



Ministry at Home



Family Devotional for Wednesday, April 22nd

Note for Parents: You are doing an awesome job!!! There's obviously a lot of things that could be fighting for your attention and the attention of your family, but it says a lot about you and your dedication to being a Godly parent that you are taking time to do this quick study with your family. This is where ministry really happens! Thank you from everyone here at Robinson Ave.

Instructions: Pray together to start. The main scripture for tonight comes from Exodus 14:10-14, 29-31. Read it as a family. You will see that the format is a little different from our previous devos. A summary of the scripture and discussion questions have been provided below. Discussion questions are bolded. These are there if you want to use them, but feel free to go wherever the conversation takes you. The important thing is to simply sit and talk about the Word of God for a little while. This is your class so lead it as you see fit. Close in prayer.

Scripture: Exodus 14:10-14, 29-31

Summary and some Discussion Questions:

At this point in the Exodus story, the Israelites have been through a lot, both good and bad.

What has Israel been through so far before this?

The people of Israel were slaves until God sent Moses. The situation initially got worse for the Israelites when Moses showed up. Pharaoh was not pleased with the idea of freeing his slaves so he increased their workload to punish Moses. Because of this, some of the Jews were angry with Moses and by extension, God. After this God sent 10 plagues on Egypt, and although they were spared the suffering that came with many of the plagues, the Jews witnessed all that God was able to do and the destruction that the plagues caused. They feared God because of it and they trusted him at times. With the power of God behind him, Moses is eventually allowed to take the Israelites away from Egypt. They came to the Red Sea and camped there until they see that Pharaoh and his army are coming after them. Their former slave drivers are here to recapture or kill them and they are cornered with nowhere to go. It appears that the end has arrived for the Israelites. **How would you react if you were in this situation if you were one of the Israelites on that beach?**

When they see the Egyptians, the Israelites are terrified and they lose their faith in God's ability and desire to take care of them. They say they would have rather suffered in Egypt and lived than follow Moses and God into the situation they were in. Moses is the only one who still trusts in God. He says "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still." God parts the sea and the Israelites escape from the Egyptian army. They have been saved once again even though they doubted. **What would you think about God if you were one of the Israelites that had just been saved...again?**

The Israelites are finally completely free from Egypt because of God. It says, "When the Israelites saw the great power the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the

Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.” They definitely needed to trust God because they are going into the unknown here. What will happen to me? Will God be able to take care of me? These are all questions that the Israelites were asking. **If you were an Israelite, God has taken care of you up to this point, but now you are completely at his mercy. You don’t know what will happen. You can only trust in God. Would you be able to trust God or would it be hard for you to completely trust in him?**

This story relates a lot to our current situation. We have faced a great challenge that we couldn’t beat ourselves in COVID-19. On top of the health issues associated with it, school, our social lives, church, jobs, future plans, and our daily routines have been up-ended in some way. Those things are challenging, but did the world end? Did God guide you through it? Is he taking care of you? **What has God done to take care of you over the last few months? How does it feel knowing that God has saved you...again?**

God didn’t let any of our struggles over the last few months destroy us. He has taken care of us. Now, we are like the Israelites standing in the other side of the Red Sea. The challenges we faced have been defeated or overcome. Now we are heading into the unknown. As things in our country start to open up and go back to some level of “normal,” there will be new challenges that come up and new opportunities for us to rely on God. **What sort of challenges may come up in the next few weeks as things start to open up again? Can you trust God to guide you through them?**