

The Gospel Project for Adults, Winter 2015-2016
Extended Instructional Approaches for Session 4

Introduction: *Connect the group to the lesson through song.*

Start group with a musical time of praise and worship. Prior to group, pick out a few songs and plan a group member to lead out in a time of worship. Song suggestions might include: “You’re Worthy of My Praise” by Jeremy Camp; “How Great Is Our God” by Chris Tomlin; “To God Be the Glory” by Fanny Crosby; or “Show Me Your Glory” by Jesus Culture.

Say, “Today we are studying God’s deliverance of the Israelites out of Egypt. We see that in Exodus 15 Moses penned a song of praise in response to what God has done for the people of Israel that enables them to take the truths of God’s deliverance with them. In this session, we will see how God demonstrated His worthiness of all praise by guiding His people, manifesting His glory, and delivering them in love.”

Part 1: *Engage group by using additional Scripture to amplify the theme.*

Write or print on index cards the Scripture passages listed below that focus on God being our guide. Pass out the index cards to group members and have them read them one after the other. As each Scripture is read aloud, it reaffirms that direction should come from the Lord. This will remind the group that God is worthy of praise and that we should follow Him as He guides us through life. We must trust and praise Him. Here are some of the passages you might want to use for the index cards:

- Psalm 16:11
- Psalm 32:8
- Psalm 37:23
- Psalm 119:105
- Proverbs 3:5-6

- Isaiah 48:17
- Isaiah 58:11
- John 8:12
- John 10:3-5
- John 16:13
- Philippians 2:12-13

Part 2: Have your group connect to the passage through a step-by-step method.

In Exodus 14:1-14 the Israelites' journey takes an unusual turn. Lead your group to walk step-by-step through the passage and to write out on a poster board/white board the steps of what happens with Israel and the Egyptian army. It should look something like this:

1. The Lord told Moses to tell Israel to turn back in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea and to camp in front of Baal-zephon, facing it by the sea.
2. Pharaoh will believe they are wandering around in confusion and that the wilderness has boxed them in.
3. God will harden Pharaoh's heart so that he will pursue Israel.
4. Pharaoh is told that the people of Israel have fled and he changes his mind on letting them go.
5. The Egyptians began to worry about who would serve them.
6. Pharaoh took 600 of his best chariots and all the rest of his chariots of Egypt with officers in each one to pursue the Israelites.
7. All of Pharaoh's army chased after the Israelites and caught up to them.
8. When Israel saw Pharaoh's army, they became afraid and cried out to God.
9. The Israelites doubted their decision about leaving Egypt.
10. Moses challenged the people of Israel to not be afraid, to stand firm and see the Lord's salvation that is coming to them.

Say to your group, “What can we learn by writing all the details in a step-by-step manner? God divinely set up Pharaoh and his army. While Pharaoh thought Israel was trapped, God had a plan to provide the ultimate rescue and to destroy Pharaoh and all of his army. This unusual strategy strengthened the Israelites and brought glory to God.”

Part 3: *Engage your group with the major theme.*

Have the group break into three smaller groups. Give each group one of the sections from Point 3: What We Are Saved From—Bondage; How We Are Saved—Crossing Over By Grace; Why We Can Be Saved—A Mediator. Ask each smaller group to read the section they were assigned and discuss the Scripture passages in that section. Allow them time to read through the passages and add any other passages that relate to that section. After several minutes, ask for a spokesperson from each group to present what they have learned about the deliverance that comes from the Lord.

Conclusion: *Challenge through a moment of conviction.*

God had a plan since the beginning of time to bring deliverance to His people (see Eph. 1:3-6; 2 Tim. 1:9-10). We should be humbled that from the deliverance that God provided through Christ we have the opportunity of salvation. Ask the group members to write a letter of prayer thanking God for what He has done for them. Consider playing some light music while they consider what the Lord has done and after a few minutes close in prayer.