

# EXODUS

A GRACESPRING BIBLE CHURCH SERMON SERIES



OCTOBER 14, 2018 | **COMMUNITY** GROWTH GUIDE

## Our Story in Exodus

Exodus 1:1-7

### Message Big Idea

Everyone has a Genesis, but not everyone has an Exodus.

### BELONG

If you were to describe God in just a few words, how would you do it? What character traits of God first come to mind? If you didn't know God and He was described to you using these character traits, do you think you would be drawn to Him, or fearful of Him? Why?

### GROW

1. In Exodus 1, the narrative of God's people, Israel, is continued. Unlike how we might want the story to continue, the people of Israel soon find themselves go from a favored family to an oppressed people. Have a member of your group read Exodus 1:8-11 and discuss how you think Israel must have felt, especially knowing that their ancestor saved Egypt from famine and helped grow its wealth and economic status greatly.
2. Why do you think God chose to let His people suffer under Pharaoh for so long? Turn to Romans 9:14-23 and discuss the following character traits of God discussed in Romans 9 and how they played out in Exodus: **a.** Just **b.** Merciful **c.** Compassionate **d.** Powerful **e.** Wrathful **f.** Patient **g.** Glorious
3. Hundreds of years earlier, God actually gave Abram a prophetic vision of the Israelites' time in Egypt, as well as why they would be enslaved for 400 years. Have a member of your group read Genesis 15:12-21, focusing on the phrase "for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."
4. Although not every element of God's plan in Exodus may make perfect sense to us as human beings (such as why God hardened Pharaoh's heart, or why all firstborn Egyptians had to die in the

final plague), it is important to remember God's sovereignty. It is also important to remember the truth of 1 Corinthians 13:9-12..."we know in part; then I shall know fully."

*Please note with your group: it is very important to study and ask questions regarding your faith; but unfortunately, there are some questions that we will need to ask God in Heaven in order to fully understand His reasoning and purpose. This pertains to stories in the Bible as well as certain events in our own lives. This is where the element of faith is truly seen at work in the heart of a believer.*

## REACH

1. Even if you have never spoken plainly to your coworkers, family, or friends about God, do you think they have learned anything about God through how you live your life and interact with them? What characteristics of God do you exhibit throughout your daily life? Do you think these character traits (and your actions) draw people toward God, or push them away?