

***Finding God in All Things* — October 22 & 23, 2016**
Follow-up Bible Studies

Written by Maggie Baxter

Day One: Exodus 12:1-30

- On the specific day designated by the Lord, summarize what each family is to do (2-11). On that same night, what will God do (12)? As for the houses with the lamb's blood on the doorframes, what will the Lord do differently to them (13)?
- Do any of these instructions or claims seem odd or do they remind you of anything about the faith you embrace today? Explain. Specifically, where do you see glimpses of Jesus? Pray your eyes would be opened to finding him throughout the entire Bible.
- How does God want future generations to commemorate this day (14-20)? Describe Moses' instructions for participating in the Passover (21-24)? What do you think of Moses' use of the term "destroyer"? What were his directions for commemorating the day (25-27)? How did the people respond to all of this information (27-28)? How do you think you would've responded to it? What actually happened on the night of Passover (29-30)?

Day Two: 2 Kings 5:1-19

- Describe Naaman (1). How did he come to interact with a young Israelite girl (2)? What did she think he should do about his leprosy (3)? How did Naaman respond to her suggestion (4)? How do you think he felt to be pointed toward healing by a young slave girl? Do unexpected people ever point you toward God's healing power and embrace? When this happens, how do you feel? What do you want to say to the Lord about this?
- Describe Naaman's departure for Israel (5-7). How did the king react to his letter (7)? What about Elisha's response (8-10)? In verses 11-12, Naaman's reaction is obvious. How does the idea of finding God in surprising places sit with you? Are you dismissive? Or can you keep an open mind? Ask God to grant you faith to find him in all things. What did Naaman's servants convince him to do (13-14)? Summarize his second visit to Elisha (15-19).

Day Three: Psalm 73

- How does the author compare himself to "those who are pure in heart" (1-3)? Describe the "prosperity of the wicked" (4-12)? What do these observations prompt the psalmist to conclude about his attempts to be a good person (13-15)? How does all of this make him feel (16)? What shifted his mindset (17)? In God's sanctuary, what fuller view does he have of "the wicked" (18-20)? What does he also realize about his own behavior (21-22)?
- Bring to mind your own most difficult circumstance. Now, picture taking it into God's dwelling place. Spend a few minutes in silence. Does your difficulty look or feel any different in this space? How so? Does anything seem different to you about God? Explain.
- Describe the steadfast nature of the Lord (23-26)? How do you experience God's steadfastness in your own life? Take a moment to thank him for having and revealing this quality to you. Finally, how does the author compare himself with the unfaithful (27-28)?

Day Four: John 4:4-26

- Set the scene of this text (4-6). Describe the beginning of Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman (7-9). How did he attempt to shift their discussion from material to

spiritual (10)? Describe the way they then went back and forth with Jesus focusing on the spiritual and the woman focusing on the material (11-15).

- What abrupt request did Jesus make next (16)? How did the woman respond, and what did this prompt Jesus to reveal about her (17-18)? What did the woman then assume about Jesus (19)? How do you think she is feeling about this encounter so far?
- Why do you think the Samaritan woman once again reminds Jesus of their differences (20)? What was his response (21-24)? What hope do these words offer to the dissatisfied? How do you think God wants you to pray for discontented people? How does the conversation between Jesus and the woman conclude (25-26)? Pray you'd experience incredible revelations like this in your own life and that they would draw you closer to Jesus.

Day Five: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

- What imagery does Paul use to encourage generosity (6)? What guidelines does he provide for giving (7)? Why (7)? What makes it possible to "abound in every good work" (8)? Describe the excerpt from Psalm 112 (9).
- Consider Paul's descriptors of a generous person: "sows generously," "cheerful giver," and "freely scattered their gifts." Is this you? If so, how does generosity help you to experience more of the Lord? If these words don't fit you, ask God for one idea to become more generous. This week, begin to walk it out.
- To what imagery does Paul return (10)? In what ways does verse eleven echo verse eight? Describe both the practical and the spiritual results of generosity (11-14). What does Paul want to say to God about it (15)? Offer up your own thanks to God for generous people in your life. Pray they'd experience more of the Lord as they continue to give.