

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 7-11

- 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 Sundays Sermon

- The purpose of the plague narrative
- The revelation of the plague narrative
- The warning of the plague narrative

I. The Purpose of the Plague Narrative

- Read the following passages one by one and discuss each plague. In what ways do the plagues seem to get worse in severity? How is God revealing His name through the plagues? What would it have been like to live through these plagues?
 - Exodus 7:20-21
 - Exodus 8:6
 - Exodus 8:17
 - Exodus 8:24
 - Exodus 9:6
 - Exodus 9:10
 - Exodus 9:23-26
 - Exodus 10:13-14
 - Exodus 10:21-23
- According to the following verses, what are the purposes of the plagues?
 - Exodus 7:17
 - Exodus 8:10
 - Exodus 8:22
 - Exodus 9:29
 - Exodus 9:16
- What do the above verses teach us about the purpose of Scripture as a whole? Should we approach scripture as a book focused on us and what we need to do, or as a book about God and what He has done? Explain your answer.

II. The Revelation of the Plague Narrative

- What does the plague narrative reveal about God's name?
- In what ways does it reveal God's almighty power? According to the plague narrative, what things does God have power over?
- In what ways does the plague narrative reveal that God is a jealous God? Read Exodus 34:14 to help answer this question.
- In what ways does the plague narrative reveal God's patience?
- In what ways does the plague narrative reveal God's mercy? Read and discuss the following verses to help answer this question.
 - Exodus 9:20-21
 - Exodus 2:23
 - Exodus 3:7-8
- In what ways does the plague narrative reveal that God is just?
- In what ways does the plague narrative reveal God's faithfulness? Read the following verses to help answer this question
 - Genesis 15:13-14
 - Exodus 2:24
 - Exodus 6:5
- In what ways does the plague narrative reveal God's sovereignty? Read the following verses to help answer this question.
 - Exodus 11:10
 - Proverbs 21:1
 - Proverbs 16:9
 - Proverbs 19:21

III. The Warning of the Plague Narrative

- Read and discuss Revelation 16:1-4. What allusions to the exodus do you see in these 4 verses?
- Read and discuss Revelation 16:5-7. Why do you think this angel interrupted the vision given to John in Revelation 16? What is the focus of the angel's proclamation? What do these verses tell us about the justice of God?
- Read and discuss Revelation 16:8-9. What is getting cursed in verse 9? What is significant about God's name in this passage?

- Read and discuss Revelation 16:10-14.
- Why do you think Jesus interrupts the vision given to John in Revelation 6:15? What is Jesus warning us about? Read the following verses to help answer this question.
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:2
 - Matthew 24:42-44
- Read and discuss the following quotes. How can we be ready for Jesus' second coming?
 - This promise of coming judgment is not merely a word for unbelievers; it is an urgent reminder to the church of Jesus that they must not join forces with the wicked. If they do so, they will face the same fate. – **Tom Schreiner**
 - John is calling the faithful to be ready, to watch, to stay clothed so they won't be shamed. How do we do that? How do we guard ourselves against the demonic spirits of verse 13? How do we see through their lies and keep ourselves clothed and ready? There's no magical formula here, just simple truths that always apply. Here's what you must do: repent of your sin, trust in Christ, join a church where the gospel is preached and the Bible is explained, read your Bible, and pray. Walk with God. Know your Bible. Read the world through *a Biblical lens* built for you by the Bible. Reject the interpretive grid pushed by the world. Be a student of Scripture and reflect on life informed by the Scripture. – **James Hamilton**
- Read and discuss Revelations 16:16-21. Why are the people cursing God in verse 21? Read Proverbs 19:3 to help answer this question. Have you ever seen the truth of Proverbs 19:3 displayed in someone's life (make sure you are not gossiping in answering this question)?