A MIGHTY RESCUE

nine sessions from Exodus

Primary

Lunchtime Group Resources
nine sessions from Exodus
Welcome

This resource has been specifically written with school groups in mind but can be adapted depending on your needs. It is based on the group running for approximately 30 minutes each meeting.

What’s Inside?

- 9 sets of leader’s notes for regular meetings. The leader’s notes provide an aim, fun activity, guidelines for an interactive talk as well as prayer, memory verse and song ideas.
- 2 colour advertising posters designed to grab the attention of students and help increase awareness of your group. There is space for you to fill in your group name and where you meet. We encourage schools to use the ‘CRU School Groups’ logo when promoting their group so as to link students with the work that God is doing in other schools.

Before You Start

- Please note that all pages in this resource can be photocopied but Crusaders requests each school purchase at least one original.
- Whilst this resource is aimed at easing the load for the group leader, it is vital that time is spent adapting it to the specific needs of your group. Time also needs to be spent on working through the Bible passage and talk before the group meets.
- A variety of video clips and other resources are used in this series. All resources, including video clips, should be checked before the meeting to make sure they are appropriate for your group and there are not technical problems. The resources can be accessed from the Web Extras section of the CRU website: www.crusaders.edu.au/school-ministry/resources/web-extras/
- It would be very easy to spend too much time on the fun activity each week. Remember that looking at the Bible and praying together are the most important parts of the meeting and divide time accordingly.
- All suggested songs are linked to the theme of the talk. The intention of including a wide variety of songs from different CDs is so that you have options if your group enjoys singing - please do not feel it necessary to buy every CD listed. The CDs listed are available in Christian bookstores and many include sheet music.
- Several meetings involve volunteer students eating confectionery and other food. Please take care to ensure that this food is suitable for students in your group, particularly considering allergies.
- Note that the outreach meeting (Week 4) needs a bit more planning than other meetings. It may be wise to look ahead now at what needs to be done.

We pray that this resource will be a great help as you join in God’s work of bringing students to Himself and growing them to be like His Son.

“We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.
To this end I labour, struggling with all His energy which so powerfully works in me.”
Colossians 1:28–29
# A Mighty Rescue

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Title</th>
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| 1    | Behind the Scenes                  | Exodus 1-2:10  
* Moses’ Birth* | God is working to save even when things seem hopeless.                     |
| 2    | Meeting God                        | Exodus 3:1-15  
* The Burning Bush* | God’s character is displayed in His name.                                 |
| 3    | Making God Known                  | Exodus 6:28-7:7  
* The Plagues* | God wants people to know who He is.                                       |
| 4    | Who do you Trust? Outreach Week   | Exodus 12:1-36  
* The Passover* | Jesus can be trusted to save us.                                          |
| 5    | Prize Fighter                     | Exodus 14:5-31  
* Crossing the Red Sea* | God fights for His people.                                                |
| 6    | Bread and Grumbles                 | Exodus 16:1-3, 11-17  
* Food in the Desert* | God provides for His people.                                              |
| 7    | Saved and Changed                 | Exodus 19:4-6  
* The Ten Commandments* | God wants saved people to be changed people.                              |
| 8    | Real or Fake?                     | Exodus 32:1-14, 19-20  
* The Golden Calf* | We can easily get distracted from properly honouring God.                 |
| 9    | Solid Promises                    | Exodus 34:1-5, 10-11, 14, 27-28  
* God Renews the Covenant* | God keeps the promises He makes with His people.                          |

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*A Mighty Rescue*
AIM

To trust that God works to save even when things seem hopeless.

PREPARE

- Pray as you prepare that God’s will might be done and students will be drawn closer to Him.
- Read through Exodus 1:1-2:10 familiarising yourself with the context and content of the passages.
- Print out the Web Extras document ‘Week One Passage’.
- Ensure you have the facilities to show the Web Extras video ‘Awareness Test’.
- Print enough copies of the Web Extras document ‘Paper Boat’ for each person to have one.
- Ensure you have a whiteboard and markers.
- Bring a large tub filled with water for the paper boats.

FUN ACTIVITY

Find the Leader

Play a game of ‘Find the Leader’. The group sits in a circle. One person (the Spotter) leaves the room while a leader is picked. They will make an action which everyone must copy. The spotter must work out who is leading the group, while the leader must change actions without being detected.

Play the game for an appropriate amount of time.

EXTRACTED TEXT

too, sometimes without being noticed. He is always working in the background to help His people.

CONTEXT

Using the whiteboard, ask students to tell you what they know about the story of Moses. If you’re feeling creative, draw a picture (stick figures are fine) of each thing they tell you. You could also have a student draw the pictures while you take suggestions.

When you have finished, congratulate the students on their excellent memories of Moses. Explain that over the next few weeks as you look at Exodus together, you will see how all those stories fit together, and understand what they teach you about God. But today you’re going back to the very beginning of the story.

SHORT TALK

Imagining

Start by explaining that God’s people were living in Egypt under the rule of a harsh king who didn’t like them.

From the Web Extras document ‘Week 1 Passage’ read Exodus 1:8-9, 11-14.

Ask the group to imagine they are Israelites and they have just come home after a hard day’s work. Ask them to turn to the person next to them, and tell them how they’re feeling about the Egyptians.

Listen carefully to the answers. You may like to ask some of the pairs to share what they talked about.

Now tell the group that life is about to get harder for the Israelites. Read Exodus 1:21-22 from the passage document.

Ask the group to keep imagining they are Israelites, but this time to have a conversation in their pairs as
if they’ve just heard the news that the King is going to kill all the baby boys.

As they have their conversations, listen, and ask some people to share what they talked about.

Now say to the group that this might seem like the most terrible thing ever but even in the Israelites’ most horrible moment God was working behind the scenes to save them. Ask your group what happened next.

They will probably tell you that Moses was born. Moses’ mother had a baby that she kept hidden. When she could not hide the baby anymore, she did what the law said and put him in the river. But she placed her baby in a basket and sent her daughter down to watch as it floated down the river.

Continue reading from the passage document: Exodus 2:5-10.

Isn’t that amazing! At the very time that things seemed worst for the Israelites, God was preparing Moses to grow up in safety to become a leader of his people and set God’s people free.

The Israelites would have been so focused on their problems that they probably missed what God was doing the background. Sometimes we can be the same.

**Awareness Test**

Show your group the Web Extras video, ‘Awareness Test’.

Once they have completed the test, explain that sometimes we can be so focused on one thing, that we don’t notice what’s going on around us.

In the same way that we missed the dancing bear in the video, we can be so focused on our problems that we don’t notice that God is working.

**God still works today**

Ask the group, what are some problems we could be focused on, and what might God be doing in the background to help us?

Some examples might be when we fight with our friends God uses that conflict to teach us how to forgive, fix friendships, and make us better friends. When things are tough at home, God could use that situation to help us care for other people who are going through hard times. When we are facing doubts about God, He could be using that time to help us develop a stronger faith by overcoming doubts.

The most important thing to remember is that even when all we can see are problems, God is working on the solution. The clearest time we see this is when Jesus died. It looked like this special person had been killed forever, but God was working in the background to use His death to save the world. God brought Jesus back to life and worked for great good through a bad situation.

When we face hard times, we should keep our eye out for the solution because God is always working, even when we can’t see Him.

**PRAYER ACTIVITY**

Have your group write down on the Web Extras document “Paper boat” a situation that seems hopeless. Fold the paper into a paper boat and then float the boat in the tub of water. Tell them that as they do this, they should give the hopeless situation to God, trusting Him that He is able to work in even the toughest times.

**SONG IDEA**

*Let Your Light Shine* - Super Strong God - Hillsong Kids