



Captivity should never be our identity. Using the Exodus story as a platform, this series will explore ways God’s people can live fully into the freedom He wants them to enjoy.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Rick began by pointing out that *life is full of disappointments*, “**God is good all the time...but life is not.**” How has that been true for you recently? Share an example of how God has been good even when life circumstances were not.

2 TAKING A TURN FOR THE WORSE: Disappointment can only reside where hope has lived. Read Exodus 5:1-8 and 19-23. What stands out to you the most from this part of the story? Follow up: How would you have felt if you were Moses?

3 Rick pointed out that *the enemy knows the times when we are most susceptible to disappointment*. (1) **When spiritual highs don’t seem to last.** (2) **When desired outcomes don’t seem to happen.** (3) **When being obedient doesn’t seem to help.** Which of these are you most susceptible to and why? Follow up: When was the last time you were disappointed in God? Have you ever been upset with God because you felt like he “owed” you? Share some of your experience and pray for each other.

4 WHERE TO TURN WHEN IT GETS WORSE: Be honest with God about what you wanted. Moses took his disappointment in God to God. Read Exodus 5:22-23. What keeps you from being this honest with God? Follow up: Why is it okay to be brutally honest with God? How have you found this to be helpful in the past?

5 WHERE TO TURN WHEN IT GETS WORSE: Ask God to help you want what He wants. God didn’t want to just deliver the Hebrews from the nation of Egypt; He wanted to deliver a message to the nations of the world. Read Exodus 9:15-16. Do you want God to be glorified more than you want what you want? Why is that so hard? Follow up: Share about a time when God’s delay brought about something in your life that was much more than you expected or wanted. What did you learn from that experience?

6 WHERE TO TURN WHEN IT GETS WORSE: Remember that God will get what He wants. More important than knowing why we’re waiting is knowing Who we are waiting on. Read Exodus 6:1-8. What do these verses reveal about who God is and how does knowing that help you? Follow up: **Read Philippians 1:6.** What encouragement do you find from this verse as you think about a recent disappointment?

7 Rick closed by reminding us to, “*Put your trust in God today, even if today is not what you wanted.*” Where are you most tempted to put your trust when you are disappointed? Follow up: What can you do differently today to make sure you put your trust in God?

