



SDG Discussion Guide

Exodus 5-11
October 22, 2017

If time permits, read aloud all of Exodus chapters 5-11 in your group, taking turns as you can. Make note of what points and questions are raised for you for your following discussion.

For starters:

What is one thing you do not like to do -- for example, a chore, task, obligation, etc? What are ways you procrastinate?

Describe a time when you found an unwanted creature in your food.

What do you like best about "going home"? What do you enjoy doing there?

Interaction with the text: (The following questions are meant to provide points of interaction with the respective sermon text. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday; or, group members may find these questions in print on that Sunday. Further, feel free to facilitate your own discussion regarding the respective text.)

1. What points or questions does the Exodus passage raise for you? Take plenty of time to discuss these in your group.
2. Where do you see your vision being tested by "temporary" setbacks? To what extent are you responding like or unlike the people of God in those harsh circumstances (5:1-21). Do you gain any perspective by answering these two questions and if so, what?
3. What is your default reaction when someone makes a promise to you? Trust? Skepticism? Just wait and see? Why?
4. When have you been wronged by being too trusting? When has your trust been rewarded?
5. In your own trust walk with God, which has more impact: a) past acts of God? b) present circumstances? c) future promises? Why?
6. The "heart" in the biblical sense is the center of all human existence -- of our thoughts, emotions, and desires; everything we do flows from it (Prov 4:23). Discuss this statement. Further, what has this Exodus passage and discussion helped you see or learn about your own "heart"?
7. Who do you know who needs an encouraging reminder of the promise of God's power and presence? How could you model that message to that person in the days ahead?

How can your group pray for each other? Spend some time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you to pray. Listen and pray as he leads you.

*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).