

# Home Group Discussion Guide for The First Exodus: Test #1 – The Thirst

Exodus 15:22-27

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The following questions are designed to help groups explore the message above by challenging participants to consider how God is wanting them to apply it to their lives.

The questions are a **guide** to help lead discussion.

**Please don't feel that all questions need to be asked**, instead respond to the needs of your group.

If you have new people in your group, take the opportunity to introduce each other and clarify any expectations that are present in your group (such as confidentiality).

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## GETTING STARTED

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1. Can you think of a time when you were *really* thirsty? How did it feel when you were able to find something to drink?
2. What was the main challenge or idea that stood out to you from Sunday's message?

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## REFLECTING ON THE MESSAGE

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Key Scriptures: *Exodus 15:22-27; Deuteronomy 8:2-3; Romans 5:6-8*

*Read Exodus 15:22-27*

1. Take the opportunity to read and remind yourselves of this Bible passage. What do you notice?
2. In Exodus 15:25 and Deuteronomy 8:2-3 we see that God puts the people of Israel to the test. What does it mean when the Bible speaks of testing? How is it different from the way we think of tests?
3. How was God testing the Israelites here at Marah? What was He hoping they would do?
4. Gavin described 4 different 'words' that we can choose to trust in;
  - a. Empire – Political structures that exploit the vulnerable
  - b. Strength – I can do this myself
  - c. Weakness – Grumbling, hopelessness and apathy
  - d. The word/instruction/direction that comes from GodWhich one of these do you naturally find yourself choosing to drink from, why?

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## RESPONDING TO THE MESSAGE

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1. What are some of the **deserts** (situations, challenges, tests) you have faced in life that have made you thirsty? Are you currently in a situation like that?
2. What would it look like to rely on God's word in that place, instead of the word of Empire, Strength or Weakness?
3. How are you going to ensure that you can hold on to this truth?

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## OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER

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Our Home Groups are the primary place for pastoral care to occur within the Church. We would encourage you to take the opportunity to pray for each other in this space.

