

Family Worship Guide – Week 5

READ

- Exodus 1:1-14
- God's people experienced great suffering at the hands of the Egyptians, who forced the Hebrew nation into bitter slavery. In addition, Pharaoh ordered that all Hebrew boys who were born be killed, so they would not rise up and become a mighty army against him. At that time, a baby boy was born to a Hebrew woman who hid him and placed him in a basket in the river to be found by Pharaoh's daughter. When Pharaoh's daughter found the baby, she had pity on him and raised him as her son. She gave him the name Moses. In His sovereignty, God was raising up a deliverer among Pharaoh's own household.
- Exodus 2:23-3:12
- God heard the cries of His people, and He did not turn a deaf ear. He knew of their groaning, and He knew of His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. So God began the redemption of His people.

The Bottom Line: Indeed, God does hear our cries and He is attentive to the details of our lives.

Questions:

How can we see the sovereignty of God unfold in this story?

How do we see God's attentiveness to the pain of His people in this story?

In what ways does this Old Testament story point us to Christ?

PRAY

- Europe: Europe is home to 12% of the world's total population. It is 71% Christian, however, in the last 250 years the population of believers has declined. This area of the world is becoming exceedingly secular and the population of believers is disappearing as more and more Europeans turn to atheism and humanism.
- Use Prayer Card

SING

- Use lyric sheet and mp3 download of "For Your Sake"
 - In the first two chapters of Exodus, we are reminded of God's faithful concern for the suffering of His people. We chose "For Your Sake" for this week, because, as His church, we worship the very same God. He also hears our cries and knows our sufferings. Though we walk through the fire and weather the storms of this life, we know that we have freedom and victory in Jesus Christ. For this reason, and for His sake, "we are not ashamed to serve the King of Kings."
- Josh wanted to write a song that was different from anything he had written before; a song that had no chorus or bridge. He has always found beauty in melodies that repeat themselves, while the verse lyrics progress and change. Luke 9:23-26 really informed the crafting of these lyrics. In that text, we see that living our lives for the sake of Christ and His gospel is both challenging and rewarding. Though we "lose our [earthly] life" by surrendering and submitting to Jesus, we gain eternal life through Christ and His righteousness. "For Your Sake" is a song that deals with both the cost of following Christ and the far more enduring hope of everlasting life.

MEMORIZE

- Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These activities and questions can replace or serve as a supplement to the questions under the 'Read' section on Page 1. Remember, these suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God's Word and worship Him together.

Preschool (Birth-Kindergarten)

- Before you begin, turn the television on and have the remote control in your hand. Sit with your child in front of the television and set the volume at a normal level. Say, "Can you hear the words the person is saying on the television?" Turn the volume down and repeat the question. Continue to turn the volume down until the volume cannot be heard.
- Why can we not hear the television? We can't hear it because Mommy and Daddy turned the volume down with the remote control. Do you know that God hears you and sees you all the time? He is different; He plans, hears and sees everything. He hears you even when you think he can't.
- Even when we are sad, hurting, crying or happy God knows because he knows everything about us. We are reminded of this in Psalm 139. Remember the story of baby Moses in the Bible? Moses was hidden in the basket to protect him from Pharaoh. This was God's idea. God gave Moses' mother the idea to hide her baby in the basket to protect him. Ultimately, God provided a deliverer in His sovereign way. God heard the cry of his people and he hears us, too.

Children (Grades 1-5)

- Begin with several small sheets of paper. Have your child(ren) write out a need they have on each sheet. Example: food, clothing, education, sleep, shelter, etc. You may want to help them come up with this list of needs. Then, have them wad up each sheet of paper.
- Stand across the room from your child(ren) and have them throw all the paper wads towards you as quickly as they can. Tell them you will do your best to catch and read each one.
- Clearly, you will be unable to complete this task and multiple paper wads will not make it to your hands or be dropped. Help your child(ren) understand that although you were unable to hear each of their needs, God is always willing, able, and eager to listen to the cries of His children. No detail of our lives is too great or too small to bring to God. His love for His people and His power to provide for the good of His people have no end!

Students (Grades 6-12)

- Think about a time when you were a child when you were either lost or hurt and cried out for one of your parents. Tell that story and how you felt when they responded. Do you ever feel lost, out of place, or mistreated as a teenager? How might this compare to what the Israelites experienced?
- What does it mean when we say God is sovereign? How should this affect our everyday lives? **NOTE: Sovereignty is defined by Merriam-Webster as **supreme power**. In Wayne Grudem's book Christian Beliefs, he says, "God's will is the ultimate reason for everything that happens...Sometimes God's will is clearly revealed, such as when, from Scripture, we clearly know what we should do or what God has specifically commanded us to do...At other times, Scripture does not give us clear direction as to what we are to do or how we are to act. It's at times like these that our attitude should be one of humble reliance upon God and His sovereign control over the events in our life."*
- What are some ways you've seen God's sovereignty at work in your family?

Prayer

Thanksgiving

When we pray a prayer of thanksgiving, we are expressing our gratitude to God. Prayers of thanksgiving can be lifted up in response to who God is, what He has done for us through Christ and for the blessings He continually bestows upon us.

Biblical Basis for Thanksgiving:

Psalm 69:30, Psalm 100:4, Philippians 4:6, Revelation 7:12

Take some time for each of those gathered with you to express their thanks to the Lord.

Nations: Europe

- Pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare the hearts of the lost and to grip the lives of the people of Europe with the Gospel.
- Most Christians in Europe are Roman Catholic. Pray that God would awaken a desire to know, love, and seek God. Pray that they would experience true rebirth and repentance and they would not settle for lifeless, ritualistic religion.
- Ask for God to send workers to the field and to stir the hearts of his Church to go and bring the good news to all the ends of the earth.

Source: *Operation World* by Johnstone and Mandryk

Week 5

For Your Sake

by Josh Poore

Now we take our cross
F C
G Am

And follow You
F Am G

Our very lives forsake
F C

For in losing what
G Am

Will fade we find
Dm C/E F

A life no one can take

F

As You died
Am G

Rose beyond the grave
F C Am G

Hope endures eternally
F

For Your sake

Am G

We are not ashamed
F G Am

To serve the King of Kings
F G F C G Am

We serve the King of Kings

Now Your Spirit dwells

Tithin our hearts

His power we've received
To be witnesses

Both near and far
Your love for all to see

As Your Church

Chosen by Your grace
We display all we believe

For Your sake
We are not ashamed

To serve the King of Kings
We serve the King of Kings

Now although ahead
G D
A Bm

The narrow road
G Bm A

Is marked with sorrow's sting
G D

Jesus Christ has laid
A Bm

Our death to rest
Em D/F# G

We praise in suffering

G

As we go,
Bm A

With Your banner raised
G D Bm A

Marching on to victory
G

For Your sake

Bm A

We are not ashamed
G A Bm

To serve the King of Kings
G A Bm

To serve the King of Kings
G A G D A Bm

We serve the King of Kings

Now in life we join

With saints of old

Who served the King of Kings
And in death

We leave our cross to those
Who'll follow faithfully

They will serve the King of Kings

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Scripture Memory

Week 5

Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

