

The Torah

Community Group Discussion Guide

January 24, 2016

Week 4 | God's Faithfulness

Exodus

Introduction : We're in a 9 week series we've titled The Torah. In Jewish tradition, "Torah" is the name of these first five books of the Bible. It's a Hebrew word that means "teachings" or "instructions". Sunday's sermon looks at God's faithfulness to Israel and how Moses responded to God's call to rescue the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

Questions For Study

1. Have you ever had a time in your life when you questioned God's faithfulness? If yes, what was it that created this doubt for you?
2. The first chapter of Exodus tells us what happened to the Israelites when Joseph became only a person of history to Egypt's new king. The large population of Hebrew people became a threat to the Egyptians. Write down what life was like for them.
3. Exodus 12:40 tells us that the Israelites were in Egypt for a total of 430 years. Depending on when the Egyptians became alarmed by the number of Israelites and depending on the time Pharaoh decided to put them into slavery, many of the Israelites years in Egypt were spent in slavery. This could have been as many as 200 years or event more. Thinking about this and putting yourself in their situation, how might this create doubt in your mind about God's faithfulness.
4. How do we see the circumstances of Moses' birth providing insight into how God's working when we don't see him working? Why was this strategic move on God's part in preparing someone to rescue the Israelites from slavery? (These are two separate questions.)
5. How do you see God's faithfulness in Moses doing what he did in verse 11 of chapter two?

-More questions on back-

Questions For Study (Cont'd)

6. You might find this interesting...Check out the following verses to see how Moses' life is divided into thirds: Acts 7:43, Exodus 7:7 and Deuteronomy 34:7

7. Let's say you grew up in New York City and you're one of Donald Trump's children. (There's no political anything in this question.) 😊 And when you're well into your adult life, let's say in your 30s, something happens that forces you to move to North Dakota to live on a farm where your daily duty is taking care of sheep. (Nothing against North Dakota. I just know there's a good number of sheep ranches there.) What struggle might you go through? I'm asking this because it gives a picture of the struggle Moses might have had when he left Pharaoh's court and fled to Midian and became a shepherd.

8. There's a fascinating conversation between God and Moses in chapters three and four, where God calls Moses to rescue the Israelites from slavery and Moses gives his objections. Write down his objections.

9. When God's asked you to do something that was out of your comfort zone and a real stretch for you, have you ever used any of those objections? If yes, which one/s?

10. Reflecting on these three chapters, what lessons do you think they teach us about the faithfulness of God?