



# Exodus

## Exodus 11-14

### Review

- Were you able to tell any of our stories to someone?
- How were you able to follow God this week?
- See if anyone can tell the Abraham & Isaac Keeping Promises story.

### Hook Question

When was a time when you really wanted to go somewhere and your parents said no?

### Tell the Story

### Retell

Have the group retell the story in their own words. Work together to recreate what was just heard asking 'what's next' questions.

### Personal/Group Retell

As a group, use some kind of time measuring device and see if you can retell this story in two minutes or less.

### Introduction

*God's people still continue to be rebellious and not follow the ways of the Lord. Because of a famine in the land, they end up in Egypt where they are slaves for over 400 years. God selects a man named Moses, and though he had a hard time speaking, God used him to deliver the people from their bondage.*

Moses and his brother Aaron go and plead with Pharaoh, "You must let the Israelites leave Egypt for just three days to worship God. If you don't, God will punish the Egyptians severely."

Pharaoh reacted, "Why should I listen to you and your god? Stop being lazy and get back to work!" Then, Pharaoh made the Israelites work harder and make bricks from mud and straw. Pharaoh was very stubborn and would not listen. So God sent a series of warnings called plagues.

This is what God did: the water in the Nile River turned into blood. All of the fish died and it smelled terrible. Then a mob of frogs hopped everywhere: in their beds, their ovens, and even inside their pots and pans! Next, gnats and flies swarmed them; they got sores on their bodies; their cows caught diseases; and strong hail storms and locusts destroyed their crops.

Then it was dark outside for three entire days. (Pause.) After each of these warnings, Moses asked Pharaoh to let the Israelites go. And Pharaoh would say, "If you stop the plagues, I'll let you leave."

But after the plagues stopped, Pharaoh still would not let them go.

So Moses warned Pharaoh about a final plague: "If you don't let us leave, every firstborn son will die, including your own. Then you'll beg us to leave Egypt." But Pharaoh still would not listen.

## Discussion Questions

Listed below are some basic questions that can be asked. You may want to supplement these questions with other Head, Heart, and Hands questions.

- What do you think was going on in the Israelites' hearts and minds in this story?
- Do I see any of the characteristics of God demonstrated in this story?
- In what ways are we also like the Israelites?
- Based on this story, what do you think God desires of us? What in this story makes you think so?
- What did we learn about being a follower of Jesus from this story?

## Story Continued...

God gave the Israelites a plan to be protected from this last plague. Moses told them: "Each family is to find a healthy lamb and make a special meal out of it. Take its blood and put it on the front door frame of your home. This blood will show God that you gave a pure lamb in place of your oldest son."

That night, the people of Israel carefully followed every instruction, putting blood from a sacrificed lamb on the door frames of their homes. (Pause.)

At midnight, loud screams and crying woke everyone in Egypt. The oldest son had died in every Egyptian home, including Pharaoh's own son. Pharaoh and the Egyptians begged the Israelites to leave right away. (Pause.)

God began leading the people of Israel back to their Promised Land. Before long they arrived at the banks of a wide sea. All of sudden, they heard the rumbling of horses. In the distance, they spotted Pharaoh and his armies chasing after them!

Trapped, the Israelites started to panic and screamed at Moses, "Why did you lead us out here to die?! Slavery would be better than this!" But Moses reassured the people, "Don't be afraid. God will provide a way out for us."

Then God told Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea." As soon as he did this, a huge wind split the waters, providing a path for them to walk across! But Pharaoh and his armies were getting close, and they began following behind the Israelites on this dry path.

As soon as the last Israelite made it to the other side of the sea, Moses stretched out his hand again toward the water. Immediately, a huge wind blew the waters back together, covering Pharaoh and his armies. The Israelites watched in amazement. Then, they burst into a joyful celebration, dancing and singing, thanking God for rescuing them! They put their trust in God and in Moses. This was a day that the people of Israel would celebrate forever!

## Closing Blessing

**Read** Isaiah 12:2

**Pray** Lord, you are the Savior; the One we can depend on. When troubles come, help each one to look to you for deliverance. Bless each person with a stronger faith and trust in you especially when the hard times come.