



FACILITATOR'S GUIDE—YOUTH

Year 3—*The God Who Pursues Relationship: A Story of God's People*

Module 3—*Exodus*

Lesson 4: *God Promises His People Deliverance Again—Exodus 6*

ENCOUNTER 1—Community Discussion

Read Exodus 6 together out loud as a group. Encourage each person to journal through the passage using these questions. After allowing sufficient time for reflection, invite the group to share their thoughts.

How is this God's story?
How is this others' story?

How is this my story?
How is this the world's story?

ENCOUNTER 2—Community Discussion

(Read the biblical reflection included with this lesson. The questions are designed for your group to enter into a meaningful dialogue about the Word. The bulleted teaching points are taken from the reflection and correspond to the questions.)

GOD'S STORY

God wants us to remember that He is a God who keeps His word. Over and over, the Lord repeatedly reassured Moses and the people that He was with them. Even today, God is faithful and has not forgotten the needs or the plight of His people.

Think of a time in your life, or someone else's life, that seemed desperate and there was no way out, but God provided a way.

What type of tone do you think occurred during the conversations between Moses and God?

- We aren't given the demeanor in which God states the many promises (again) to Moses.

OUR STORY

Sometimes life seem unbearable and like there is no way out. You can probably think about times in your life when you were so discouraged that you felt like life couldn't get any worse. Try to picture how God worked in that time, especially recognizing how He faithfully took you through your despair and struggle.

Has there ever been a time when you felt God had forgotten you? How did that make you feel?

- Wherever you are, whatever you're doing, there's a righteous love God's pursuing you with.
- Hard times can either define you or they can refine you.

Can you think of a time when God showed himself to you over and over again?

- Many people can build a fortune, but not everyone builds a fortunate attitude. Thank God for every specific blessing for how he's been faithful to you in the past.

OTHERS' STORY

The Israelites and Pharaoh were not interested in listening to Moses and Aaron. The people were focused on their despair, and Pharaoh was focused on his empire. Instead of things staying that way, God intervened and changed the lives of everyone forever.

Moses spoke on behalf of God, and Aaron spoke on behalf of Moses. Who has stepped up in your life to help you?

- “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful” (Colossians 3:15).

When have you felt alone and without support?

- “The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit” (Psalm 34:18).
- “Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know” (Jeremiah 33:3).

THE WORLD'S STORY

We live in a difficult world where promises are broken and history and lineage is not honored. Christians are watched and criticized by the world. The world believes God has failed His people and isn't shy about saying so. Instead of pulling the plug on the Lord, we help them see His faithfulness in our lives.

How do your expectations about God affect the way you talk about Him to others?

- In tough times, we have a tendency to lower our expectations. Consequently, we end up doing the same with God and forgetting what he's capable of.
- Hope can be risky and dangerous, for if what you hope for doesn't happen you are exposed and vulnerable to criticism.
- God is neither enhanced by your strengths nor inhibited by your struggles.
- There's more God wants to do through you than what you've experienced so far. Keep your expectations high and respond to Him however He leads you.

What is a practical way to show people the faithfulness of God that is summed up in passages like this or others in the Bible?

- Your relationship with God is as valid a story as anyone's story you'd read about in the Bible.
- Walking in God's blessing involves doing what He tells you each day.

PRAYER

(Lead your group in corporate prayer)

*I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;
with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known
through all generations.
I will declare that your love stands firm forever,
that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself.
You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to David my servant,
'I will establish your line forever
and make your throne firm through all generations.'"*

*The heavens praise your wonders, Lord,
your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.
For who in the skies above can compare with the Lord?
Who is like the Lord among the heavenly beings?
In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared;
he is more awesome than all who surround him.
Who is like you, Lord God Almighty?
You, Lord, are mighty, and your faithfulness surrounds you.*
(Psalm 89:1-8)

WEEKLY PRACTICE

(Read the weekly practice out loud, and challenge your group to practice *missio* beyond today.)

Sometimes we need to be reminded, or remind ourselves of God's faithfulness in our lives.

- Take a few minutes each day this week and write down, text, or post online 1 or 2 times you've seen God show His faithfulness to you.
- Spend time in prayer thanking God for those times.
- Share at least your "Top 3" with at least 2 other people this week (bonus points for sharing with non-believers).

Giving testimony to others about God's faithfulness brings encouragement to someone who may be experiencing a dry place in their walk, or encourage others to find out what God is all about!

BECOMING MY STORY

(Encourage the group to spend time this week in God's Word, allowing it to penetrate their heart and life.)

Psalm 40

2 Thessalonians 3

Spend time this week reading and journaling through the above scriptures. In the context of Exodus 6, consider the following questions:

What does it mean for God to be faithful to you?

What does it mean for you to be faithful to God?

Consider other passages you might know related to Exodus 6 and read them this week, journaling as you go.