

PERSONAL STUDY: DAY 1

★ The point: God responds by listening to the prayers of the oppressed.

▶ Read Exodus 2:23–3:10.

Note the action of the Israelites that prompted God to respond (3:7). What was God's response (3:8)?

In your Bible, underline the ways God took notice of what was happening to the Israelites in Exodus 3:7-9. Make a list of what God saw, heard, and knew.

Saw	Heard	Knew

Summarize God's plan to rescue His people. Why do you think God revealed Himself to Moses (3:6)?

Moses was part of God's response to the cries of the Israelites. He was God's choice for leading the people out of the oppression of the Egyptians. God not only heard and listened, but also took action.

▶ Respond

God always listens. When you cry out to God, He responds. In times of struggle are you quick to turn to Christ or do you tend to turn to your family, friends, or something else?

It is easy to complain and focus on our trials, forgetting to cry out to God—the only One who can bring hope and change to any situation we face. Reflect on a time when God responded to your cry. Ask yourself: *Did this draw me closer in relationship with Him?*

PERSONAL STUDY: DAY 2

The point: God responds by revealing His character.

Read Exodus 3:11-15.

What qualified Moses to become the one who would lead the Israelites out of Egypt? Explain.

God's presence was a game-changer. Moses felt intimidated and incapable of standing before Pharaoh, so he questioned God. List the questions Moses raised about his own ability to complete the task God gave to him.

Every time Moses questioned, God answered by giving His credentials. Underline in your Bible the titles that God used to describe Himself in verses 14-15.

What do those titles, and God's responses to Moses, reveal about His character? Explain.

Respond

Like Moses, we may feel unqualified for the job God has called us to do. Consider your own life and journal your response to the following questions.

- Has God called you to do something that you refused or brushed off because you were afraid? Explain.
- Have you questioned what He asked you to do, wondering if you were up to the task? Explain.
- What do you think God wants you to do now? What are some things that might hold you back from accomplishing this? What would encourage you to go for it?

Ask God to give you the courage to trust in His promises and act on His calling for your life.

PERSONAL STUDY: DAY 3

The point: God responds by promising redemption.

Consider the word *misery*. List a few things that come to mind when you hear this word.

Now, consider the word *favor*. List a few things that come to mind when you hear this word.

Read Exodus 3:16-22.

God spoke clearly as He laid out His plan for Moses. Summarize the main theme of the message God asked Moses to give to His people.

In verse 20, underline the phrase “stretch out my hand.” What do you think this means? What did God say would happen when He stretched out His hand?

God’s touch was powerful. When He acted, there was always a response. His power never failed. Besides their release from the Egyptians, what did God tell the Israelites He would give them?

Respond

Does knowing the depth of the power of God increase your confidence that He will act on your behalf?

Is there something you need to ask God to give you clear direction and reassurance about? Pray and ask Him to help you clearly see what He wants you to do.

Take a moment to remember that the God who rescued the Israelites is the same God who lives in you.

PERSONAL STUDY: DAY 4

The point: God reveals His glory by comforting His people.

Read Exodus 6:2-9.

List all the promises God made to the Israelites in this passage. Which ones do you think were the most meaningful to the people? Why?

Promises give hope, and God’s promises are always true. He never breaks them. Since God is truthful and always keeps His promises, we can trust His Words. We have hope as He comforts us.

In verse 5, God said He “heard” and “remembered.” He acknowledged that He heard His people when they cried out to Him, He saw their pain, and He remembered the promises He made to them. He constantly reassured the Israelites when He spoke. What do you think this reassurance did for their trust in Him? How do you think His words comforted His people?

Even in the darkest times, God is our hope. His promises make us hopeful for what lies ahead and they remind us of His glory—that He can do what He says He will do.

How do God’s promises to the Israelites reveal His glory?

Respond

God made significant promises to the Israelites, but because of their circumstances, they still had trouble believing. Think of a time in your journey with Christ when your circumstances made it difficult to trust God’s promises.

Is there a particular promise from God’s Word that gives you confidence, comfort, or peace? Jot it down in a place where you can read it each day.

PERSONAL STUDY: DAY 5

The point: God reveals His glory by confronting false gods.

Read Exodus 7:14-25.

According to verse 14, what was the reason Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites leave?

Pharaoh did not listen because He did not fear or acknowledge God. His heart was hardened. Because of this, God set events into motion that made it impossible for anyone to ignore His glory, power, or His request for His people's freedom.

What was the first plague God sent (vv. 19-20)? Explain.

The Egyptians worshiped the Nile, and it had various gods associated with it. By striking the river with the first plague, a loud statement was being made. God showed Himself to be more powerful than any Egyptian deity. The Nile was the heartbeat of the people, and God had taken their confidence with one strike from Aaron's rod.

By turning this river to blood, God was not only carrying out judgment on the Egyptians, but also on their gods. Why do you think God did this? What might these other "gods" look like today?

How did Pharaoh respond to God's confrontation of the false gods (vv. 22-23)? Why is this important?

Respond

Do you think Moses and Aaron were afraid as they stood before Pharaoh? They stood before the most powerful man on earth because God sent them with His message. Have you ever had to do something that required standing up to someone powerful or important on behalf of God (or God's message)?

The Bible never indicates the men were not afraid, but ultimately their faith was stronger than their fear. What steps do you need to take for your faith to become stronger than your fear in following God? List a few ideas in the margin of your Bible beside today's passage.