

GOD SETS APART A PEOPLE FOR HIMSELF

YEAR: UNITE / FOCUS: LIVING IN COMMUNITY
SERIES: GOD'S PEOPLE ARE THE CHURCH

BIG TRUTH: GOD SETS APART A PEOPLE FOR HIMSELF

Genesis 17:7; Leviticus 26:12; Deuteronomy 11:22; Isaiah 41:10; Jeremiah 7:23; 30:22; Ezekiel 36:28; Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:17

BIBLE VERSE: EXODUS 6:7

"I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."

BIG IDEAS

- God has always related uniquely to His people.
- God establishes a covenant with His people.
- God delivers and redeems His people.

BIBLE PASSAGE: EXODUS 6:1-13

UNITE: LIVING IN COMMUNITY

The Unite year is an exploration of what it means to be united in Christ as the family of God (Romans 12:5). When we are saved, we are brought into the family of God- seen throughout the Old Testament as "God's People" and in the New Testament and today as the church (Exodus 6:7; Colossians 1:18). We are set free from our sin to walk in freedom in Christ (Galatians 5:1) and use our influence to call others to do the same.

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know...

- God has always been making and keeping a people for Himself
- In this age, the church is God's people
- Being a part of God's people should inform every aspect of our lives



Every student should strive to...

- Study the connections between God's people in the Old Testament
- and the church in the New Testament
- Memorize the Bible verse each week
- Invite others into God's people, the church



Every student should feel...

- Love for God and the people of God
- Accountable to God and to the church to pursue holiness
- Responsible to use their influence to make much of God alone



Every student should want...

- Be marked by their faith
- Talk about God every day, in every setting and circle of influence
- Live as a faithful member of their local church

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week's Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.



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BIBLE VERSE: EXODUS 6:7

"I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."

God takes His people for Himself.

"I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God..."

- God heard the prayers and groanings of the enslaved Israelites during their captivity in Egypt. His answer to their prayers was to call them as His chosen people who would be set apart for His purposes. He promised deliverance to the Israelites and promised to make them His special people who would be delivered from the bondage of the Egyptians and redeemed to live for the glory of the one true God.
- The Israelites were chosen as God's people, and He brought them out of their captivity in Egypt and led them to the Promised Land that He had prepared for them. They were set apart, or were different, from other nations because God had chosen them to be His people.

God chooses His people and is the Lord over His people.

"...and you shall know that I am the Lord your God..."

- Not only does God choose His people and set them apart from other nations and people, He makes Himself known to them. When God delivered the Israelites from their bondage in Egypt, He made Himself known to them.
- God is the Lord of His people. This means that He doesn't just choose them and set them apart, but He leads them and guides them. He shepherds them as His chosen people. He is involved in their lives and reigns over them as the holy and rightful King.

God's people know He is their God.

"...and you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."

- When God delivered the Israelites from Egypt, they knew that it was the Lord redeeming them. He revealed Himself to them in mighty ways and showed them that He is their God. He revealed His might and power and wisdom as their rightful Ruler.
- God's people know He is their God. They know He is the true God, and they know they are His people. They worship Him as their God and submit to His rule and reign over their lives.

GOD SETS APART A PEOPLE FOR HIMSELF

BIG IDEA #1: GOD HAS ALWAYS RELATED UNIQUELY TO HIS PEOPLE.¹

[THIS]

In Exodus 6:1-13, God is preparing Moses to lead the Israelites out of their captivity in Egypt. Though it would be a while before they leave Egypt, God's promise to redeem His people from their bondage was fulfilled through His powerful display of His might as He worked through Moses to establish the Israelites as His people. As God revealed His plan to rescue the Israelites from the Egyptians, He reminded Moses of the unique relationship the Israelites have always shared with God. In Exodus 6:2-3, He recalls the ways in which He has interacted with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, establishing His covenant with them. Now, He was making Himself known to Moses and He would fulfill the covenant He had made by leading the people into the land of Canaan, the Promised Land. God is a God who relates uniquely to His chosen people. He chose Abraham as the forefather of the nation He would build for Himself and He has interacted as their Lord ever since.

[THEREFORE]

What does it mean for God's people that He interacts with them in a unique way?

Genesis 17:7 and Acts 2:17 help us see the connection between God establishing the Israelites as His people and the establishment of the body of Christ after the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus. God has made a covenant with His people, and He interacts with them as their Lord and Savior. He is their God and will always be so.

[THIS]

The church is God's people. He sets aside every person who is a follower of Christ to be a part of His family. This family is the body of Christ, and the body of Christ is the church. God relates to the church in a unique way because He is the rightful Ruler of the church. Jesus is the head of the church and God is the heavenly Father of all who believe in Jesus as the Son of God. God works on behalf of His people and works in them to make them more like His Son. God speaks to His people through His Word, and His Word guides them to know Him and to live for Him. Prior to the coming of Jesus, God spoke to His people through His prophets, but then God revealed Himself to us through His Son. God relates to His people as their Father, Savior, and King.

[THEREFORE]

What comfort does it bring knowing that God is the heavenly Father of all people who believe in Jesus?

Romans 5:11, Isaiah 61:10, and Habakkuk 3:18 teach us that those who have been redeemed by Christ rejoice in Him. God's people rejoice in God the Father because He has sent His Son to redeem them. God's people rejoice in their salvation. They find joy in the knowledge that they have been redeemed and set apart.

What joy do you find knowing that God relates to you as a believer in a unique way?

God's Word is His unique way of relating and speaking to His people. Jeremiah 9:23-24, 2 Peter 3:18, and Psalm 119:105 help us understand the joy we can find in knowing God through His Word and trusting in His revealed character and truth.

1. Exodus 6:2-3: God has continually related to His chosen people in unique ways that are not like the way He relates to the rest of the world.

GOD SETS APART A PEOPLE
FOR HIMSELF**BIG IDEA #2: GOD ESTABLISHES A COVENANT WITH HIS PEOPLE.²****[THIS]**

In Scripture, a covenant is a sacred promise or agreement between God and a person or group of people. In Scripture, God sets the terms of His covenants, and He is the one who upholds the terms. In Exodus 6:1-4, He reminds Moses of the covenant He made with Abraham and his descendants. The covenant God made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob was to create a nation from their offspring, or a people who would be His people. He promised to give them a land, the Promised Land that would be their home and most importantly, He promised to always be their God. He would be their deliverer and guide, leading them to a land that would be their home. This covenant was the promise God reminded Moses of as He prepared him to be the leader to guide the Israelites out of their bondage in Egypt.

[THEREFORE]

How are covenants different from promises? How does God's covenant give hope to all people?

A covenant is a sacred promise that holds greater significance than a normal promise. Human promises can be broken, but God's covenant gives us hope because He cannot lie or break His promises, as Hebrews 6:13-20 reminds us. We can be sure that this covenant will be upheld. It is through God's covenant people that He will send the Messiah to be the Redeemer of the world. Hosea 11:1 and Isaiah 7:14 teach us that God promised He would send the Redeemer through His chosen people.

[THIS]

God is a perfect God who is holy and just. God is perfect in every way, and He always does what He says He will do. When God made the covenant with His people, He kept His covenant perfectly. There was no part of His covenant that He did not keep. He promised to make a great nation out of Abraham, to multiply them for generations, and to lead them to a homeland. He promised to send the Messiah through His people and He did all these things perfectly. He promised to be His people's God and to protect them and fight for them. All these things He did just as He promised. God used Moses to lead the Israelites out of their bondage in Egypt and through the desert to the Promised Land. He was their protector and guide, providing exactly what they needed along the way. God led them into the Promised Land and sustained them while they were there. He sent the Messiah to redeem all of mankind, offering salvation to anyone who believes. He is a promise-keeper and a covenant keeper.

[THEREFORE]

How does God's perfection impact the way He keeps His covenant with His people?

Psalm 18:25-26 and 92:15 show us that God is upright and without blemish or spot. He is pure and holy. He is perfect in every way. This means that every word He says is perfect and every covenant He makes is kept perfectly. His perfection means that He keeps His covenant with His people perfectly making it possible for them to have redemption from their sins.

What should our response be to God's covenant-keeping abilities?

Joshua 21:45, 2 Corinthians 1:20, and Romans 4:21 remind us that we can hope in the Lord who keeps His promises. His saying is His doing. He is faithful to do all that He promises to do, so we should put our hope and our trust in Him.

2. Exodus 6:4: God established a covenant with His people and continues to keep His promises to His chosen people.

GOD SETS APART A PEOPLE FOR HIMSELF

BIG IDEA #3: GOD DELIVERS AND REDEEMS HIS PEOPLE.³

[THIS]

In Exodus 6:1-13, God promises to deliver His people from their bondage. Deliverance is a theme throughout the Bible that reveals God's work in the life of His people. His chosen people, the Israelites, have been in bondage to the Egyptians for a long time. Their slavery was harsh, and they had to endure the wicked cruelty of the Egyptians. Yet, they cried out to God for deliverance, and He heard them. In these thirteen verses, we see that God's plan was one of delivering them from their captors and restoring them to Himself. As He prepared Moses to lead the people out of their bondage, He prepared him to negotiate the terms of their release while also planning their journey to their new home that God had long ago promised to their ancestors. God's deliverance is right on time, perfect, and complete. He saw His people in their plight, understood their greatest and true need, and fulfilled His purpose for them.

[THEREFORE]

How does God's deliverance impact your daily life?

Galatians 1:4 helps us understand how God's deliverance impacts our lives because He sent the Messiah to save the world. God is the Redeemer of the world and has made a way for all those who believe in Jesus to be redeemed from their sin debt. His deliverance has made a way for people to live a restored life.

[THIS]

Part of God's deliverance is His judgment. God's judgment is as perfect as His redemption. Because God is perfect, holy, pure, and righteous, all that He does is perfect. His judgment of sin is perfect and just. When God delivered the Israelites from the Egyptians, His judgment of the Egyptians was perfect. He offered grace and mercy to them by giving them ten plagues that revealed Himself. This revelation of Himself and His power was an act of mercy towards them as it revealed who He is and their need for the deliverance He was offering. God's judgment on sin is part of His redemption of them. In order to redeem them, He must first judge sin. In judging it rightly, He offers the perfect way for people to be delivered and redeemed from their sin debt.

[THEREFORE]

Read Exodus 6:1-13. How is judgment a part of God's deliverance of His people?

Part of God's deliverance of the Israelites was judging the wrongful behavior of the Egyptians. The Israelites needed deliverance because the treatment they received at the hands of the Egyptians was cruel and wicked. God's judgment of man was a part of His deliverance of them as well.

How does judgment play a part in the redemption of the world?

God's judgment on sin and man's sinful nature are part of His redemption plan for the world. He sent His Son into the world to live the perfect life that no other person could live that Jesus might pay the price for man's sin debt. Romans 6:23 and John 5:22 teach us that God's judgment is a part of His salvation plan.

3. Exodus 6:6: God is the deliverer of His people. He promises to deliver His people from their burdens, and He fulfills His promises.