



Sugar Grove Life Groups Have Ya' Been Used by God Lately?

This curriculum will explore the book of Exodus and the Israelites as they leave Egypt and head towards the promised land. In so many ways the story of the Exodus is our story– a community of God's people who help and encourage each other on a difficult journey to a promised land that they have never seen. Your group will enjoy this material because God has much to teach us through the Exodus story about what it means to be the community of Christ.

PREPARE:

- ⊙ How are you doing? Catch us up on your life. What has been a high and a low in your life since this group last met? How have you seen God work in your life since this group last met?
- ⊙ Have you ever ended up stranded away from home for an extended period; perhaps you were traveling and had to stay somewhere longer than anticipated or you had to move somewhere you really did not want to be. Briefly share that experience with the group.

GROW:

- ⊙ While Pharaoh was carrying out a methodical extermination of the Israelites God was making preparations to free His people. Let's start at the end of chapter 2 because it tells us about a key piece of this story; **Read Exodus 2:23-25.**
- ⊙ The Israelite baby boys were being killed and the Israelite people were being forced into back breaking slavery.
 - ⇒ What did the people do?
 - ⇒ What did God do?
 - ⇒ Would God have done anything if the people had not cried out to Him? Why?
 - ⇒ Did God immediately fix their problem or did he begin a process that would fix their problem?
 - ⇒ Does God immediately fix our problems today or does he begin a process to fix our problems once we call out to Him?
 - ⇒ Why is it important for us to realize how God works?
- ⊙ God raised up Moses from the beginning to be an answer to the prayers of the Israelites. **Read Exodus 2:1-10.**
- ⊙ The phrase in verse 2 indicates Moses was literally a beautiful baby which his mother received as a sign that something was special about him. The Pharaoh's daughter broke the edict of the Pharaoh to save the life of this beautiful Israelite baby floating in a basket in the river. All apparently part of God's plan...
 - ⇒ Do you think Moses mother knew that what she was doing was being used and directed by God to save the Israelite people?
 - ⇒ Do you think the Pharaoh's daughter had any idea she was being used by God to save the Israelite people?





- ⇒ Do you think today we recognize when God is using us to accomplish His plans?
- ⇒ Do you think today we recognize when God is using non believers to accomplish His plans?
- ⇒ How should our attitude and actions be impacted by the reality that we don't always recognize how God is using us, this group, our church, and even non-believers to accomplish His plans?

⊙ **Read Exodus 2:11-22.**

- ⊙ Today we like our national leaders as well as our church leaders to be perfect- to have never done anything stupid or impulsive or showing a lack of judgment. But Exodus 2:11-22 shows God chose someone who was not perfect.
 - ⇒ Would Moses be someone whom we would choose today as a national or a church leader? Why?
 - ⇒ Is there anyone in this small group that God could not work through to do amazing things?
 - ⇒ What is something about yourself or your life that you view as a barrier for why God could not use you?
 - ⇒ God used Moses weaknesses as well as his strengths. Are you willing to let God use both your weaknesses and your strengths?

‡ **What action do you need to take? Bible Study is meaningless unless it produces a change in your heart, your attitude, and in what you do. What change do you need to make in your life?**

‡ *(Keep track of what needs to change in your life and ask each other the next time your group meets how you are doing in regard to this area of your life.)*

PRAYER:

- ⊙ Have your group's prayer coordinator close your group time in the throne room of God.
- ⊙ Consider praying in one the following ways:
 - ⇒ Go around the circle and have each person pray what is on their heart.
 - ⇒ Break into small groups and spend time letting each group share deeper and then close with prayer.
 - ⇒ Go around the circle and lift the person on your left up in prayer.
 - ⇒ Place someone in the middle of the circle who has special prayer needs. Have everyone place their hands upon them and lift that person up in prayer.
 - ⇒ If your group has children let the adults pray together and then bring the children into the group so that the adults can circle around them and pray.
 - ⇒ Everyone get down on their knees and earnestly lift your requests to God.
 - ⇒ Sing a song of prayer to God.
 - ⇒ Let the women of the group pray for the men and then let the men of the group pray for the women.
 - ⇒ Spend an extended amount of time at the beginning of your group time after you have shared with each other how things are going in your life.