



THE BOOK OF

EXODUS

week one

The Storm Before the Calm



Presence In the Storm

GOD IS
EVER-PRESENT HELP
IN TIME OF NEED

Some would say that there is nothing beautiful about living in the desert, but I would disagree. One of the most beautiful experiences in nature is the fragrance that hangs in the air after a desert storm, especially a monsoon. In fact, sometimes the more powerful the storm, the stronger the fragrance.

Isn't that true with life too? Storms often precede the fragrant work of God in our lives, and in fact, to get to some of the most beautiful things God has to take us through the storm.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.

In these moments we have to choose to see the right things. In seeing the right things, we keep our faith on track and our hearts pointed towards Jesus. Storms represent a chapter in the larger volume of the story that God is writing in our lives. They may be a challenging chapter, but they always lead to something beautiful.



watch

Play the video prepared for this lesson by Pastor Derek Neider. Video sessions are available for download at www.cclasvegas.org/GROUPS



pray

 (10 min)

As a Home Group, take a moment and consider how God used a storm in your life to do something beautiful. Spend a moment thanking God in prayer for His faithfulness in all

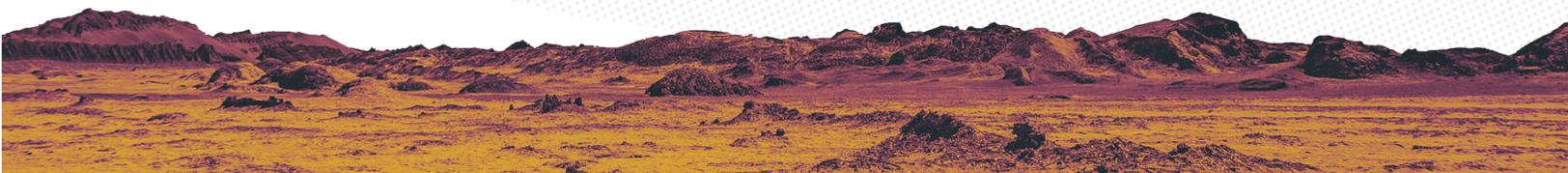


reflect

 (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them together.

1. How important have the promises of God been to you during a storm in your life? Write down some of the promises that have helped you and describe specifically how they have helped.
2. What promise(s) are you relying on today?



**Hard times don't erase God's promises;
they are part of their fulfillment.**

3. God's grace is always at work in the midst of difficult times. The two midwives in this story were expressions of God's grace to the Israelites.

Is there someone in your life now that is going through a storm? How can you be an expression of God's grace to them?

“My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.”

2 Corinthians 12:9

4. God always has purpose in the storms of life. In fact, for the Christian, there is a double blessing during times of trial. One, that God will be faithful to deliver us. And, two, that He uses the storm we will be delivered from, to transform us and to further His purposes through us.

Spend some time studying the Scriptures this week. Find two individuals who went through storms that God ultimately used. How did God use those storms to shape their character and bring to pass His purpose?

**Mountaintops are views and inspiration,
but the fruit is in the valley.**

Billy Graham



Considering what God revealed to you this week, step out in faith and be an instrument of grace to someone in need.

Next week we will be anxiously awaiting your praise report about how God used you to show His grace to a person in need.

