

EXODUS 5 FOR KIDS

Today for our family devotion, we are going to explore an interesting question that needs to be addressed from Exodus chapter 5. The question is do you think having faith in God would make your everyday life easier or harder?



I think most of us would say having faith in God would make life easier. After all, God is the King of the universe, so wouldn't trusting Him make life like an ice cream sundae with cherries on top? You might expect God to give us money from the sky, never let us get sick, and make everyone give us high fives and say, "You're awesome!"

Well, not exactly. Did you know that sometimes having faith in God can actually make our lives harder? Sometimes faith in God will cost us things, and even make some people not like us. That's exactly what happened to God's people in Exodus chapter 5.

The last verse in chapter 4 says, "And the people believed; and when they heard that the Lord had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshiped." So at this point, Israel is trusting in God. But guess what happens? Israel's lives actually get worse, instead of getting better!

This is what happens. Moses tells Pharaoh to let God's people go. But instead of listening, Pharaoh says no, and then doubles their work as slaves. He does this by telling their taskmasters to stop providing straw to the Hebrews, so now the Hebrews would have to gather their own straw for brick making.

This would be like us telling you to go brush your teeth, and then expecting you to make your own toothbrush as well! Then, when you fail at making your own toothbrush and brushing your teeth, we give you a spanking for disobeying us. Wouldn't that be cruel? That's basically what Pharaoh did to God's people. He demanded they gather their own straw to make bricks, and then beat them when they failed to make enough.

Here is our question; why was life suddenly so bad for God's people? Was it because they were not trusting in God? Nope. It was actually because they were trusting God! Here is the truth we learn from chapter 5; sometimes life gets harder when we put our faith in God.

Why would this be? It's because the world we live in is often hostile to the God we serve. This means sometimes loving and serving God will result in being unloved by the world around us. Some people might even choose to be mean to us simply because we love God, in the same way Pharaoh was mean to God's people in Exodus.

Why would we continue to love God, if doing so might cause us discomfort in this world? The answer is simple. It is because having a relationship with God is better than anything this world could offer us. It's better than any and all the toys, games, or fun we could ever have.

So this week, let's remember this truth; having faith in God might not always lead to an easier life, but it does lead to life with God! And what could possibly be any better than that!