

# From Slavery to Freedom

Exodus study guide #9

lead up to Jan 6<sup>th</sup>

## Digging into Exodus 17:8-16

1. Read through Exodus 17:8-16 together and then share your initial observations & responses.
2. The Israelites have been rescued from slavery in Egypt and are on route to a new life of freedom – and here come the Amalakites to take them out before they even get there. Up until now, the challenge of the wilderness has been environmental and internal – but now they are confronted by overt enemies who want them dead.
  - Can we relate to this? Does our life with God feel threatened by others? How?
3. What was the purpose of Moses going up on the mountain top and raising his hands, instead of going down to fight with the others?
  - Have you ever been asked to do this? Share.
4. Sometimes Christians think that “*the battle is won on our knees*”, whereas others are convinced that God calls us to action.
  - How does this passage affirm and challenge either or both of these perspectives?
  - How have we experienced this dual call in our own lives?
5. After a while, Moses couldn’t keep his hands up and needed the help of others. Sometimes we get tired in our reliance upon God and we need the help of others to sustain us.
  - When has God used someone else to uphold you in a waning season? What did they do?
  - Where have you been called to hold up another?
6. This story is the first time we are introduced to Joshua. Although we are not told much about him in the story, he plays a significant role in the scene, as well as in the stories conclusion. In v.14, the LORD instructs Moses to have this written down on a scroll and, specifically, to have **Joshua hear it**.
  - Why would it be important for **Joshua** to hear this? How would remembering this event be important for Joshua in the coming years?
    - *Is there a story or event from our own lives that has been important for us to not forget?*

**WRAP UP:** In a word or phrase, what in Exodus 17:8-16 most significantly lingers with you?

**PRAY:** *Take a few minutes to pray together for one another and the battles we face.*