

Exodus Bible Study Assignment

October 28, 2021

Reading: Exodus Chapters 17-19

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think God told Moses to take the elders with him to the rock at Horeb?
2. What happened when Moses struck the Nile with his staff (Exodus 7:20-21)? Why do you think God referred to Moses' staff as the one with which he struck the Nile, considering what the Lord promised would happen when Moses struck the rock with it?
3. Another version of the water from rock episode in Exodus 17:1-7 also appears in Numbers 20:2-13. Name one difference between the two accounts.
4. Why do you think Amalek attacked the Israelites? (There are no wrong answers!!)
5. What could a literal interpretation of Exodus 18:8-14 teach to someone? Could this teaching be misused?
6. In Exodus 4:20, Moses took his wife and sons to Egypt when he returned there. Exodus 18:5-6 gives an account of Jethro bringing his daughter (Moses' wife) and her two sons back to Moses in the wilderness. Biblical scholars believe Exodus 18:2-4 was added to explain this contradiction. Why do you think Moses "sent away his wife"? [To complicate matters, the Hebrew term translated "sent away" can also mean divorce (see Deuteronomy 24:1).]

7. Have you ever overextended yourself by doing all the work? Describe the situation, your state of mind, and what you did to resolve the imbalance. If you ended up sharing the responsibilities with another person (or persons), how did it feel to do that?

8. Why do you think the LORD used Moses as an intermediary between God and the Israelites? What is a disadvantage of using a go-between when trying to communicate?

9. The LORD had Moses consecrate the Israelites and instruct them to prepare themselves for encountering God. Give examples of how we, as Christians, prepare ourselves for God.

10. Biblical scholars note that the LORD is described in Exodus 19:16-24 using the imagery of a Canaanite storm god as a warrior complete with trumpet signaling battle. What other pagan or secular images have been used to describe God (in the Bible or otherwise).

November 4 Assignment: Exodus Chapters 20-22