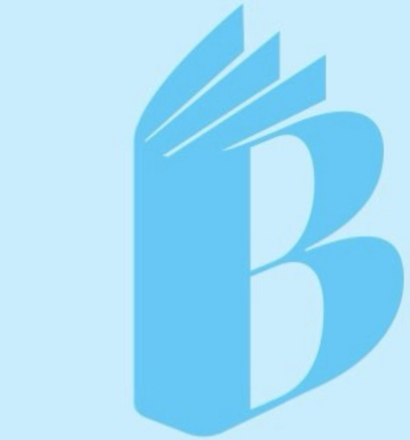


# Book By Book

# WELCOME

# OUR GOAL

To give you the tools to study the Bible on your own with confidence, providing a better understanding of God and your relationship with him.

# THE PLAN

Each month, we will introduce another book of the Bible and give you some guidance to help you study on your own.

# BIBLE STUDY METHOD

- **OBSERVATION:**
  What does the text say?
  *(who, what, when, where, why and how?)*

- **INTERPRETATION:**
  What does it mean?

- **APPLICATION:**
  **What did I learn that should affect my life?**
  (Is there a behavior, attitude or understanding that should change in my life?)

# THE OLD TESTAMENT

Five major sections:

- Law (Genesis – Deuteronomy)
- History (Joshua – Esther)
- Poetry (Job – Song of Solomon)
- Major Prophets (Isaiah – Daniel)
- Minor Prophets (Hosea – Malachi)

# EXODUS

## GOD'S REDEMPTION & PROVISION

# THE BASICS

Exodus is the second book in a group of five.

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy

# THE BASICS

Who wrote Exodus?

Then Moses carefully wrote down all the LORD's instructions. Exodus 24:4

Quoting Jesus:  For instance, Moses gave you this law from God: 'Honor your father and mother,'...Mark 7:10

# THE BASICS

When was Exodus written?

between 1440 and 1400 B.C.

What period of time is covered?

About two years

So the Tabernacle was set up on the first day of the first month of the second year.  Exodus 40:17

What people group was Exodus mainly about?

The Children of Jacob (Israel)

Why was it written?

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write down all these instructions, for they represent the terms of the covenant I am making with you and with Israel.” Exodus 34:27

# THE BACKSTORY

**At the end of Genesis, the family of Jacob is living in Egypt instead of Canaan, but with the promise that someday they will return to the promised land.**

21 Then Jacob said to Joseph, “Look, I am about to die, but God will be with you and will take you back to Canaan, the land of your ancestors.  Genesis 48:21

24 “Soon I will die,” Joseph told his brothers, “but God will surely come to help you and lead you out of this land of Egypt. He will bring you back to the land he solemnly promised to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.” Genesis 50:24

# THE BACKSTORY

Even though they were far from Canaan, God blessed Jacob's descendants while they were in Egypt.

Meanwhile, the people of Israel settled in the region of Goshen in Egypt. There they acquired property and they were fruitful, and their population grew rapidly. Genesis 47:27

But their descendants, the Israelites, had many children and grandchildren. In fact, they multiplied so greatly that they became extremely powerful and filled the land.

Exodus 1:7

# THE BACKSTORY

At the beginning of Exodus, Jacob's (Israel's) family is still in Egypt, having multiplied into a large nation of people, but they have been made slaves to the Egyptians.

# PHAROAH'S FEARS

[8] Eventually, a new king came to power in Egypt who knew nothing about Joseph or what he had done. [9] He said to his people, "Look, the people of Israel now outnumber us and are stronger than we are. [10] We must make a plan to keep them from growing even more. If we don't, and if war breaks out, they will join our enemies and fight against us. Then they will escape from the country. Exodus 1:8

# GROUP TALK

Here's something to discuss:

How might the story have been different, if the Israelites had continued to enjoy favor in Egypt?

Describe a time in your life when unfair or difficult circumstances motivated you to call on God for help.

# PHAROAH'S PLAN

So the Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves. They appointed brutal slave drivers over them, hoping to wear them down with crushing labor.  Exodus 1:11

13 So the Egyptians worked the people of Israel without mercy. 14 They made their lives bitter, forcing them to mix mortar and make bricks and do all the work in the fields. They were ruthless in all their demands.  Exodus 1:13

15 Then Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, gave this order to the Hebrew midwives, Shiphrah and Puah: 16 "When you help the Hebrew women as they give birth, watch as they deliver. If the baby is a boy, kill him; if it is a girl, let her live."  Exodus 1:15

22 Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Throw every newborn Hebrew boy into the Nile River. But you may let the girls live."  Exodus 1:22

# GOD'S PLAN

Raise up parents who have the courage to defy Pharoah's orders and then through extraordinary circumstances, prepare the leader He will use to deliver His people:

- Moses' life was not just spared, but he became protected by the daughter of the Pharoah who had decreed his death.
- Moses' mother was paid to take care of him until he was old enough to go back to Pharoah's palace.
- Moses learned the ways of the Egyptians while living as the son of the Princess.

# RIGHT MOTIVE, WRONG PLAN

Moses tries to become the hero of his people in his own strength and instead of success, he has to run for his life.

Second time he is “as good as dead.”

15 And sure enough, Pharaoh heard what had happened, and he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in the land of Midian.  Exodus 2:15

*Note: When God calls a leader, notice how hard Satan tries to destroy him.*

# SURELY NOT!

It's been 40 years since Moses ran for his life. He has a whole new identity and is doing well – for being on the backside of the desert. Any ambition for rescuing his people (the Hebrews) is just an old and very unpleasant memory.

Then God shows up with a tall assignment!

10 Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people
Israel out of Egypt." 11 But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to
appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of
Egypt?"  Exodus 3:10-11

# RELUCTANT -- BUT HE GOES

18 So Moses went back home to Jethro, his father-in-law. “Please let me return to my relatives in Egypt,” Moses said. “I don’t even know if they are still alive.” “Go in peace,” Jethro replied.
19 Before Moses left Midian, the LORD said to him, “Return to Egypt, for all those who wanted to kill you have died.”
20 So Moses took his wife and sons, put them on a donkey, and headed back to the land of Egypt. In his hand he carried the staff of God.

Exodus 4:18-20

# WHO'S FAILING – ME OR GOD?

22 Then Moses went back to the LORD and protested, "Why have you brought all this trouble on your own people, Lord? Why did you send me? 23 Ever since I came to Pharaoh as your spokesman, he has been even more brutal to your people. And you have done nothing to rescue them!" Exodus 5:22-23

# GOD'S RESPONSE

**2 And God said to Moses, "I am Yahweh—'the LORD.' Exodus 6:2**

The name "Yahweh" speaks of the self-existence and self-sufficiency of God. All others are dependent upon Him for life and breath and existence.

# LET'S GO OVER THIS AGAIN

6 "Therefore, say to the people of Israel: 'I am the LORD. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment. 7 I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God who has freed you from your oppression in Egypt. 8 I will bring you into the land I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I will give it to you as your very own possession. I am the LORD!'" Exodus 6:6-8

# OBEDIENCE WITH OBJECTION

9 So Moses told the people of Israel what the LORD had said, but they refused to listen
anymore. They had become too discouraged by the brutality of their slavery.
10 Then the LORD said to Moses, 11 "Go back to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and tell him
to let the people of Israel leave his country."
12 "But LORD!" Moses objected. "My own people won't listen to me anymore. How can I
expect Pharaoh to listen? I'm such a clumsy speaker!" Exodus 6:9-12

# GOD CLARIFIED HIS ORDERS

13 But the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron and gave them orders for the Israelites and for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. The LORD commanded Moses and Aaron to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt.

Exodus 6:9-13

# THE 10 PLAGUES

Water to blood

Frogs

Gnats

Flies

Livestock Disease

Boils

Hail

Locusts

Darkness

Death of Firstborn

# THE FIRST PASSOVER

11 “These are your instructions for eating this meal: Be fully dressed, wear your
sandals, and carry your walking stick in your hand. Eat the meal with urgency, for this
is the LORD’s Passover. 12 On that night I will pass through the land of Egypt and strike
down every firstborn son and firstborn male animal in the land of Egypt. I will
execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt, for I am the LORD! 13 But the blood on
your doorposts will serve as a sign, marking the houses where you are staying. When
I see the blood, I will pass over you. This plague of death will not touch you when I
strike the land of Egypt.  Exodus 12:11-13

# PASSOVER TODAY?

42 On this night the LORD kept his promise to bring his people out of the land of Egypt. So this night belongs to him, and it must be commemorated every year by all the Israelites, from generation to generation.  Exodus 12:42

# THE ROUNDABOUT ROUTE OUT

17 When Pharaoh finally let the people go, God did not lead them along the main road that runs through Philistine territory, even though that was the shortest route to the Promised Land. God said, “If the people are faced with a battle, they might change their minds and return to Egypt.” 18 So God led them in a roundabout way through the wilderness toward the Red Sea. Thus the Israelites left Egypt like an army ready for battle.  Exodus 13:17-18


Mediterranean Sea
CANAAN
Gaza
Dead Sea
Beersheba
Lake Sirbonis
Zoan
Migdol
Rameses
Pithom?
Succoth?
EGYPT
Jabal al-Halal
Kadesh-barnea
Punon
Bitter Lakes
Jebel al-Madhbah
Har Karkom
SINAI
[CLAIMED BY EGYPT]
Marah?
Timna
Hashem el-Tarif
Jebel Sin Bishar
Jabal Ahmad al Baqir
Ezion-geber
Red Sea
Dophkah?
Hazeroth?
MIDIAN
Red Sea
Jebel Serbal
Jabal al-Lawz
Jebel Musa
Jabal Maqla
Jabal Katherina
Proposed location for Mount Sinai
ancient canal
0
25
50 mi
0
50 km

# TRAPPED!

10 As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they
saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the LORD, 11 and they said to
Moses, "Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren't there
enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us
leave Egypt? 12 Didn't we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We
said, 'Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in
Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!'"

# DON'T BE AFRAID
# STAND STILL & WATCH

13 But Moses told the people, "Don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch
the LORD rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be
seen again. 14 The LORD himself will fight for you. Just stay calm."
Exodus 14:10-14

How many times have we felt trapped and without hope? God works best in impossible situations when we are committed to following his leadership. His plan is always better than ours and always defies what we can see from our human perspective.

# NOW!

Chapter 14

15 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving!

19 Then the angel of God, who had been leading the people of Israel, moved to the
rear of the camp. The pillar of cloud also moved from the front and stood behind
them. 20 The cloud settled between the Egyptian and Israelite camps. As darkness
fell, the cloud turned to fire, lighting up the night. But the Egyptians and Israelites did
not approach each other all night.

21 Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the LORD opened up a path through
the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed
into dry land. 22 So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry
ground, with walls of water on each side!

23 Then the Egyptians—all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and charioteers—chased
them into the middle of the sea. 24 But just before dawn the LORD looked down on
the Egyptian army from the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw their forces into
total confusion. 25 He twisted their chariot wheels, making their chariots difficult to
drive. "Let's get out of here—away from these Israelites!" the Egyptians shouted.
"The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt!" 26 When all the Israelites had reached
the other side, the LORD said to Moses, "Raise your hand over the sea again. Then the
waters will rush back and cover the Egyptians and their chariots and charioteers."

27 So as the sun began to rise, Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the water rushed back into its usual place. The Egyptians tried to escape, but the LORD swept them into the sea. 28 Then the waters returned and covered all the chariots and charioteers—the entire army of Pharaoh. Of all the Egyptians who had chased the Israelites into the sea, not a single one survived.

Exodus 14:19-28

# WORSHIP IN THE WILDERNESS (15:1-21)

The LORD is my strength and my song;
he has given me victory.
This is my God, and I will praise him—
my father's God, and I will exalt him!
Exodus 15:2

"With your unfailing love you lead
the people you have redeemed.
In your might, you guide them
to your sacred home.
Exodus 15:13

# JUST THREE DAYS LATER

24 Then the people complained and turned against Moses. “What are we going to drink?” they demanded.

Exodus 15:24

# REVISIONIST MEMORIES
## EGYPT WAS GOOD!

3 “If only the Lord had killed us back in Egypt,” they moaned. “There we sat around pots filled with meat and ate all the bread we wanted. But now you have brought us into this wilderness to starve us all to death.”  Exodus 16:3

# GOD PROVIDES (16:4-17:7)

Manna

Quail

Water from the Rock

# NEW ENEMY
## NEW BATTLEGROUND

Just when it seems there is equilibrium, a new enemy shows up and attacks.

8 While the people of Israel were still at Rephidim, the warriors of Amalek attacked them. Exodus 17:8

# WHEN GOD'S LEADER NEEDS ASSISTANCE

10 So Joshua did what Moses had commanded and fought the army of Amalek. Meanwhile, Moses, Aaron, and Hur climbed to the top of a nearby hill. 11 As long as Moses held up the staff in his hand, the Israelites had the advantage. But whenever he dropped his hand, the Amalekites gained the advantage. 12 Moses' arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands. So his hands held steady until sunset. 13 As a result, Joshua overwhelmed the army of Amalek in battle.

Exodus 17:10-13

# JETHRO'S VISIT

13 The next day, Moses took his seat to hear the people's disputes
against each other. They waited before him from morning till evening.
14 When Moses' father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the
people, he asked, "What are you really accomplishing here? Why are
you trying to do all this alone while everyone stands around you from
morning till evening?"
15 Moses replied, "Because the people come to me to get a ruling from
God. 16 When a dispute arises, they come to me, and I am the one who
settles the case between the quarreling parties. I inform the people of
God's decrees and give them his instructions." Exodus 18:13-16

# WHAT ONLY YOU CAN DO

21 But select from all the people some capable, honest men who fear
God and hate bribes. Appoint them as leaders over groups of one
thousand, one hundred, fifty, and ten. 22 They should always be
available to solve the people's common disputes, but have them bring
the major cases to you. Let the leaders decide the smaller matters
themselves. They will help you carry the load, making the task easier
for you. 23 If you follow this advice, and if God commands you to do so,
then you will be able to endure the pressures, and all these people will
go home in peace."

Exodus 18:21-23

# GOD SPEAKS FROM MT SINAI

3 Then Moses climbed the mountain to appear before God.
The LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “Give these instructions to the family of Jacob; announce it to the descendants of Israel: 4 ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. 5 Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. 6 And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.’ This is the message you must give to the people of Israel.”  Exodus 19:3-6

# THE PEOPLE RESPOND

7 So Moses returned from the mountain and called together the elders of the people and told them everything the LORD had commanded him. 8 And all the people responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has commanded.” So Moses brought the people’s answer back to the LORD.  Exodus 19:7-8

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. You must not have any other god but me.
2. You must not make for yourself an idol or image of any kind.
3. You must not misuse the name of the LORD your God.
4. Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
5. Honor your father and mother.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

6. You must not murder.
7. You must not commit adultery.
8. You must not steal.
9. You must not testify falsely against your neighbor.
10. You must not covet (house, wife, servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.)

# SOCIAL & MORAL LAWS

Chapters 21-23

Keep in mind the specificity of their application for these people in this place at this time.

# THREE ANNUAL FESTIVALS

- Festival of Unleavened Bread  23:14-15
- Festival of Harvest (aka Festival of Weeks) 23:16a
- Festival of Final Harvest (aka Festival of Shelters) 23:16b

# SPECIAL OFFERING (25:1-7; 35:4-36:7)

- Gold, Silver, Bronze
- Blue, Purple & Scarlet Material
- Fine Linen
- Goat hair, Rams' skins dyed red, porpoise skins
- Acacia wood
- Oil for lighting
- Spices for anointing and incense
- Onyx and setting stones

# PREPARING FOR THE PRIESTS
## (CHAPTER 28)

- Ephod
- Breastplate
- Urim and Thummim (sacred lots)
- Robe of the Ephod
- Turban with Plate of Gold

# FOR THE TABERNACLE
## (CHAPTERS 25-27,30)

- Ark of the Covenant (or Testimony)
- Table of Showbread
- Golden Lampstand (and oil for the lamps)
- Curtains
- The Veil
- Bronze Altar
- Altar of Incense (Golden Altar)
- Bronze Laver

# BEZALEL AND OHOLIAB & TEAM

## (31:1-11; 35:30-39:43)

Then the LORD said to Moses, [2] "Look, I have specifically chosen Bezalel son of Uri, grandson of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. [3] I have filled him with the Spirit of God, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise in all kinds of crafts. [4] He is a master craftsman, expert in working with gold, silver, and bronze. [5] He is skilled in engraving and mounting gemstones and in carving wood. He is a master at every craft!

[6] "And I have personally appointed Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, to be his assistant. Moreover, I have given special skill to all the gifted craftsmen so they can make all the things I have commanded you to make... "

# GROUP TALK

Do we have anything in common?

**Here's something to discuss:**

Maybe you can relate to Moses' frustrations – with the people, and even with God at times. What life lessons (if any) have you learned from Moses' life so far?

# NEXT BOOK

# LEVITICUS

*Holiness*

# How Holy is God?
# Is our sin really a big deal?

In Exodus, God gives instructions for the feasts, the construction of the Tabernacle it's furniture, and everything needed for the priesthood.

In Leviticus, all of these preparations having been completed, we see the dedication and inauguration of the system that provides a relationship between God and his chosen people.

# THEMES IN LEVITICUS

- The Offerings
- The Priesthood
- Laws of Cleanliness
- Moral Laws
- The Festivals

# GOAL FOR THIS MONTH

**Read at least two chapters of Leviticus every day.**

*Be sure to make notes of any insights you gain as your read and study along with any questions you encounter.*

Extra Challenge: Read the book of Hebrews again and look for more insight into the meaning based on what you read in Leviticus.

# WANT MORE NOTES?

newspring.org/bbb