

Bible Reading Together during this Covid-19 Shutdown

November 15-21: Read Exodus 14 & 20, Gospel of Luke 15

Exodus 14

After the 10th plague, the pharaoh finally relents and releases the Hebrew slaves. Moses leads them out and heads to the Promised Land when the pharaoh changes his mind. With the angry Egyptian army chasing after them, Moses and the Hebrews find themselves at a dead end with the Red Sea in front of them.

Further Study & Discussion

- How do you explain the phrase, “The Lord hardened the heart of the Pharaoh king of Egypt” (v.4 & v.8)? We always thought God gave us free will to make decisions on our own. Talk about what’s going on and how one might understand this line.
- Retell the story of freedom, the pursuit, the fear and the miraculous rescue in your own words. How is God active or inactive in this story? How does this story similar or dissimilar to your experience with God?
- The death of the Egyptian army in the Red Sea is shocking. Do you think the Hebrews celebrated their destruction or felt sorry for them? If they celebrated their drowning, do you think they are bad? Consider their 400 years of slavery and how they were treated before responding.

Exodus 20

This is the Ten Commandments of God for his people.

Further Study & Discussion

- Notice how they are divided into two parts: 1-4 are about God, and 5-10 are about people. Write them out in summary form.
- When Jesus was asked about one command to summarize the whole Law, he gave the response, “Love God and love others.” How are the Ten Commandments about loving God and loving others?

Gospel of Luke 15

Luke 15 contains perhaps the favorite parable of the Church – the Parable of the Lost Son. Read through the whole story – the gathering around Jesus, the three parables – the Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, and then the Lost Son.

Further Study & Discussion

- Who are the two groups of people that gathered around Jesus that day? How are they reflected in the three parables? What parts do they represent?
- Why are the three parables important to fully understand God’s heart for the lost? So, in your own words, what is God’s heart for the lost? Is there a word for those that stayed close?
- The Parable of the Lost Son is the main point of Jesus’ teaching. What stands out for you? Did you learn something new through this reading? And which character are you in this story? Lost son, older son or the father.