

# Dunamis

## Lesson 4 – The Plagues

**Series Objective:** Students will learn:

- That “Dunamis” means “powerful”
- God is powerful and God’s power is displayed in and through the stories of the Bible
- That the Bible begins with a powerful act of God in Genesis 1:1
- That the powerful acts of God in the Bible give us a picture of how God’s power affects our lives today

**Series Theme Verse:** “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” Genesis 1:1

**Lesson Objective:** Students will understand:

- The story of God freeing God’s people from slavery in Egypt
- That the Dunamis of God is exhibited in the story of the plagues
- God’s way is the best way and we learn God’s way through prayer, reading the Bible and going to Church

**Lesson Passage:** Exodus 6-12

**Lesson Materials:** Giant Trash Can, A Couple Foam Balls, Small Group Leader Guides, Assistant Leader Guides, Attendance Sheets, 10 sheets of butcher paper, crayons and markers, Payer Journals

**Big Room Setup:** Five Groups in a “u” Shape, Large Trash Can in the middle of the “u”, Foam Balls in Media Closet until Tique needs them, Butcher Paper at front of room, Crayons and Markers in a basket for each group, Straighten up room and throw away trash

**Small Group Rooms Setup:** 12 Prayer Journals in each room, writing utensils in each room, table with chairs, Straighten up room and throw away trash, 3 Leader Sheets in each room

## The Chase for the Intramural Championship:

- **Pig**
  - Groups will take turns shooting at a trashcan and eliminate teams by making shots the other teams cannot make.
  - 10 second time limit may be implemented to keep the game moving.
  - Each time a team misses a designated shot, they add a letter from PIG to their team. When they spell Pig, they are out.
  - Points:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> - 10,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8,000; 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6,000; 4<sup>th</sup> - 4,000; 5<sup>th</sup> - 2,000
    - Participation - 10,000 points if everyone on your team takes a shot

## Lesson:

- Introduction
  - Tonight will be a little different as we look at the story where we see God's Dunamis. We are going to tell the story together, visually.
  - A brief history of God's People:
    - Abraham
    - Joseph
    - Slavery in Egypt
    - The Birth and Rise of Moses
- Telling the Story Together:
  - Each plague revealed God's power, but also the heart of humans that put them in a place that led to God's punishment.
  - Each group will take two pieces of butcher paper and read the Scripture on the paper.
  - Each group will divide into two groups and draw a visual representation of the Scripture (i.e. tell the story visually).
  - I will be watching and points will be awarded for participation, or subtracted for lack of participation. (10,000 points possible)
- Walking through the story:
  - Using each picture, tell the story of the Plagues.
  - In all of this, Pharaoh would either not release the slaves, or he would break his promise of releasing the slaves.
  - The tenth plague was the worst and broke Pharaoh: The Death of the Firstborn Son
- Transitioning to Small Groups:

- God used God's power to free God's people from slavery in Egypt. None of the plagues would have happened if only Pharaoh had listened to Moses and not ignored God.
- The plagues were a result of a people (Egypt and Pharaoh) who had hardened their hearts against the one true God. They had created their own gods in the image of the people of Egypt.
- Israel worshiped the God who had created them in the image of God.
- When we do what is against God (stealing, acting hateful, etc.) we are sinning and sin has consequences.
- Sometimes we rationalize sin (God knows that person made me mad, God knows that person had too much money) and then we are guilty of creating God in our image. Again, this has consequences.
- In our lives, we need to listen to God, too. We probably won't ever experience millions of frogs in our bed, but God wants us to do what God says. We learn about God's desire for our lives through prayer, reading our Bibles and going to Church. God's way is always the best way. The only way to respond to God is to follow God's way, and repent or ask forgiveness, when we sin.

**Small Groups:** (Groups will be simple tonight due to the length of the lesson, but be aware and available to students who need to talk with you)

- We are still early in the semester, so give students another chance to get to know each other. Maybe have each student tell the story of the best thing that has happened to them this month, or where they would love to go if they had \$10,000 and why they would go there?
  - Remember, your goal is to build community and community comes through relationships. Be the first to give a thoughtful answer to the question so the students can begin to really know you.
- Pass out the Prayer Journals
- Remind students that we avoid sin and follow God's way by reading Scripture, praying, and going to Church.
- Explain to students that this Prayer Journal will guide their prayers this week and help them seek God's guidance.
- Have them open up to the first page and follow the prompts in writing a prayer to God, asking God to help them follow God's way.
- When everyone is finished, close with a prayer like, "Lord God, thank you for creating us in your image. Help us to grow in our relationship with you, spending time in prayer, reading the Bible, and worshiping with other Christians. Amen."