

## Home Groups - Discussion Questions

Wed 23 May

*The First Nine Plagues – Exodus 7:8 – 10:29*

Groups: - Wednesday at Robert & Emma's (19 Manse Park, N'ards), 7.30pm

Wednesday at Trevor & Mandy's (16 Jude's Crescent, N'ards), 8pm

1. Why did God send plagues to Pharaoh and Egypt? What was the ultimate purpose of the plagues (hint...Deut. 4:34 – 35; Ex. 7:17, 8:10; Josh. 24:14)
2. Why is “Who is your God?” the most important question you (or anyone) will ever answer?
3. How does our understanding of the plagues change when we know that they were directed at the false gods of Egypt?
4. What serves some people as “gods” today? What are our gods of prosperity? Of success? Of security and peace?
5. How might it be possible to make a “god” out of something we don't have? How do the plagues and verses like Isaiah 42:8 convict us?
6. Sometimes we read that *God hardened Pharaoh's heart* (e.g. Exodus 7:3-4) & sometimes that *Pharaoh hardened his own heart* (e.g. Exodus 8:15, 32). Which is true and how are we to understand what's happening here?
7. Does these mean that witnessing to unbelievers is pointless? What should this truth drive us to do?
8. How might a Christian become hardened and calloused to a particular sin?
9. During the eighth and ninth plagues, Pharaoh's verbal response takes an interesting turn. Look back at 9:27 and 10:16. Discuss his verbal response in light of his continued refusal to let the Israelites go. What is the difference between confession and repentance?
10. What “glimpses of the gospel” do you see in these chapters?

### Prayer Time

- Pray for God to call men to the ministry
- Pray for the unwell ministers in our denomination
- Pray for the persecuted church
- Pray for the Irish Abortion Referendum
- Pray for young people doing exams

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