

Small Group Discussion Guide — January 16, 2022

- Series: More than Words
- Sermon: Exodus: The Call, The Rescue, The Code
- Scripture: Exodus 3:9-14, Exodus 12:5-14, Exodus 20:2-4, 7-8, 11-27

David's Introduction

The 90-Day Bible sermon approach this time around is an overview touching on the most significant ideas and content — a survey, per se. To cover Exodus, there are three most important sections: 1) The call of Moses/The Name of God 2) The Rescue (Passover), and 3) The Code (10 Commandments).

CONNECT

1. How is your journey through the Bible going? How have you approached the journey? Through regular study time? Fitting your reading in where you can? Following along through the sermons and/or the Sunday evening class?
2. How have you noticed your time in the Bible shaping the way you see and interpret life, and understand God, yourself, and humanity?

THE CALL OF MOSES

Read Exodus 3:9-14.

1. Consider the conversation between God and Moses. What do you make of the Moses's responses to God's direction? What do you suppose is behind his objections? Note how God responds to each of these objections. What does this conversation suggest about God and his relationship with Moses? With each of us?
2. David noted that there are at least two necessary conditions to know that God is calling us into something: That we have a personal relationship with Him, and He calls in response to the cries of his people - that there is burden behind the calling. How does this understanding change the way you consider your calling - as distinct from your profession or your interests? How might this understanding sensitize you to the manner in which He speaks to you?

THE RESCUE

Read Exodus 12:5-14.

1. Given the events leading up to God giving this instruction to Moses and Aaron (i.e., the plagues that have already come), how would you have reacted to the manner in God prescribes for those who believe in Him to be protected from his wrath? How might you have responded? Resignation? Confusion? Analysis? Questions? Trust?
2. How does Passover point to Jesus? Again, what does Passover suggest to you about God's relationship with his children? His relationship with you? How do you see this passage applying to your day-to-day life?

THE (FREEDOM) CODE

Read Exodus 20:2-4, 7-8, 11-27.

1. This passage is a list of things that God tells us we must do, and a list of things which He tells us we must not do. And yet, David refers to this as the *Freedom* Code. Can you think of specific examples where you found constraints and restraints to be liberating, somehow? Or perhaps instances where you imposed constraints and restraints on others, not as a way to control or manipulate, but as a way to love them? How might these instances help us to better understand our relationship to God? How might God's Freedom Code help us to lead and love those around us better?
2. How do these commandments come into play in your day-to-day life? Where might they take on a bigger role in the wake of this week's sermon?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, how can we possibly understand how you — the maker of time, the one beyond time — will listen for our cries, and that you would love us enough to respond to our burdens by sending your Son to lift them? How grateful we are that you are so much more than we can understand, and that you ask only that we trust in your love and the healing power of your Son's blood. Help us to trust you so that we can abide your enduring, unconditional love and uncompromising glory, and walk in the path you have laid out for us. Amen.

GOING DEEPER

If anyone in your group attended or listened to David's "Knowing the Bible" discussion this week, feel free to incorporate questions and thoughts here.

Also, use the [resource webpage](#) throughout the series.

SUPPORTING VERSES

John 1:29

Hebrews 13: 8

Revelation 5:11-12

James 1:25

QUOTATIONS

"God's calling sometimes involves duty to go where life is difficult, sometimes for a season and sometimes for the rest of our lives. At other times, God's calling involves passion - we can't wait to get up each morning and see what the day holds. There are seasons during which we behave like Jonah or Moses when they were reluctant to follow God's voice. At other times we are a David or a Paul, eager to run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Regardless of our experiences, God's call always seems to be, as author Eugene Peterson has termed it, 'a long obedience in the same direction.'"

Marcus Brotherton

"Jesus, the Maker of the world, was being unmade. Why? Jesus was experiencing our judgment day. 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' It wasn't a rhetorical question. And the answer is: For you, for me, for us. Jesus was forsaken by God so that we would never have to be. The judgment that should have fallen on us fell instead on Jesus."

Tim Keller

"The Ten Commandments really aren't very popular anywhere. This is so in spite of the fact that even a fairly general practice of them would lead to a solution of almost every problem of meaning and order now facing Western societies. They are God's best information on how to lead a basically decent human existence."

Dallas Willard