

6

God's Assurance

Text: Exodus 6

Key Verse: Exodus 6:6

Next Week: Exodus 7-8:19

Encountering God

EXODUS

Finding Freedom

OPEN

Last week, in Exodus 5, we saw the need for us to persevere in our walk with God, as faithfully following God sometimes makes life harder instead of easier...but in the end always better. This week, as we turn to Exodus 6, we see that following God and trusting in his saving work for our lives also entails faithfully waiting on God to fulfill his promise.

Our chapter this week begins with God telling Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh..." Only God's definition of 'now,' seems different than ours, because God's rescue still doesn't come right away. Instead of action, what proceeds in this chapter is God once again giving Moses and his people the reassurance of his promise instead: God's promise to bring them "out from under the yoke of the Egyptians" (v.6). God tells Moses that in the past God had not yet made himself "fully known"(v.4), as he is now about to do...but how? Through the Israelites waiting on him to act in power in a way they had not known... but to see God's power they would have to still patiently wait.

Faithfully waiting on God to act and bring about the fullness of his saving work for our lives prepares our heart to receive God's promises.

REFLECT

- In v. 1, what is repeated twice and what do you think is significant about that? Why is it repeated? Why that?
- In reference to God, how many "I" statements are there in vv.1-12.
- List and observe the 7 "I will" statements. What is the emphasis here?
- In v. 9, what keeps the people from receiving God's assurance? What does their response illustrate about our thinking at times?
- Vv. 14-27 is a genealogy, a family lineage, that gives focus at the end to Aaron over Moses. What was Aaron's role and that of his lineage?

DISCUSS

- As a conversation starter this week, what is one thing you have had to wait on in your life that took a lot of patience on your part? Or another question, what is the longest line you have been in to wait for something?
- Our chapter begins by God repeating and reassuring Moses – and the people – of his promise to save them from the power of Egypt. From the Exodus story thus far (ch.1-5), how much evidence or action on God's part have they been given to believe or go on?
- From this, does it feel like sometimes God 'over promises and under delivers' when you consider the various promises we receive in God's Word? Have you ever felt that way? Or wrestled with that thought?
- At this point in the Exodus story – and the unfolding story of God's people (the descendants of Abraham and Sarah) – God tells Moses that God has not yet fully made himself known in a way God is about to do. What comes after this chapter in the Exodus story that will make more of God known to God's people?
- A related question: God's 'slowness' to bring about the people's deliverance from Egypt illustrates an important aspect of the Christian life – which is about waiting on the Lord (see Isaiah 40:28-31, Psalm 40, 2 Peter 3:9). What are some of the things the sermon talked about that 'waiting on the Lord' accomplishes in the life of a follower of Jesus?
- The genealogy of this passage reminds us that God chooses to work through imperfect people and families (ie. Moses and Aaron). How does that make you feel about God also choosing you in Christ?

APPLY/PRAY

Take time to pray for one another...

1. Share one thing you are / or need to wait intentionally on God for.

As part of your prayer time, use scripture to give voice to your prayer petitions (Isaiah 40, Psalm 40, Psalm 27, Luke 24:49).

2. Share prayer requests for needs & pray for fresh faith in God's power.

