

Exodus 4

5/15/22

Exodus 5-10

**1.** Drew mentioned that when you ask, “why,” God may not answer you, but will instead show his power.

\*\*What are your thoughts about this statement - have you experienced this?

**2.** Drew described each plague as a direct confrontation with an Egyptian god. This chart is uploaded as a separate Link just below the link to this discussion guide. Feel free to refer to it as you discuss the following questions.

\*\*Do you think these gods were real in anyway?

\*\*If not, how did the Egyptian magicians perform the task of making staffs into snakes, turning the Nile to blood, and bringing frogs from the Nile?

\*\*If so, what is the relationship between Yahweh and these gods, i.e. is Yahweh the one true god?

**3.** Throughout the plagues, Pharaoh’s heart is a constant concern of the narrator’s story. It is hardened passively by no one, hardened by Pharaoh, and hardened by God. Here is a list of all of these occurrences:

Passively hardened	Hardened by Pharaoh	Hardened by God
7:13	8:15	7:3
7:22	8:32	9:12
8:19	9:34	10:1
9:7		10:27
9:35		11:10
		14:14

\*\*What do you notice about the chronology of these verses?

\*\*Do you think God hardens people’s hearts today?

**For more discussion:** There are two Hebrew words that are translated as “harden” in these verses. One of them is *hazaq*, which means “to strengthen.” The other is *cavod*, which is sometimes translated as, “glory.” Each time that Pharaoh hardens his own heart, the word *cavod* is used.

The following is copied from the week 11 discussion guide in Genesis:

“The general meaning of *cavod* (ka-voh-d) has to do with weight. God is infinitely more weighty than anything else. If you put God and anything else on a scale (the kind they had in the market to make sure your silver coins weighed as much as they should), nothing could equal God because he is valued more. This is *cavod*.”

\*\*In light of this, what goal does Pharaoh have in mind when he hardens his own heart?

\*\*What does the hardening of Pharaoh’s heart ultimately cause to happen? (For a hint, read Exodus 14:4, and know that both *hazaq* and *cavod* are used in this verse).

Soon, Rob, Darren and Drew will record a Q&A podcast. If you have any questions from any section of the Bible we have covered so far, please reach out to them or email [life@forefrontchurch.tv](mailto:life@forefrontchurch.tv) with your questions.