

Series: Would the REAL GOD please stand up!

Part Four: Learning Opportunities

Sunday March 5, 2017

TEXT: Exodus 7-10

1. The signs and wonders:

- Blood
- Frogs
- Gnats
- Flies
- Livestock
- Boils
- Locusts
- Darkness
- First-borns

2. Some of the gods that Egypt may have cried out to/prayed to:

- *Isis* – the god of the Nile.
- *Heqet* – the goddess of birth who has a frog's head.
- *Set* – the god of the desert storm.
- *Uatchit* – lord of the flies.
- *Hathor* and *Apis* are the male and female gods of fertility.
- *Sekhmet* – the goddess of healing.
- *Nut* – the sky goddess.
- *Osiris* – the god of crops and fertility.
- *Re* – the sun god.
- *Pharaoh's son* – the next incarnation of the Egyptian god, Horus.

3. Some would believe (Ex. 12: 38, 49).

TAKEAWAYS

1. Is God trying to get your attention?
2. Would God harden my heart like He did Pharaoh's heart?

TIME TO REFLECT

1. What are you thankful for: church, friends, family, freedom, home, transportation, food, clothing, health, nature, music, art, books, sports, pets, work, people who've served you? Thank God out loud! Hear yourself being thankful. Sit in that moment with God.

2. Who can you pray for this morning who doesn't know God and who doesn't want to know God. Pray for them.

Study Notes

DISCUSSION

1. Have you ever had to do something extreme to get someone's attention? Has anyone ever had to go to an extreme to get your attention?

2. Is it inevitable/human nature that we need to be "slew" by God so that we would seek Him (Ps. 78:34, 37)? If so – then should we fight against it or work with it? If not – then how might we keep ourselves from needing to be "slew" by God?

BIBLE

3. Read Heb. 12:4-11. When something bad happens to you, what is your first reaction? Is that similar or different to your second and more lasting reaction? How does this text challenge or affirm your reactions?

4. Could there be any dangers in treating all hardships as God's discipline? Remember: "discipline" is another word for "training."

5. Read Ro. 8:29; 2 Cor. 12:7. Is it possible that even if God's discipline is not the *primary* cause of some hardship in our lives that God can always use any hardship to help us to grow?

6. How is God's discipline different than the ten plagues? Are there any similarities?

APPLICATION

7. 7 DAY EXPERIMENT. Choose one thing each day for a week for which you are thankful. Name it. Thank God for it aloud in prayer. Sit with Him in that moment. Repeat this throughout the day – focusing again on that one thing for which you are grateful. Write it down. If it involves someone else – thank them. Walk in gratefulness!

8. Identify one person in your life who doesn't know Jesus Christ. Let your group pray with you for them.