
Exodus: Let's Talk

This Grace@Home Let's Talk Guide provides discussion questions and activities that you may use to facilitate conversations about God and His Word in your home. The focus is on those chapters that are most likely to promote meaningful conversations for all ages of family members.

Exodus 1

Get your family into the mood of our amazing setting of Exodus. Google images of ancient Egypt. Then go to this site and translate your name into hieroglyphics:

<http://guardians.net/egypt/hieroglyphs/hiero-translator.htm>

Questions

1. After Joseph died and a few generations passed, how did the people of Egypt begin to feel about the Hebrews? Why did they feel this way?
2. What job did Pharaoh give the Hebrews?
3. What instruction did Pharaoh give the midwives (people that helped ladies have their babies)? How did the midwives obey God instead? How did God bless them as a result?
4. Has there ever been a time when you had to disobey a person to obey God? When is this right? Can you think of any other examples in history when people had to make this choice? (i.e. families in WWII that hid Jews from Nazi's.)

Exodus 3

Watch this video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZpYMr-EdOQ>

about Moses' first meeting with God at the burning bush. Then read Exodus three.

Questions:

1. What did God ask Moses to do when he came up the mountain to the bush?
2. What name does God tell Moses to tell the children of Israel?
3. What sign does God give Moses to show the Israelites?
4. Why do you think God chose to talk to Moses through a bush?

Exodus 7

Prepare the materials for a fun science experiment which turns colored water clear. Get a clear glass and fill it half-way with water. Add a few drops of food coloring and mix it around. To make the water clear add a few drops of bleach. Did the experiment work? Read what God did to the color of the Egyptian water.

Questions:

1. How is God's power – as demonstrated through Moses – more powerful than that of the magicians? What would you have been thinking if you had been watching this scene unfold?
2. With what object did Moses touch the water? How did the water transform?
3. What happened as result of all the waters turning to blood?
4. Do you think there is anything that God could have done that would have changed Pharaoh's mind? Why or why not?

Exodus 12

Moses and the first Passover saved the Israelites from death. Jesus was the true Passover lamb whose sacrifice has given us eternal life and saved us from spiritual death. Read Exodus 12; then take a few minutes to thank God for His sacrifice.

Questions:

1. What were the Israelites told to do with the blood of the lamb they sacrificed?
2. How many days did God command that the Passover celebration should take place?
3. Why did the lamb (and Jesus) have to die?
4. What other similarities are there between the first Passover and Jesus?

Exodus 14

Watch Moses parting the Red Sea in the famous movie The Ten Commandments: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqCTq3EeDcY>.

What do you think of the special effects? This is a fun one to act out as a family as well (you can use tables and blue sheets).

Questions

1. What did God tell Moses to do to part the Red Sea?
2. What did God send between the Israelites and the Egyptian army?
3. Pretend you are one of the Israelites at the back of the line? Describe what you would be seeing and how you would feel?
4. Describe how it would have felt to be a member of the Egyptian army. Do you believe God can still do miracles today? Can you remember a "Red Sea" moment in your life?

Exodus 16

If you could only eat one food every day for the next year what would it be? What food would you like to never eat again? If you are eating dinner while doing these discussions, have your kids act out the story with only items found on the dinner table.

Questions:

1. What were the Israelites complaining about and what did they wish for?
2. What food did God say He would provide to the Israelites?
3. What happened to the manna when the ground became hot from the sun?
4. Manna is the bread God gave His people to meet their needs. Who is called the "Bread of Life" in the New Testament and how does He meet our needs?

Exodus 18

As a family, decide on one or two issues about which there is often disagreement or complaining. Let every member of the family have a chance to give their advice on how best to solve the issue. Make it fun and pretend you are reporting from a court room scene or you are the host of a new radio talk show called "Lucy's Life Tips."

Questions:

1. Who gave Moses advice?
2. What was Moses doing that was unwise and what kind of advice did he receive?
3. Discuss with your family the people whose advice you trust. What qualities do they have that make them trustworthy?
4. What is the best advice you have ever received?

Exodus 20

Make a list from one to ten and then see how many of the Ten Commandments you can list as a family. Bonus points if you put them in order of when they were given! You could even play charades and see if your family can guess some of the commandments (you decide which ones you want to include).

Questions:

1. Which commandment contains a promise and what is it?
2. Do you think one commandment is more important than another? If so which one?
3. Which commandment is hardest for you to observe? Why?
4. The Israelites were supposed to build what kind of altar? Why do you think God was specific about the building materials?

Exodus 24

Art Day! Set out some paper and artistic supplies (crayons, markers, paints) for the family. While one person reads aloud (or listen to it on audio) have each family member draw what he/she hears. Then share what part of the chapter he/she chose to draw and why.

Questions:

1. Who saw God on the mountain with Moses?
2. How many days was Moses on the mountain?
3. If you had been one of the people that came partway up the mountain, what would you have been thinking as Moses disappeared into the cloud? What about 30 days later?
4. Can you think of any other events in the Bible that lasted for 40 days? (you can Google the answer)

Exodus 26

Set a timer for three minutes and see how many pieces of furniture and curtains you can count in your house. Who counted the most? Then read about how the Israelites prepared the tabernacle according to God's perfect specifications. To make this descriptive chapter even more tangible, Google "tabernacle images."

Questions:

1. What colors of thread did the Israelites use to weave the fine linen curtains?
2. How many curtains of goat hair did they make?
3. Why do you think God was so specific in His plans?
4. Why is God telling the Israelites to build him a tent rather than a temple right now?

Exodus 32

This is a great chapter to act out! You can use stuffed animals or assign family members different parts. Or, read the chapter and then have one of your older kids retell it from the perspective of an Israelite their own age.

Questions:

1. What were the Israelites making while Moses was on the mountain? Why were they doing this? What list had Moses just recited to them that made this a bad idea?
2. How did Moses feel and what did he do to the tablets when he saw the people? Do you think God wanted him to do this? Why or why not? What would you have done?
3. Have you ever been angry and said or did something that you regretted later? How did you apologize?

Exodus 35

The Israelites gave willingly from what they had to build the tabernacle. Have every family member collect five things from the house that they could give to God and discuss how God could use each item. Get creative! Who knew you could use badger skins, nose rings and goat hair for God?!

Questions:

1. What kind of heart is God looking for when you give?
2. Who did God name to skillfully work with gold, silver and bronze? Did you ever think that God calls people to jobs and gives them specific talents for His purpose? What might God be calling you to do someday?
3. Why does God ask for people to give only if they are stirred and want to give willingly?
4. Do you find it easy or hard to give to God? What ways can you give to God besides giving money at church?

Exodus 38

During the building of the temple and all of its contents, the Israelites used several different kinds of materials. Take time to look up acacia wood, cubit, altar, and laver (try Google images). Then read the passage and stop when you hear one of these words. Discuss what you learned about the definition for each and how it is used in the passage. Or, chose one of the items described and try to make it with play dough.

Questions:

1. What was in the four corners of the altar?
2. What colors were in the screen for the gate?
3. Do you think the Israelites were worried about getting enough materials to make the tabernacle as God commanded? Why or why not?
4. If you were a kid during this time and snuck into the area where all these materials were being made into the tabernacle, describe what you think the scene would look like. What sounds might you hear? Any smells? What would you feel as you walked through the place that God chose to meet with His people?

Exodus 40

Put up a tent or make a sheet/blanket tent in your house. Then bring your Bible and the whole family inside while you read how the Israelites set up the tabernacle. To make the reading more visual, you could have one of the older members of the family draw a picture of where the various items were set up in the tabernacle. Or, go all out and have your kids help you setup a mini tabernacle with items from your house as you read.

Questions:

1. What item was put behind the veil in the tabernacle? What was this place called and who could go there? Why not everyone?
2. Can you remember when the inner veil was torn in half (hint: New Testament)? What caused the veil to be torn and what does that picture for us as Christians?
3. What happened once the tabernacle was completed? Describe what that might have

looked like. How might you have felt if you were a child watching this happen?

4. How did the Israelites know when it was time to move? Can you imagine living your life this way?