

Themes in Exodus

Knowing and Acknowledging God

Warm-up exercise and prayer

Go around the table and share one or two examples of events, people, or circumstances that hindered your ability to pray, worship, or study God's Word in the last month. After everyone has finished sharing, pray: Holy God, we give you thanks for your word and your desire to dwell with us. Help to remove the obstacles that get in the way of us studying your word and being in conversation with you. Inspire us with your Spirit as we study your Word in Exodus, and help us to discover joy through our study. Amen.

Read Exodus 3:1-5 and discuss the following questions

- What is the way that God first spoke to you?
- Where is the "Holy Ground" located in our community and world?
- What are all the "moves" that take place in this story, before God and Moses can have a mutual conversation? What are the "moves" that we have to go through in our lives in order to have a conversation with God and be moved by the Spirit?

Read Exodus 5:1-4 and discuss the following questions

- What is Pharaoh's biggest concern about letting the people go to worship God?
- As you go about life, are you able to tell the difference between people who "know the Lord" and those who do not? If so, how can you tell the difference?

Read Exodus 6: 2-9 and discuss the following questions

- Think of a time in your life when you had a broken spirit: what helped you hear God's promises and hope for your life?
- What is the difference between how God makes Godself known to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and how God makes Godself known to Moses?

Read Exodus 9:14 and discuss the following questions

- What is the point of this violent verse of scripture?
- Why does Pharaoh not believe Moses or want to listen?

Read Exodus 29:42-46 and discuss the following questions

- What does God want and intend to do in this text? How?
- What do you think God wants to do in our day? How?
- What do you think would be God's greatest frustrations with us?
- What do you hear God calling us to do or to be?