christ?
18. What do we ask of God?
19. What does God ask of us?
20. How can we respond to God's personal revelation to us in Jesus?

## 3

**Exodus 5-10****Introduction**

'The God of the Old Testament is arguably the most unpleasant character in all fiction: jealous and proud of it; a petty, unjust, unforgiving control-freak; a vindictive, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser; a misogynistic, homophobic, racist, infanticidal, genocidal, filicidal, pestilential, megalomaniacal, sadomasochistic, capriciously malevolent bully.' (Richard Dawkins in *The God Delusion*, 31)

1. Do you think this is a fair summation of what the world thinks God is like?

*This is a big section to cover and so to do this we are going to ask the same four questions of three sections of Exodus 5-10.*

- a) What are Moses' requests or warnings?
- b) What is Pharaoh's response to the situation?
- c) What are other people's responses to the situation? (e.g. Israel, Egyptian wise men etc)
- d) What is the purpose of God?

**Exodus 5:1-4; 6:1-9**

*Read Exodus 5:1-6:9*

2. Fill in the first column of the appendix table on page 16 by answering the questions.

## **14** | Exodus: From Slavery To Freedom

### **Exodus 7-10**

*Break into two groups*

Group 1 - Read Exodus 7-8

3. Fill in the second column of the appendix table by answering the questions.

Group 2 - Read Exodus 9-10

3. Fill in the third column of the appendix table by answering the questions.

*Debrief – by reporting back to the other group what is discovered – making specific reference to key verses.*

### **Understanding the purposes of God**

4. Why did God delay rescuing his people?
5. What is the key issue at stake in this conflict?
6. What answer have we got through these chapters to Pharaoh's question of 'Who is the Lord?' (Exodus 5:2)
7. How do we reconcile in our minds the idea that God holds Pharaoh to account, yet for his purposes 'hardens his heart'?



**Appendix**

	<b>Exodus 5:1-6:9</b>	<b>Exodus 7-8</b>	<b>Exodus 9-10</b>
Plagues		Water to blood (7:14-25), Frogs (8:1-15), Gnats (8:16-19), Flies (8:20-32)	Egyptian livestock (9:1-7), Egyptian Boils (9:8-12), Hail against Egyptians and livestock (9:13-35), Locusts (10:1-20), Darkness (10:21-29)
a) What are Moses' requests or warnings?	<i>To Pharaoh:</i>  <i>To the Lord:</i>	<i>To Pharaoh:</i>  <i>To the Lord:</i>	<i>To Pharaoh:</i>
b) What is Pharaoh's response to the situation?			
c) What are other people's responses to the situation? (e.g. Israel, Egyptian wise men etc)	<i>The Israelites</i>	<i>The Magicians</i>  <i>The Egyptians</i>	<i>The Magicians</i>  <i>The Egyptians</i>
d) What is the purpose of God?			

## 4 Exodus 11-12

*Note: This Bible Study, given it covers the Passover, is designed to be held over a meal – it would be good if you were eating roast lamb, bitter herbs and unleavened bread (Exodus 12:8).*

### Introduction

*Start in a big group – not at the meal.*

Last week we looked at the first 9 plagues recorded in Chapter 5-10. We asked four questions (below):

1. Read Exodus 11 and then answer the same questions.
  - a) What are Moses' requests or warnings?
  - b) What is Pharaoh's response to the situation?
  - c) What are other people's responses to the situation? (e.g. Israel, Egyptians etc)
  - d) What is God's purpose in this situation?



*After main course and before dessert (at the table) – as if the Passover was happening...*

Read:

- Person 1: Exodus 12:29-36
- Person 2: Exodus 12:37-42
- Person 3: Exodus 12:43-51.

*Have dessert*

*After dessert (still at the table)...*

Read Luke 22:7-23

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34

- *Note: it is Paul who actually gives the 'Lord's Supper' its name (c.f. 11:20)*

7. What instructions does Paul give the church in Corinth concerning the 'Lord's Supper'?

8. How can we apply this to our lives today?

*Pray*

## 5 Exodus 14-17

### After the Exodus

*Read Exodus 14:30-15:21*

1. What events have occurred?
  
2. What is Israel's response?
  
3. What does Moses' song teach us of...
  - a) the events?
  
  - b) how God deals with his enemies?
  
  - c) God's character?
  
  - d) God's relationship with Israel?

How would you sum up the mood of Israel's response to God?



## 22 | Exodus: From Slavery To Freedom

*Read Hebrews 3:7-15*

9. What response is the writer of Hebrews urging?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Why?

### Application

11. How are we to respond and exhort each other?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. How can we take on his warning this week?

### **'I will sing unto the Lord'**

*C* *F*  
*I will sing unto the Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously*

*G* *C*  
*The horse and rider thrown into the sea! (Repeat)*

*C* *F*  
*The Lord, my God, my strength, my song,*

*G* *C*  
*Has now become my victory! (Repeat)*

*C* *F*  
*The Lord is God and - I will praise him,*

*G* *C* *G*  
*My Father is God and I will ex-alt him!*

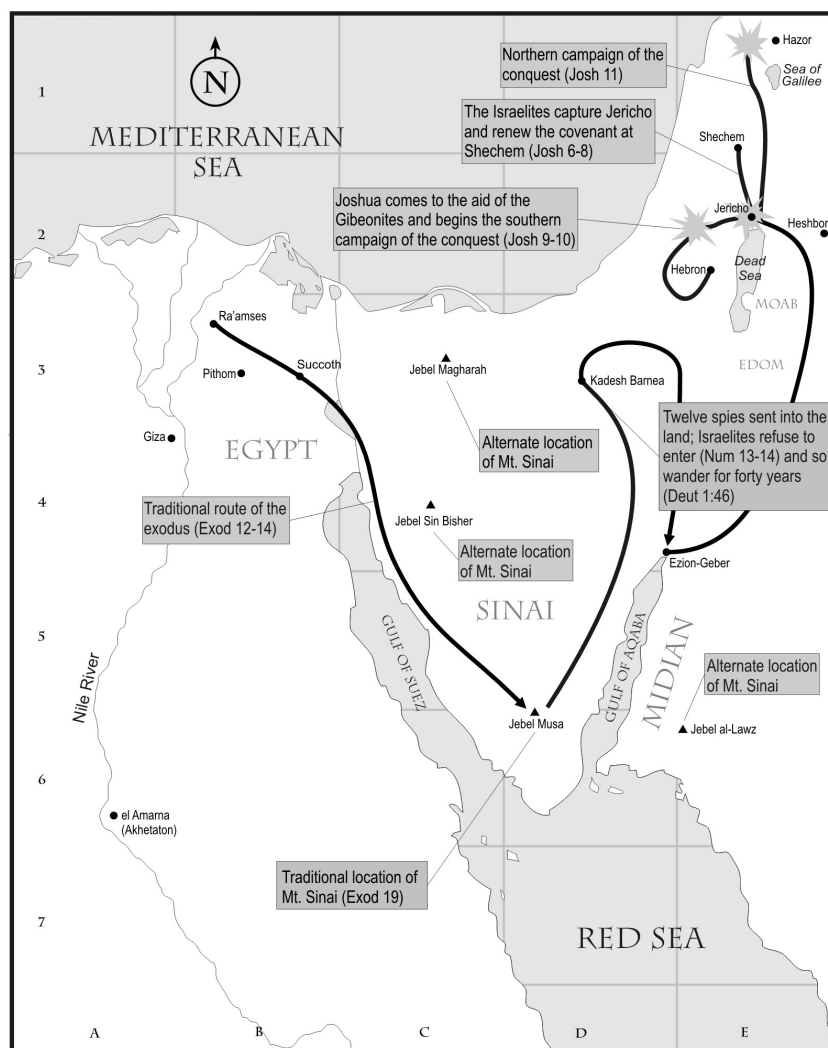
*C*  
*My Father is God and I will exalt him!*

# 6 Exodus 19-20

- *This 'calling' of Moses (Exodus 19:3) begins a great block of teaching that stretches from here through Leviticus to Numbers 10. All is represented as being given at Sinai.*

Read Exodus 19:1-6

1. Let's get our geographical bearings – Where have Israel come from? Where are Israel now?



2. Israel encamps before 'the mountain' while Moses goes up the mountain (verses 2-3) - What significance is already attached to this 'mountain'? (c.f. Exodus 3:1; 18:5)

## 24 | Exodus: From Slavery To Freedom

3. What do we learn of God's initiative and relationship with the people?
  
4. This account occurs after Israel has clearly seen what God has done for them. Compare what God said he would do for Israel in Exodus 6:2-8 (before the Exodus) and what he has now done in Exodus 19:4-6 (after the Exodus). What is asked of Israel now as opposed to before?
  
5. 'All the earth is mine' says God (verse 5) - what does it mean for Israel to be regarded as God's 'treasured possession among all peoples' and 'kingdom of priests and a holy nation' (verses 5-6)?
  
6. Is there a conditional obligation for Israel to meet? God has brought Israel out of slavery; now they are to obey his voice and keep his covenant and if they do they will be his treasured procession, kingdom of priests and holy nation?
  
7. Where in the New Testament do we find the 'treasured procession, kingdom of priests, holy nation' idea?

*Read 1 Peter 1:3-4, 2:9-12*

8. What are the similarities or differences that we can draw between Israel and Us today?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. How should we apply this practically into our lives? Be specific.

*Spend some time praying as a group*

### **Approaching God**

10. How do the people respond to God's covenant?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. What do the details of verses 10-25 show about how God is to be approached? What does that demonstrate about God?

### **The 10 Commandments**

Read Exodus 20:1-21 – and as you go, list the commandments (*use the first empty column of the table following*)

<b><i>Number</i></b>	<b><i>Commandment</i></b>	<b><i>Positive or Negative?</i></b>	<b><i>Who benefits?</i></b>
<b>1</b>			
<b>2</b>			
<b>3</b>			
<b>4</b>			
<b>5</b>			
<b>6</b>			
<b>7</b>			
<b>8</b>			
<b>9</b>			
<b>10</b>			

12. What is the immediate context under which God places the Commandments?
  
13. Using the table above - Which if the commandments are in the negative and which in the positive? Why?
  
14. Using the table above - Who receives the benefit of the commandment keeper's obedience? What pattern can you see?

15. How do the people respond to God's word?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
16. What do we learn about salvation, law and lifestyle from the Exodus 20:1-21?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
17. How relevant are the 10 Commandments today? What do they achieve?

*Read Matthew 22:36-40 (c.f. Mark 12:28-34)*

18. How does Jesus apply the 10 Commandments?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
19. How do we /can we apply the 10 Commandments? Be specific.

## 7 Exodus 32-34

1. Has anything struck you about the relationship of God and the Israelites thus far in Exodus? What?

### Mad Cow Disease

*Read Exodus 32:1-33:6*

2. *In groups of four* - Draw a comic strip/ flow diagram/ picture book (i.e. visual representation) of the story?



## **30** | Exodus: From Slavery To Freedom

6. How does it point forward to the New Testament or Jesus?

### **God and Moses**

*Read Exodus 33:12-34:10*

7. What are Moses' requests of God?
8. What does God say he will do?
9. What does God do?
10. How are these verses contrasted or affirmed in the New Testament?





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