

Disciple – Week 5 – Conversation Guide

Good Morning! I hope that this finds you well and enjoying your reading and encounter of the great Exodus story.

There are a few things that I hope you have already done:

- Watched the teaching video that I sent out previously.
- Check out the Exodus Part 1 video from the Bible Project: [Click here for link.](#)

Here is an outline that I thought you might use to prepare for our time together on Monday. If you have any questions or need clarification, please let me know.

- Pray for those who lifted joys and concerns.
- Questions to Consider:
 - React to the plagues:
 - What do you notice in their progression?
 - How does this fit with the God we have met? Is this consistent with the idea of consequences and the chance for new beginnings? Why/why not?
 - What is the purpose for these stories – what are they meant to tell people about God or us?
 - God reveals a name for God to Moses – I AM
 - How does this name resonate for you?
 - Think about Jesus in the Gospel of John and how he uses I AM statements a lot to reveal his identity and point to God.
 - What is in a name?
 - Much has been made about the complaining people in the story of the Exodus.
 - What do you make of their complaints and what do they reveal about the human condition?
 - Have there been times in your life or faith journey where you would rather stay put in less than ideal (or even really bad places) rather than take a leap of faith? – Perhaps look at your answers to the questions on page 41 of the manual.
 - In my own reading this time, I was struck by how much must have gone well for hundreds of thousands of people to be able to get up and move on any given day. What do we make of the fact that those pieces are never shared? Why would that be taken for granted while the missteps or complaining highlighted?
 - Finally, p 40 of the study manual asks important questions about oppressive systems that exist today and our role in combatting them. Share your answers and contemplate what kind of response we as people of faith are called to offer.

There is much room for rich discussion. Feel free to follow this guide or brainstorm your own. See you soon!

Brent