

## BRIARCLIFF CHURCH

### Small Group Study Guide: Exodus

Week of December 3 (Week 13)

Matthew 1–2



#### Sermon Overview

The Bible is the revelation of God's character and nature as he unfolds his plan of redemption for his people. Throughout the book of Exodus, we see God's sovereign and saving hand moving his people from slavery to freedom. From a broad perspective, we see Israel's birth and journey in Exodus. When the nation of Israel was no more than a small family, God provided for them by delivering them to Egypt to escape famine. As the nation grew, God called them out of Egypt to be his people, bring him glory and walk in freedom.

In the New Testament, we see the life of Jesus as the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies of the coming Messiah. Specifically, in Matthew's gospel, we see how Jesus' personal history purposefully repeats key aspects of Israel's national history (Matthew 2:13-23). Jesus was born into a small family and delivered to Egypt for his safety. As Jesus grew, he was called out of Egypt to bring God glory. Here, however, are where the parallels stop. God's Son, Jesus was not called out of Egypt to walk in freedom like God's children, the Israelites in Exodus. Jesus' call was to *give up* his freedom so all God's children can find their freedom in him.

Jesus Christ lived the perfect life we are all called to live. He fulfills God's righteous design for humanity and gives that righteousness to those he calls to follow him. To follow Jesus is to know Jesus as Lord, Savior and King – the truest form of freedom.

[\*Listen to recent sermons\*](#)

[\*Visit Exodus Resource Page\*](#)

#### Getting Started

Share about a friend or mentor that you have learned from and how their life impacted yours.

#### Starting with God

1. Matthew 1:1-17 lists the genealogy of Jesus beginning with Abraham. Why do you think it was important to God (therefore important to Matthew) to communicate Jesus' genealogy? (See *Genesis 12:1-3*)

2. Read Genesis 2:4, the introduction of God's creation of humans. What similarities do you see with Genesis 2:4 and Matthew 1:1? What is God telling us in the similarities between the two verses?
  
3. Read Matthew 1:22-23 and Exodus 25:8-9. What do these two passages tell you about God's consistent desire for his people? What has always been God's desire for his people?

### **Living God's Word**

4. In the first two chapters of his gospel, Matthew regularly refers back to the Old Testament (Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:2 and Jeremiah 31:15). Why do you think he does this? What do the Old Testament and New Testament tell us about God's faithfulness and ability? How do those facts impact your walk with God today?
  
5. Read Hosea 2:14-15. This is yet another example of God's covenant faithfulness. However, this passage comes on the heels of Hosea 2:1-13, stern punishments given by the Lord to his people. What does this combination tell you about the lengths God will go for the redemption of his people? How is the incarnation of Jesus further proof of God calling his people?

### **Prayer**

Father God, thank you for your perfect love and faithfulness. Thank you for your unwavering plan of redemption for your people. Please open our eyes to see your saving hand move throughout the Bible and in our lives. Amen.