

Follow-up Bible Studies

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Day One: Exodus 12:1-30

- As plagues ravaged Egypt, what did God declare to Moses and Aaron (1-2)? Summarize what he told the Israelites to do on “the tenth day of this month” (3-11). What would God do “on that same night” (12-13)? How do you think Moses and Aaron felt about this plan? Which parts of it point to Jesus and the power of his blood?
- How does God want the Israelites to commemorate Passover (14-20)? In what ways do you celebrate Jesus’ work of bringing you out of bondage? How did Moses describe God’s Passover plan to the people (21-27)? What was their response (27-28)? How did God’s plan come to pass (29-30)?
- Meditate on the end of verse 23: “he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.” Centuries later, Jesus was crucified during Passover. At the moment of his death, he said, “It is finished” (John 19:30). Jesus’ blood is an everlasting Passover; death can never strike us down! Respond to the Lord.

Day Two: Leviticus 16

- What’s the backdrop for this Moses-God encounter (1)? What new restriction does the Lord give to Aaron (2)? Why (2)? Describe the new protocol for entering The Most Holy Place (3-5, 17)? What is each sacrificial animal’s purpose (6-11)?
- Describe the sacrifice and ritual Aaron must do to atone for his own sin (11-14). And the ritual to atone for the people’s sins (15-16)? What about the atonement of the altar (18-19)? There was so much precaution and ritual, all to keep Aaron alive and all the people cleansed of their sins. What do you make of this?
- Summarize the scapegoat ritual (20-22). How do all the rituals conclude (23-28)? How did this become an annual event (29-34)? Why do you think God required both blood sacrifice and a scapegoat in order to declare forgiveness? Which aspects of this process point to the power and purpose of Jesus and his blood? What makes Jesus’ atoning sacrifice distinct?

Day Three: Matthew 5:13-16

- What does Jesus proclaim about his followers (13)? What purpose does salt serve? Without its saltiness, would it have any function at all? In what ways are you like salt? What flavor do you bring out in the people and places surrounding you? As Jesus sanctifies

your soul, you become salty, but in a good way: you bring out the best in others. Pray that wherever you go, you'd be salt.

- How else does Jesus describe believers (14)? What are some things we do with light (14-15)? When we shine our light, what do people see (16)? How do we hope they will respond (16)? How does it feel to be “the light of the world”? Consider whether you're ever reluctant or struggle to “let your light shine.” How does Jesus want to help you better heed his words? Will you let him?
- Re-read verse 16. How would you define “good deeds”? Are they holy? With what power or reserves do you attempt them? Imagine relying solely on Jesus instead. What would that look like?

Day Four: Romans 3:21-26

- Who and what testify about the “righteousness of God” (21)? What are some ways the Law and the Prophets point to Jesus as the embodiment of it? How do we get this righteousness (22)?
- How does Paul argue that both Jews and Gentiles access God's righteousness in the same way (22-24)? What is your response to Paul's assertions, especially his point that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”?
- Describe Jesus' role as “a sacrifice of atonement” (25). Consider these words' relevance on original readers versus people today. In what two ways does this sacrificial role “demonstrate [Jesus'] righteousness” (25-26)? A few verses prior Paul says “all are justified freely by his grace.” Here in verse 26 he calls God “the one who justifies.” Consider what a tremendous gift justification is. What are some ways to consciously live in deep appreciation of it?

Day Five: 1 Peter 1:13-25

- Already forever-cleansed by the blood of Jesus, what do Peter's readers still await (13)? *How* does Peter encourage believers to wait (13)? What does obedience to Jesus look like (14-16)? Speak to the Lord about where you are on this trek of sanctification. How does he want to bless you in your pursuit of holiness?
- How does Peter propose believers ought to live (17)? What redeems believers from “the empty way of life” (18-21)? How does this relate to the Passover passage in Exodus 12? Since saying “yes” to Jesus, what emptiness in your life has been replaced with fullness? Give thanks to God!
- How and why does Peter want us to love (22-25)? Part of the “why” is that not only are we forgiven but we are also born again into eternal life. How does Peter describe this transformation (23-25)? Meditate on verse 25. Whenever you doubt the security and acceptance God promises to you, remember these words.