

## **Lesson 1.1 Let My People Go** God's Love for the Israelites.

Exodus 13: 17-22; 14:19-29

- Exodus 12:37 says 600,000 men plus women and children started a trek that could have taken 3 months, but lasted 40 years.
- Egyptians started after them; God personally led the Israelites right up to the Red Sea (pillar of cloud during the day and pillar of fire at night)—horses on one side—other a sea that was too deep to swim.
- Moses reassured them... “Do not be afraid, Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace (Exodus 14: 13-14).
- While God shielded the Israelites (with His cloud pillar) He divided the water of the sea and made it into two parts (walking on dry land).
- The Egyptians followed the Israelites on the dry sea bed but God made their chariots difficult to drive---God completed the victory by pulling water back over the Egyptians.

**Trek: Journey on foot, especially in the mountains.**

**Israelites: the people chosen by God in the Old Testament; the Israelites later became known as the Jews (Jesus was a Jew!)**

**Exodus: the Israelites' departure from Egypt to Canaan, the land that God had promised to them.**

**Propitiation: the sacrifice of Jesus that perfectly satisfied God's demand that sin be punished.**

## **Lesson 1.2 A Well –balanced Meal God's Mercy for the Israelites**

**Search for understanding God's kind mercy for them.**

**Exodus 16: 11-21.**

- The Israelites forgot what God had done for them by saving them from the Egyptians and complained to Moses and Aaron.
- God said to Moses “I have heard the complaints of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying, “At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. And you shall know that I am the Lord you God”. God showed mercy on the Israelites.
- In His mercy God provided quail for dinner and ‘a bread-like breakfast’ manna in the morning: appearing around the camp to satisfy more than a million people!
- The people sinned by forgetting how much God cared about them; yet God showed mercy despite their complaining and forgetfulness.
- To help their memory: God commanded them to “fill an omer (measure of manna) and keep for generations, that they may see the bread with which I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt”—thus this jar of manna was a reminder for the Israelites and their children and grandchildren of God's mercy.

**Mercy: having compassion and pity for human misery**

### **Lesson 1.3 Me First!—God Shows His Justice to a Man Who Had to Be First in Everything. Numbers 16**

- Korah (man who didn't like Moses' leadership) and 250 men gather against Moses and Aaron "You take too much upon yourselves for the all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?" Numbers 16:3.
- Moses fell flat on his face and appealed to the Lord for help.
- He told them..."Tomorrow morning the Lord will show who is His and who is holy, and will cause him to come near to Him. That one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him." Verse 5.
- Moses didn't defend himself, as to his tenure in leadership, or what God had done for them.
- The earth opened up under the men who rebelled, their families and livestock fell into the crack—alive.
- God caused justice to be done for His servants Moses and Aaron by saving them from evil men.
- This same judgment could fall to us for our sins (even small ones) were it not for God sending His perfect Son Jesus to pay the penalty for our sins, His blood totally covers us. God only sends His Son Jesus when He looks at us—not our huge sin.
- God is ultimate mercy, grace—and up to us with people's sin for a long time in hopes that they will turn to Him in faith

**Justice: Doing what's right and making wrong things right.**

**Longsuffering: God's patience with sinful people.**

### **Lesson 1.4 God Makes a Fountain—God Uses a Rock to Provide Water for the Israelites. Exodus 17: 1-7.**

- God's Provision—a grateful attitude comes from understanding how God provides for you.
- At Horeb (no water in sight right after God mercifully provided manna and quail), the Israelites complained about a seemingly impossible situation.
- Moses struck the rock at Horeb and water came out.
- God's provision was evidence of His grace to the Israelites by miraculously helping them through their tough situations—many times He had to punish them for their sin and disbelief.

**Provision: God's care for use in all ways.**

**Propitiation: the sacrifice of Jesus that perfectly satisfied God's demand that sin should be punished.**

### **Lesson 1.5 Profiles of God and Jesus.. How did Jesus show us He was God? Luke 9:28-35; Exodus 40:34-38**

**Name:** Yahweh, I Am, the Lord.

**Occupation:** King of the Universe.

**Characteristics:** Social, loyal, loving protective, faithful, takes it personally when people do wrong things encouraging of people's progress, enjoys beauty and being creative.

**Interests:** Protecting, living and guiding His people and managing His creation.

**Name:** Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Son of God, Son of Mary and Stepson of Joseph.

**Occupation:** God the Son, Savior of the world

**Characteristics:** A leader of others and yet very humble, a faithful friend, sociable faultless, kind, get angry about wrongdoing, willing to set aside omnipotence and be a servant.

**Interests:** Evangelizing, taking care of people and communicating with His Heavenly Father.

**God with Us:** Exodus Chapter 25-40: precise directions about the house God wanted Moses to make for him.

- God's house had to be portable.
- God told of the colors and lengths of cloth house to be made from.
- When workmen finished the tabernacle, God entered it, showing He was pleased with it.
- He stays with Israel in His tabernacle to protect them/He was directing them.
- God lead them in a **cloud** (day) or in a **pillar of fire** (night).
- Israel could not have tolerated seeing God because of His holiness and their sin.
- Jesus was God with us—by walking in Earth and having relationship with us.
- He was living Savior; Only He could satisfy God's requirement of sin's debt.
- When Jesus was on Earth, His glory was hidden, except when show to Peter, James and John.
- God spoke out of a cloud "This is My beloved Son, her Him!"
- Jesus was God, & a special messenger to the disciples & to the world.
- He will come again in clouds/in His glory—to take His people with Him to heaven.

**Tabernacle:** house of the Lord in the wilderness.

**Christ:** means "anointed"; a name for Jesus which showed that He was the long awaited king and deliverer.

**Son of Man:** the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Son of the Blessed:** a respectful was to say "God".

**Lesson 1.6** Wilderness Photo Journal; Israelites in the wilderness, not enough food and water—lack of resources to feed more than a million people and all their animals at one time. **Deuteronomy 8: 2-3.; Matthew 4: 1-11.**

**Number 40** : For 40 years: Israelites because of their disobedience where they became total dependent on Him (manna and quail); preparing for ministry Jesus fasted 40 days and 40 nights.

- When He was hungry, Satan tormented Him.
- He answered with scripture "...not bread alone, by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.
- Jesus knew God would provide, perhaps not has expected.
- Jesus said God's provision of manna was a sign He was God.
- Jesus was a sign to show He was God "I am the bread of Life."
- Promise from Jesus: true meaning through Him, the bread of life, who totally satisfies our spiritual hunger.
- God provides a living Savior who satisfies with truth/He relates to us and our struggles due to being fully human.
- Jesus met requirements as Savior and Mediator between God and us.

**Temptation:** a testing that God allows in order to see what is in our hearts.

**Fasting:** act of refraining from eating in order to indicate reliance on God.

**Lesson 1.7.** Water (Is it alive?)

**Numbers 20: 2-13: John 4:4-26.**

- It's necessary for us: We can survive only three days without it.
- It's all around us: It covers more than 75% of the Earth's surface.
- It colors our world: It pale blue color, reflects off earth when viewed from space.
- It's within us: It makes up 80% of an infant's body, 60% of adult male's body, 50% of adult female's body.
- It's easily polluted: Many substances dissolve into it.

God gives us LIVING WATER through His Son Jesus Christ.

- Last year in wilderness, Israelites were without water.
- Unlike most of our area of plenty; no water resulted in three Ds: **dehydration, disease, and death.** The Israelites got scared and told Moses: "if only we had died when brethren died before the Lord"; then were really testing God and Moses.
- God agreed to provide for them. But this time told Moses to have his staff ready but only speak to the rock. Moses struck the rock with his staff because he was angry.
- God (was not happy) told Moses he showed disbelief by being disobedient (striking the rock rather than speaking to it).
- The result of Moses' disobedience was that he could see the Promised Land but not enter into it.
- Jesus Christ, The Source of Living Water (John 4:10) due to water, like Jesus, is necessary for our eternal life. Unlike water, once you receive Him, He will never leave you and will always satisfy you.

- Met the women at the well out side of Samaria (big chore to lug full jars of water) and go back to their home.
- Jesus told her His water, once drunk, one will never thirst again....”water will become a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life”. She didn’t get it, but did look forward to Messiah coming someday, then He said” I who speak to you am He”.
- Jesus offers His living water to all who trust Him.

**Living Water: the gift of salvation from Jesus Christ.**

**Everlasting Life: living with Jesus forever.**

**Water Molecules: made of up of two hydrogen atoms and oxygen atom. It is called H2O. (The ‘H’ and ‘O’ stand for hydrogen and oxygen.)**

**Lesson 1.8 To-Do List Altars for Sale: God Changed the Sacrificial System because of Jesus. Review Leviticus 1, Hebrews 10: 4-14.**

- The **Levites** were the priests: given the job of animal sacrifice: this system was stinky, disgusting, expensive and messy; this was a job inherited of this tribe.
- Much of the book of Leviticus deals with sacrificial coverings for many sins.
- The sacrificial system was a gift showing God’s mercy, by giving the Israelites a way to be in relationship with Him (this was God’s desire).
- Because of His holiness, He could only have relationship with a sinless people.
- Hebrews 9:22: *And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.*
- No matter how “good” we are, **you can never measure up to what God says is perfection.**
- Just like for us, their sins had consequences and we need a sacrifice of blood to cover us. Be Jesus being our sacrifice, He ended the law’s punishment for believers. See table below how God’s standard compared to Jesus’ sacrifice.

<b>What the Old Testament Sacrifice Did</b>	<b>What Jesus’ Sacrifice Did</b>
The sacrifice wiped out your past sins until you sinned again.	It covers past, present and future sins of all believers. He doesn’t have to die all over again when you sin again.
More sins? More sacrifices were necessary.	As a believer, your sins are now covered by Jesus’ blood.
You kept on sinning-so you had to keep on sacrificing.	You still kepp sinning, but Christ’s was once for all.
A perfect-looking animal was only a symbol of sinlessness—not the real thing	As God, Jesus was the ultimate sinless sacrifice.
You could die trying; the Old Testament law is impossible for any of us to keep.	Jesus could not only obey the entire law, but He fulfilled the law—all of it, even the nitty-gritty parts.

**Opposite of Jesus’ righteousness-US**—our thoughts, actions, motivations are spoiled by sin.

- It is not about what we do; it’s about who we are. No matter what we do, we can’t change the fact that **we are sinful.**

- The Bible says we have **sinful natures**: we cannot change our sinfulness by acting like we don't have a sinful nature and being **“good”**. That would be like trying to change our DNA. Our genes are in us, no matter how we try to alter our goodness, our appearance or any other part of us.
- When we accept Christ's' sacrifice on the cross, (His sacrifice makes us perfect in God's sight).
- We still do wrong things from time to time, but we are changed in God's sight. He sees the completed work of Jesus in us—not our sinful nature anymore.

**Sacrifice**: a life given in substitution for another.

**Offering**: the giving of an important possession in worship; meant to express reverence and gratitude to God.

**Sanctification**: set apart for God's work

**Remission**: forgiveness

### **Lesson 1.9 No Water, No Food, Fiery Serpents, Oh My!**

**Numbers 21: 4-9.**

- The Israelites complained about not having anything to eat but Manna.
- God sent fiery serpents among them and many die, then the people repented.
- God told Moses to take a bronze serpent to hold up on a pole—all who looked up upon it were healed. The bronze serpent was a picture of Christ Jesus, in that God raised up a Savior (savior-serpent).
- **First**: The Israelites repented; **Second**: God gave a solution. **Third**: The Israelites believed, were healed and confirmed that they believed in God's solution.

**Good News/Gospel**: The fulfillment of God's promises to Israel by sending Jesus Christ as the salvation for all who believe in Him.

**Repentance**: changing from sin and turning to God.

### **Lesson 1.10 King Hezekiah and the Bronze Serpent**

**2 Kings 18:1-16; Luke 24: 1-10.**

The people of Israel had fallen away from rightful worship of the true God. They were making offerings of the bronze serpent as if it were a god. King Hezekiah smashed the serpent.

**Adonai**: a reverent name for God meaning “Lord”.

**Idol**: A material thing, but a also the object of a false spiritual practice.

**Temple of the living God**: each believer.

**Resurrection**: The miraculous event of Jesus coming back to life after being dead.

### **Lesson 1.11 To Believe or Not to Believe** **Numbers 13:17-30., Joshua 1:1-9**

The Israelites were right on the edge of the Promised Land. Joshua sent out twelve men to spy in Canaan and ten came back. Out of all twelve, only two came back standing firm in God's promise that they would possess the Land.

**Wrath of God:** God's righteous anger at sin.

**Life:** Eternal Life with Jesus in heaven; the time between a person's birth and death.

**New Life:** the Life that Jesus gives, which is life forever with God and freedom from the curse of sin.

### **Lesson 1.12 Crossing over to the Promised Land** **Joshua 3:14 through 4:8.**

The Israelites cross into the Promised Land but first they must cross the Jordan River.

- Joshua sent the priests ahead of the congregation with the Ark of the Covenant.
- As soon as the priests' feet touché the river, the water receded back so the people could cross.
- The priests stood in the center of the river and the people passed before it.
- They picked up twelve stones as they went (one for each tribe) and set them as memorial at the far side in the Promised Land.
- The priests came up out of the river bed—and the river flow resumed. Joshua also had the people place a memorial of stones in the bottom of the river while the High Priests stood with the Ark.

**Memory:** a powerful way to be faithful to God by thinking about what he has done in the past.

**Remembering God's Promises:** keeping to the right path:

- **PAST:** you remember what God said; ex. God said that His children would go to heaven when they die.
- **PRESENT:** You think about who God is; ex. You gain comfort in knowing that you will eternally be with God.
- **FUTURE:** You will be influenced by what you think about God and what you do with that belief; ex. Being God's child means victory over fear—you will go to heaven when you physically die.