PROMISE KEEPER:

Elementary Week 3

PARENT BIBLE STUDY

Read: Exodus 2:11-15, 3:1-12, 5:1-2, 7:1-12-12:37

Moses's encounter with God at the burning bush and the subsequent plagues God sends on Egypt teach us a few main truths about God and who we are to him.

Part 1:

God is bigger than our weaknesses.

When God commissioned Moses to save the Hebrew people from oppression in Egypt, Moses explained his insecurities and shortcomings to God as if God didn't know. But God chose Moses anyway. In fact, he chose him because it is precisely in our weaknesses where he is strongest. Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 12:9 about this very thing. God says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Moses was enough because God was enough for him. God is enough for us, too.

God's plan is not dependent on our response or attitude.

Moses' stubbornness (or Pharaoh's for that matter) did not change God's mind. While our resistant hearts may sometimes cause us more pain and frustration than simply saying yes in obedience (this is seen so plainly in Pharaoh's response to God), we can be confident that God responds justly to evil and works for the redemption and salvation of the people he loves.

Part 2:

God is more powerful than any opposition we face.

God sent the plagues on Egypt for his own people just as much as for Pharaoh. He wanted to be clear that the 400 years of brutal slavery and evil against his people would not go unpunished. God was taking the power away from Pharaoh, making it clear he is the ultimate King, all while protecting the Israelites from the various disasters.

Jesus is the ultimate Passover lamb through whom God saves us all.

The blood of lambs saved the Hebrew people from the final plague of death to the firstborn boys in Egypt. The Israelites watched God spare them from death and witnessed a shadow of what was to come in Jesus, whose blood shed on the cross saves all of us from death and slavery to sin.

Considering this story, what is your view of God's justice and mercy?

Next time you take communion, think about the first Passover and what it would be like.

How can you respond to the sacrifice Jesus made to save us all and bless us into his family?