Chapter-by-Chapter Bible Studies

Exodus Bible Study (Questions Only)

"Mountains Tremble"

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Exodus Bible Study (Questions Only) "Mountains Tremble"

This book has been put together for your use:

- In your personal devotional Bible Study time.
 - or
- For your Bible Study Discussion Group.

It is divided into several lessons, each lesson has questions for you to answer as you read and talk your way through Exodus.

If you are studying as a group and not everyone has their own copy of this Bible Study, I suggest making sure each member of your group has a copy of the next week's questions in advance so that they can prepare if they want to. Preparation for a Bible Study is a great way to establish the habit of getting into the Word every day.

An online version of this study is available for free download at: www.kathleeendalton.com

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Introduction Exodus Bible Study (Questions Only) "Mountains Tremble"

We are going to see Almighty God in this book. He is more powerful than any of us could ever understand. He is so mighty that He has only to look at the earth and it trembles, or touch a mountain and it smokes.

And we are going to see Jesus in this book. Because He is Almighty God.

In Genesis we saw the unstoppable power of God's plan. But in Exodus we will come to know <u>Him</u>. We will learn His ways, His attributes, His character and His Name. By the time we're through with Exodus we will know for sure that His Name is the most important name in the universe.

"The mountains saw You and trembled..." Habakkuk 3:10

Lesson 1 "He Knows My Name" Exodus 1

Exodus begins with a surprise: God thinks our names are important!

For over 3,500 years the most-read book in the world has openly praised and declared the names of two Hebrew women, Shiphrah and Puah. They were nobodies – just two midwives who helped Jewish women give birth in 1,500 BC. But to God these two women were worthy of honor because they had faith in Him. He knew their names and made sure we would, too.

- 1. (:1-5) What were the names of the twelve sons of Jacob?
- 2. (:6-7) Over the span of four hundred years, Jacob and his twelve sons and their wives all died, but what happened to their descendants who were left in Egypt?
- 3. (:8-10) What was the new Pharaoh afraid of?
- 4. (:11) What did the rulers of Egypt decide to do?
- 5. (:12) What happened as a result of what they did?
- 6. (:13-16) Then what did the Egyptians do?

- 7. (:17-20) How did God protect the descendants of Jacob?
- 8. (:21) How did God reward the midwives?
- 9. (:22) Then what did Pharaoh do?
- 10. Why did the descendants of Jacob flourish even though they were treated harshly? What does that tell you about God?
- 11. What is your opinion about why God allowed things to get so hard for these people? (look at *John 9:1-3*)
- 12. Where did the midwives get their courage? Was God rewarding them for lying?
- 13. (:21&15) What two rewards did God give the midwives?
- 14. God knows your name right now. What does that mean to you?
- 15. And God knows your new name (*Revelation 2:17*). He has it reserved for you. What does that mean to you?

Lesson 2 "Fight Back or Cry for Help?" Exodus 2

What did the people of God do which finally opened the doors for God to act?

They groaned. To God. Prayer. Not the fancy kind with all the big words. Just groaning. Just tears. Just help!

(From "Extreme Devotion", The Voice of the Martyrs, Day 1:) "When Ercan Sengul committed his life to Christ in the Muslim nation of Turkey, some saw it as turning his back on his heritage and nation. When he said that would do anything for God, he had meant it then, but what about now?

Ercan sat in a dank prison cell surrounded by cell mates. He had been arrested by local police who said that he'd "insulted Islam" by distributing books for a Christian publisher.

Ercan cried out to God, begging to be rescued. He knew that he'd done nothing wrong and didn't deserve to be there. "You said you'd do anything for me," God whispered to Ercan's heart. "Did you mean it?"

Broken before God, Ercan wept and worshipped. He told God in his heart, "I really meant it." Ercan began to preach three hours each day in prison. He learned that God allowed him to be imprisoned to give him a new mission field! Ercan was in prison for thirty days until witnesses admitted that police had pressured them to sign statements and the judge found no evidence of any crime.

The arrest has furthered Ercan's witness. Since his release, many who shared his cell have visited his church, asking about the God who gave him peace while locked in prison. Ercan still joyfully gives out Christian books, knowing he could be arrested."

Why do we so often make prayer the last resort?

We don't understand God's ways. He wants our faith, not our strength. Our trust, not our intelligence. Our humility, not our pride. Moses spent forty years in Midian learning not to fight back, but to cry for help.

- 1. (:1) Moses was from which tribe of Israel?
- 2. (:2&3) What did Moses' mother do to try to save her baby?
- 3. (:4-9) What part did Moses' sister play in the protection of her brother?
- 4. (:8-10) What part did Moses' mother play in his childhood?
- 5. (:10) What part did Pharaoh's daughter play in his childhood?
- 6. (:11-15) Why did Moses commit this murder? What do you think he was trying to accomplish? Did he accomplish it?
- 7. (:15-20) What does this small story tell us about the character of Moses the murderer?
- 8. (:21) Where is Moses going to live now that he has fled Egypt? Who is his wife?
- 9. (:22) Why did Moses name his first son Gershom?
- 10. (:23-25) Why did God finally take notice of the Hebrews? Had He been aware of their plight all along? Why did it take so long for Him to act?

- 11. What was childhood like for Moses' sister, Miriam? Why doesn't God give every child a sweet and peaceful childhood?
- 12. Moses was simply protecting his fellow Hebrews when he murdered the Egyptian. He was identifying with the people of God, and taking a risk, knowing his own life would be in danger. Why didn't God bless what he had done?
- 13. Moses lived with the Midianites for forty years before God asked him to take the next step in his life. He pastured sheep. How was that good training for what was coming next? Who else in Bible history trained for leadership as a shepherd?
- 14. What action did the people of God take which finally opened the doors for God to act?
- 15. Why do we so often make prayer the last resort?

Lesson 3 "Remove Your Sandals" Exodus 3

Moses was born to a Jewish family at a terrifying time in their lives. At three months old he was placed in a little floating boat and left to drift in a river, so that his life could be saved. An Egyptian princess found him and raised him in the Egyptian way, but she first hired his Jewish mother to nurse him, giving that Jewish mother the chance to love her little boy and instill Godly truths in his life.

When he became an adult in the household of the Pharaoh of Egypt, Moses saw an Egyptian cruelly treating a Jew, and he killed the Egyptian. He ran for his life when his adopted grandfather, the Pharaoh, heard of it.

He ended up in the desert – in Midian – and there he lived and married and had children. Moses, the grandson of Pharaoh, also a son of God's Chosen People, highly educated and knowledgeable in the ways of the world, and well-versed in the ways of the One, True God, became a shepherd in the wilderness of Midian.

I'm thinking that while he was watching sheep he remembered how he murdered an Egyptian because he heard and saw the suffering of his own people. And I think he remembered how miserably he failed to do anything about that suffering. Perhaps he remembered, too, his humiliating flight from Egypt, and the years that had piled up since then. I wonder, too, if he was puzzled about why God waited so long to help His people. I imagine Moses didn't at all realize at that time that God had been waiting for Moses to be ready to go back and do it again – this time in God's way.

Then, after forty years, seemingly out of nowhere, God reaches into Moses' life. He uses a burning bush.

- 1. (:1) Just a little curiosity here. Verse 1 says his father-in-law's name was Jethro, but chapter 2:38 says his father-in-law's name was Reuel. Is this a mistake in the Bible?
- 2. (:1-3) What was so unusual about this burning bush?

- 3. (:4-5) Why was it necessary for Moses to remove his sandals?
- 4. (:6) Why does God identify Himself in that way? What did it tell Moses?
- 5. (:7-9) What did God plan to do for His people, the Israelites?
- 6. How do you think Moses felt when God told him that He had heard the cry of His people? What do you think Moses was remembering?
- 7. (:10-11) How does Moses react to God's call for him to be sent to Pharaoah? Why does he react that way?
- 8. (:12) What does the Lord God say to calm his fears?
- 9. (:13-14) Moses asks God what name he should use when telling the people of Israel that God had sent him. Why would he ask that question?
- 10. (:14) What does the name "I AM" imply?
- 11. (:15) What other name does God give Moses to use?
- 12. (:16-20) What is Moses supposed to do? Is it going to work?

- 13. Why do you think God didn't at first give Moses the whole picture of everything that would happen?
- 14. (:21&22) When the people of Israel finally do leave Egypt, what would they take with them?
- 15. The Lord was about to set His people free. It was going to be a long process. But when it was done, no one would wonder Who did it. The whole world then, and our whole world, too, would know that the God of Israel was mighty, powerful, majestic. Read *Psalm 145* out loud. Why is it so exhilarating to speak the praises of God?
- 16. Is there anything the Lord has ever asked you to do which you considered yourself unable or unworthy or untrained to do?
- 17. God got Moses' attention with a burning bush. How has He gotten your attention in the past?

Lesson 4 "I Can't Do It!" Exodus 4

Sometimes, before you can do a job for God, you have to get some things right between you and Him.

In this chapter we see that Moses' wife was probably not a believer in the One, True God. She was married to Moses and following his lead, but not willingly. And she especially didn't like the plan of circumcising her son so that he would be identified with the children of Israel.

Seems like both Moses and his wife needed believe in God and also obey Him in the small things, (circumcision being one of them) so that they could learn to trust Him in the big things yet to come (moving two million people out of Egypt).

- 1. (:1) Moses thinks he has two reasons why he cannot do this task the "I Am" has asked him to do. The first is in this verse. What is it?
- 2. (:2-9) How does God solve this objection?
- 3. (:10) What is Moses' second reason?
- 4. (:11-12) How does God answer this objection?
- 5. (:13) What is Moses' response? What does that tell you about Moses' heart?
- 6. (:14) Why is God angry at Moses? (*Hebrews 11:6*)

- 7. (:14-17) Does God accept Moses' lack of trust in himself as a good reason to turn down God's job for him?
- 8. (:18) Does Moses finally obey God? Why?
- 9. (:19-23) Moses takes his family with him to go to Egypt. What does that tell you about Moses' plans for the future?
- 10. (:24-26) This is a picture of an encounter between God and Moses and his wife. Do you think Moses' wife was entirely on board with the plan of God? What could have been holding her back?
- 11.(:24-26) Why did this circumcision need to happen? (Genesis 17:9-14)
- 12. (:27-30) Who did God provide to be the spokesperson?
- 13. (:31) How did the people of Israel respond to Moses and Aaron's leadership?
- 14. Sometimes, before you can do a job for God, you have to get some things right between you and Him. What types of things might that be?
- 15. If a believer has a spouse who does not want to serve God, does that free up that believer from serving God? What practical advice might you have for someone in that situation?

Lesson 5 "First, Take a Step of Faith, then, Things Get Harder"

Exodus 5&6

Moses and Aaron knew a little about God – enough to realize Who He was, and that they needed to be obedient to Him. They knew as much about God as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had known.

But they were about to learn a whole lot more about Him. He was going to show them not just that He was a powerful and loving and giving God Who wanted to bless them and take care of them. He was going to show them that life was all about HIM. He was going to reveal HIMSELF to them.

They had a lesson to learn here, and the only way to learn it was to walk through difficulty. Their small steps of faith so far were great – but this was no time to stop. They still needed to come to the end of themselves so they could realize the HUGENESS of God.

Our view of God makes all the difference in the world. If we see Him as a Santa Claus who owes us gifts, we have no idea of Who He is. If we see Him as a frightening Being Whom we fear, we have no idea of Who He is. If we see Him as a loving Father who wants the best for us, we still have no idea Who He is.

It's not until we walk through the darkest times of life – trying to walk by faith – that we get a tiny glimpse of Who God is – and we finally realize: IT'S NOT ABOUT ME.

- 1. (5:1-9) What happened to Moses and Aaron when they obeyed the Lord God and went to Pharaoh?
- 2. (5:10-19) What happened to the Israelites as a result of this obedience of Moses and Aaron?

- 3. (5:20-21) What happened to Moses and Aaron when the Israelites realized life was going to be very hard?
- 4. (5:22-23) What did Moses & Aaron do then?
- 5. In chapter 5, what strikes you as not fair?
- 6. If you were God, how would you answer Moses and Aaron at this point?
- 7. Have you ever taken a step of faith and had this type of thing happen to you? What did you do about it? What was the final outcome?
- 8. This is when bitterness against God often starts in a person's life. Is there any bitterness against God in your life?
- 9. (6:1) What is God's answer to Moses and Aaron?
- 10. (6:2-3) God tells Moses here that when He spoke to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob He made Himself known to them as "God Almighty" (El Shaddai). But He is making Himself known to Moses as "LORD" (YHWH). Why is this distinction important? What is God saying here?
- 11.(6:4&5) God reminds Moses that He knows He made a covenant with the Israelites...that He has not forgotten that covenant. How will this help Moses?
- 12. (6:6-8) What does God promise again to do? Has He added anything to this promise which the Israelites had never heard before?

- 13. (6:9) How did the Israelites respond to Moses?
- 14. (6:10-13) God tells Moses to again go to Pharaoh and ask to be let go. How does Moses respond? How does God respond to Moses after that?
- 15. (6:14-30) This genealogy proves that Moses and Aaron are direct descendants of Levi. It proves that Moses and Aaron are actually the same two men to whom God originally spoke in Midian. Why do you think God cares so much about detail?
- 16. What do these two chapters teach us about keeping ourselves free from bitterness against God?
- 17. If someone has a past bitterness against God, no matter how old that bitterness is, what can he/she do about it now?
- 18. If things don't always get easier when I begin to walk by faith, why would I want to walk by faith?

Lesson 6 "Rod Becomes Serpent, Nile Becomes Blood, Frogs & Insects" Exodus 7& 8

When the sun shines on butter, it melts. When the sun shines on clay, it hardens. The sun is the same in both cases. The reaction is determined by the nature of the substance the sun is shining on.

Yes, Pharaoh had a choice. And he chose to rebel against God - not to believe Him or obey Him. God allowed Pharaoh to get a glimpse of Who He was so that Pharaoh could make that choice. God's perfect presence hardened Pharaoh's heart of clay.

Every time Pharaoh chose not to believe God, look what happened:

- The plagues got worse each time.
- The people of Egypt suffered more each time.
- The leader of Egypt cared not for his people's suffering only his own.
- The leader of the Hebrews (Moses) was getting stronger and stronger in his faith. Moses began talking directly to Pharaoh bypassing the mouthpiece he had been so sure he needed. (8:26-27)
- The magicians of Egypt were relying on the power of Satan. Satan was no match for God.
- God continued to grant Pharaoh's requests, not because He thought Pharaoh would eventually change his mind (God knew what Pharaoh would do), but because it suited God's plans to allow Pharaoh's heart to get harder and harder and harder.
- The plagues were beginning to set the Hebrew people apart from the Egyptians. They were beginning to see themselves as separate from the people they had grown up with.
- The Hebrew people were beginning to realize they were not slaves any more!
- 1. (7:1-2) What does the Lord mean when He says to Moses: *"I will make you as God to Pharaoh..."*?

- 2. (7:2) What part is Aaron going to play? What is the job of a prophet?
- 3. (7:3) What does the Lord mean when He says He is going to "harden" Pharaoh's heart? Did Pharaoh even have a chance to believe? (*Romans* 2:4-6) (*Romans* 9:14-22)
- 4. (7:4-7) How old were Moses and Aaron when they undertook this task? What does that tell you?
- 5. (7:8-13) What is God's first miracle for Pharaoh?
- 6. (7:14-25) What is God's second miracle for Pharaoh?
- 7. (8:1-15) What is God's third miracle for Pharaoh?
- 8. (8:16-32) What is God's fourth miracle for Pharaoh?

9. Compare these first four miracles, and come to some conclusions about what God was accomplishing:

#1	#2	#3	#4
Snake	Bloody Sea	Frogs	Insects

Lesson 7 "Livestock Die, Boils, Hail, Locusts, and Darkness" Exodus 9&10

What lessons can be learned from these next five plagues?

- Pharaoh was like the man with his hand caught in the candy machine. He so desired the candy that he could not let go of it, even though it would be the death of him. In this sense Pharaoh was an accurate example, too, of the power of addiction. When a person has given him/herself wholeheartedly to sin, that sin controls him/her. It controls to the point that even when it is perfectly obvious what suffering is in store for the sinner, the sinner will not, cannot, let go of it.
- Pharaoh was addicted to his kingdom. His power. His things. His authority. He bowed to no one.
- Moses was a changed man. He had become a leader. The plagues had trained him to trust God, to speak the words God gave him. To obey God.
- The Egyptian people were personally responding to God even when their leader was not. Their eyes were opening to the truth of the One, True God. Was God doing this for their sakes? We know that He is the God of the world, not just the Hebrews. Perhaps He had a beloved child amongst those idol-worshipping Egyptians, someone who just needed to have the truth of God's existence made plain so they could believe. I look forward to my first day in heaven to do a little foot-work and see if an Egyptian from 1,500 BC is there.
- The livestock of the Egyptians were killed in Plague #5, then afflicted with boils in Plague #6, then rained on with lethal hail in Plague #7. I wouldn't have wanted to be an Egyptian cow in those days! This is a sad illustration of how God's whole creation suffers from the sin of its humans. *Romans* 8:19-22

- 1. Compare the next five plagues:
 - How are they the same?
 - How are they different?
 - Do you see a progression from Plague #1 to Plague #9?

#5	#6	#7	#8	#9
Livestock	Boils	Hail	Locusts	Darkness

One more plague to go before the Lord lowers the boom!

Lesson 8 "The Tenth Plague" Exodus 11&12

On this night the angel of the Lord was going to "pass over" the whole land of Egypt. Every household which did not have the blood of an innocent lamb covering their doorposts would lose their firstborn to death. The Angel of the Lord would be looking for this sign that the people in the household had believed the One, True, God, and, because of that belief, had followed His directions in faith.

Pharaoh did not want to bow his knee to the God of Israel, but he definitely believed their God was powerful. It reminds me of *James 2:19. "The devils also believe, and tremble."* Belief is not necessarily faith.

- 1. (11:1) What does God promise Moses will happen with the 10th plague?
- 2. (11:2&3) Why would the Egyptian people have given valuable things to the Israelites as they prepared to leave Egypt?
- 3. (11:4-6) Moses is speaking to Pharaoh here.... What is going to happen in the 10th plague?
- 4. (11:7-10) What was going to happen to the Israelites during this plague?
- 5. (12:1) What was going to be special about this month from now on?

- 6. What are the steps the Jews should follow in order to be ready for the 10th plague?
 - (12:3-5)
 (12:6)
 (12:7)
 (12:8&9)
 (12:10)
 - (12:11)
- 7. (12:12) Why is this event called the "Passover"?
- 8. (12:13) What protected the children of Israel from this plague?
- 9. What is the significance of this for us today?
- 10. What two feasts were the Jews told to celebrate from this time on? Why?

(12:14-20)

(12:21-27)

11. (12:28-32) When the 10th Plague took place, at midnight, what happened?

12. (12:32) What did Pharaoh mean when he said; "..and bless me also"?

13. (12:33-39) How fast did the people of Israel have to leave Egypt?

14. (12:35-37) How many Israelites left?

15. (12:40-41) How long had they been in Egypt?

- 16. (12:42) Why did God turn this event into an "ordinance"? What is an ordinance?
- 17. (12:43-49) What were some of the rules which would go along with this "ordinance"?

(:43)

- (:44)
- (:45)
- (:46)
- (:47)
- (:48-49)

18. (12:50-51) Who delivered the Israelites from Egypt?

Lesson 9 "**Redeemed**!"

Exodus 13

When the Lord God freed the Israelites from four hundred years of slavery, He sent them the long way to the place they were going...the southern route. It was dangerous because it was a desert, a wilderness. Food and water would have been impossible to find for such a huge group of people.

In so doing, He put them into an impossible situation where they would have no choice but to trust Him for their provision...and would not have the option of turning back.

1. (:1&2) What does the Lord ask Moses to do now that Israel is freed from slavery?

What is He actually asking them to do?

This is a pretty huge sacrifice, isn't it?

Why does He ask this (what's the obvious reason?)

- 2. (:3-10) What else does He ask them to do?
- 3. (:11-16) What could the Israelites do with the animal first-borns?

Why only the males?

What could the Israelites do with the human first-borns?

4. (:17-18) Which way would have made the most sense for the people of Israel to travel?

Why didn't God send them that way?

What does that tell you about your own life?

5. (:19) What did Moses make sure they took with them?

Why? (Genesis 50:25)

Why had Joseph cared about what happened to his bones?

6. (:20-22) How did God lead them from place to place as they traveled to the Promised Land?

How does God lead you?

7. Have you ever thought of your children as belonging to the Lord? What does that imply? Should you look differently at your children or even your things when you realize what Jesus did to buy you back from slavery? If your son or daughter had to be redeemed (bought back) from slavery, how much would you pay to do it?

Lesson 10 "Lessons Learned"

Exodus 14&15

It took many strong and mighty acts of God before the Jews believed. And even the belief described here is going to wobble once hardship comes after this miraculous river-crossing. The Israelites have been slaves. They hated being slaves. They cried for freedom. But now they have to grow up. They have to learn to be a people who are free, and who trust their God to give them the strength to do the things free people do.

- 1. (14:1-4) What does the Lord tell the Israelites to do now? Why does He tell them to do this?
- 2. (14:5-9) Why does Pharaoh change his mind? What lesson has Pharaoh not learned?
- 3. (14:10-12) How do the Israelites react when they see Pharaoh coming? What lesson have they not learned?
- 4. (14:13-14) How does Moses react to all of this? What lesson has he learned?
- 5. (14:15-18) What is going to happen? Has this ever happened before in history?
- 6. (14:19-20) What does God do first to protect this huge group of people? Has God ever protected these people this way before?

- 7. (14:21&22) What does Israel do while God is providing this protection?
- 8. (14:23-28) What does God do to the Egyptians? How many survive?
- 9. (14:29-31) What have the Israelites just learned about God? Didn't they already trust Him? Why did they have to learn this again?
- 10.(15:1-21) Read out loud the song of Moses & Miriam. What things jump out at you as you read it?
- 11. (15:22-27) What else did the Lord want to teach the Israelites as they started out their life of faith?
- 12. In the last year, what lessons have you learned from the Lord? Were any of those lessons "repeat" lessons? Were any of those lessons ones you asked Him to teach you?

13. Would you like to take greater steps of faith in your life? Are you willing to go through God's "lessons" to get there?

Lesson 11 Questions for You to Answer

Exodus 16&17 "On the Way to Sinai"

At the end of Chapter 15, the newly freed slaves began their journey of following God to the Promised Land. They traveled first to the Wilderness of Shur, to a place called "Marah", where they found only bitter water, and God taught them that He was the one they could depend on for their health.

Then, they travelled to Elim, where there was plenty of good water, and camped there awhile.

Now, in Chapter 16, they will travel to the Wilderness of Sin. (Not the "sin" we might automatically assume. That was just the name.)

- 1. (16:1-3) What was the problem they encountered on this next portion of their trip?
- 2. (16:4&5) How was God intending to solve this problem, and what was the "test" He was going to give them?
- 3. (16:6-8) Are the Israelites complaining against their leaders, Moses and Aaron, or are they complaining against the Lord?

Are all of our complaints actually against the Lord?

4. (16:9-12) Why is Moses speaking to the people through Aaron?

- 5. (16:13&14) What happened at night...and what happened in the morning?
- 6. (16:15-26) What were God's instructions (rules) about manna?
- 7. (16:27-30) What other "rule" did Israel need to learn to keep now that they are free men and women?

If God expected them to keep "rules", were they really "free"?

- 8. (16:31-34) Why did they save this little bit of manna?
- 9. (16:35&36) How long did God provide manna for the children of Israel? Why did He stop?
- 10.(17:1-4) What was the next problem the children of Israel encountered as they got to Rephidim?
- 11. (17:5-7) What was God's solution?

What do you think the Israelites were supposed to learn from this?

12. (17:8-16) Who fought against Israel as they approached Sinai? How did the children of Israel do in their first battle?

How did God feel about these enemies of Israel?

- 13. What are the lessons Israel has learned in their first few months of freedom?
- 14. How do these lessons compare to the lessons you learned after you were first saved?

Lesson 12 Questions for You to Answer

Exodus 18&19 "Where Are We?"

In Chapter 18 we see a sweet story of Moses and his father-in-law. I say sweet because it's just so ordinary and human. Nothing like a smoking mountain and earthquakes and lightning here. Just a very human need and a little advice from a father-in-law.

In Chapter 19 Moses and the huge group of Israelites arrive at what seems to be their destination. But where are they? Why have they come to this mountain? Weren't they supposed to be heading to the Promised Land? What is this stop they are making?

- 1. (18:1-6) Who comes to see Moses? Why does he come? (see vs 1 and vs 6)
- 2. (18:7-12) What was Jethro's reaction to hearing of all the Israelites had been through?
- 3. (18:13) What did Moses do the next day, just like he did every day?
- 4. (18:14-27) What did Jethro realize about what Moses was doing? What advice did Jethro give to Moses? Was this good advice?
- 5. (19:1&2) Where does Israel arrive now? How long has it been since they left Egypt?

6. (19:3-8) This passage uses several beautiful phrases to describe how God loves the children of Israel. What are they? Describe what each of these phrases means to you.

"I bore you on _____ wings." "you shall be a special _____" "you shall be to me a _____ of ____" "a _____ nation."

Does the Lord ask them to do anything in order to be able to enjoy this life He is giving them?

Do the people agree to do what the Lord has asked?

- 7. (19:9) What is the Lord going to do in order to help the people believe everything Moses is going to tell them?
- 8. (19:10-15) What things does God insist the people do before He comes to talk to Moses on top of the mountain? Why does God insist on these things?
- 9. (19:16-20) How do the people react to the coming of God to this mountain?
- (19:21-25) What does God tell Moses to do again? Why does God want Moses to repeat this one more time? How does Moses respond to God's directive? Why does Moses not just say, "OK, I'll do it"?
- 11. What lessons has Moses learned in these two chapters?
- 12. What lessons have the Israelites learned in these two chapters?

Lesson 13 Questions for You to Answer

Exodus 20 "The Ten Commandments"

Here they are. The Ten Commandments.

- What do they mean?
- Are they difficult to keep?
- Do you wish there were more...or less?
- 1. (:1-3) "You shall have no other Gods before me."
- 2. (:4-6) "You shall not make for yourself a carved image any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord you God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments."
- 3. (:7) "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain."

4. (:8-11) "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

5. (:12) "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you."

- 6. (:13) "You shall not murder."
- 7. (:14) "You shall not commit adultery."
- 8. (:15) You shall not steal."
- 9. (:16) "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

10. (:17) "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife; nor his male servant; nor his female servant; nor his ox; nor his donkey; nor anything that is your neighbors."

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Is it hard to keep the Ten Commandments as a Christian?
- 2. What happens between us and God when we fail to keep a commandment?

3 What did Jesus teach about The Ten Commandments? Did He ever talk about an abbreviated form of The Ten Commandments?

4. Why did the children of Israel have to receive and learn The Ten Commandments before they went on to the Promised Land? (*see Exodus 24:3*)

Lesson 14 Questions for You to Answer

Exodus 21-24 "Back Up to the Mountain"

In Chapters 21-23 the Lord goes on to tell Moses of other commandments, besides the Ten. These other commandments will give them the framework of the law for their specific job as Jews, and for the society they will form.

As you read through the more detailed commandments in these three chapters, and other laws to come in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy, you will probably notice that although the Jewish laws were not exactly the same as the laws we live by today, they are quite similar in many ways.

You will see a solid respect for human life and for basic respect of others. You will see zero tolerance for injury to others. You will see respect for boundaries and ownership. You will also see zero tolerance for lack of respect for righteous authority, especially the authority of God Himself. You will see a black and white difference between right and wrong. But you will also see understanding and compassion for the human condition, and ways to obtain mercy for laws broken unintentionally.

In chapter 21 the Lord gives:

- Guidelines for how to treat servants (slaves). Servitude was a fact of life and had to have laws so that slaves were treated fairly. (:1-11)
- Laws concerning violence, whether intentional or accidental. (:11-27)
- Rules about control of a person's animals. (:28-36)

In chapter 22 we see:

- Responsibility for property. (:1-15)
- Moral principles. (:16-31)

In chapter 23 there are:

- Rules required for justice. (speak the truth, treat others as you would want to be treated, no bribes) (:1-9)
- Rules for the Sabbath. (:10-13)
- Guidelines for the three annual feasts of Israel (:14-19)
- Promises about how God will guide them through the wilderness. (:20-33)

And then in chapter 24 we will look in detail at what happened when Moses had all of chapters 21 through 23 written down:

- 1. (24:1-2) The Lord tells Moses to come up again to the mountain to meet with Him. Who else is supposed to go this time?
- 2. (24:3-8) What does Moses do before he goes back up to the mountain?
- 3. (24:9-11) What did Moses and the men with him see as they went up to the top of the mountain? Compare this to what John saw when God gave him the Revelation. *Revelation 4:2-6*.
- 4. (24:12-13) Who went even farther up the mountain?
- 5. (24:14-18) Moses went on up the mountain by himself (Joshua went a little ways with him) to meet one on one with the Lord.
 - How long was he up there before he was called into God's presence?
 - How long was Moses up there, total?
 - What was God giving Moses during this time?
 - What did the children of Israel see during this time from their vantage point at the base of the mountain?
- 6. Why do societies need laws?
- 7. Why do societies need common feasts or celebrations?

- 8. Why was Moses told to bring the priests and leaders of Israel up to the mountain the second time?
- 9. Are the Jews from this point on going to be able to keep their promise of remaining faithful to God?
- 10. If two million Jews who were very loved by God, and were miraculously rescued from slavery and brought through a deadly wilderness, cannot keep their promises to God, why do we think we can? (*John 10:27-29*)

Lesson 15 Questions for You to Answer

Exodus 25-31 "Blueprints"

Our last lesson showed us Moses and the leaders of Israel half-way up Mt. Sinai, actually in the presence of God. Their incredulous eyes surely swept the whole throne room, but the only recorded detail we have of that visit is that the feet of God rested on a floor of clear blue. (*Exodus 24:2-11*)

What else did they see? We don't know for sure...but we do understand that as Moses climbed higher up that mountain by himself, he was in the presence of God for forty days and forty nights, and during that time he saw the tabernacle in heaven – the place where God dwells. The Lord showed Moses every small and glorious detail of that tabernacle, so that Moses could return to the children of Israel and show them how to construct their own "model" of what God showed Moses in heaven. (*Exodus 25:9, 25:40, 26:30, 27:8,* and *Hebrews 8:5*)

God showed Moses the living model in heaven, then gave him the blueprints, and sent him back down the mountain.

- 1. (25:10-22) What is described in these verses? What is its purpose? (:22)
- 2. (25:23-30) What is described in these verses?
- 3. (25:31-40) What is described in these verses?

- 4. (26:1-37) What is described in these verses?
- 5. (27:1-8) What is described in these verses?
- 6. (27:9-19) What is described in these verses?
- 7. (27:20,21) What is unique about this this candelabra?
- 8. (28:1-43) The garments for the High Priest and the rest of the priests are described in this chapter. What are the five pieces of the priests' garments? (:4)
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- 9. (29:1-37) In these verses God tells Moses how to consecrate the priests when the tabernacle is finished.

10.29(:38-42) Once the priests begin their work, how often are they to offer sacrifices at the tabernacle?

11.(29:43-44) What will God do to finish the consecration?

- 12. (30:1-10) What is described here?
- 13. (30:11-16) What term would we use today for this money required from the census?
- 14. (30:17-21) What is described here?
- 15. (30:22-38) What is described here?
- 16. (31:1-11) How are all these special and intricate things going to be made exactly as God wanted them to be?
- 17. (31:12-17) Why was it so important to God for the Jews to keep the Sabbath holy?
- 18. (31:18) Who used His finger to write out the Ten Commandments on the piece of stone?

One Final Question: What does all this mean to you?

Lesson 16 Questions for You to Answer

Exodus 32 "The Gold Calf"

Here's how chapter 31 ended: "And when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of stone written with the finger of God." Exodus 31:18

After forty days and nights, God was finished with all He wanted to show Moses and say to Moses, and He sent him back down the mountain with the Ten Commandments, written in stone with His own finger. What a glorious celebration this should have been when Moses reached the bottom of the mountain and presented this unprecedented message from God to the people He loved...

- 1. (:1) What happened down in the Israelite camp when Moses was up on the mountain for so long? Why did this happen?
- 2. (:1) What did the people ask Aaron to do?
- 3. (:2-4) Why in the world would Aaron even consider granting this request? Why did the people think they needed a "god" made out of gold?
- 4. (:5-6) What happened next? This turned into more than a party, more than a celebration. What had it turned into?
- 5. (:7-8) Did God realize what was happening down at the bottom of the mountain? Why did God take so long with Moses on the mountain when He knew this would happen?

- 6. (:9-10) How angry was God? What did He say He might do? Why was God angry, when He knew this would happen?
- 7. (:11-14) What was the first thing Moses did? What did He remind the Lord of?
- 8. (:15-18) Who joined Moses on the trip down the mountain? Where had Joshua been all this time? What does that tell you about Joshua?
- 9. (:19-29) What are eight things Moses did when he arrived at the camp of the Israelites and saw what they had done?
 - :19 :20 :20 :20 :20 :21 :26 :29
- 10. (:30-31) What did Moses do next?
- 11. (:32) What was Moses willing to lose, in order to save God's people? Can you think of anyone else in the Bible who was willing to do the very same thing? (1st Peter 2:24, Romans 9:1-3)
- 12. (:33-34) Did the Lord wipe these people out, or keep leading them on their journey?
- 13. (:35)) In Exodus 15:26 the Lord made a promise to His people: If they would live by His laws, He would make sure none of the diseases of Egypt would be a part of their lives. What had these people just done to themselves?

One Final Question: What lessons did you learn from this?

Lesson 17 Questions for You to Answer

Exodus Chapters 33-40 "The Results of Sin"

After the sin of the golden calf, would the Lord God keep His promise of a land for them? Would He even still be their God?

"For the Lord said to Moses, 'Say to the children of Israel, 'You are a stiff-necked people. I could come up into your midst in one moment and consume you....'" Exodus 33:5

- 1. (33:1&2) Is the Lord still going to keep His promise of a land for the children of Israel?
- 2. (33:3) Is the Lord still going to be their God? What is going to change?
- 3. (33:4-6) How did the people feel about this change? What did the Lord ask them to do? Why would He ask this?
- 4. (33:7-11) Where did Moses put his tent now? Where was it before? Why did Moses move his tent?
- 5. (33:12&13) Moses is trying to change God's mind about something. What is that something?
- 6. (33:14-17) Does Moses succeed in changing God's mind?

- 7. (33:18-23) Moses appears to be grieving that He may not know God in the same way ever again because of this great sin of the people. What does God do for Moses?
- 8. (34:1-9) As Moses brings two new tablets of stone up the mountain for the Lord God to again write on, he is still mourning that God will not be with them in the same way as before. What does the Lord do in verses 5-7 to ease Moses' pain?
- 9. (34:10-28) What does God do in these verses?
- 10. (34:29-35) What happened to Moses in the presence of God? What did this prove to the people?
- 11. Chapters 35 40 These chapters are a record of how completely obedient Israel was in building the tabernacle God had ordered. There are a few passages in these chapters which have stuck in my memory: Read them through and simply summarize them:
 - 35:20-29
 - 35:30-35
 - 40:34-38

One Final Question: What lasting impact has Exodus had on your life?

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