



BIG IDEA

The altar Moses built in Exodus 17 marked where God intervened on behalf of his people and promised to defeat his enemies. For Moses, Joshua, and the Israelites, the banner was the banner of God, and it was a reminder of all that God had done.

THOUGHTS FROM THE SERMON

Read: Exodus 17:1-16

1. The Israelites grumbled in the desert when they had no water to drink. How do you relate to the Israelites when you are faced with your own difficult circumstances? Can you provide some examples?
2. Why do you think the Israelites continually doubted God's presence and provision despite everything God has done for them?
3. The Israelites' "banner" was their old life in slavery in Egypt. What are the "banners" you raise when things are going poorly? What about when they're going well?
4. In his sermon, Ed posed the question, "Tell me who you are without telling me what you do." This can show us what we primarily find our identity in. How would you answer this question?
5. The Amalekites attacked the Israelites when they were exhausted and weary. At what points in your life are you most vulnerable for the enemy to attack? What other passages in Scripture help guide and prepare us for this?
6. Aaron and Hur helped to keep the staff raised in Moses' hand which contributed to the victory of Israel against the Amalekites. Moses was not able to do it on his own. Do you tend to fight your battles on your own or invite others to help you?
7. What does "The LORD is my banner" mean to you personally?
8. Israel's victory was ultimately won by God's faithfulness to his covenant people. How does this victory corroborate with the promise God has made with his people?
9. God told Moses to write this victory down as a memorial in a scroll for Moses to recite. What practical steps can you take to remember God's deliverance in your life?

NOTES

PERSONAL REFLECTION AND APPLICATION

1. What has God shown you as you studied his word this week?
2. Why is there such value in reading and understanding the scriptures we looked at this week?
3. What points in the message encouraged you and gave you hope?
4. How will you personally apply what you learned from the sermon to your life?

DEEPER

Pray: Thank God that he has given us victory over satan, sin, death, and hell. Go to him in prayer for the battles you are currently facing.

Read: For further study on the Amalekites, consider reading this article released by GotQuestions.org: Who were the Amalekites? <https://www.gotquestions.org/Amalekites.html>

Write: Take time to write down your thoughts and insights from the sermon this week. Keeping a journal is just one more tool that you can use to track what God is showing you in your walk with him. Consider writing in questions for the podcast on the Gateway Church app.

Sing: Listen to the worship songs from Sunday throughout the week. Look up the lyrics to each song and spend some time reading them as well.

Memorize: As a Life Group, memorize a verse from the sermon passage that stuck out to you this week.

Love: Share God, your Banner, with a friend who needs to hear about him.

Sermon Discussion Guide

11/19/23