

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

UNEXPECTED LEADER: WEEK 3

*While anyone can take time to answer these questions individually, these questions are best discussed in a group! Not in a group yet? We want you in one! Head over to **southeastchristian.org** to join a group in person or online, wherever you are - today!*

Whether in movies or real life, we love stories of “self-made” people. What are some of the stories we tell of people who overcame the odds and pulled themselves up? Why do we like to tell those kinds of stories? How do they give us hope for our own stories? How do these stories betray the reality that everyone needs help in order to succeed?

Read Exodus 6:1-12. What did God tell Moses and Aaron to do? How was He going to work to deliver His people from Egypt? Go back through the text and count how many times God uses His personal pronoun (“I”). What does this show us about whose power was going to be behind the Israelites’ deliverance?

Despite God’s reminder of His own power, Moses offers an excuse why he can’t go to Pharaoh. What excuse does he make? When God calls us to do something, why do we so often focus on our own inadequacies? What are some of the excuses you use? How can we allow God’s power to overcome our perceived shortcomings?

Pharaoh’s unbelief was motivated by his own question: “Who is the Lord? Why should I listen to Him?” (Exodus 5:2). When we refuse to obey God, what does that say about our answer to those questions? Think about Pharaoh’s second question: ‘Why should I obey Him?’ How should we, as believers, answer that question?

Read Exodus 14:15-31. What happened at the Red Sea? How did God deliver the Israelites in a miraculous way? How would such an incredible story of salvation have helped the Israelites remember they couldn’t have done it on their own? How do our own stories of salvation remind us that we didn’t (and couldn’t have) saved ourselves?

As you close, read Exodus 15:13. In their song of praise on the banks of the Red Sea, what promise do the Israelites sing? How does this promise still apply to us today? What hope does that give us? Close in prayer by asking God to help you rely on that hope in the week ahead.