

Growth Group Leader Guide

This “growth group leader guide” is meant to be just that, a guide. Please feel free as the leader of your group to add questions or comments as you feel necessary to fit your group’s dynamics.

Also, don’t feel pressured to cover every question.

Exodus 2:11-2:25

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

I. Moses in Egypt (Read Exodus 2:11-15)

- What do you like about biblical narrative?
- Between Exodus 2:10-11 forty years passes in Moses’ life. Why do you think there is so little written about Moses’ childhood? How does this compare to the Gospels and the story of Jesus?
- What do you think Moses’ childhood was like? Read Acts 7:21 to help answer this question.
- **Read Exodus 2:11-12.** Do you think Moses knew about his calling on his life? Why or why not?
- What does Exodus 2:11-12 tell us about Moses’ character?
- Why is it interesting that one of the first things Moses tells us about his adulthood is the story about him murdering an Egyptian? Remember, Moses is the author of Exodus.
- Even though Moses’ impulsiveness led to murder, God was still determined to use him as His chosen instrument. How is God’s grace displayed in this? How does this bring comfort when we are faced with our own sins and failures?
- **Read and discuss** the following quote.
 - *God can teach us through the failures of our own plans that He is capable of working for us and in us in spite of us. Only after we fail do we become aware that it is God and not ourselves who is working. – James Boice*

II. Moses in Midian (Read Exodus 2:16-22)

- How was Moses transformed from a compassionate but impetuous leader into one called “the meekest man on earth?”
- Warren Wiersbe says, “Humility isn’t thinking poorly of ourselves; it’s simply not thinking of ourselves at all but making God everything.” How do you think a person acquires true humility?
- **Read Exodus 2:23-25.** How are these verses comforting? What do they teach us about the character of God?
- Verse 25 says, “God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.” What do you think this means? Read the following quote to help answer this question.
 - *Exodus 2 ends by saying that God “knew” the Israelites. He knew all about them. The word suggests intimate, personal acquaintance with all the particulars of their suffering. The God of the covenant, the God who sees, hears, and remembers, is the God who knows our situation in all its desperate need. He is a God who is worth praying to. He already knows all about our situation because he sees everything that happens. He hears all our prayers – even when they are little more than groanings. He remembers that we belong to him by the covenant of grace in Jesus Christ. Then he answers our prayers – not always in the way we hope or even in the way that we expect, but always in a way that brings him glory. – Philip Graham Ryken*

III. What do we learn from Moses’ life in Egypt and Midian?

- What people and experiences did God use to equip Moses? What in your life might God be using to equip you for service?
- Why do you think preparation for ministry is important? What are some ways people can get prepared to minister?
- **Read Hebrews 11:23-26** and answer the following questions.
- According to these 3 verses, what is faith?
- How does 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 relate to the faith Moses had according to Hebrews 11:23-26?
- What is the reward talked about in Hebrews 11:26? Read the following verses to help answer this question.
 - Hebrews 11:6

- Hebrews 12:2
- Deuteronomy 4:29
- How is faith directly related to obedience?
- How would you rate your trust and confidence in God on a scale of 1-10? Explain your answer.
- What concrete yet risky steps can you take to demonstrate a more radical faith?
- According to Hebrews 11, Moses chose to leave the comforts and riches of this world to follow God, which led him to the foreign land of Midian. In what ways have you made this world your home? What two specific actions could you start doing or stop doing to live more like a “stranger and pilgrim” in the world?

End prayer

- *Grant, Almighty God, that as we are now surrounded on every side by so many miseries, and as our condition is such that amid groans and continual sorrows our lives could be hardly sustained unless you support us by spiritual grace – O grant that we may learn to look upon the face of your Anointed and seek comfort from him in our misfortunes, and such a comfort as may not engross our minds, or at least retain us in the world, but raise our thoughts to heaven and daily seal to our hearts the testimony of our adoption and that though many evils must be borne by us in this world we may yet continue to pursue our course and to fight and strive with invincible perseverance, until, having at length finished all our struggles, we reach that blessed rest which has been obtained for us by the blood of your only begotten son, our Lord Jesus Christ. – John Calvin*