

Exodus 12, ERV

3 This command is for the whole community of Israel: On the tenth day of this month each man must get one lamb for the people in his house.

6 You should watch over the animal until the 14th day of the month. On that day all the people of the community of Israel must kill these animals just before dark. 7 You must collect the blood from these animals and put it on the top and sides of the doorframe of every house where the people eat this meal. 8 “On this night you must roast the lamb and eat all the meat. You must also eat bitter herbs and bread made without yeast.

12 “Tonight I will go through Egypt and kill every firstborn man and animal in Egypt. In this way I will judge all the gods of Egypt and show that I am the Lord. 13 But the blood on your houses will be a special sign. When I see the blood, I will pass over[b] your house. I will cause bad things to happen to the people of Egypt. But none of these bad diseases will hurt you.

14 **“You will always remember tonight**—it will be a special festival for you. Your descendants will honor the Lord with this festival forever.

29 At midnight the Lord killed all the firstborn sons in Egypt, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh (who ruled Egypt) to the firstborn son of the prisoner sitting in jail. Also all the firstborn animals died. 30 That night someone died in every house in Egypt. Pharaoh, his officials, and all the people of Egypt began to cry loudly.

1. This is a time that we will all always remember - so make it memorable for the good things.

THE BLOOD reminds us of

1. THE BLOOD reminds us of a man’s responsibility

1. Men, you have a responsibility. Wives/Moms, you are Generals too. Your rank is the same. But there is only one CO - Commanding Officer. Dads, your job is to make sure that plans are made and provisions are prepared.

2. THE BLOOD reminds us of the family’s protection (passover)

3. THE BLOOD reminds us of the world’s cry for help

1. Hebrews 9:22 - without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

We have a God who hears our cries. In fact

Psalm 56:8 (NLT) 8 You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book.

Because God heard the cries of his people, he sent Moses to rescue them. In fact, not just his people the Israelites, but also the Egyptians. Anyone who was covered by the blood of the lamb that night would have been spared. And because he hears our cries throughout time, he sent his son Jesus so that anybody who is covered his blood is saved from sin.

THE BLOOD reminds us to SPREAD HOPE in the midst of CHAOS

1. The people of God found HOPE in the blood of the lamb. As the blood was spread on the tops and sides of the doorframe, they were literally spreading HOPE. Let's be a people who spread a pandemic of peace, hope, and love.
 1. What were the people of God doing as plague and sickness and death swept through the country? They were gathering with their families, feasting on a meal God provided for them.
 2. Don't miss the blessing because you are so focused on the fear

We are faced with an unprecedented opportunity these next few weeks. Don't let it pass you by. The Church is literally being forced outside of its 4 walls. When this happened in the first century, we called it the Diaspora. When Rome tried to wipe out the Christians, they inadvertently spread Christianity throughout the known world. Then a few hundred years ago, a group of Christians fleeing religious persecution founded a New World, these United States of America. Today, churches who have never had a Facebook Page, never streamed their content online, never sent an email newsletter or created a mass text group, are entering another brand new World = the digital one.

Our method of communication may change, but the message we are communicating never does. JESUS is the hope of the world. This week, SPREAD HOPE. Take responsibility. Protect your family. Don't be afraid to cry to God for help! But above all, let's be a church for our neighbors and the generation, spreading HOPE everywhere we go.