

**SERMON NOTES: January 24, 2016**  
**BE ONE I MAKE ONE: WHY BOTHER?**  
***“TO GOD BE THE GLORY”***

**QUESTION: What is God’s ultimate purpose and plan for believers?**

**Exodus 6:1–5** — 1 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: Because of my mighty hand he will let them go; because of my mighty hand he will drive them out of his country.” 2 God also said to Moses, “I am the LORD. 3 I appeared to **Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob** as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them. 4 I also established my covenant with them to **give them the land of Canaan**, where they lived as aliens. 5 Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are enslaving, and **I have remembered my covenant.**

**GOD’S PURPOSE BEHIND THEIR DELIVERANCE**

(Exodus 8:1, 20; 9:1,13; 10:3)

- “so that they may \_\_\_\_\_ me.”

**GOD’S DESIRE FOR ALL THE EARTH**

**Exodus 9:13–16** — **13** Then the LORD said to Moses, “Get up early in the morning, confront Pharaoh and say to him, ‘This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me, **14** or this time I will send the full force of my plagues against you and against your officials and your people, so you may know that **there is no one like me in all the earth.** **15** For by now I could have stretched out my hand and struck you and your people with a plague that would have wiped you off the earth. **16** But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that **my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.**

- God is worthy of our \_\_\_\_\_
- God’s \_\_\_\_\_ is to be proclaimed to “all peoples”

## THE NATIONS WILL RESPOND

**Exodus 15:11–18 (NIV84)** — **11** “Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you— majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders? **12** You stretched out your right hand and the earth swallowed them. **13** “In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed. In your strength you will guide them to your holy dwelling. **14** **The nations** will hear and tremble; anguish will grip the people of **Philistia**. **15** The chiefs of **Edom** will be terrified, the leaders of **Moab** will be seized with trembling, the people of **Canaan** will melt away; **16** terror and dread will fall upon them. By the power of your arm they will be as still as a stone— until your people pass by, O LORD, until the people you bought pass by. **17** You will bring them in and plant them on the mountain of your inheritance— the place, O LORD, you made for your dwelling, the sanctuary, O Lord, your hands established. **18** The LORD will reign for ever and ever.”

- By \_\_\_\_\_ their hearts to God

**Exodus 18:9–12** — **9** Jethro was delighted to hear about all the good things the LORD had done for Israel in rescuing them from the hand of the Egyptians. **10** He said, “Praise be to the LORD, who rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians and of Pharaoh, and who rescued the people from the hand of the Egyptians. **11** Now I know that the LORD is greater than all other gods, for he did this to those who had treated Israel arrogantly.” **12** Then Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, brought a burnt offering and other sacrifices to God, and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses’ father-in-law in the presence of God.

- By \_\_\_\_\_ their hearts to God

## JESUS OUR EXAMPLE

**John 17:1–5** — **1** After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. **Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.** **2** For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. **3** Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. **4 I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.** **5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.**

## **CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION: January 24, 2016**

### **BE ONE I MAKE ONE: WHY BOTHER?**

#### ***“TO GOD BE THE GLORY”***

#### **Leader’s Guide (*In Italics*)**

##### **OPENING**

If you’re in a group that remembers the film “The Ten Commandments” with Charlton Heston, then review Exodus chapters 7-13 and contrast the biblical account of the Exodus with the Hollywood version.

*If you are not in a group that does not remember or has not seen the above-mentioned film, have some fun and spend some time reflecting on the Veggie Tales version of the Ten Commandments. Contrast this “children’s version” of the 10 Commandments with the actual commandments found in Exodus 20:2-17.*

- 1. Y'all have no other Gods b'fore Me.*
- 2. No makin' idols.*
- 3. When y'all use my name, y'better mean it.*
- 4. Lay off the trail one day a week.*
- 5. Mind yer Ma and Pa.*
- 6. No killin' folks.*
- 7. Dance with who brung ya.*
- 8. No swipin'.*
- 9. No lyin'.*
- 10. No hankerin' for things that ain't yours.*

## GOING DEEPER

Review the reason why God delivered Israel from Egypt.

- *The reason why God delivered Israel from Egypt was so that they would worship the Lord their God (cf. Exodus 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13; 10:3).*

Review God's desired consequence of the Exodus for all the earth.

- *God's desired consequence of the Exodus for all the earth is two-fold and found in Exodus 9:13-1):*
  1. *That Israel and all mankind may know that God is worthy of our highest devotion.*
  2. *That God's name might be proclaimed throughout the entire earth*
    - *God's "name" is a reference to God's reputation and testimony. God, in raising up Pharaoh and leading Israel out of Egypt, wanted His reputation and works to be spread throughout the entire world.*
    - *Joshua 2 tells us that as a result of the Exodus, Rahab the harlot and the inhabitants of Jericho, prior to Israel's arrival, had heard of their God's delivering them from Egypt (Joshua 2). This is just one example of how God's name at the time, as a result of the Exodus, was made known through the people of the world.*

Consider the following: The word, Church, translated in the New Testament is derived from a compound Greek word, ekklesia, which translated means "called out." The "Church" is comprised of believers who have been "called out".

- In what ways does this definition of ekklesia fit as a description for the Church?
  - *This definition of ekklesia is a good description of the Church because God has "called" the Church out of the darkness and into the light (1 Peter 2:9).*
    1. *"Darkness" = A reference to spiritual ignorance of God's provision of salvation*

2. *“His wonderful light” = A reference to the truth of the Gospel and the path of following Jesus*
- When you consider God’s intent in calling out Israel - *“so that they may worship me”*, how would you apply this to the church in our day?
    - *Israel worshipped God because the Lord graciously, apart from any merit on the Israelites part, delivered the nation out of Egypt (from slavery to freedom both physically and spiritually).*
    - *Likewise, as was already mentioned above, 1 Peter 2:9 tells us that the Church has been “called out of darkness and into His wonderful light.” The text also tells us that such gracious deliverance, apart from any merit of our own, is the reason we “can” and should “sing praises to Him who has called” us (Ephesians 2:8-9).*
    - *Therefore, God’s calling Israel out of Egypt in order for them to worship Him should be applied to the Church because the Church, like Israel, has been graciously delivered out of bondage.*
  
  - What are some ways you think you could promote God’s name in your communities?
    - *Acts of Service – The old adage is true, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.” People in your community need to know how much you, as a follower of Christ, care for their wellbeing.*
    - *Relationships – Some people in a community will only be reached through developing a personal relationship with them. Relationships of course take time and energy but can have eternal results!*

## **CHALLENGE**

What are some steps you can take to live as a “called out” Christian?