

exodus

REDEMPTION
FOR US

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Introduction

The book of Exodus reveals a God who enters into the brokenness of the world to redeem a people for Himself. Set against the backdrop of oppression in Egypt, the story unfolds as God remembers His promises, reveals His name, and demonstrates His power to rescue, not because of His people's strength, but because of His covenant faithfulness. Throughout Exodus, we see that redemption is both necessary and initiated by God alone—He hears, He comes down, and He delivers. This story ultimately points beyond itself to Jesus, the true and greater Redeemer, who enters our darkness, secures our salvation, and leads us into lasting freedom.

What is an Inductive Bible Study?

Inductive study = drawing conclusions directly from the text

1. Observation — What does the text say?

(10–15 minutes of silent reading and note-taking)

- **Repetition:** Circle or highlight repeated words or ideas.
- **Cause & Effect:** Watch for words like *therefore, thus, so, because, for*. Notice what comes before and after.
- **Comparisons & Contrasts:** Look for words like *but, like, as*. These highlight similarities, differences, or key insights.
- **Questions:** Write down what feels unclear or confusing. Be honest about tension or things that don't make sense.

2. Interpretation — What does it mean?

(Group discussion — invite the Spirit to guide)

- Share observations openly — even messy or emotional thoughts can lead to discovery.
- **Context matters:** Who wrote it? Who was it written to? What's happening in the passage?
- What does this text reveal about:
 - **God?**
 - **People?**
 - **The problem (sin, brokenness, need)?**
- Use tools if needed (study Bible, etc.) to clarify background or meaning.

3. Gospel Connection — How does this point to Jesus?

(Move from the text to the bigger story of Scripture)

- Where do you see a **need for rescue, redemption, or deliverance** in this passage?
- How does this passage **anticipate or foreshadow Jesus**?
 - A greater deliverer?
 - A better mediator?
 - A deeper rescue?
- How does Jesus **fulfill or complete** what is happening here?

- What does this passage help us understand about:
 - **Who Jesus is?**
 - **What Jesus has done?**
- How does the gospel bring **hope into this specific situation or theme?**

Reminder: We are not forcing Jesus into the text—we are tracing how the whole Bible ultimately points to Him.

4. Application — What does this mean for us?

- **Challenge & Encourage:** Where is God inviting you to trust, repent, or step forward?
- **Personal Reflection:** Where do you see yourself in this passage?
- **Community:** How can we support one another in living this out?
- **Prayer:** Pray in response to what surfaced — don't rush to fix, be quick to bring it to God.

Instructions for Using This Guide

Each week, your group will walk through the four steps above: **Observation, Interpretation, Gospel Connection, and Application.**

Purpose:

We study the passage *before* it is preached so that we come ready—familiar with the text, aware of our questions, and open to what God wants to say.

How to Lead Your Time:

1. **Start with the Text Summary** to orient the group. Read this aloud over the group.
2. **Individually, read the passage slowly, give 10-15 minutes for this.** (Allow the group to marinate in the text) .
3. **Discuss what everyone observes from the text.** Observation (this is essential—no wrong answers).
4. **Discuss Interpretation together** — focus on what the text actually says before jumping to application.
5. **Move to Gospel Connection** — trace how this passage fits into the larger story of Jesus and redemption.
6. **Finish with Application and Prayer** — respond personally and as a group.

Leader Note:

Don't feel pressure to cover everything—depth over speed. Create space for honesty, curiosity, and the Spirit's work.

Exodus 1

The Redemption We Need

Text Summary:

After 400 years in Egypt, a brand-new pharaoh arises who is unaware of Joseph's past actions and wants to control the Hebrews. They are enslaved and, out of fear, command that all newborn males be killed upon birth. This command poses a threat to the seed promise of Genesis 3:15 and Genesis 12. The midwives see the evil in the command and heroically disobey the Pharaoh, leading to the further growth of God's people and God's reward for them. This also amplifies the Pharaoh's oppression. This passage shows us the brokenness of the world (the redemption isn't here yet). In the darkness, God demonstrates how he is in control, both through the things we can't control (giving them the gift of many babies) and by raising up unlikely heroes (midwives).


Theme: Oppression and the context of redemption

- Where do you see oppression or brokenness in this passage? What stands out most?
- How does God seem to be working—even when He feels hidden?
- What does this teach us about how God works in dark or unjust situations?

Jesus Connection idea:

Jesus enters into our oppression and brings ultimate deliverance. (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How does this oppression create a longing for a greater deliverer?
- In what ways does Jesus enter into our oppression differently than Moses?

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- What kind of deliverance does Jesus offer that goes beyond this moment?

Application:

- Where do you feel oppression, pressure, or fear right now?
- How might God be at work in ways you don't immediately see?
- What would it look like to trust God in the middle of uncertainty?

Exodus 2:1-11

Drawn Out

Text Summary:

By faith, Moses' mom makes him an ark and puts him in the Nile, where he is rescued by the Egyptians. By faith, he does not lose his identity as a Hebrew, although he does seek to be the redeemer by his own strength (murders someone). Through this event, he flees, in fear, into the wilderness for 40 years.

Theme: God's call on Moses' life to be drawn out and set apart from Egypt.

- What do you notice about how God preserves Moses?
- Where do you see tension between human effort and God's plan?
- What does this passage reveal about identity and calling?

Jesus Connection idea:

God preserves a deliverer (Moses → Jesus). (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How is Moses' rescue a preview of a greater rescue to come?
- In what ways is Jesus a better and more perfect deliverer?
- How does God's preservation of Moses point to His larger redemptive plan?

Application:

- Where might you be striving in your own strength instead of trusting God?
- How has God uniquely "set you apart" in your life?
- What might it look like to trust God's timing in your calling?



Exodus 2:23–3:22

The Glorious “I Am”

Text Summary:

Moses encounters God in a bush that is on fire but is not consumed. God reveals His Name and Himself to Moses, reveals His plan of redemption, and calls Moses to be His chosen redeemer.

Theme: God reveals Himself and calls Moses

- What stands out about how God reveals His character?
- What does “I AM” communicate about who God is?
- How does God’s holiness shape Moses’ response?

Jesus Connection Idea:

God comes down to rescue → ultimately fulfilled in Jesus. (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How does God “coming down” point forward to Jesus?
- Where do we see Jesus reveal the same identity (“I AM”)?
- What does this passage show us about God’s desire to rescue?

Application:

- How is God inviting you to respond to Him right now?
- Where might you be resisting God’s calling?
- What does it look like to approach God with reverence and trust?

Exodus 4

Roadblocks to Redemption

Text Summary:

Moses offers up several objections to God about why he is the wrong choice for the job. All of God's responses ultimately reveal that those are not true objections to God's redemption. What is an obstacle is Moses's unaddressed sin. He is atoned for by a proxy circumcision and is now able to proclaim God's redemption to the Hebrews. The only appropriate response to God's redemption is worship.

Inductive Text: Exodus 4:1-17

Theme: Fear, insecurity, and God's sufficiency s from the text to Jesus.

(Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- What fears or insecurities does Moses express?
- How does God respond to each objection?
- What does this reveal about God's patience and power?

Jesus Connection Idea:

In our need, we see the sufficiency of Christ.

- How does Jesus meet us in our weakness?
- In what ways is Jesus the ultimate answer to our inadequacy?
- How does the gospel free us from fear of failure?

Application:

- What excuses or fears are holding you back right now?
- Where is God asking you to step out in faith?
- How can you rely more on God's sufficiency instead of your own?



Exodus 5–6

Not What I Thought

Text Summary:

When Moses first announces God's redemption to Pharaoh, he responds! - by making the life of the Hebrews miserable. This breaks the Hebrews and even leads Moses to doubt what God is doing. God brings Moses back to belief by reminding him of His faithfulness and the many promises He has made. The passage ends by resuming the genealogical tale of the people of God from Genesis, indicating that God is already actively moving to redeem.

Inductive Text: Exodus 5:1-14 and 22-23.

Theme: When obedience leads to hardship

- What surprises you about what happens after obedience?
- How do Moses and the people respond to hardship?
- What does God remind them of in their doubt?

Jesus Connection Idea:

Salvation comes through the embodiment of suffering. (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How does this pattern of suffering point to Jesus?
- What does Jesus show us about trusting God in hardship?
- How does the gospel reframe our expectations of obedience?

Application:

- Have you experienced obedience leading to difficulty?
- Where are you tempted to doubt God right now?
- What promises of God do you need to hold onto?



Exodus 7:1–13

Hardened

Text Summary:

Despite a clear miraculous intervention, Pharaoh's heart was hardened, setting the stage for the 10 plagues.

Note: In 7:3, God hardens Pharaoh's heart; in 7:13, Pharaoh seems to have some responsibility for the hardening. No matter what happened, the call of scripture is to see the consequences of heart hardening and not to harden our hearts. (Psalm 95:8)

Leader Note: Let God's hardening be a mystery. We don't need to defend God. Don't get lost in trying to fully grasp this concept.

Inductive Text: Exodus 7:1–13

Theme: Wrestling with the ways God is showing up– and believing.

- What do you notice about Pharaoh's heart?
- What tensions or questions does this passage raise?
- What does this reveal about God's power and justice?

Jesus Connection Idea:

God's power over evil is ultimately revealed in Christ. (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How does Jesus confront hard hearts differently?
- What does this passage show about the seriousness of rejecting God?
- How does the gospel invite softening rather than hardening?

Application:

- Where might your heart be resistant to God?
- What does it look like to stay soft and responsive?

- How can we help each other remain open to God's work?

Exodus 7:14–10:29

Almost All the Plagues

Text Summary:

The 9 plagues we're looking at have some common themes and some themes that begin to increase. Throughout the 9 plagues, Moses goes to Pharaoh to ask for the release of God's people. Pharaoh's heart is hardened (or he hardens it) and refuses, so God sends a plague. Pharaoh asks for a reprieve from the plague, which is given, and then his heart is hardened again. What differs as the plagues continue, they increase in severity; the magicians of Egypt are no longer able to replicate the plagues, and the plagues begin to affect the Egyptians disproportionately more than the Hebrews. Some plagues don't even affect the Hebrews. At the end of the final plague, Pharaoh refuses to see Moses again.

Inductive Text: Exodus 7:20-24; 8:1-4; 8:17-19; 8:20-23; 9:1-4; 9:8-12; 9:23-25; 10:12; 10:21-23

Theme: There are consequences for not repenting.

- What patterns do you see in Pharaoh's responses?
- How do the plagues reveal God's power?
- What do they show about sin and its consequences?

Jesus Connection Idea:

Jesus confronts hard hearts and offers ample opportunities for true repentance. (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How does Jesus confront sin while offering grace?
- What makes Jesus' invitation to repentance different?
- How does the gospel provide a way out of judgment?



Application:

- Where might you be resisting repentance?
- What is God trying to get your attention about?
- What would true repentance look like this week?

Exodus 11:1–12:42

The First Last Supper

Text Summary:

The final plague is the death of all firstborn children. In this situation, all is all. It will affect every household. The hope for any and all is that they would take the blood of a lamb and put it on their doorway. This is the moment of God's redemption, and to highlight that fact, God speaks of his salvation with certainty and institutes the key feast of the Jewish people, Passover. This is the first redemption, and this is the first... last supper.

Inductive Text: Exodus 12:21-32

Theme: Redemption through sacrifice. (Passover)

- What stands out about the instructions for the Passover?
- Why is the blood essential?
- What does this teach about God's justice and mercy?

Jesus Connection idea:

Jesus is the true Passover Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. (John 1:29) (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How is Jesus the true and better Passover Lamb?
- What does it mean to be "covered by the blood"?
- How does this deepen your understanding of salvation?

Application:

- Where do you need to trust in God's provision for salvation?
- How does this shape your gratitude or worship?
- How can you live in light of being redeemed?



Exodus 12:43–13:22

Cloud by Day, Pillar by Night

Text Summary:

This passage illustrates what it means to follow after God: Remember what he has done, consecrate your house, follow his presence.

Inductive Text: Exodus 13:1-22

Theme: Remember and follow

- Why is remembering emphasized here?
- What does it look like to follow God's presence?
- What rhythms is God establishing for His people?

Jesus Connection Idea:

Communion as an ongoing remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice. Also, we have something better than a pillar of fire– we have the Holy Spirit. (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How does this connect to communion and remembrance?
- How is the Holy Spirit a greater guide than the pillar?
- What does following Jesus look like daily?

Application:

- What helps you remember what God has done?
- Where is God leading you right now?
- How can you become more aware of His presence?

Exodus 14

There's No Way

Text Summary:

Pharaoh pursues the Hebrews and traps them by the Red Sea. The Israelites freak out and think there is no way for them to be saved. God parts the Red Sea and allows his people to escape through it, and uses the same parted sea to crush Pharaoh's army.

Inductive Text: Exodus 14:1-30

Theme: Fear vs. trust

- What fears are driving the people's response?
- What does Moses call them to instead?
- How does God respond to their fear?

Jesus Connection Idea:

Jesus fights for us and secures the victory we could not. (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How does Jesus fight for us?
- What victory has Jesus already secured?
- How does the gospel speak into our fear?

Application:

- Where do you feel trapped or overwhelmed?
- What would trusting God look like in that situation?
- How can you practice surrender this week?

Exodus 15:1-21

Let the Redeemed of the Lord Sing So

Text Summary:

The immediate result of God's salvation is congregational singing. He is victorious!

Inductive Text: Exodus 15:1-21

Theme: Worship as response to redemption

- What stands out about their worship?
- What are they celebrating about God?
- Why is worship the natural response?

Jesus Connection Idea:

Worship flows from the finished work of Christ. (Note: This is only one idea; feel free to allow the group to discuss other connections from the text to Jesus).

- How does Jesus give us an even greater reason to worship?
- What does it mean to worship in light of the cross?
- How does redemption shape our praise?

Application:

- How has God been faithful in your life recently?
- What is one way you can express worship this week?
- How can worship become a more regular response in your life?

This would be a great week to close in musical worship as a group. Pick your favorite worship song and listen/sing it together.