

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 11

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

3 – Points of Sunday’s Sermon

- God’s Words to Moses
- Moses’ Words to Pharaoh
- God’s Encouragement to Moses

I. God’s Words to Moses

Read Exodus 11:1-3

- Why do you think Pharaoh will be determined to get rid of Israel after the 10th plague? What’s different about the 10th plague that leads Pharaoh to “drive Israel away?”
- In verse 2 God tells Moses to take His message to the people, not Pharaoh. This is the first time in the plague narrative He doesn’t tell Moses to go to Pharaoh. Why do you think this is?
- How does verse 3 display God’s sovereignty? Read the following passages to help answer this question.
 - Genesis 15:13-14
 - Exodus 3:19-22
- According to Exodus 3:22, Egypt will be plundered after Israel leaves. How does this display God’s complete victory over Egypt & Pharaoh?
- **Read and discuss** the following quote:
 - In the thinking of the ancient world, if an army was defeated, that was not just a military defeat. It meant that the gods of that nation had been defeated

by the gods of their enemies. For a group of slaves to overthrow the existing political regime in such a prominent country as Egypt and to defy the state authorities, was not just political defeat. It was a complete rout of their religious system as well. – **John L. Mackay**

- What do you think it means that the people of Israel had “favor” in the Egyptian’s eyes? What does it mean that the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt?
- How can you have “favor” for God’s people, yet not be a follower of God? Read the following quote to help answer this question.
 - This passage teaches us that God’s servants are often prized and honored, where yet faith in their doctrine is not possessed, for although the Egyptians had revered and highly esteem Moses, they do not therefore incline to seek after piety. And thus the wicked often fear God Himself, when influenced by particular circumstances, and yet do not devote themselves to His service. – **John Calvin**
- **Read Luke 14:25-35** and discuss the following questions.
 - Luke 14:25 speaks of the large crowds that were following Jesus. Why, then, would Christ speak hard words that would very likely turn many away (vv. 26-34)?
 - According to Luke 14:26-34, what does it take to be a disciple of Jesus?
 - The life that Christ proposed for His followers never involved “convenience” or “comfort.” Put your life up against Christ’s unflinching call. Would you say you’re following Jesus with your whole heart?

II. Moses’ Words to Pharaoh

Read Exodus 11:4-8

- What are some reasons people sometimes give for questioning God’s goodness?
- How does Exodus 11:4-5 show God’s justice? Read the following verses to help answer this question. Pay attention to the word “cry.”
 - Exodus 3:7
 - Exodus 3:9
 - Exodus 12:29-30
- **Read and discuss** the following quote:

- Because of mankind's fall into sin, we are rebels, with no rights before God. He may judge sinners at any moment by any means he considers appropriate: overthrowing cities such as Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 18-19) or annihilating the inhabitants of Jericho by an invading army (Josh 6). What is happening here (in Exodus) is judgment against those who have willfully brought His wrath on their community by their sin and stubbornness. – **John L. Mackay**
- Why did God slay the first born? Read the following verse and quote to help answer this question.
 - Exodus 4:22
 - When God brought judgment on Egypt, his ultimate punishment was taking the lives of their firstborn. Their firstborns' lives were forfeit, because of the sins of the families and the nation. Why? The firstborn son was the family. By taking the first born... God was saying in the most vivid way possible in those cultures that every family on earth owed a debt to eternal justice - the debt of sin. – **John H. Sailhamer**
- **Read Exodus 11:6-7** Why did God make a distinction between Egypt and Israel? How could God be gracious to Israel and yet still be just?
- **Read Exodus 11:8** Why do you think Moses left Pharaoh in hot anger?
- According to verse 2 God sends Moses to the people of Israel. Why do you think he went to Pharaoh?

III. God's Encouragement to Moses

Read Exodus 11:9-10

- How was God trying to encourage Moses in the last 2 verses of chapter 11?
- How is God's sovereignty comforting? Read Romans 8:28 to help answer this question.