

As we emerge from lockdown...

Week 4: Experiencing the salvation of God

WELCOME

Spend time relaxing and sharing together.

Icebreaker. If you had to choose one event in your life that was a pivotal moment of your life, what would you choose?

WORSHIP

In Exodus 15, after God had brought the Israelites through the parted waters of the Red Sea and delivered them from the Egyptians who pursued them, Moses and Miriam led the whole assembly in singing and dancing as they worshipped the Lord.

Read some of the verses from Exodus 15 and use it as an act of worship. Dancing is allowed!

WORD

The Israelites were commanded by Pharaoh to leave Egypt in the middle of the night, and they still managed to ask the Egyptians for silver, gold and clothing as God instructed. There were 600,000 men, plus women and children. It's hard to image that number of people travelling together – a logistical nightmare. Emotions must have been running high! (Exodus 12.31-39).

Read Exodus 13.17-22

1. How did the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire help the Israelites?

Growth Group Notes

Spring 2021



2. Which way did God lead them and why?

Read Exodus 14 (or give a summary of it)

3. Why did God place the Israelites in such a precarious position? They were effectively trapped in a cul-de-sac?

4. Are you in a difficult situation? If so, what comfort can you get from this chapter?

5. What is the connection between the exodus from Egypt and salvation in Christ? How is the deliverance of the people through the Red Sea a picture of our Salvation? Clue: Read Romans 6.3-4.

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WHAT NEXT?

In applying this passage to our lives today, Mark Edwards gave us five points to reflect upon:

1. We all have doubts and fears and wobbly moments of trust.
 - When we do, we must not pretend we don't.
 - Share them with each other and pray to God about them.
 - Then have the courage to step out in faith and take action.
2. God guides.
 - Not always the way we might think he should, or that appears logical.
 - Guidance may only come one step at a time, without necessarily having the big picture.
3. God delivers on his promises.
 - Not always in the way we might expect.
4. God protects.
 - The battle belongs to the Lord (e.g. 2 chronicles 20.15).
 - Sometimes our task may not be to fight, but to be still and lean on him totally.
5. God can be trusted, even when we don't see through human eyes why he is allowing what is happening to happen.

Discuss any of these that seem particularly relevant to you today.

Prayers

Read Ephesians 3.20-21 and use it to shape your prayers together and in the coming week.