Discovering Exodus: Finding prayer points, testimonies, reflection and journaling questions that will engage your heart with the Father.

Chapter 8:

**□ The Invitation**: Invite the Holy Spirit to show you something new as you read through the chapter. The Father desires to meet with you and share something with you today. You may find it in the reading or you may hear His Voice speaking to Your Spirit in the quiet of this moment.

**□ The Reading:** Read Exodus Chapter 8. Record any thoughts from the chapter, questions you have or verses that the Holy Spirit highlighted to you while reading.

**□ The Focus**: Today’s focus is a Bible reflection on the Finger of God. Write your thoughts as you meet with the Father.

Seven days passed after the Lord struck the Nile. The next plagues are frogs, gnats and flies.

The frogs came up out of the water on the whole country. Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters and frogs came up and covered the land. But the Egyptian sorcerers did the same thing by their “secret arts”. Frogs were sacred in Egypt. They were part of the idolatrous culture of the Egyptians. The frog was considered the goddess, the wife to the creator of the world. In Egypt If anyone killed a frog, even accidentally, it could be punishable by death. God shows His ultimate power when Pharaoh begs Moses to ask the Lord to take the frogs away, *“the frogs died in the houses, in the courtyards, and in the fields. They were piled into heaps, and the land reeked of them*” (verses 13-14). Where was this goddess now? Why didn’t she respond? Why didn’t she prevent the death of the frogs in Egypt is she was so powerful?

After the frogs, came the gnats, or lice, as some scholars believe. In this miraculous sign, Aaron stretched out his staff and struck the dust of the ground with it. The dust became gnats/lice. The gnats/lice were on the people and animals everywhere. This was a direct assault on the Egyptian god, Geb, who was the god of the earth. The magicians could not produce gnats/lice by their “secret arts”. **The enemy cannot produce or create, he can only destroy**. “*The magicians said to Pharaoh, ‘This is the finger of God*” (verse 19). This sign points to the magicians limits.

Lastly in chapter 8 is the plague of flies. A distinction is made between God’s people and the Egyptians. *“I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where My people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the Lord, am in this land*” (verse 22). Throughout Egypt, the land was ruined by the flies. The houses were covered with flies and the ground was covered with flies. But no swarms of flies were in the land of Goshen.

This is epic! Truly this is the finger of God! When the magicians used that language, they were communicating an act of God; something mysterious and miraculous that cannot be done by another. What we know is that God’s finger points the way! **He is showing us who He is and what He does!**

1. God is personal: Fingers hold, fingers touch, fingers feel, and fingers reach. This is a reminder to us that God is at work on our behalf. He is reaching out to touch us. His finger points to His love and power and truth. We have a God who is involved in our everyday lives. He is not distant. He is near.
2. God is pushing aside opposition: Fingers push. Egypt’s sorcerers in their arrogance and pride were pushed aside. God’s power penetrates all resistance, whether human or demonic. Nothing stands in His way. Cory Asbury’s song, *Reckless Love* describes our God who pushes away everything that hinders. The chorus says, “There’s no shadow You won’t light up; There’s no mountain You won’t climb up; There’s no wall You won’t kick down; There’s no lie You won’t tear down. You are coming after me!” God is coming after you! God is coming after your family! Remove shadows! Climb up mountains! Kick down walls! Tear down lies! Our God is LOVE who will go to the greatest extremes to show it!!
3. God is pointing: Fingers point. These plagues were signs. Sign posts direct our attention to God’s Sovereignty, His Word, His love, His Truth, His ways, His mercy, His righteousness, His Kingdom. Signs show us that God is present. He is here for us. His finger points the way to joy, life and freedom!

Read each Bible reference (on the Finger of God) and fill in the table!

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|  | How is this demonstration **personal?**  | How is this demonstration **pushing aside opposition**? | What is this demonstration **pointing to?** |
| Exodus 8:9 |  |  |  |
| Exodus 31:18,Exodus 32:16, Deuteronomy 9:10 |  |  |  |
| Psalm 8:3 |  |  |  |
| Isaiah 48:13 |  |  |  |
| Isaiah 64:8 |  |  |  |
| Daniel 5:5, Daniel 5:24-28 |  |  |  |