

## **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible – Session Four**

### **Session Four: Discussion Question Answers – Page 27**

1. For about three hundred fifty years, God’s people have been slaves in a foreign land, Egypt. Where is God? What about the promises God made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to give them the land of Canaan? By telling Moses that he is the “God of Abraham ... Isaac ... and Jacob” at the burning bush, the Lord confirms that he is the same God who spoke to Abraham and made a covenant with him; the same God who miraculously gave Abraham and Sarah their son Isaac in their old age; the same God who watched over Jacob. By these words, God reassures Moses that his covenant promises will be fulfilled—that he has seen the plight of his people and is ready to make good on his Word.
2. Again and again, God says he performed a miracle so that both the Israelites and the Egyptians will know that he is the Lord. The original word that is here translated “Lord” is Yhwh (or “Yahweh”), “I am,” the name God revealed to Moses at the burning bush; the same God who made the promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In the plagues, the Lord reveals that he is greater than any of the “gods” of Egypt (i.e., that he is the Almighty God and that all other gods are nothing). Each of the ten plagues shows that a particular Egyptian god has no power at all
3. In the tenth and final plague, God sends the angel of death to strike down the firstborn sons of Egypt while “passing over” those whose doorways are signed by lamb’s blood in accordance with God’s command. This event is remembered every year in the Jewish feast of Passover.
4. The crossing of the Red Sea prefigures the sacrament of baptism, in which we are freed from sin through the pouring (or immersion in) water. In baptism, we enter into Christ’s death and rise again with him to new life.
5. Answers will vary. The Ten Commandments free us from the false gods of self, lust, power, money, and revenge. They free us to live as God created us to live, as his children, created in his image and likeness

### **Session Four: Discussion Question Answers – Page 28**

6. During the people’s year of “formation” at Mount Sinai, God gives Israel three things that will mark their relationship with him: the Law (the Ten Commandments, given in the context of covenant); the Tabernacle and a pattern of worship; and the Levitical priesthood
7. The Tabernacle signifies the presence of God dwelling among his people. This is the first time we have seen this since God walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. It is a sign of—and a step toward—restoration of the broken relationship between God and mankind.
8. When Moses sends twelve spies into the land of Canaan, they bring back a report that it is a fertile land and full of giants. Ten of these spies think the people living there are too mighty to defeat, while only two stress the bounty of the land and say that God will lead them. Despite the miraculous way God delivered them from Egypt, the people listen to the ten and do not trust God. As a result of their lack of faith, the Lord makes them wander a year in the desert for every day the spies spent in the land. This allowed a generation to grow up learning to trust God’s providence entirely.
9. Answers will vary.

## **Session Four: Home Preparation: Looking Ahead – Page 29**

**Period name:** Conquest & Judges **Approximate dates:** 1406 to 1050 B.C.

**Period color:** Green **Color meaning:** The Green Hills of Canaan

**Narrative Books:** Joshua, Judges, and the beginning of I Samuel

**List any names familiar to you and tell what you know about them:** Deborah & Gideon / Samson among the Judges; Samuel and Jesse, Rahab, and Ruth

**Period name:** Royal Kingdom **Approximate dates:** 1050 to 930 B.C.

**Period color:** Purple **Color meaning:** The Color of Royalty

**Key People:** Saul, David, Solomon

**What would you say is the key event?:** God's Covenant with David

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### **Adult Home Study for December 2022**

1. Read the Books Exodus & Numbers (Egypt & Exodus, Desert Wanderings)
2. Complete any unanswered Discussion Questions for Session Four
3. Using your Bible Timeline Chart fill in the answers on page 29: Home Preparation – Looking Ahead

### **Working with our Children at Home in December 2022**

1. Readings from the **GPS Storybook (Red & Tan)**
  - Chapter 6 – Egypt & Exodus Part I
  - Chapter 7 – Egypt & Exodus Part II
  - Chapter 8 – Desert Wanderings
2. Activities from the **GPS Workbook (Red & Tan) (Beginner – Intermediate – Advanced)**
  - Chapter 6 – Egypt & Exodus Part I
  - Chapter 7 – Egypt & Exodus Part II
  - Chapter 8 – Desert Wanderings