

Session #6: Walk (or RUN) Away From Egypt

Welcome, Opening Prayer & Review Homework: 15 minutes

What did the Holy Spirit guide you to address in your marriage?

What do you need to walk away from?

Did you make some practical commitments to change? What are they?

Talk about the challenges you have with making needed changes.

How can your group help you?

Group Discussion: Away from Egypt: 15 minutes

Read Deuteronomy 17: 16-17

- **16** The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the Lord has told you, "You are not to go back that way again." **17** He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.

Also read Deuteronomy 20:1-4

- **Going to War 20** When you go to war against your enemies and see horses and chariots and an army greater than yours, do not be afraid of them, because the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt, will be with you. **2** When you are about to go into battle, the priest shall come forward and address the army. **3** He shall say: "Hear, Israel: Today you are going into battle against your enemies. Do not be fainthearted or afraid; do not panic or be terrified by them. **4** For the Lord your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory."

Also read Joshua 5:6

- **6** The Israelites had moved about in the wilderness forty years until all the men who were of military age when they left Egypt had died, since they had not obeyed the Lord. For the Lord had sworn to them that they would not see the land he had solemnly promised their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.
- **Look back at YOUR LIFE and decide what past hurts might keep you from finding the freedom you need to step into YOUR Promised Land. If nothing comes to mind, calm your mind and pray (using Listening Prayer) for God to reveal the answers to you. When He does, write those things down in your journal.**
- **What is YOUR "Egypt?"**

Read Proverbs 3:5-7

- **5** Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; **6** in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. **7** Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.
- **What is God telling you through these passages?**

Read Deuteronomy 11:26-28

- **26** See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse— **27** the blessing if you obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today; **28** the curse if you disobey the commands of the Lord your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.
- **As you think through this study so far, how are you receiving your blessings and how might you be evoking curses? How are YOU going to press ahead?**

Couple's Breakout: 20 minutes**Re-read: Deuteronomy 17: 16-17**

- ✓ **Look back at YOUR LIFE and discuss what might be holding YOU back from your very own PROMISED LAND. What is YOUR "Egypt?"**
- ✓ **Re-read Proverbs 3:5-7. Do you trust God to do the job? Do you think God knows about your concerns?**

Paul reminds us of this in **Ephesians 3:20** (*Read aloud*) so stop running. Stop trying. Stop pushing. Start resting and trusting in Him... *Your Egypt is not too hard for God!*

- ✓ **Discuss the passage and what it means to trust God in your life. Give examples of specific areas that YOU need to submit to God.**

Pray together for God to help you identify and remove the "EGYPT" in YOUR life. Each couple should take the time to NAME THEIR EGYPT in prayer and command it to be gone in the name of Jesus. Pray for God's protection this week as the enemy will want to make "EGYPT" look so inviting. Hold each other up in prayer ALL week!

Group Discussion: Encourage One Another: 5 minutes

Read Luke 10:38-42

- ***At the Home of Martha and Mary 38*** As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. **39** She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. **40** But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!” **41** “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, **42** but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”
- ***Distractions abound in the world around us, as we can understand from the Bible’s account of Christ’s friends Mary and Martha. Shortly before His death, Christ gathered with His disciples. Mary and Martha were both helping to serve the meal, but one of them fell into Satan’s “trap of busyness.” Mary made the most of her opportunity to hear from the Messiah one more time, while Martha was distracted with much serving.***

Which one do YOU relate to?

Homework Review & Closing Prayer: 5 minutes

HOMWORK: Breaking the Busy Cycle:

Pray and then read James 1

When you choose to change your life (and your schedule) to be more closely connected to Jesus, the enemy will want to create all kinds of trials and temptations to take your eye of the prize of living out God’s purpose for your life. Expect the trials and embrace them!

Please answer these questions honestly (and have your spouse independently do the same): (10 being MOST important or satisfying and 1 being LEAST important or satisfying. Be totally honest!)

How important are the relationships in your life? Rate: _____

How important is your spiritual life? Rate: _____

How important is it to maintain your health? Rate: _____

How important is it to succeed in your career? Rate: _____

How important is it to have adequate financial resources? Rate: _____

How satisfied are you with your relationships? Rate: _____

How satisfied are you with your spiritual life? Rate: _____

How satisfied are you with your health? Rate: _____

How satisfied are you with your career? Rate: _____

How satisfied are you with your financial life? Rate: _____

How well do you know what you spend your time on? Rate: _____

Total up your scores: **Total:** _____

Read Mark 10:17-27

We end this devotional with a SAD story. As you read the story of the RICH and the KINGDOM of GOD, PLEASE don’t be like the rich man! If you can relate, make the needed changes TODAY!

Finish this week’s homework by returning to the assessment you did (see separate PDF) in week #1. Say a prayer together and then create a strategy to raise both scores. Be ready to talk about these reviews when we meet next.