

BIBLE PASSAGE

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. **2** Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" **3** But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" **4** So Moses cried to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." **5** And the Lord said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. **6** Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. **7** And he called the name of the place Massah[al] and Meribah,[b] because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

8 Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. **9** So Moses said to Joshua, "Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." **10** So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. **11** Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. **12** But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. **13** And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword.

Exodus 17:1-13

KEY TAKE-AWAYS



If you want to rewatch the sermon, go to manheimbic.org/sermon.

On the sermon page search for accompanying video to this discussion prompt by looking at the title or the date displayed on the front.

To connect with a small group or host a small group, please contact the Faith Formation office at faith@manheimbic.org

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WITH CHALLENGES

SERMON-BASED DISCUSSION



All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals, and to prayer.

Acts 2:42 (NLT)



FAITH FORMATION
connect. grow. lead.



At Manheim BIC we strive to initiate and nurture a growing relationship with Christ.

For your time together:

Connect

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship. After a long week of all kind of things, just let everyone arrive.

Care

Carry each others burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Cry together. Support each other. Pray together. - Ask: How are you doing?

Challenge

Dive into God's Word. Use the discussion points. Learn from each others insight. Encourage and challenge each other to live a godly life.

Ask: What is God teaching us today?

Clarify

Make sure that everyone knows what's next. Next in your life with God. Next up within the group. Next in general. Have an applicable mission for the week.

Celebrate

Celebrate life's success and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God. - Ask: What has God done in our life that deserves praise?

GROUP DISCUSSION & LIFE CHALLENGE

Use these notes as discussion prompt for your group, or in your personal time with God.

FOCUS ON THE WITH, NOT THE WHAT. This is one of the key sentences that shapes our current sermon series. Our Youth Director, Tim Fray, takes us alongside the story of Moses who faced quite a few challenges in his journey. One of the things that Moses was known for was: Everyone knew that he walked WITH God and God was WITH him. Still he faced **challenges**.

Tim pointed to three main types of challenges which can be very common in our lives.

- The challenge of **looking back** *instead of UP*
- The challenge of the **unknown**
- The challenge of **enduring** despite the hardship

When the Israelites wanted to go back to Egypt because they didn't have enough water, Moses went to God first. He didn't look backwards, nor forward, he looked up. What things do you have in place that remind you to first look up -to God- before taking a step forward?

There is only so much information that we can gather in order to prepare for the unknown. Tim reminded us that it is best to face the unknown by changing our perspective. Looking to God and seeing things from God's point of view. Think of a current, difficult situation, a challenge so to speak 😊. Now imagine what this challenge would look like if you would literally be accompanied by God. In person. All the way to the end. Discuss with your group, what would change and what wouldn't.

How would God's presence change your perspective on the whole situation?

In Exodus 17 verses 11-13 we could almost make the point that Moses kept up the people's spirit. By holding his hands up the people were encouraged. His prayerful position inspired hope. What connections do you have that help you endure the challenges of life? Answer these three questions:

- How is your *connection* with your family and/or your friends?
- How is your *connection* with God, the same God that helped Moses?
- How can you improve both of these **connections** in your life?

The best strategy to face challenges in life is to not face them alone. If the almighty God is on your side, who or what can be against you (Rom 8:31). Focus on who's with you and not what you are facing!