

# SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERINGS

## 2024 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING

### LARGE GROUP LESSON, DAY 2

---

- Summer Friendship Gathering events lasts three evenings and each evening is divided into three parts: fellowship meal, worship time with a large group lesson, and small group discussion. On the last evening there is a closing worship service, which replaces the Large Group Bible Lesson and Small Group Discussion time.
- As you start preparing your lesson a good place to start is to pray asking the Holy Spirit to give you insight and direction.
- You will find an illustrated sample video on the Day 2 Bible lesson God is Powerful along with the other Summer Friendship Gathering training videos. You are encouraged to watch this video as you plan your lesson.
- Our theme verse for these three lessons is found in Revelation 5:12 (NIRV)

***“He is worthy to receive honor and glory and praise!”***



**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

## 2024 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING

### LARGE GROUP LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

---

- Today we will see that God is worthy of our praise and worship because He is Powerful. We will learn how God's power, working through Moses freed His people; and led them through the desert to the land He promised Abraham 400 years earlier, even when their way seemed impossible.
- Our Bible verse for today's lesson comes from Ephesian 3:20 (NIRV)  
***“God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. He does everything by his power that is working in us.***
- Did you know God has power over His whole creation: the weather, the rulers of the nations, and the hearts of people. God has power over everything, and there is nothing He can't do. There is nothing that is impossible for God!
- God demonstrated His powerful love for the Israelites even when their situation looked impossible. But God was with them every step of the way.
- God kept his promise and delivered His people from slavery. First, God showed His power by sending plagues on Egypt. The plagues were so bad that the Egyptians begged the Israelites to leave their country. They even gave them their gold and riches so they would leave.
- God's people marched out of Egypt and were on their way to the promised land. After seeing His great power, they put their trust in Him and worshipped Him.

**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

# 2024 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING

## LARGE GROUP LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

---

- Have you ever been in a bad situation where things seemed impossible? Maybe you thought it couldn't get any worse. Every time you see a little bit of hope, something else comes along and all your hope is gone. Well, you're not alone. The Israelites felt the same way after God lead them out of Egypt to freedom.
- In Exodus 13:20 it says, *"The people camped at ... the edge of the desert. By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud. It guided them on their way. At night he led them with a pillar of fire. It gave them light. So they could travel by day or at night."*
- God didn't just let his children wander around not knowing where to go. Just imagine being guided by a giant column of clouds every day or fire every night! Wherever the pillar was, that's where God was.
- God was showing His people the way through the desert. God was protecting them like a shield protects a warrior.
- God also wanted the Israelites to see His glory. God wanted to show them that He is all powerful so they would trust and worship Him.
- God's plan always makes sense, even when it doesn't make sense to us. God always has a purpose for everything He does. He wants us to trust His ways, not ours. When we trust God to lead us in the right direction, He gives us a peace in our hearts even when things don't make sense.
- When Israelites realized they were doomed, they cried out to the LORD. They even wished they could have stayed in Egypt as slaves. They still could not trust God and His power. But God is all knowing and all powerful and He always has a purpose and a plan.

**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

## 2024 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING

### LARGE GROUP LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

---

- God wants us to cry out to Him when we are afraid, when we are hurt, or when things seem too big for us. God is always with us and ready to help us. He wants us to trust Him, even when things don't make sense. Sometimes it's in these circumstances we see just how powerful God is and how much He really loves and cares for us.
- *"Then Moses reached out his hand over the Red Sea. All that night the Lord pushed the sea back with a strong east wind. He turned the sea into dry land. The waters were divided. The people of Israel went through the sea on dry ground."*
- But the Egyptian army was still chasing them. They chased them right into the sea on the dry ground.
- *So, Moses reached out his hand over the sea." "The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen. It covered the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the people of Israel into the sea. Not one of the Egyptians was left."*
- *"The Israelites saw the amazing power the Lord showed against the Egyptians. So the Israelites had great respect for the Lord and put their trust in him. They also put their trust in his servant Moses."*
- WOW! Now that's power! God wanted His people to see that only He makes impossible situations possible. Because only God can do it, He receives all the glory. There is no one more powerful than our God!

**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

# 2024 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING

## LARGE GROUP LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

---

- Every day we make decisions and if we make them on our own, we may make mistakes, but through His power, God can lead us in the right direction.
- When we find ourselves in difficult and even impossible situations, we can trust that God will use His power to protect and save us.
- God’s healing power can help when we are sick or hurting. His power can protect you when you are afraid. God will comfort you when you are sad or lonely. He brings peace when you are angry and unable to forgive.
- ***Make sure to reinforce today’s Bible verse from Ephesians 3:20 “God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine. He does everything by his power that is working in us.”***
- Just like the Israelites in this story about Moses, God’s power is at work in all of us. It’s what keeps us alive, calms our fears, and fills our hearts with love.
- When the Israelites experienced God’s powerful deliverance from Pharaoh’s army, they sang a song of praise and worshiped the LORD.
- When God delivers us from our impossible problems, we can also sing our own song of praise to Him. Because of God’s powerful love for us we proclaim, “He is Worthy of all our worship and praise.” ***You may want to close the Day 2 lesson by singing a worship song to the LORD.***

**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

# 2024 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING

## LARGE GROUP LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

---

- There are four main points to be made in this lesson. It will be important that each of these points are covered in your lesson because they will be part of the small group discussion questions.
- **The first point is, only God is worthy (deserving) of all our worship and praise because He is powerful.**  
God has power over His whole creation: the weather, the rulers of the nations, and the hearts of people. God has power over everything, and there is nothing He can't do. There is nothing that is impossible for God!
- **The second point is, God uses His power to lead His people.**  
God didn't just let the Israelites wander around not knowing where to go. He led them with a giant pillar of cloud by day and fire by night. It guided them on their way through the desert.
- God guides us also by the Holy Spirit when we put our trust in Jesus. He can lead us with His Word, the Bible, pastors, parents, friends, or the things He puts in our path.
- **The third point is, God uses His power to protect and save His people.**  
God used Moses to show His power to push back the Red Sea. God turned the sea into dry land so His people could escape the Egyptian army. When the Egyptian army continued to chase them, God made the water flow back over the entire army. Not one of the Egyptians were left. WOW, now that's power! Only God could do that!

**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

# **2024 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING**

## **LARGE GROUP LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED**

---

- **The fourth point to make is we need to trust in God’s loving power and not our own because His ways are perfect.**  
God wants us to trust Him when we are afraid, hurt, or when things seem too big for us. God is always with us and ready to help us. He wants us to trust Him, even when things don’t make sense. Sometimes it’s in these circumstances we see just how powerful God is and how much He really loves and cares for us.
- As you plan out the flow of your lesson, you can choose to use, or not use the optional skit or object lesson. These resources can be used before your first telling of the story or afterwards. This is up to you.
- It is important to find more than one way to tell the story. Visuals and illustrations will help with learning. Most people learn best if the lesson combines different techniques, or modes of learning. Remember, you have access to the PowerPoint slides of the story provided on the flash drive with the curriculum and on our website.
- You should also review the Discussion Leader’s Guide for the detailed questions and sub-questions that will be asked on Day 2.
- Before you finalize your lesson, be sure to incorporate these Day 2 Discussion Questions into the Large Group Bible Lesson.
- It is best to reinforce the main points with our adult friends. This helps them with a smoother transition into the small group discussion time which follows the large group lesson.

**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

# 2024 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING

## LARGE GROUP LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

---

- Thank you for your willingness to lead the Day 2 lesson. You are encouraged to review the Large Group Leaders Guide and the notes for this presentation. The links can be found on the Connection Ministries website.
- If you have any questions or need information you can email us at [connect@connection-ministries.org](mailto:connect@connection-ministries.org) or call our office 317-646-5067.