



Engage Page – God Has a Plan?

In an “in-between” season, when what was normal and familiar goes away and everything ahead is uncertain, life can feel like total chaos. Schedules, rhythms, relationships and plans are all in upheaval. Have you ever been there? Sometimes we resign ourselves to platitudes like, “Well, God has a plan.” But does he? If so, what is it? The difference between merely stating that God has a plan and actually *knowing* God has a plan and what that plan is makes all the difference when navigating chaotic seasons. Because God wanted Moses to stand strong through what would become an incredibly difficult journey, he shared those plans. That same plan is still in play, and if you know it, you will find strength for the journey as well.

For reflection and discussion:

Last week’s engage page ended with an invitation for those experiencing challenges to share this week. Has God revealed you anything new about yourself or about God during this past week that you had not known before? If so, take 2 minutes to share.

For this week, read aloud Exodus 5:1-2 and Exodus 6:1-8 (pp.71-72 *Christian Basics Bible*).

1. As reflected in Exodus 6:8, what factors can make it hard for us to believe that God has a plan? While others may not be ready to hear it, how can you knowing God’s plan help you when the world is in chaos or you’re in pain or hardship?

Read the four “I will” statements stated by the Lord to Moses in Exodus 6:6-7. This is God’s plan not just for Israelites in Egyptian captivity, but for all those who believe.

- Sanctification: I will bring _____
- Deliverance: I will free _____
- Redemption: I will redeem _____
- Restoration: I will take _____

2. Sanctification is the process of being set apart by God. Like much of the walking in the ways of God, it starts with God’s action, yet our cooperation is what enables us to experience the true freedom it is meant to bring. While we are under grace, we show that we believe in that grace when we walk in the new life of being set apart by God. Read and discuss the following to understand the connection between God’s provision and our cooperation, in light of false teaching confronted in 2 Peter 2:19 (p.1428).

Understanding truly makes sense when you realize God’s plan includes something called deliverance, which is freedom from oppressive spiritual powers. This includes freedom from Satan, the corrupt world system, our own sinful nature, and death. Read the following verses and discuss how knowing this can make a difference when the world is in chaos or you are in a season of pain and struggle:

- James 4:7 (p.1416)
- 1 Corinthians 2:12 (P.1305)
- Romans 6:6 (P.1289)
- Hebrews 2:15 (P.1398)

3. Re-read the third “I will” about redemption. How is did Jesus fulfill that for us? How can that give you strength in times of struggle and chaos?

4. Read Romans 8:18-25 (p.1291) How does knowing the guaranteed restoration of all things help us to endure?

Consider all you learned as you went from knowing God has a plan to knowing all that God's plan will accomplish. Close out by thanking God for the firm foundation we have even in times of chaos and confusion.

Memory verse:

Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.
Romans 8:18