

## What is faith?

The definition of faith can be found in the second book of the Bible (Exodus 19):

1) In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came to the Wilderness of Sinai. 2) For they had departed from Rephidim, had come to the Wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness. So Israel camped there before the mountain.

3) And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: 4) 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. 5) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6) And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

7) So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and said before them all these words which the LORD commanded him. 8) Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD. (Ex 19:1-8, NKJV)

1. If you want to be of God's special treasure, His kingdom of priests, and holy nation, what must you do?

2. Fill out this table with your observations. How would you define faith?

Bible Passage	Observations
3) And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: 4) 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. (Ex 19:3-4, NKJV)	
5) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6) And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." (Ex 19:5-6, NKJV)	

3. Throughout the Old Testament, the Exodus becomes the principal historical event that establishes the reality of the invisible God in heaven. Does it have to be?

## What is faith?

### Teacher Notes

The definition of faith can be found in the second book of the Bible (Exodus 19):

1) In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came to the Wilderness of Sinai. 2) For they had departed from Rephidim, had come to the Wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness. So Israel camped there before the mountain.

3) And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: 4) 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. 5) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6) And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

7) So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and said before them all these words which the LORD commanded him. 8) Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD. (Ex 19:1-8, NKJV)

1. If you want to be of God's special treasure, His kingdom of priests, and holy nation, what must you do?

Ask the student to circle / underline their observations in the text. Do you see the conditional statement – if then? What must you do to be of God's people?

**If** you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, **then** you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

2. Fill out this table with your observations. How would you define faith?

Bible Passage	Observations
3) And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: 4) 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. (Ex 19:3-4, NKJV)	
5) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6) And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." (Ex 19:5-6, NKJV)	

Ask the student: if you were invisible, why would you say something like this, "You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself?"

**Believe the historical and real existence of God.** Unlike all other gods, the God of the Bible is alive.

Ask the student: what is a covenant?

A covenant is like a contract where two parties agree to do their part in the partnership. In this case, God stipulates what He will do if you comply to the agreement and what He will do when you depart from your commitment.

Ask the student: what do you make of, "if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine?"

**Place a trust in God, like Abraham that engenders an obedience to His word.**

Summarize for the student what the definition of faith is:

1. **Believe the historical and real existence of God.**
2. **Place a trust in God, like Abraham, that engenders an obedience to His word.**

Ask the student: most people don't trust God like Abraham. What do you observe people placing their trust in? Give some time to discuss.

3. Throughout the Old Testament, the Exodus becomes the principal historical event that establishes the reality of the invisible God in heaven. Does it have to be?

Encourage the student to question and discuss this issue.

The answer is that it can be any historical event observed or personally experienced that establishes the reality of the invisible God to that person.