

A Journey to Remember

What do you call a book with an evil villain, murderous plots, dramatic escapes, and a divine Hero? Exodus. As you study the events of the book of Exodus, you will encounter the Israelites' Deliverer—Who is also your Deliverer—and you will learn how you, too, are on a journey to remember from bondage to worship.



The Real Faith in Life Devotional Bible Study

is designed to help you dig into God's Word. Each lesson offers devotions for Monday through Saturday, along with an In-Class

worksheet to be completed during your group study.

In order for you to gain the most out of your devotional time, use the following tools along with your student book.



Journal: Purchase a journal or notebook to record your personal thoughts and prayers. Bring your journal and student book to class each week so that you can take notes during the

lesson or write any special insights you gain from a particular activity. You may also use the journal for sermon notes or for prayer requests.



Bible study tools: In order for you to dig into God's Word, consider using a Bible dictionary and a concordance. If you are not familiar with these helpful guides, ask your pastor or youth leader for a recommendation.

Or visit an online Bible tools Web site, such as www.blueletterbible.org.

This site offers commentaries, maps, and many other tools to help you in your Bible study. (This recommendation does not constitute a blanket endorsement by RBP.)

God, the Great Savior

Exodus is an exciting account filled with desperate circumstances, evil tyrants, undeserving beneficiaries, and miraculous events. Far from being just a distant, historical narrative, Exodus contains lessons for us to apply today. As you study about the God Who brought Israel from bondage to worship, you will be challenged to respond to this same God Who works in your life too. This week's devotions will set the scene for the amazing journey ahead!

Memory Verses:



"Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty. And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses" (Exodus 1:20, 21).

Monday

The book of Exodus can't be isolated from the rest of the Bible. To understand Exodus, you first have to understand some important events from Genesis.

1. Read Exodus 1:1–7. What family began Israel's extended stay in Egypt?
2. What happened to the Children of Israel during the time between Joseph and the start of the book of Exodus?



At the center of all the events of the book of Exodus is the covenant that God had made with the forefathers of the Children of Israel. God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises fuels the events of Exodus.

3. Read Genesis 15:1–7. What did God promise Abram (Abraham)?
4. According to verses 12–14, what did God tell Abram at the same time He made the covenant?
5. Read Genesis 26:24. What did God promise Isaac?
6. Read Genesis 35:10–12. What did God promise Jacob?



God's covenant with Abraham was never conditional. Even though Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were all sinful men, God faithfully confirmed His covenant with each generation.

7. Based on what you know about Exodus, how does God fulfill parts of His covenant through the events of the book?



Memory Verse Activity: As you memorize your memory verses this week, think about what would cause the midwives to fear (revere, honor) God so much that they would stand up to one of the most powerful tyrants on earth.

Tuesday

Without the covenant described in Genesis, the events of Exodus would have no real significance except as a good story of God's supporting the underdogs. Without the people of Genesis, the events of Exodus could not have happened.

1. Read Genesis 37:18–36. How did the first Israelite come to live in Egypt?

Review the following passages and describe Joseph's experiences in Egypt.

2. Genesis 39:1–4

3. Genesis 39:16–23

4. Genesis 40:12–14

5. Genesis 41:25, 33–36, 39, 41

6. Genesis 42:6–8

7. Genesis 45:1–5, 16–20

8. Several hundred years later, at the time of the beginning of Exodus, the people probably still knew how they ended up in Egypt. How could remembering the account of Joseph have helped them trust God even in their misery?

Egyptian pharaohs, who were worshiped as deity, were not very diplomatic in their political maneuvers. Read Exodus 1:11–14.

1. How did Pharaoh decide to deal wisely with the Children of Israel?

2. What happened to the Israelites as a result of this work?

3. What effect did this have on the Egyptians?



It was too late to turn back now! The Egyptians recognized that the initial plan was failing, but they couldn't backtrack and try to make their slaves their allies.

4. How did the Egyptians react to the growing number of Israelites?



Have you ever been in a situation in which you've felt oppressed by the amount of work (physical or mental) you've been required to do? What was your reaction to that?

5. How was this oppression of the Israelites—while bitterly hard—part of God's plan? (Review your answer to question 4 of Monday's devotions.)

Friday

Pharaoh could see that his plan for subduing the Israelites was not working. Plan B was much worse. Read Exodus 1:15–22.

1. What command did Pharaoh give the midwives?



Without any Hebrew men for the surviving girls to marry when they came of age, they would be forced to marry Egyptian husbands, thereby diluting the Hebrew blood and growing the Egyptian empire.

2. Why didn't the midwives do as they were told?



The midwives weren't rebelling against some mere governor or local authority. They were standing up to the man who ruled a superpower, the man who had a cold enough heart to order the destruction of newborn babies!

3. What might the midwives have known about God that would have prompted them to take such bold action?

4. What did the midwives say when they were called in to report for their actions?

5. How did God bless the midwives?



Did the midwives lie? Scripture does not tell us for certain, but we know that God never rewards sin. Scripture does tell us, however, that the midwives were blessed because they feared God (not because of their actions).

6. What was Pharaoh's new (and desperate) Plan C?

1. If you were an Israelite adult at the close of Exodus 1, what would you have been feeling and thinking?



It doesn't take us long to read in our Bibles about the good that was about to explode on the Children of Israel, but they couldn't have anticipated any of the near-future events.

2. Page through the rest of the book of Exodus and record at least five things that God would do for the Israelites.

3. What do you know about God's character based on the Scripture you've studied this week?

4. How can these truths about God help you to trust Him with your future, even if you can't see what that holds?

I show that I follow my Deliverer when I trust Him with my future.





Journal Notes



