

YAHWEH'S POWER TO SAVE, Exodus 12:1-11

CONNECT

1. What is one of your favorite holidays? What comes to mind when you hear the word "Passover"? What have you heard or been taught about the Passover?

CELEBRATE

2. Read Exodus 1:8-14. In what conditions did the Israelites find themselves in Egypt? Read 2:23-25. Who heard Israel's cry?
3. Read Exodus 12:1-14. Describe the animals that were to be used for the Passover. Why do you think it was important that the lamb be without blemish and one year old?
4. Read Hebrews 9:22-28. How does spreading the lamb's blood compare with the application of the blood of Jesus in the New Testament? How does this passage and Exodus 12 help you connect the Passover with the redemptive work of Jesus? See John 1:29.
5. The writer of Hebrews says, "It's appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment" (9:27). It is tempting to think that idolatry was something that only occurred millennia ago. What "false gods" do you see our culture worship as an avenue for providing worth, security and happiness? What role did judgment play in the Exodus 12:1-14 passage and how does it speak to us today?
6. Read Exodus 12:43-51. Why do you think foreigners were excluded from partaking in the Passover? Think back to the book of Ephesians. What was our state as Gentiles (Ephesians 2:11-12)? What does it mean for you to now be included because of Christ's work (Ephesians 2:13-18, 1 Peter 1:18-21)?
7. After the explanation of the events of the final plague, God followed with a decree that it must be commemorated (12:14-16). They were to tell their children and grandchildren about that night and all its details so that they remained vigilantly aware that God was their Redeemer. The danger of forgetting that night was a loss of understanding as to what it meant to be God's covenant people. Why do you think the Lord makes this a community event, not just an individual one? What reasons may the Lord have for calling us to remember (Hebrew: zakar) our suffering, deliverance and celebration as a community? How might this inform our view of the Lord's Supper in the New Testament?

CONTRIBUTE

8. What are key moments in your journey with Christ, including pre-salvation and since if you are a believer? Consider your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. Who do you need to share your story with so that they can know God like you do? Pray for the Lord to give you an opportunity to do so.