

Sermon Based Small Group Guide
For November 26, 2017 sermon:
Exodus: "Identification"

Warm up: (15-20 minutes)

Question for discussion:

How do you "identify" yourself? As you walk around West Michigan you see a lot of University of Michigan and Michigan State gear. Those items are a way of letting people know of a priority in their life. What TEAM or SCHOOL or COMMUNITY or VOCATION or ??? do you find yourself using to help people understand you and what's important to you?

Digging deeper: (20-30 minutes)

1. In this week's passage (Exodus 17) God gave the Israelites victory but they still needed to fight for it. God and the Israelites both had a part to play in the victory. The same is true for us. God causes our growth but we also have a part to play in it. How do the following passages help you better understand these two aspects of growth?

-Ephesians 4:22-25

-Galatians 5:16-23

-Philippians 2:12-13

What happens if we focus on only ONE side and ignore the other?

2. The whole Bible is about Jesus and God's unfolding plan of redemption. There are so many "images and illustrations" of Jesus in the Book of Exodus. Look at as many of the following as your group time allows. Can you see God's plan unfolding?

The burning bush

Exodus 3:13-22 John 8:58

The Passover lamb

Exodus 12:1-14 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

The tree in bitter water

Exodus 15:22-25 John 4:7-14

Bread from Heaven

Exodus 16:1-36 John 6:32-3

OVER

The rock that was struck

Exodus 17:1-7 1 Corinthians 10:4

Joshua defeats the enemy

Exodus 17:8-16 Romans 8:1-2

Arms outstretched on a hill

Exodus 17:8-16 1 Peter 2:24 Acts 4:12

Application: (5-10 minutes) When did it become clear to you that Jesus was exactly who he claimed to be (John 14) "The WAY, the TRUTH and the LIFE..."?