

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

The People, Places and Period:

Exodus 1:1-7

Forgetting Joseph:

Exodus 1:8-14

Q: How does someone **forget** their **salvation**?

A: **Time**

Surviving In Enemy Territory:

Exodus 1:15-22 Matthew 5:13-16 Romans 12:3-8 1 Corinthians 12:14-26 1 John 5:18-20

❶ We don't fight against **people**, we are fighting for **people**.

❷ I have to stay **connected** to my **Commander**.

❸ I have to put **his orders** ahead of **my own**.

❹ I have to **play my part** in the war.

Something To Think About:

If I were taken out of the **battle**, what **void** would be left?

Growth Group Homework

For the week of November 8, 2015

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. Chris mentioned that time has a way of dimming our memories of what God has done for us. As you look at your life, are there one or two things God has done for you (like a big-time answer to prayer or protection from loss or injury) that when you think of it you're reminded of God's faithfulness or care?

2. Can you think of someone who you've seen do a good job of "dripping in" their spiritual influence with others?

How about someone who may have "gushed" too much and turned people away from Christ?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Chris talked this weekend about having spiritual influence in the lives of others. There is no "one size fits all" approach when it comes to this kind of impact because everyone is different. How could each of the following passages help shape how you go about having spiritual influence on others?

Matthew 5:43-48

Love for Enemies

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? ⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Paul's Use of His Freedom

¹⁹ Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. ²⁰ To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. ²¹ To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. ²³ I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

1 Peter 3:15-16

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

If you could spiritually influence anyone in your current circle of relationships to take a step closer to Jesus, who would you most like to see take that step?

Can you think of anything you could do or say that might help that happen?

2. When it comes to remembering or realizing what God has done for us, we're a lot like the Israelites – we easily forget! God was so concerned about the Israelites' forgetfulness that he had King David write a psalm all about remembering. After reading Psalm 103:1-18, make a list of the things that David wants us to remember.

Psalm 103:1-18

Of David.

- ¹ Praise the LORD, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- ² Praise the LORD, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all the oppressed.
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel:
- ⁸ The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbor his anger forever;
- ¹⁰ he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.
- ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;
- ¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

- ¹³ As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;
¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.
¹⁵ The life of mortals is like grass,
they flourish like a flower of the field;
¹⁶ the wind blows over it and it is gone,
and its place remembers it no more.
¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting
the LORD's love is with those who fear him,
and his righteousness with their children's children—
¹⁸ with those who keep his covenant
and remember to obey his precepts.

Which one or two things from your list are most important for you to remember?

3. When we are living in enemy territory, there will be times when we face difficult and challenging circumstances. A common response to these circumstances is to wonder if God has forgotten us or if he really is in control. How might Romans 8:31-39 encourage us about God's care for us and his control of the future?

Romans 8:31-39

More Than Conquerors

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?³⁶ As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

What's most challenging or difficult for you to appreciate from this passage?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back on this week's teaching and homework, what's most important for you to remember?

Prayer Requests

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Christmas is coming and you can play a HUGE role in making our Christmas Outreach Tree a success. Hundreds of ornaments adorn the Christmas Trees at each campus and each ornament has a special wish from a local family or organization in need. We would love to have volunteers assist people in choosing ornaments and collect gifts as they arrive. Volunteers are needed every weekend from Nov. 28–Dec. 13 at each service. For more information or to sign up, go to northcoastcommunityservice.org or call Mary Bishop at (760) 330-9234.