

THE THREAD I BEGINNINGS

Lesson 10: The Plagues And The Passover

Dear Parents,

Hey again! Our group is still marching through the big-picture story of the Bible in our study called *The Thread*. This was the tenth of 13 lessons looking at *Beginnings*. This lesson was entitled "The Plagues and the Passover." It was a really incredible time together learning about how the plagues of Egypt were God being faithful to His people. The plagues, Passover, and Jesus' death on the Cross are thousands and thousands of years apart, and yet, the thread of God's love and grace connects them all. The Passover and the Exodus were huge aspects of God's plan to redeem humankind from the consequences of sin. But Jesus' death on the Cross was the highlight of this plan. It's so powerful to see how the Passover was an echo of the perfect rescue that Jesus would usher in.

Lesson Overview: Why did Jesus have to die on the cross? While we can't cover all of this in one lesson, we get to talk about one small glimpse of it: Jesus was the perfect sacrificial lamb who saves us from death. In this lesson, we're looking at the 10 plagues. Then we'll talk about the final plague, the Passover, and how that relates to our salvation through Jesus. We will equip and encourage students to really focus on the connection between the two because The Thread in this lesson is a remarkably strong one.

What We Want Your Teenager To Learn: See how God acted miraculously on behalf of His people to free them from slavery in Egypt. Understand that Jesus is the true Passover Lamb, saving us from death through His blood shed on the Cross.

What We Want Your Teenager To Do With What They've Learned: Consider the idea of being "ransomed," and how that impacts their life.

Scripture Passages We Studied: Exodus 7:1-7; Exodus 7:20-25; Exodus 8:1-7; Exodus 8:16-19; Exodus 8:20-24; Exodus 9:1-7; Exodus 9:8-12; Exodus 9:22-28, 35; Exodus 10:12-15; Exodus 10:21-27; Exodus 12:21-32; Exodus 12:37-51; John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:17-19

Please Take A Few Minutes This Week To Read These Passages.

NEXT STEPS...

During the next week, as you engage in conversations with your teenager, remember that one way that will help them to understand and apply what they have learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- Your teenager saw in the lesson that God protected the Israelites, even as the Egyptians received plagues as consequences for their hardened hearts. Consider asking your teenager if it's hard to believe that God will protect them. Ask if he or she can recall experiencing this protection.
- What does it mean that Jesus was the perfect sacrifice, the only sacrifice that could truly save us from death? What are ways people try to save themselves?
- This kind of story raises some tough questions that you may want to dig in even deeper, depending on the maturity of your child. Pharaoh may have had a hard heart because he didn't want to lose the labor that was needed to run his land. Plus, God unleashed some difficult plagues on Pharaoh. Do you sympathize with Pharaoh at all?
- What does this story ultimately say about God? (Some teenagers may not like the way it portrays God--that God issues tough consequences. Affirm these points of view, but also show them how God protected the people who sought to honor Him).

Thank you for all you do. As a parent, you are the primary spiritual influence in the life of your teenager, and they desperately need you. I'm praying for you! If you have any questions or if I can help with anything, please don't hesitate to let me know