

# All about Jesus

## Small group questions

*Exodus – the God who redeems*

Leaders – if the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer – please contact

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1. How did last week's message help you understand the importance of the Old Testament?
2. How did you find this week's message? What was new for you? Was there stuff you didn't understand? Share with the group.
3. How had God's people ended up in Egypt? What role had Joseph played in his family being there?
4. Although Egypt had proved a blessing to the fledgling nation, it would not stay that way. Read Exodus 1:6-11. What was the new king's reasons for forcing Israel into slavery?

We saw that God's people were:

### ENSLAVED

5. In the midst of such cruel slavery and all that went with it, God was still with his people. How was that seen in and through the services of the Egyptian midwives as they assist Israelite women through childbirth? (See Ex 1:20-21).
6. There was a further edict – this time to throw Israelite boys into the Nil. How was even *that* cruelty used by God to preserve Moses and raise him up as a leader for his people?
7. Completely trapped and helpless, what was the only course of action for Israel in finding help?
8. What are the parallels to the slavery in which we were found before Jesus?

### RESCUED

9. Read of God's promised intervention in Ex 3:7-8 and then further in 3:19-20. What strikes you about the Lord's response? What will the 'mighty hand' and 'wonders' include as God acts for his people?
10. Mark posed the question, "are these 10 plagues fair"? What did you make of his response? What do you think about the devastation inflicted by the very last plague?
11. We read in different sections of the account that sometimes Pharaoh hardened his own heart (Exodus 8:15, 8:32, 9:34), but that sometimes God hardened Pharaoh's heart (Exodus 4:21, 9:12, 10:20, 10:27, 11:10, 14:8). Why would God do that?
12. What do you think it was about that last plague that finally turned Pharaoh's heart?
13. How does the shed blood of the lamb, point us to our own rescue through another Lamb? What part did the Israelites play in their rescue? What part do we play in ours?

### COMMISSIONED

14. Compare God's commission of Israel to his commission of Christians:

#### Exodus 19: 5b-6

..... you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup> you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

#### 1 Peter 2:9

...you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

What strikes you about this comparison? Do you think we take this commission seriously?

15. How do you think God's people in your church, could be helped to better understand the commission to declare God's praises – or – if you like – **SHARE JESUS FOR LIFE?**