

Message Guide

This Message Guide may be a little different from those that you have used before.

The purpose of these Notes is not an in-depth study of the scriptures used, but rather to assist you or your Study Group as you reflect on the messages given by Charles Price.

We present questions in order to stimulate discussion. Sometimes we will give you the answer ... sometimes not. At other times a statement or a theme is presented for your consideration.

As you allow the Holy Spirit to guide the direction of your study and discussions we pray the flexibility of this Message Guide will help you as you delve more deeply into Charles' message, and that you will unearth more lessons from the Lord than may not have been immediately obvious.

Message Guide and Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 1 – A Big Picture Of Deliverance Exodus 1:6 - 14

1. Read Exodus 1:6 – 14
Exodus could be called “The Great Escape”. Why is that?

2. Before going on, a brief recap will help.
 - a] A _____ was called and set apart by God.
 - b] God establish a C _____ with Abraham that included a ‘people’, land, and a purpose.
 - c] The Promised son, I _____, was born.
 - d] Twins, E _____ & J _____ were born to Isaac..
 - e] J _____ inherited the birthright, and after wrestling with God his name was changed to I _____.
 - f] J _____ had 2 wives, L _____ & R _____, who gave him 12 sons.
 - g] The eleventh son, J _____, was the favorite, but his brothers were jealous of him and sold him into slavery, and he was taken to Egypt.
 - h] Because of his gift of I _____ d_____ Joseph found favor in Egypt, and saved Egypt from starvation.
 - i] Because of his high esteem Joseph’s f _____ came to live in Egypt where they were given land in an area called G _____

3. This land that they were given was rich, well watered and well fertilized ...but what was wrong with it?

4. What happened to cause the people of Israel to lose favor?

5. There are 2 stories being told simultaneously here; they are –

<u>One Story</u>	<u>The Other Story</u>
i. H _____	i. S _____

ii About I _____

ii About Y ____

iii Release from S _____

iii Release from S ____

iv Journey to C _____ [milk & honey]

iv Fullness of I _____ in C _____

v. Their F _____ to E _____ [40 years]

v. Our F _____ to live in F _____

6. There are 3 important things to learn about 'deliverance.

i Deliverance is F ____ something

ii Deliverance is T ____ something

iii Deliverance is F ____ something

7. Deliverance from what?

The Israelites needed delivery from their S _____ to E_____

Read and consider Genesis 15:13

We need delivery from our S _____ to S ____

Read and consider 1 Corinthians 5:7

8. God's purpose was not just to deliver the Israelites OUT of slavery in Egypt, but also to deliver them intowhere? Read and consider Exodus 3:7 - 8

9. If God's purpose in bringing Israel OUT of Egypt and INTO Canaan why did a journey that should have taken 11 days take 40 years? Read and consider Deuteronomy 9:12

10. What was God's ultimate purpose in all this for Israel; and how does that relate to us? Read and consider Genesis 12:2 - 3

Final Thoughts

God's purpose for you is not just to get you out of your sin,
but to bring you into the fullness of life He intended for you,
so that through you He can bless others.

So here are a few questions for you:

- i) Can you say with a certainty that you have been brought out of your sin?
If not, please settle that with God right now.
 - ii) Have you come out of your sin,
but know that you have not yet entered into the
fullness of life in Christ that He intends for you?
If not, please settle that with God right now.
 - iii) Have you come out of your sin
and are enjoying His fullness in your life,
but you are keeping it to yourself and not sharing it with others
and being a blessing to those around you ...
please settle that with God right now.

Message Guide & Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 2 – Flukes Of History Exodus 2:1 - 10

1. What period of time does Exodus 2:1 – 10 cover?

2. Even though Moses was in a privileged position he eventually had to make a choice between the privileges of Egypt or formally identifying himself with the Hebrew slaves.
Read and consider Hebrews 11:25 - 25

3. What did Moses decision lead him to do? Read and consider Exodus 2:11 – 15a.

4. In the first 80 years of Moses' life he experienced perhaps the biggest pendulum swings in history. Can you identify them?

5. While he was working as a shepherd Moses had the 'burning bush' encounter with God. Does this signify the real start of the story?

6. There are 3 simple and practical lessons that we can learn from the experience of Moses –

- i E _____ your P ____
- ii E _____ your P _____
- iii E _____ your F _____

7. There are two sides to Moses' past. They are; P _____ & P _____

8. What were Moses' problems?

9. Consider that many of us would have liked to have –
- i Lived in a different F _____
 - ii Under different C _____
 - iii In a different L _____
 - iv With different O _____
 - v. Even with different P _____
10. We know about the privileged life that Moses had, but why would the Lord allow Moses to go through what he did? Why did Moses need to have been born to Hebrew slaves? The answers are central to understanding the role that Moses played in God's plans.
- i Only a D _____ P _____ can become a D _____
 - ii Only a R _____ P _____ can be a R _____
 - iii Only someone who knows what it is to be S _____ will S _____ others.
 - iv Only those who have L _____ in the D _____ can go I _____ the D _____ without F _____
 - v God does T _____ us what He first does I _____ us.

11. How did Moses engage his present? Read and consider Hebrews 11:24 – 27.
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12. For the parallel in the world in which we live, read and consider 1 John 2:16.

We need to - Renounce the T _____ of this world.
 Renounce the P _____ of this world.
 Renounce the R _____ of this world.

Final Thoughts

There came a time when Moses had to make a choice.
 And so do we

Moses only had a future because he **Embraced His Past**,
 and he **Engaged With God** in the present tense of his life;
 Moses was then ready to be His instrument.

Are you?

Message Guide & Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 3 – Take Off Your Shoes Exodus 3:1 - 14

1. Read Exodus 3:1 – 14. At this point in the story of Moses, how old was he?

2. The appearance of God in a physical and tangible form is called a T _____ or a C _____.

3. Can you think of any other occasions when this happened?

4. What was the inexplicable thing about the burning bush that caught the attention of Moses?

5. After God got Moses attention, what was the first thing God asked of him?

6. Read again verses 6 – 9. What do you notice about these verses?

7. Why then would Moses have been surprised by what the Lord said in verse 10?

8. Suddenly God says, “I am sending you.”
What does this tell us about God’s strategy? Read Ezekiel 22:30

9. What kind of people is God looking to work through?

W _____, O _____, D _____ people.

10. God told Moses to take off his shoes? Yes, the ground was holy, but why draw attention to his feet?

11. Before God can start to use you He needs -

Your A _____ Give me yourself.

Your M _____ Give me your shoes.

and then your A _____

Final Thoughts

The simple, but profound, message here is that God is at work – but He works through PEOPLE; through people like you and me.

In other words; God will be in your shoes!

Read Deuteronomy 11:24, Joshua 1:3. & Isaiah 52:7

Obedient feet are considered in scripture to be beautiful feet!

Have you ever given your shoes to God?

Will you say to Him, “I am available to you –

at any time, at any place, for any thing.”

Message Guide & Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 4 – What Is In Your Hand? Exodus 4:1 - 7

1. Read Exodus 4:1 – 7

The Lord made 2 unusual requests of Moses. You will remember from our last study Moses was asked to take off his shoes; what is the second unusual request?

2. Do you recall the main message from our last study?

3. What was the 'staff' to Moses?

4. What was the significance of the Lord instructing Moses to take the snake, which he feared, by the tail?

5. When Moses obeyed the Lord and picked up the snake by its tail we know that it became a staff again, but was it the same staff? Read Exodus 4:20

6. Consider now what the staff signifies.

7. Moses used this 'staff' of God to bring about every one of the plagues - read Exodus 17:8 – 9. What important principle does this teach us?

8. You too could experience having 'the staff of God' in your hand. But first the Lord asks you two questions,

“What is in your hand?”
“ Are you willing to drop it?”

Final Thoughts

Please remember this;

Victories over the enemies of God are not won;
they are received and appropriated by faith.

Take off your shoes.
Lay down your staff.

Message Guide & Questions

**Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else
Part 5 – Here I Am, Send Someone Else
Exodus 4: 8 - 17**

- 1. Read Exodus 4:8 - 17
- 2. What do you think lies at the root of the reluctance of most Christians to get fully involved in God's agenda?

- 3. Let's take a step back and ask ourselves.

- i What is a New Testament church?
- ii What does a New Testament church do?
- iii What is our mandate?
- iv How are we to fulfill it?

- 4. So – i What is our UPWARD look?
- ii What is our OUTWARD look?

- 5. Notice it is to be workers 'with' Him, not supporters or onlookers, but actual **workers with Him**. So

It is more than -A _____ and A _____ ministry.
 It is more than - G _____ M _____ to ministry.
 It is more than -P _____ for ministry.
 It is being - I _____ T _____ with God in H __ M _____.

- 6. Let's look at the 5 reasons – or excuses – that Moses gave to the Lord; and let's relate these excuses to ourselves. The 5 excuses are -

- i I am I _____
- ii I am I _____
- iii I am I _____
- iv I am I _____
- v I am I _____

7. i I am I _____
Read and consider Exodus 3:10 - 11
8. What was God's answer to Moses feelings of inadequacy?
Read and consider Exodus 3:12
-
-
9. ii I am I _____
Read and consider Exodus 3:14, then read and consider 2 Corinthians 9:8
10. iii I am I _____
Read and consider Exodus 4:1 - 2
11. iv I am I _____
Read and consider Exodus 4:10 - 12
12. v I am I _____
Read and consider Exodus 4:13, then read and consider verses 14 - 17

Final Thoughts

The secret of effective service is
that it is on the basis of 'divine adequacy'
expressed through 'human inadequacy'
that produces fruit.

Every excuse of Moses was based on himself;
whereas every response of God was based on HIMSELF,
and that takes us to the heart of the matter ...
this is God's enterprise!

Only when we know we CAN'T do it,
do we discover that God CAN.
For then we put our trust in Him.
He is our strength!
Don't try to measure what God is doing –
just trust Him;
even though it sometimes may feel like nothing is happening
and that it sometimes gets worse before it gets better.

Message Guide & Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 6 – The Power Of Plagues To Harden Hearts Exodus Chapters 5 - 10

1. In this study we will look at 3 progressions.
 - i The progression of the events.
 - ii The progression of the plagues.
 - iii The progression in Pharaoh's heart.

2. **Progression of Events – 1**
God called Moses to lead the people of Israel out of E _____ after ____ years of residence in an alien land.

3. **Progression of Events – 2**
Read Exodus 4:29 – 31. What happened here? How was Moses received?

4. **Progression of Events – 3**
Read Exodus 5:1 – 2. What happened and what was the response?

5. **Progression of Events – 4**
Read Exodus 5:6 - 21

6. **Progression of Events – 5**
Read Exodus 5:22 - 23

7. From Chapter 7. God begins to bring pressure on the heart of Pharaoh. Let's look at the 10 plagues, and how they actually affected the Egyptians.
 - i The water of Egypt turned to B _____
 - ii Plague of F _____
 - iii Plague of G _____
 - iv Plague of F _____
 - v Disease of L _____
 - vi Plague of B _____
 - vii Plague of H _____

viii Plague of L _____

ix Three days of D _____

x The D _____ of the first born sons.

8. Notice the progression in intensity as the plagues went from –

D _____ T to D _____ E to D _____ R to D _____ S, and finally to D _____

9. There is also the progression from the plagues affecting –

N _____ E then I _____ S then L _____ K and then P _____ E

10. What was the purpose of these plagues? Remember that ‘signs’ are pointing to something.

11. The issue of this story is not the plagues; the issue is P _____ ‘ H _____

12. The following may be troublesome to some of you. Read Exodus 4:21; Exodus 7:3 and Romans 9:17 – 18.

13. Does God choose to soften or harden a person’s heart?

14. God is said to harden Pharaoh’s heart only AFTER Pharaoh has deliberately and repeatedly hardened his own heart. The disposition of Pharaoh is brought to the surface and confirmed by the acts of God against him. But God is not responsible for the disposition of Pharaoh’s heart. Pharaoh is!

Read Romans 1:22 – 23 and then see if you can find anything significant in verses 24, 26, and verse 28.

Final Thoughts

To get our attention God will sometimes strip us of things on which we depend, and bring us to the point where our dependence is on Him alone.

In His love for us He may undermine things we trust in –
our own self-confidence, our own self-sufficiency –
not to leave us bereft of confidence or resources,
but that we might find them in God Himself.

If we harden our heart against God, a hard heart becomes a bitter heart,
and a bitter heart becomes a destructive heart.

The state of your heart determines the state of your conscience.

Please read 1 Timothy 1:19, Acts 24:16 and Hebrews 10:22.

We can only draw near to God with a clear conscience.

Without a clear conscience we erect barriers to God.

It is not merely information that causes us to grow in Christ;
it is our 'disposition' – our meek, pliable, moveable hearts.

We can meet week after week and hear God's Word again and again,
but it is no good unless our disposition towards God is right.

Message Guide & Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 7 – The Passover Plot Exodus Chapters 11 - 12

1. Read and consider Exodus 11:1, 4 – 7 & 12:1 - 13
2. We must let the Bible be its own interpreter.
 - i D _____ from Egypt is a portrayal of D _____ from S ____
 - ii C _____ is a portrayal of living in fullness of God.
 - iii The J _____, taking 40 years instead of 11 days, is a portrayal of the
C _____ C _____ L _____ that lives only in human strength.
3. This study will look at 3 things –
 - i The P _____
 - ii The P _____
 - iii The P _____
4. The Plague – read and consider again Exodus 11:1 - 10
5. Read Exodus 12:12
6. The Passover – read and consider again Exodus 12:1 - 13
7. The Purpose – read and consider Exodus 12:13 – 20
What is this story all about?

8. Read 1 Corinthians 5:7 and John 1:29
9. Now read Revelation 5:8 &12, Revelation 7:14, and Revelation 12:11
10. But what was the ultimate purpose? Read Exodus 6:6 - 7

Final Thoughts

We say this as compassionately as we can:
Anything that becomes an object of our dependence,
or that masters us and takes the place of God,
is a legitimate target for the loving grace of God -
not as a vindictive act, but as an act of love to release us.

God wants to bring us out of bondage and forgive us of our sin
through our acceptance of Jesus Christ as being our sacrificial Lamb;
but He does not want us to just stay there.
He wants to bless us, but not so that we would just stay reveling in that blessing,
but for the ultimate purpose to be a blessing to the world.

Where do you stand now?
Have you been delivered but are still wandering around in the wilderness?

Message Guide & Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 8 – Between the Devil and the Deep Red Sea Exodus Chapters 12 - 15

1. Read and consider the following scriptures: Exodus 12:31 – 32, & 12:37 & 50
2. The 3 points that we will focus on in this study are –
 - i God led them by U _____ R _____
 - ii God led them into U _____ B _____
 - iii God led them with U _____ R _____
3. So the Israelites departed boldly, but how did they know exactly where to go?

They had no C _____

They had no M _____

They had no G _____

Read Exodus 13:21
4. Usually when we make a journey we like to plan our route; we like to know exactly where we are at any given time, but when we leave it to God there are 2 implications:
 - i It is much M _____ R _____
 - ii It is much L _____ R _____
5. Almost immediately the Israelites faced 3 crises; Read Exodus 14:10 - 12
 - i The R ___ S ___
 - ii The E _____ A _____ close behind them.
 - iii P _____
6. If you are in the will of God allowing Him to direct your paths and you encounter problems – how should you react? Read and consider Exodus 14:13 - 14

7. Moses faced 3 problems.
 - i The Red Sea in front.
 - ii The Egyptians behind.
 - iii The Israelites in panic.

How were these problems solved? Read Exodus 14:21 and then v.26 – 28

8. Finally, Read Exodus 15:1 – 3; 6 – 7 and 11 – 13.
Is there anything you notice about these verses sung by Moses and the Israelites?
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Final Thoughts

Never try to 'make' happen what God has shown.
Just trust Him to direct your steps.
Follow the pillar of cloud; and in the dark follow the pillar of fire.

Remember; the invitation of Jesus to the disciples was,
"Follow Me".

He never said where He was going
because the destination was not the issue.
It is not important to know 'where' you are going,
but rather that you know WHO you are going with.

And always remember that it is not you doing your work that brings success,
but it is you allowing God to do His work THROUGH you.

Message Guide & Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 9 – The Bitter Water of Marah Exodus 15:22 - 27

1. We now pick up the story of the Israelites where they have run out of water having crossed the Red Sea and walked into the Desert of Shur and have traveled for 3 days without water.

2. Here begins a pattern of –

T _____ and T _____

i Chapter 14 The T _____ of their D _____

led to the T _____ of the R ____ S ____

ii Chapter 15 The T _____ of C _____ the R ____ S ____

led to the T _____ of N _ W _____

iii Chapter 16 The T _____ of G _____ N _ W _____

led to the T _____ of N _ F _____

iv Chapter 17 The T _____ of M _____

led to the T _____ of W ____ with the A _____

3. Read and consider Psalm 23:5a.

4. So after 3 days they finally find water, but what kind of water did they find?
Read Exodus 15:23

5. Here we find another progression in this story.

From B _____ B _____ to B _____ B _____

6. God dramatically brought the people out of Egypt through a series of plagues and opening up the Red Sea, but then He led them to dry barrenness and bitter water. Why does God allow these trials? Read Deuteronomy 8:2 – 3 and 13:3

7. The trials usually lead to two contrasting reactions of the heart;

i The people turn to G _____

- ii The people turn to G _ _
8. We should remind ourselves about the ultimate objective of God in this story.
Read Exodus 19:4 and John 17:3
9. The question is; how do you view the problems and difficulties that you face now?
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-
10. Now read the following verses: Psalm 39:5b Exodus 15:26 – 27

Final Thoughts

Life has as many deserts as it has green pastures.
We all like it when Psalm 23 says “He make me to lie down in green pastures’,
but don’t isolate that and make it the defining statement.

If you have a Christianity that says it is all green pastures / feasts / mountain tops –
you won’t know what hits you when you hit a desert /
in a valley / on the front line of the fight.

Read Lamentations 2:22 – 23

No matter what we may go through, for whatever reason of testing,
we can be assured that ‘great is His faithfulness’.

Message Guide & Questions

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 10 – Manna: The Food That Didn't Satisfy Exodus 16:1 - 36

1. Read Exodus 16:1 – 36.
2. The release of Israel from bondage in Egypt is a picture of God's purposes in salvation.
 - i Coming out of Egypt is a picture of coming out of S __ _
 - ii P _____ L _____ is a foreshadowing of Christ.
 - iii C _____ is a picture of resting in the S _____ of Christ.
3. But a journey that should have taken only 11 days has taken 40 years. Why?
What went wrong?

4. Read Numbers chapters 13 & 14
5. There were about 2 million men, women and children who could easily have died of hunger and thirst in the desert; so how did God sustain them? Read John 6:31 - 35

6. There are some wonderful truths here.
 - i The supply of Manna was F _____ every day.
 - ii What you need for T _____ God will give you T _____
 - iii What you need for T _____ He will give you T _____
 - iv He will not give you T _____ what you need T _____
7. Despite this wonderful, miraculous provision there was still a problem.
Read Numbers 11:4 – 8
8. Read Ephesians 1:13 - 14

Final Thoughts

The problem is that if, as a Christian,
you are not prepared to go ALL THE WAY WITH God,
you will never be satisfied with Jesus.

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

This Leader's Guide is prepared to help the Study Group Leader to keep the discussions moving along. Maybe your people will come up with different answers, or perhaps they will need a little prompting from you.

Remember, you want to encourage your people to fully participate. This is not a 'teaching session' by the Group Leader, but rather a discussion group. This may at first seem like a contradiction, but you will need for the Lord to give you wisdom to keep the discussions 'on track' while also allowing the Holy Spirit to direct your path.

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 1 – A Big Picture Of Deliverance Exodus 1:6 - 14

1. The book of Exodus tells the story of the greatest escape in history, when over 2 millions prisoners – the people of Israel – escaped from one of the most fortified countries in the world. The word 'Exodus' literally means 'The Road Out'.

2.
 - a] **ABRAHAM** was called and set apart by God.
 - b] God establish a **COVENANT** with Abraham that included a 'people', land, and a purpose.
 - c] The promised son, **ISAAC**, was born.
 - d] Twins, **ESAU & JACOB** were born to Isaac .
 - e] **JACOB** inherited the birthright, and after wrestling with God his name was changed to **ISRAEL**.
 - f] **JACOB** had 2 wives, **LEAH & RACHEL** who gave him 12 sons.
 - g] The eleventh son, **JOSEPH**, was the favorite, but his brothers were jealous of him and sold him into slavery, and he was taken to Egypt.
 - h] Because of his gift of **INTERPRETING DREAMS**, Joseph found favor in Egypt, and saved Egypt from starvation.
 - i] Because of his high position, Joseph's **family** came to live in Egypt where they were given land in an area called **GOSHEN**.

3. Although the land they were given was rich, well watered and well fertilized, it was not CANAAN. They became comfortable in Goshen, so they stayed there. They settled for what was second best, rather than what God had for them. Are there similar situations in your life today?

4. The new king in Egypt did not know that Joseph had saved Israel; he saw these people, who had multiplied to over 2 million, as a threat, so he made them slaves; and he sought to control their prodigious birthrate by having their baby boys killed at birth.

5. There are 2 stories being told simultaneously here; they are –

One Story	The Other Story
i. HISTORICAL	i. SPIRITUAL
ii About ISRAEL	ii About YOU
iii Release from SLAVERY	iii Release from SIN
iv Journey to CANAAN [milk & honey]	iv Fullness of INHERITANCE in CHRIST
v. Their FAILURE to ENTER [40 years]	v. Our FAILURE to live in FULLNESS

6.
 - i Deliverance is **FROM** something
 - ii Deliverance is **TO** something
 - iii Deliverance is **FOR** something

7. The Israelites needed delivery from their **SLAVERY** to **EGYPT**.

Read and consider Genesis 15:13

We need delivery from our **SLAVERY** to **SIN**.

Read and consider 1 Corinthians 5:7

8. God's purposes were not to just get His people out of Egypt, but INTO the land that He had originally promised in His covenant with Abraham ...CANAAN.
9. The answer is found in just one word – Disobedience!
The extent of our obedience to God will determine the extent of the level of fullness in Christ we experience and enjoy.
Is there an area in your life that you are holding onto, that you stubbornly refuse to surrender to Him?
10. Just as God's purpose for Israel was that the world would be blessed through them, so it is the same for Christians today.

- ii Under different **CIRCUMSTANCES**
 - iii In a different **LOCATION**
 - iv With different **OPPORTUNITIES**
 - v. Even with different **PAIN**
- 10.
- i Only a **DELIVERED PERSON** can become a **DELIVERER**.
 - ii Only a **RESCUED PERSON** can be a **RESCUER**.
 - iii Only someone who knows what it is to be **SAVED** will **SAVE** others.
 - iv Only those who have **LIVED** in the **DARK** can go **INTO** the DARK without **FEAR**.
 - v God does **THROUGH** us what He first does **IN** us.

Now read 2 Corinthians 1:5 - 6

- 11.
- i He refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.
 - ii He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God.
 - iii He refused to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time.
 - iv He regarded disgrace for the sake of God as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt.
 - v He left Egypt not fearing Pharaoh's anger.
12. We need to - Renounce the **TREASURES** of this world.
 Renounce the **PLEASURES** of this world.
 Renounce the **REPUTATION** of this world.

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 3 – Take Off Your Shoes Exodus 3:1 - 14

1. At this time Moses was 80 years old.
2. The appearance of God in a physical and tangible form is called a THEOPHANY or CHRISTOPHANY, and it usually happens when God has a message that will change the course of history.
3.
 - i When God spoke with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.
 - ii When God wrestled with Jacob, and Jacob was given the name Israel.
 - iii When God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai.
 - iv Isaiah saw the Lord seated on a throne.
4. It was not the fact that the bush was burning that caught the attention of Moses, but rather the fact that the bush was not consumed by the flames – it just kept burning and burning.
5. Take off your shoes [sandals]. We will discuss this later, but first ...
6. God speaks about Himself no less than 8 times in verses 6 – 9.
7. Moses would have been excited about verses 6 – 9 thinking that God was going to do something; He was going to rescue them; He was going to take them to the land of Canaan. But then suddenly God says, “I am sending you.”
8. God's strategy in the world is to work through PEOPLE.
9. What kind of people is God looking to work through?
WILLING, OBEDIENT, DEPENDANT people. ORDINARY people just like you!
10. Before God can work through our abilities; through our mouths, our minds, our personalities, our eyes etc., He must first have our FEET.
Before God looks at our ABILITY he looks at our MOBILITY.

Have you ever taken off your shoes and given Him your feet?
11. Before God can start to use you He needs -

Your AVAILABILITY	Give me yourself.
Your MOBILITY	Give me your shoes.
and then your ABILITIES.	

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 4 – What Is In Your Hand? Exodus 4:1 - 7

1. The second unusual request was - throw your staff to the ground.
2. Although Moses thought God was going to help them, God reveal that He was going to work through him. In other words, **God's strategy in the world is people.**
3. Moses was a shepherd, so the staff was the tool of his trade for the past 40 years. It represented his livelihood, his income, his security, his purpose.

Now, as a snake, his staff became something that he feared.

4.
 - i Normally you never take hold of a snake by the tail.
 - ii The dangerous part of a snake is it's head, so picking it up by the tail leave you exposed to danger.
 - iii God was saying to Moses, "You take hold of the harmless part of the snake, and trust Me to take care of the dangerous part.
5. The staff that had been Moses' staff, has now become 'the staff of God'. Consider what caused this change in the status of this staff.
6. The staff became a symbol of a transaction which had taken place between Moses and God; it was to be the evidence that God had set him apart.
7. The important principle is:

**Victories over the enemies of God are not won;
they are received and appropriated by faith.**
8. God told Moses to "Throw (his staff) on the ground" – drop it. Listed here are some things that you might want to discuss with your group; the kind of things that Christians need to lay down to God.

What is in your Hand?

- i My Job/Profession – I worked hard to get where I am. It's a good, noble, respectable profession.
- ii My Degree/Qualification -I have worked hard and trained for this. It is a means to make a living.
- iii. My Money/Possessions - I have worked hard and earned every cent.
- iv My Future -my dreams, plans, ambitions, goals
- v. My Family – they are a gift from God!
- vi My Girlfriend/Boyfriend -I love her/him. This may be my last opportunity.
- vii My Christian Service – I'm leading a small group, teaching Sunday School, involved in youth, Elders Board, on a committee, on staff or leading a Short Term Mission.
- viii Myself - Maybe you have never actually given yourself to God. You operate only in your own strength.

God would say.

- Drop it – lay it down. If it's right for you, I will give it back to you but with a difference.
- Drop it – give it to Me. It is God's purpose that is being worked out.
- Drop it –Can you accept that all that you have really belongs to God anyway?
- Give it to Me. Allow God to take your dreams and make them what He wants them to be.
- Give them to Me. Make your home a place where God reigns. Release your children to My plans.
- Give him/her to Me. You may be holding the wrong hand! If it is right, God will give him/her back to you. But you will know that you have God's girl / God's man for you.
- Give it to Me – drop it. Otherwise it can become '*your*' small group, '*your*' Sunday School class, '*your*' youth ministry ... all done according to '*your*' agenda. There can be no other agenda but God's agenda.
- Surrender yourself wholly to Him!

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 5 – Here I Am, Send Someone Else Exodus 4: 8 - 17

1. We may smile at the provocative title, “Here Am I, Send Someone Else”. But if truth be known, that is the way many Christians think deep down inside.

2. The answer is found in one word – FEAR

Fear of the unknown!
Fear of the personal cost!
Fear of the financial cost!
Fear of inadequacy!
Fear that it will mess up YOUR plans!

We make our excuses so much that we come to actually believe them.

3. A New Testament Church is primarily 2 dimensional.

- i It is UPWARD looking.
- ii It is OUTWARD looking.

Of course, it is still necessary to be inward looking to some extent, but only to correct the course of our upward and outward dimension.

4. Our UPWARD look is to Christ our head, in our Love for Him, Dependence on Him, and our Obedience to Him.

Our OUTWARD look is to be workers WITH Him in reaching our world.

5. It is more than - **APPROVING** and **APPLAUDING** a ministry.
It is more than - **GIVING MONEY** to ministry.
It is more than - **PRAYING** for ministry.
It is being - **INVOLVED TOGETHER** with God in **HIS MISSION**.

6. Let's look at the 5 reasons – or excuses – that Moses gave to the Lord; and let's relate these excuses to ourselves. The 5 excuses are -

- i I am **INADEQUATE**
- ii I am **IGNORANT**
- iii I am **IMPOTENT**
- iv I am **INCOMPETENT**
- v I am **IRRELEVANT**

7. Moses may have had a legitimate reason for feeling inadequate in that he had once known influence, but had lost it. Read what scripture says in Acts 7:22 & 25.

Previously Moses had tried to do something in his own strength, based on his own competence. That resulted in him killing an Egyptian and fleeing to the desert.

8. What was God's answer to Moses' feelings of inadequacy?
God said, "I will be with you".

God's answer to our feelings of inadequacy is not to make us adequate, but that His presence in us would be sufficient.

If we never get beyond our own inadequacy to His adequacy we will never do anything of lasting value.

9. So where is our deficiency? It is not in God!
Our sufficiency is in the power of HIS activity in us.

10. When Moses acknowledged his impotency, the Lord gave him His staff, through which the miraculous signs were shown to Pharaoh and the Egyptians.

Remember – the signs were not magic tricks; they were pointers **to the power of God, and the victory of God over the situation.**

11. We are always most fearful of that which we know we don't know.
When God says – as He does in verse 12 – "I will help you speak and I will teach you what to say" are you going to continue to argue with God and risk God's anger burning against you?

Just go! Just trust Him!

12. We need to be realistic and understand that the best people to do some tasks are often those who don't actually want to do it. They are less likely to have their own agenda, less interested in who gets the credit, and actually prefer to be out of sight.
We also need to understand that often we all need an 'Aaron' in our lives.

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 6 – The Power Of Plagues To Harden Hearts Exodus Chapters 5 - 10

1. It is not necessary to read the scriptures in advance.
2. **Progression of Events – 1**
God called Moses to lead the people of Israel out of **EGYPT** after **400** years of residence in an alien land. Exodus Chapter 3 plus most of Chapter 4
3. **Progression of Events – 2**
Meet with the Leaders of Israel.
Initially Moses received a good response from the people of Israel.
4. **Progression of Events – 3**
Moses went to Pharaoh to say, "Let my people go." and received from Pharaoh a blunt, unambiguous "NO". Not only that, but Pharaoh also made the work for the Hebrew slaves even harder.
5. **Progression of Events – 4**
The people of Israel became angry with Moses and turned against him.
6. **Progression of Events – 5**
Moses went back to God, complaining that He had not done what He said He would do. Does that sound familiar?
7.
 - i The water of Egypt turned to **BLOOD**.
The fish of the River Nile died. No water to drink. There was a terrible smell.
 - ii Plague of **FROGS**
The Nile was teeming with frog, disrupting all the vital trade and commerce that took place there. Frogs in the ovens, in the food, in the beds etc.
 - iii Plague of **GNATS**
These gnats bit, causing the people and the animals to itch.
 - iv Plague of **FLIES**
Swarms of them outside and inside their homes, day and night.
But there were no flies in Goshen where the Israelites lived.
 - v Disease of **LIVESTOCK**
Horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep, goats – all died.
 - vi Plague of **BOILS**
These were festering boils that just would not heal; they would have looked awful and smelled horribly. All the people and any remaining animals were all affected.
 - vii Plague of **HAIL**
Those who did not shelter were injured or killed. Trees and plants were stripped bare.

But it did not hail in Goshen where the Israelites were.

viii Plague of **LOCUSTS**

Thick on the ground and everywhere in the homes.

They ate all the greenery left after the hail.

ix Three days of **DARKNESS** over the whole land.

But in the land of Goshen, where the Israelites were, there was normal light.

x The **DEATH** of the first born sons - in every family of Egypt – including Pharaoh's heir.

8. Notice the progression in intensity as the plagues went from –

DISCOMFORT to **DISEASE** to **DANGER** to **DARKNESS**, and finally to **DEATH**.

9. There is also the progression from the plagues affecting –

NATURE then **INSECTS** then **LIVESTOCK** and then **PEOPLE**.

10. The plagues were not vindictive acts of God; they were, in fact, merciful acts of God to bring Egypt to submission to the will of God.

The growing intensity of the plagues only matched the growing intensity of Pharaoh's resistance.

The plagues were not random attacks on Egypt, but they targeted the objects of the Egyptians dependence – especially their Gods, of which there were over 700.

11. This issue of this story is not the plagues; the issue is **PHARAOH'S HEART**.

12. What does this suggest to you?

13. A careful study of the text reveals that there were 14 occasions when Pharaoh's heart was hardened. On 8 occasions Pharaoh hardens his own heart, and on 6 occasions God hardens Pharaoh's heart.

If you want to check them out they are: Exodus 7:13, 14 & 22; 8:15, 19 & 32; 9:7, 12, & 33 – 35 and then after the 7th plague - Exodus 10:1, 20 & 27; 11:10; 14:8

Do you see a pattern?

14. What happened to Pharaoh could happen to us if we persistently choose that which we know is wrong. God will let us go our own way, and the more we resist the will of God the more our hearts will harden against Him.

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 7 – The Passover Plot Exodus Chapters 11 - 12

1. Charles described this story as almost a Master Key to the rest of the Bible in that just as God's people were enslaved, helpless and hopeless, so we too are enslaved to sin, helpless and hopeless were it not for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
Read and consider Romans 7:15
2. We must let the Bible be its own interpreter.
 - i **DELIVERANCE** from Egypt is a portrayal of **DELIVERANCE** from **SIN**.
 - ii **CANAAN** is a portrayal of living in fullness of God.
 - iii The **JOURNEY**, taking 40 years instead of 11 days, is a portrayal of the **CARNAL CHRISTIAN LIFE** that lives only in human strength.
3. This study will look at 3 things –
 - i **The PLAGUES**
 - ii **The PASSOVER**
 - iii **The PURPOSE**

You may recognize some repetition from previous studies, but that is a common teaching method used to strengthen our memory retention.

4. These plagues were not random attacks. Other than the last plague they were all strategic attacks on the gods of Egypt.
5. This last plague now encompasses all the gods of Egypt, whether they be animal or human deities –such as Pharaoh himself. Read also Numbers 33:3
6. The instructions were extremely specific and had to be followed to the last detail. This attention to detail gave weight to the importance of the instruction. Perhaps too it was a test of obedience to the Hebrews.
And then God did as He said he would. Read Exodus 12:30
7. The Purpose – What is this story all about?
Is this just the record of THE Greatest Escape of all escapes?
8. The Passover Lamb is a foreshadowing of Christ
9. Now The Lamb has become the hero. Why the blood of the Lamb? Because the sentence was death – life is in the blood, and a life had to be laid down.
10. But what was the ultimate purpose?
God delivered the people of Israel from bondage in Egypt so that He could then adopt them as a nation, not just to bless them, but so that they would be a blessing to the world.

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 8 – Between the Devil and the Deep Red Sea Exodus Chapters 12 - 15

1. Our previous studies dealt with all the circumstances leading up to the departure, but now we get to the actual Exodus itself, and we look at the first few days of their journey.
2. The 3 points that we will focus on in this study are –
 - i God led them by **UNPREDICTABLE ROADS**.
 - ii God led them into **UNANTICIPATED BATTLES**.
 - iii God led them with **UNLIMITED RESOURCES**.

3. So the Israelites departed boldly, but how do they know exactly where to go?
They had no **COMPASS**
They had no **MAPS**
They had no **GPS**
So how did they know where to go?
God Himself led them by the pillar of cloud in the daytime, and the pillar of fire at night.

4.
 - i It is much **MORE RELIABLE**.
 - ii It is much **LESS PREDICTABLE**.

More reliable because God knows what He is doing.

Less predictable because His ways are different to our ways, and His thoughts to our thoughts.

Read Isaiah 55:8 - 9

To the onlooker it is not always obvious what God is doing; but of this we can be sure; when He gives vision, He will then direct our steps.

Read Proverbs 16:9 and Proverbs 20:24

5. Almost immediately the Israelites face 3 crises;
 - i The **RED SEA** was too deep to go through it.
was too wide to bridge it.
was too long to go around it.
 - ii The **EGYPTIAN ARMY** close behind them.
Pharaoh had changed his mind and was coming to take them back.
 - iii **PANIC**
If Pharaoh recaptured them he would surely treat them even more cruelly than he had before. The Israelites turned against Moses.

Being in the will of God and allowing Him to direct your paths does not mean you will be exempt from problems.

6. At some point you have to decide if you really are going to 'trust' and 'obey'; and if so you have to stand firm knowing that the obstacle you face is not really your problem to solve – it is God's
7. Isn't it amazing how God used problem # 1 – the Red Sea – to destroy problem # 2 – the Egyptians, and solve problem # 3 – the panic of the Israelites.
8. All the credit and praise was given to God – not to Moses. Verse 12 even says [referring to God] "you stretched out your right hand" etc., even though it was Moses who stretched out his hand

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 9 – The Bitter Water of Marah Exodus 15:22 - 27

1. Remember God had led them by an unexpected way; as God will often lead us by unexpected ways.
2. Here begins a pattern of –

TRIUMPH and TRAIL

- i Chapter 14 The **TRIUMPH** of their **DELIVERY** led to the **TRIAL** of the **RED SEA**
- ii Chapter 15 The **TRIUMPH** of **CROSSING** the **RED SEA** led to the **TRIAL** of **NO WATER**
- iii Chapter 16 The **TRIUMPH** of **GIVING WATER** led to the **TRAIL** of **NO FOOD**
- iv Chapter 17 The **TRIUMPH** of **MANNA** led to the **TRIAL** of **WAR** with the **AMMELAKITES**

Against the background of great Triumphs they always ran into trials.

3. Here we see that a Feat and a Fight are in the same sentence.
The desert and the green pastures are on the same journey.
There are mountains and valleys in the landscape of life.
God gives rainbows, but only in cloudy and stormy skies.
4. The water they found was bitter.
5. From **BITTER BLESSINGS** to **BIGGER BLESSINGS**
6. From these verses we see that the trials have the purpose to 'reveal the heart'.
7. The trials usually lead to two contrasting reactions of the heart;
 - i The people turn to **GRUMBLING**, or
 - ii The people turn to **GOD**

It is important to note that the people, looking for a quick way out of the problem, grumbled to Moses; whereas Moses cried out directly to God.

If you are not doing business directly with God you WILL turn to grumbling.

8. The ultimate objective of God in this story was that the people would truly know Him, not just know about Him.
Read again Deuteronomy 8:2 and 3.

None of the trials were accidents. They were by intent to test the heart and take the people back to God Himself.

9. The question is; how do you view the problems and difficulties that you face now?
 - i Do you resist and fight them, and become angry?
 - ii Do you just shrug your shoulders and resign yourself to them?
 - iii Or do you EMBRACE them as instruments that have a divine purpose to take you back to God, and deepen your experience of Him?
10. Having experienced the bitter waters at Marah where they just visited, they now came to the sweet water at Elim where they camped.

You only find Elim by first coming to Marah.

Leader's Message Guide & Answers

Exodus – Here Am I; Send Someone Else Part 10 – Manna: The Food That Didn't Satisfy Exodus 16:1 - 36

1. As we study this last message in the 10 part Exodus series the question needs to be asked: Is your Christian life satisfying? Is it perhaps boring? If so, why do you think that is? Do you sometimes think of quitting the Christian life?
2. The release of Israel from bondage in Egypt is a picture of God's purposes in salvation.
 - i Coming out of Egypt is a picture of coming out of **SIN**
 - ii **PASSOVER LAMB** is a foreshadowing of Christ.
 - iii **CANAAN** is a picture of resting in the **SUFFICIENCY** of Christ.
3. The Israelites refused to TRUST and OBEY God.
4. There is much that could be said and discussed concerning Numbers 13 & 14, but at this point Charles focuses on the lesson we can learn from how the people were sustained while they were wandering in the desert for 40 years.
5. Every day God provided something called **MANNA**.
6. There are some wonderful truths here.
 - i The supply of Manna was **FRESH** every day.
 - ii What you need for **TODAY** God will give you **TODAY**.
 - iii What you need for **TOMORROW** He will give you **TOMORROW**.
 - iv He will not give you **TODAY** what you need **TOMORROW**.
7. Despite this wonderful, miraculous provision, the people were still not satisfied, and this is just as it is today with many Christians – the real Christ does not satisfy them. Consider this.
8. God's purpose for Israel was to take them OUT of Egypt so that they could be taken IN to Canaan – a land of complete sufficiency. Until they were ready to obey and trust God completely they could not enter Canaan, where they would be sustained, but not satisfied.

It is the same for Christians today who can experience salvation and forgiveness of their sins, but because they will not fully surrender to God they live with the frustration of dissatisfaction.

Just as the Israelites could not turn back, so it is for many Christians who cannot turn back, but are not willing to go all the way forward.

Questionnaire

We would like to hear your thoughts about this Message Guide. Would you please help us by filling in the questionnaire below and sending it to us. In appreciation, we will send you a complimentary DVD of a message by Charles Price.

1. Did you use this Message Guide for:
 Personal Study Group Study Both

2. For Group Study, approximately how many attended each session _____ and what was the approximate average age of those who attended _____?

3. Did you find the Message Guide to be:
 Very helpful Somewhat helpful Mildly helpful Not much help

4. What did you like most about the Message Guide?

5. What did you find difficult or awkward about the Message Guide?

6. Other comments:

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