

FREEDOM

We are a free people because of Jesus. Whether bound in the chains of persecution or living comfortably by the lake, as followers of Christ, His blood has set us free. This week, we're looking at God's liberation of the Israelites and the different ways we can respond to the undeniable work of God.

Day 1 Read Exodus 13:3-9

After 430 years of captivity in Egypt, the people of Israel are being led by the Lord to freedom. The people of Israel (and Egypt!) witnessed ten great plagues. Pharaoh's heart was hardened. Just as Moses told Pharaoh to let the Israelites go, he constantly reminds the people of what the Lord has done and has promised to do for His people. Reflect on a time in your life when you've seen the undeniable power of God at work in your life. What hope has God promised you? When did you hear God calling you out of some slavery of your own? Have you seen it come to fruition yet? How? If not, do you believe He will? Why?

Day 2 Read Exodus 13:17-22

God leads the people of Israel out of Egypt and away from hostile territories so they would not be scared away and return back into slavery in Egypt. When have you been scared or tempted to turn away from something you felt God was clearly delivering you from? Why? Did you turn away or press on? Why? For the Israelites, the Lord went before them in a pillar of fire so they could travel day and night. What inexplicable, wild things have you seen God do for you?

Day 3 Exodus 14:1-14

After being led by a pillar of fire throughout day and night, the people of Israel found themselves in a dire situation. Egypt had pursued and trapped the Israelites. The Israelites cried to Moses, blaming him and doubting everything God had sworn to do. They'd have rather stayed in captivity than come all this way to die in the wilderness. Moses reminds them of the salvation of the Lord. When have you been reminded by someone about the hope of Jesus and the promises of God? When have you reminded someone? Who needs to be reminded today?

Day 4 Read Exodus 14:15-30

Look at verse 18. When the Lord moves, He demonstrates His character, power and authority to everyone, including the captors and oppressors. How have you seen God reveal Himself to those with hard hearts? When were you an oppressor with a hard heart? How did God reveal Himself to you?

Day 5 Read Exodus 15:11-18

Moses and the people of Israel worshipped God after being delivered from the Egyptians. Take some time to worship God and thank Him for the great things He has done. Reflect on the character of God. Thank Him for the things you've learned, experienced or are amazed by Him. Now keep doing it every day!

Day 6 Read Exodus 15:22-16:35

The people of Israel have constantly encountered wondrous acts of God – undeniable acts of God – yet they still grumble and doubt the promises of God. What are some ways you're still grumbling like the Israelites? Do you still have moments where you doubt the promise of God and wish to return to where you were before? Why? What needs to change in order to let go of the past and instead cling with both hands to the promises of God?

Day 7 Read Luke 4:14-19

How is Jesus the fulfillment of all of God's promises? Jesus' ministry on this earth was neither easy nor comfortable, but it changed everything. As a Christian, we've experienced this liberty Jesus came to deliver. Who still needs to be set free? What's stopping you from telling and showing them right now? Moses was a murderer and a fugitive, but he encountered the living God and, obeying His call, returned to Egypt to bring freedom to the Israelites and demonstrate God's power before a calloused, oppressive people. Pray for the Lord to open your eyes, ears and heart to His purpose to free all captives.