

Computer Generated Transcript - So we're going to continue on our Bibles Bible stories coming Bible stories series that we started a few weeks ago and we're going to continue that today when I asked for a little bit of forgiveness now I don't know how many of you your fault kicked in like two weeks early this year but mine did hardcore and I am struggling my voice gave out real bad on that last song if you know anything about music I'm sure you noticed and so but it's not really back to preach so I'm going to do what I can do and we're going to we're going to try and work through this so we're going to we're going to tell you this if you're new to the church I want to let you know if you're not familiar with a bible I don't mean to be insulting by saying common Bible stories for people who have been around the church this is this is stuff that we've heard about lots of times. And so it's common for us if you decide to follow Jesus and get plugged into a church they'll become common to you too these are these are stories that we talk about a lot in Scripture and so we're going to continue that to things that I've said at the beginning of this that I'm going to continue to say until we're done is there's two kind of points in all of this along with what we're talking about it the first is is simply this. We sometimes fail to relate to people in the Bible because either they the stories become so commonplace that we forget that they didn't know the end you know because we know the end we assume that they know the end of the story and so it doesn't seem like it's that big a deal to us because it's like oh well you know that that's going to happen and everything's going to work out fine you know or and honestly in the Bible they didn't most of the time God didn't speak to them about exactly how things were going to happen he just said go do it right and then they had to trust in God the same way that we do and the other thing that happens in that same kind of thing is sometimes we almost deified the people in the Bible like you not like they become saints or they're in a stained glass window and they stop being people that we can relate to when in fact most of them are just average. People at best Many of them like I've said this a couple times many of the people in the Bible if you would have like put together a team they would have been the last pick right like in the pond hockey tournament these are last picked division kind of people they're not really all that innately talented most of them had a whole bunch of baggage that they had to overcome but the thing that is amazing is it's not it's not the people in the Bible that so amazing it's the God they serve that is so amazing they're just ordinary people who are serving an extraordinary God and then they say yes to God and they allow him to do amazing things through them and so I want to encourage you today as you're as you're hearing this is we talk about it if you think through these things these are just normal people that served in them with extraordinary God and so mazing thing happened then the second thing I want to encourage you with is a lot of us if you grew up in the church and you grew up hearing these stories for a lot of us our understanding of what these stories are teaching stops at a child's level right like we when we heard the stories that at Sunday school and maybe went to kids' church maybe of D.B.S. In the summer right we watched a few Veggie Tales tapes if you're my age right if you're older than that Veggie Tales weren't a thing I don't know what you had salty or I don't know you know some of those kind of things you know but our understanding of so many of these stories stops at a kid's level and we haven't really dove into the Bible on our own and study it out to really feel to figure out what it's trying to say to us as adults now there is nothing wrong with teaching kids as kids that is an amazing thing it's important we want them to get the basics of these stories to get to understand them but we need to dive in on our own on our own time and make sure that we are being fed from the Word of God that we're studying it out that we're growing in our faith and our understanding of these stories grows all right and so I want to encourage you to be thinking of those things as we're as we're diving into these things today we're going to cover a ton of ground in scripture you can open up to Exodus Chapter seven we're going to talk about one of the most famous slash filmed. Stories in the Bible we're going to talk about the Exodus today the ten plagues of Egypt now I want to I want to go through this I'm not going to read all of this verbatim because I have to read like eight chapters of the Bible and we're not going to do that but we're going to work our way from Exodus Chapter seven to about Exodus Chapter fourteen as as we go through this morning I'm going to highlight some spots I'm actually going to be reading predominantly this morning out of the N.A.S. I wanted to make sure it was a word for word

translation this morning to get some of these words that are important usually read out of the L.T. So if you can choose in on a. An electronic version I'm going to read out of in A.S.B. This morning but if you've got your own favorite translation that's fine but I we're going to be moving through this now there's a number of things I want to point out as we go through this and as as we look through this story there are so many things that happened in the first thing I want to say before I even get into this story is it is epic right I mean it is it is one of the biggest things that we see God step into a direct you know thing with man and just show who he is over and over and over again there is a lot of sad stuff that happens in this story too I don't want to gloss over that it as you read through the Scripture and as you read through this story and it really begins to dawn on you what happens in all of this stuff when it's not just flannel graph but when we start to really start thinking about people and who they are and what they would have experience of this thing it's sad I mean it's tragic even and I don't want to sugarcoat that this is such a big deal one of these stories is such a big deal but what happens sometimes is we begin to feel bad for feral almost you know what I mean like we're reading and we're like man just like could ease up on the guy a little bit you know you read these stories and you start to you start to think about that but one of the things that we skip before we even get to this point is is that Israel lives are slaves right they are slaves they come into this country because if you read the end of Genesis and you see that coming to this country because Joseph he's in slaves in this country he's imprisoned and eventually he has a drawer he's able to interpret Pharaoh's dream he saves Egypt God saves Egypt through Josephson interpretation of of the stream from a huge drought that would a white the nation off the face of the earth right and so then Joseph family moves with him into Egypt and they begin to have babies right and Joseph had a lot of brothers and so they start to have these things and eventually the. Egyptians look at the Israelites and they say they outnumber us and if we don't do something about that they're going to take us over so they enslave them as an entire people they put them into bondage they're there they're harsh taskmasters if you study the Bible if you study history you know that the Egyptians were incredibly harsh masters and slave owners as you look through those things and the Israelites are in slave for four hundred years right one of the things that happens in that time is the Israelites again even as slaves begin to outnumber the Egyptians and so the Egyptians are worried man if they revolt we can't stop this so they decided to kill every firstborn son right every child under two I believe somebody correct me if I'm wrong there but every male child under the age of two They just kill wholesale just done and I want you to remember that as we go into this story because the Egyptians are not innocent. OK they're not innocent and Pharaoh especially is not innocent right it is not this is not a story of just pretty good people having bad things happen to them this is a story of a harsh people who set themselves against God and God reveals who he is all right and we need to understand that backdrop of this story or else it really ceases to make sense now again I'm not trying to say that sad stuff doesn't happen I'm not trying to in any way say that all that just makes this all easy because that's selling the story way too short but I want you to hear the backdrop of what happened so Moses and Aaron right Moses is raised in the palace some of you most of you probably know the stories set adrift in a in a read basket you know he's found by the Princess he's raised we don't know exactly what his relationship is to the pharaohs we can guess but we don't know for sure exactly how that all goes he was raised in the palace he's probably trained he's probably taught he's got all this stuff going for him eventually he find you know he understands what's going on he murders in Egyptian in cold blood just murders him and he runs into the desert he encounters God. And then he begins this trek back God he meets God God talks to him in the in the fiery Bush in his older brother Aaron is the one that God basically uses to make Moses stop making excuses right and they come in and it's through them that a lot of these miracles happen and so it's easy Moses is known as the greatest one of the greatest prophets of the Jews he's esteem he's got all these things and Exodus Chapter seven verse six it says so Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord commanded them Moses was eighty years old and Aaron was eighty three when they made their demands affair I want you to hear that for a second. Because some of you have checked out because you're too old. Right you're like I did my thing it's all these young people's chair you know a

job to do all the work now like I did it myself now it's their turn Moses was eighty years old when this all started right Aaron was eighty three I'm not trying to say you need to be like Moses I'm just trying to say age is no excuse OK It's absolutely no excuse God wants to use you until you are dancing with him on streets of goal it doesn't mean you have to do everything the way you did when you were twenty five that's not what I'm saying but God's not done with you don't write yourself off because of your age it's such a big deal some of these people that we've been reading about and studying they were really young when they did there when God used them to do their thing and Moses and Aaron though I don't know that most of us would call eighty I mean I know some of you were young at heart you know but but young that's you've seen things right and and so Moses is on that but they are eighty in eighty three when this all starts and in verse thirteen of seven I want you to hear and there's something I really want to point out here as we go on but it's as yet pharaohs hard heart was hardened and he did not listen to them as the Lord had said Pharaoh hardens his own heart right in this thing Pharaoh this size that I am not going to listen to them whatever they have to say is it is important we are strong our gods are stronger and we do not have to need to this God And so God says all right he tells Moses and Aaron I'm going to send ten plagues on this country and at the end of all of that you will be free all right and so there's a few things that happen here I want to talk about the first one you can see in verse fourteen we see the first thing happen and the first plug is the water of the Nile is turned to blood now there are several things that happen here and I want you to get all of the subtext All right I know I'm I'm going to throw a lot of details. New this morning but I want you to understand this isn't just like Moses against Pharaoh you know in the movies that you watch it's basically like Moses shaking his fist and Pharaoh looking back and I will not let your people go and that's right but this isn't just Moses versus Pharaoh this is God looking down on Egypt in saying I don't care who you serve I don't care how strong you think you are I'm bigger OK and you need to get that every single one of these ten plagues I'm going to mention was pointed directly at one or more Egypt in God's got isn't just establishing how strong he is he is saying your gods your hundreds of gods that the Egyptians served almost everything was worshipped as a god in Egypt at this time your hundreds of gods are no match for the I am. I am the I AM I AM the Bright and Morning Star as he explains himself to morrow to Moses he starts talking about all of this different things describing who he is and God sets himself here against their gods the God of the Nile was known as I'm not I'm not going to promise you I'm pronouncing these names correctly All right I am not fluent in Egypt so I'm going to say the American phonetic way to say these words all right so I'm not saying this is how to pronounce it if you go to college and try and pronounce these names they might laugh at you but I'm just going to tell you this is the God All right so the God of the Nile is called happy ha P I K That is the name of the God of the Nile and God looks and he says I'm going to take the Nile this thing that you worship and I'm going to overthrow everything that happens in there and God turns the water to blood you can see that this happens Aaron is the one that actually has this happen God God says it's going to happen and in verse twenty one there's a few things another detail I want you to get as we go through this thing when the water turns to blood right and it says that the Nile and all of the Egyptian water is turn to blood they end up having to dig into the ground to try and get clean water to drink in this time if you read through this section through verse twenty three you can see it but it says in verse twenty one that the fish in the Nile died. Right because if the water turns to blood the fish are going to die but you've seen that around here in some of the lakes I'm not saying that the water turn. Blood around here but you've seen what happens when certain things bloom in a lake the wrong kind of stuff gets in there and the fish just can't survive right and that happens in the Nile you talk about a huge scope of things right the water turns to blood it says in verse twenty one that the fish in the Nile died and it says in verse twenty two that again Pharaoh hardens his heart right that his heart is hardened fare not God yet OK Pharaoh hardens his own heart and he does not listen Pharaoh turns and goes into his house with no concern federal watches God turn the Nile into blood and he's like big deal. Right and he just goes home and he doesn't lose a wink of sleep over it Chapter eight we see the next one happen. God sins frogs over the land heck it is the is a frog goddess from from Egypt and so God God sets

himself against this god and he brings all of these frogs in the land it says in verse eight one Lord says go to Pharaoh and say to him this as a lawyer let my people go that they may serve me and you can see again Pharaoh refuse and all of these frogs pour out of the Nile and they're all they're everywhere now some of you I know you think frogs are cute right most of you probably don't really like the thought of having frogs all over your house though right like everywhere frogs come pouring out of the Nile right and they're everywhere and so Moses or Pharaoh goes to Pharaoh again and he's like please let this go away and Moses says tomorrow it'll happen but in verse fifteen again we see so when Pharaoh saw that there was relief he hardened his heart Pharaoh hardened his own heart and sets himself against God again so God since the third plague this is the sixteen the plague of gnats the God of the earth is who got such as you can see this was a it was the God of the earth and a Creator God the Egyptians Moses says the air and stretch out your staff strike the dust of the earth that they may become That's all through the land Moses strikes the ground the dirt bursts into bugs right kind of how it felt last night back there right that there were there were gnats everywhere but probably WAY worse than how it felt back there this is a plague you don't call things plagues for being a slight nuisance it's a plague when they're everywhere and so all of these gnats spring out of the dirt right and as they do Pharaoh again is the one that sees this happen through Him God uses Aaron to do this the magicians have done this they've they repeated the miracles in verse eighteen you can see that the magicians try and do this one and they can't write the magicians are unable to replicate this miracle and God says again I. I am bigger than your god but the magicians actually say the Pharaoh this is the finger of God The Magicians get that something is big something really big is happening something beyond their scope of understand is happening but what Pharaoh's response is that in verse nineteen Pharaoh hardens his heart again and he says I will not be I am bigger right so we see the fourth the fourth plague the plague of flies this could be any number of the Egyptian gods but most likely kept right as as their going through the Lord says the Moses go out and this is actually directly translated swarms but he they warn him that all this plague of flies are going to come and you can see now in verse twenty two there is something that happens all these flies begin to come but on that day in verse twenty two I will set apart the land of Goshen where my people are living so that no swarms will be there in order that you may know the Lord that the Lord am in the midst of the land I will put division between my people and your people and I want to I want to talk about that for just a second. This is the first one of these miracles that we can see a clear line between this is going to infect the Egyptians but it's not going to touch you with all right God says I I'm not going to allow this one into your area they're going to see a direct cut off here between what's theirs and what's yours. I want you to hear that because if we continue on in this story it's important to understand a lot of people are like well why do the Egyptians have to keep struggling and keep having all these plagues happen when the Pharaohs the one that keeps hardening his own heart listen I truly believe just because of who God is in all of the rest of the Bible if one of the Egyptians and you can see it actually God actually says this a little bit later as we go on if one of the Egyptians had said whoa this God is bigger than our God. I'm going to be on his side. I truly believe that they would have not experienced the plagues that they experienced and this didn't happen in a vacuum this isn't just Moses and you know in in the in all. All the movies Moses and Pharaoh are always like in a closed room you know and like no one knows what's going on people are trying to figure it out but this is the entire land of Egypt they've just seen the entire Nile turn to blood they've seen gnats come out of nowhere now they're going to see flies ever ever they're going to see a distinction between their slaves and who they are and they could go to those slaves and say what's happening here right this isn't just happening in a vacuum all of these people were capable of making a choice. So all of these swarms come up and it actually says the land was laid waste because of the swarms of flies in the land of Egypt so we see the fish die. And now we've seen the land is laid to waste all right and so Pharaoh again at the end of this section in chapter or in verse thirty two of chapter eight it says again Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also and did not let the people go and then were in chapter nine. And this time we see the Egyptian cattle die now the Egyptians had like twenty cattle gods OK they were they apparently really like house because they

have tons of gods of cattle some of the top of them had that hath or was represented by a cow I can't even pronounce this one how would you pronounce K H in you right pronounce that for me I don't know but that's the name of this God K This is a this is a God of the fields many of us was a was a sacred bull God set himself against a mage a large portion of the Egyptian Gods here and they say Listen what's going to happen in this one is there's going to be your flocks are going to die right go to the Hebrews. Behold verse three there will be a severe pestilence on your livestock which are in the fields on the horses on the donkeys on the camels on the herds and on the flocks verse four but the Lord will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and. The livestock of Egypt so that nothing will die of all that belongs to the sons of Israel so in case you missed it and all of the Flies wasn't a big enough to you that God is bigger than your god now I'm only going to touch the Egyptian cattle the Gyptian horses the Egyptian camels all of the Israel I want those are going to be fine so in case you missed the first one here's another one. Right and everybody could see this is not happening inside a closed room and you can see in verse six that the glaive stock of Egypt died. So now we've got no fish the land is laid waste and the livestock is dead. OK Pharaoh since there was not even want feral sent and behold verse seven there was not even one of the livestock of Israel dead but the heart of Pharaoh was hardened and he did not let the people go the pledge of boils is next met was the goddess that created and did epidemics Serapis was the God of Healing ISIS was the goddess of medicine and peace and God says let's see how big your gods are. OK Again he sets himself right head to head with God that they would be worshipping. The Lord said to Moses take for yourselves handfuls of soot from a kill and let Moses wrote toward the sky the side of Pharaoh become find us over all the land of Israel or all over all the land of Egypt I'm sorry and will become boils breaking out with sores on man and beast throughout the land of Egypt and so they do this and you can see the magician's verse eleven couldn't even stand before Moses because the boils were so painful they couldn't even be in his presence and this is the first time where we see God continues what federal began. And the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart and verse twelve I want to say I don't fully understand that I don't I don't fully understand why the Lord hardens Pharaoh's heart at this point in time but what I can say is Pharaoh has hardened his heart multiple times before this God isn't starting something new god is just continuing the path that Pharaoh had chosen for himself. Right I don't fully understand all the ins and outs and I'm not going to pretend like I do. But I do know that this is not just a dried in the wall thing where like God says I'm going to just take this person who's a really nice guy and I'm going to turn him into a jerk. Right Pharaoh has already made this decision how many times before we got to this point that he will harden his own heart and God says I'm just going to keep that going I'm going to show who I am to this people right and and still Pharaoh would not let the people go the next one is a plague of hail and fire Newt is the goddess of the sky. And behold about this time tomorrow I will send a. Very heavy hail such as not been seen in Egypt I mean verse eighteen now from the day it was founded until now therefore send and bring your livestock and whatever you have in the field to safety every man and beast that is found in the field is and is not brought home when the hill comes down on them will die I gotta say and this is going to be a storm like you've never seen. Hail and fire are coming out of the sky but all you have to do is come in. All you have to do is make sure you're listening to my word and come in and you'll be fine but if you stay out you're going to die. The Egyptians could've done the same thing by this point time I'd be watching the Israel lights wouldn't you like what are they doing if they're doing something I'm doing that too because clearly something is happening and they have an inside track and what's what's going on right anyone who brings a man will be safe if you leave him out there dead then one among the servants of Pharaoh who feared the word of the Lord made his servants and livestock or sorry the one among the servants of Pharaoh who feared the word of the Lord made his servants and livestock flee into the houses but he who paid no regard to the word of the Lord left the servants and his livestock in the field and this is where you can see again God is saying this isn't just about the Egyptians this is about who understands who I am so he flat out says if you're a servant of the pharaoh But you listen to what I'm saying you will be spared that is the heart of God. Right it doesn't matter where you're from it doesn't matter what country or creed you have if you

been NEED TO THE KING OF KINGS AND THE LORD OF LORDS and you listen to what he has to say he will take care of you and accept you and he flat out says all you have to do is listen to me and I will not let this pledge touch your house but if you don't listen to me it's common. Right and so what happens the hail struck and verse twenty five Hail struck all that was in the field through the land of Egypt both man and beast the hail also struck every plant of the field and shattered every tree of the field so now any beast that somehow is still alive. And out in the field is dead and a lot of the Shepherds are dead and the trees are shattered and plants are said to have you ever heard of how Sorry have any of you ever been in a huge hailstorm like I'm not talking about like you know gravel size I'm like I've seen hail like between golf ball and tennis ball come down my great grandparents actually had a hail stone in Jamestown North Dakota was in one thousand nine hundred seven a hail storm that was between the size of a great ball grapefruit and a volleyball actually came through the roof of their house through their ceiling and landed on their couch in the living room. All I'm saying is. Hail can be incredibly destructive. Right small hail can be incredibly destructive but when it's big and God says this will be a hail storm unlike anything that has been seen in the history of Egypt so I'm guessing it wasn't just peace eyes tail and these hail stones come down and things are shattered left and right but all you had to do to avoid it was heed the word of God. All you had to do to avoid it was he'd The Word of God. And Moses goes to Pharaoh at the end of this and he says but as for you and your servants I know you do not yet fear the Lord. What's going to take. I at this point time how could you possibly think that you're stronger than what is happening around you. Right how could you possibly stand in the face of God seeing everything that has been predicted is going to come true and then it comes true and then when God predicts it's going to end it stops and you can somehow still think I got this. I'm still bigger than this but that's what's happened verse thirty one now all the flaxen of barley were ruined for the Barley was in ear and the flax was in blood but the wheat and the spelt were not ruined for they ripen late so now that half their crops are completely wiped out and no chance of recovering right fish are gone herds are gone trees are gone half the crops are gone verse thirty four we see that Pharaoh saw the rain of fire in the hail and the sun has had ceased he sinned again and hardened his heart both he and his servants. He still thinks he's bigger than God We see the plague of locusts come at the beginning of chapter Chapter ten Knepper he is the God of grain permits that is the goddess of crops therm you high can't see that one again it's the goddess of the harvest therm youth this or Seth is another god of the crops and God says we're going to see right let's see if your gods are big enough and I want to say this I keep mentioning like God small G. Let's see if they're bigger right you should be seeing by now that they do not stand a chance. OK he says go to Pharaoh. Tell him that a plague of locusts is coming first or if you refuse to let my people will behold behold tomorrow I will bring locusts and your territory they shall cover the surface of the land so that no one will be able to see the land and you can say again then when this happens and federal servants go to him in verse seven and they say to him I want you to get this because again there are so many chances here there are so many options to see this stop but in verse seven pharaohs own servants go to him and say how long will this man be a snare to us let him go that they may serve the Lord their God Do you not realize that Egypt is just strong. The Egyptians are looking around and they see the fish are gone and the herds are gone and many of the shepherds have been killed now half of the harvest is gone and God is saying locusts are common and his servants are begging him we're done we're where how are we going to survive the way it is and yet this is going to continue until you let them go and still Pharaoh will not let the people go and you can see the locust come and they cover the land of Egypt verse fifteen it says for they cover the surface of the whole land so that the land was dark and they ate every plant of the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hill and left were in big trouble. Fruits got crops or God fish or God cattle or God camels or God I think most of us in this room would be in a pretty high state of panic at that point time now I know that they don't have winter the way that we have winter. But they still need to eat. And they still will not let. God's people go and you see another land nother one coming I want to I want to hit this for a second Most of you in this if you've been to school or you've been you know you watched even a movie about about Egypt who was the

chief goddess or the chief god of the Egyptians anyone. Seth was number two the chief god. Soon as I say RA There it is on Moon RA OK RA is the chief god of the Egyptians OK And I'm saying that again little G. I want you to hear that what is Rod the God of the God of the sun. And what is the ninth plague. Of Egypt. Darkness God says all right you still think RA will save you. You still think that one of your gods is bigger than me I'm coming after the one that you trust more than anyone. And I will show how he pales in comparison to who I am and God says the Moses stretch out your hand toward the sky that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt even a darkness which may be felt Have you ever been in that kind of dark last night in the parking lot last night when the walk to the wrong car because she couldn't see. You ever been in that kind of dark though the kind of you like feel coming in on you I mean it's one thing to be in dark and still have the night sky you know what I mean to still have the stars or those kind of things but sometimes you're in a dark and there is just no light. Right and you can just it's so ear e right to be in that kind of dark you just it's like you almost feel the dark closing you know it's such an eerie thing and God says that's what it's going to be for three days we see this darkness. And Pharaoh says get away from me to Moses at the end of this. He says if you see my face again verse twenty eight you will die. And first and I'm Moses right so you never see your face again most just all and I'm not going to I'm not going anywhere I'm just not going to stand face to face with you ever again and God shows all of Egypt that RA is nothing. Compared to him that RA is nothing. Compared to that I am. And then we see the saddest one and I don't want to try and placate this I don't want to make this sound nice Chapter eleven it's the plague of the deaths death of the firstborn. And all the gods of the Egypt I believe this is a point that they're probably praying in their temples to any god they can think of to stop these bad things from happening and God says nothing big enough and it's aimed right at pharaoh who is worshipped as a god of this because it falls on his house also and Lord says the Moses one more play God will bring on pharaoh in Egypt after that he will let you go from here and the Lord lays out. That that all of the firstborn in the land of Egypt are going to die in one night and verse seven it says but any of the sons of Israel a dog will not even bark whether against man or beast that you may understand how the Lord makes a distinction between Israel and Egypt God says it's going to come and then he gives all of these instructions in verse twelve for how to avoid this happening OK and if you've been around the Bible at all you know what the Passover is if you haven't the Bible lays out this big thing that happens and for days there they're collecting these sheep eventually they end up killing the sheep and they wipe the blood on the doorposts of their home and God says anything that happened in one that has this blood on their You won't you will not be touched by this plague right now again I want to stop but I want to say. There is no way that a people group that is this large could have this many sheep in their town and then killed this many sheep and not have the Egyptians notice right there's no way that that would happen they would know this is especially after nine plagues again wouldn't you if you hadn't been if you're so stubborn you had looked at what the Israel lives were doing so far wouldn't you by now what are they doing to tell me what of what are you doing and they do this and it's important this is a big deal because God sets up to feast that he tells the Israelites I want to do this. For as long as you are he sets up the Passover and he sets up the Feast of Unleavened Bread here and he actually says if you look through this. In Chapter twelve you can actually see if you read through Chapter twelve that God actually says the reason that you're doing this is so that when your kids ask why are we doing this with the sheep why are we doing this with our bread What is the point of all this you can tell them how much bigger God was when he delivered you from the land of Egypt. And the Israelites do this again I'm I'm not trying to just make this short for the sake of short but the firstborn in the land of Egypt die in the night. And it says that there was a great cry from the land of Egypt such as never heard before and I can imagine that would be true and eventually at this point federal says get out of here go and they go. And God demonstrates how big he is is now a lot of times what happens here and again I want you to hear Egypt is devastated. I mean Egypt's food supply Egypt I mean like there is not a good way to recover from everything dying at once there's not I mean the economy of Egypt is absolutely devastated by what just happened. God has shown who he is in this time now. People believe millions of slaves leave at one time right so now not only

are your crops gone the people doing all the work for you are gone at the same time this is absolutely devastating to Egypt and it could have been avoided if they had said you're bigger but they don't. And so God proves who he is to all of these people so that his people would know no matter what happens I'm bigger I want to hear that lesson today. No matter what happens I'm bigger my marriage is in shambles. God says I'm bigger I don't know how we're going to pay for rent tomorrow got says I'm bigger My kids aren't serving you. God says I'm bigger. I don't know what to do with this job situation God says I'm bigger. I don't know what I'm supposed to do with my life God says I'm bigger. I can't stand what's happening right now God says I'm bigger. I'm sick God says I'm bigger I'm not saying that God is just going to come through every single time like you want him to in your time frame and the way that you want everything to work out because you think you know better than God because God is bigger what I am saying is the God that we serve is bigger than any circumstance you can fathom and he proved that with the ten plagues of Egypt when he sets himself in direct competition to these other gods and they don't even they're manmade they're not real oh God it is. And then we see the story continue in Luke twenty three. When Jesus is walking this earth. And he says I'm going to die by crucifixion and he dies by crucifixion for you he becomes the final Passover lamb that we just talked about there is no escape from this without the blood of the Lamb and Jesus says I will be the last one. And he lays down his life willingly in verse twenty four in chapter twenty three of Luke but in twenty four we see the fulfillment of the other promise he made that I will not stay dead. I will conquer sin in the grave and I will show you again how big I am and on the third morning he rises and I would ask you today what do you think is your doing what do you see is to be an obstacle for Jesus to work through. And I would say that the story of the Ten Plagues is not just a story of death and destruction how it so often painted. I would say a while incredibly sad and tragic things happen in that story it is a demonstration that God is bigger than we can fathom and he is more than enough and I would say the same thing about Jesus's death and resurrection. That it is a love story of a God who says I care about these people so much I'm willing to lay down my life and I will demonstrate through my resurrection that I am big enough to handle anything. That can come their way so I ask you again what could you possibly think is too big for God to move in now just like in so many of these to his God asks us to do something. Right if you're having a hard time with somebody and forgiveness is an issue you can't just pray God let me forgive and expect God to just grant you forgiveness right like like just somehow you're going to be able to turn a switch and you can forgive somebody that hurt you was going to ask you to work through that. If your marriage is in shambles God probably isn't just going to clap his hands or not his head like a genie and say everything's going to be better tomorrow. God is going to be with you as you work through those things and you learn to serve him and work beside him and be a better husband and wife. And I would say that for so many of us two things happen either we let our circumstances overwhelm us and we do not allow God an opportunity to do something and the second thing is if we just pray for God to do something and we never are willing to do the work alongside of God to see it done and if either one of those things describe you this morning it's time to stop making excuses and allow God to be good and then do what he's asking you to do and I promise you. He's big enough. He is big enough to handle any circumstance any obstacle any issue in your life. Do you trust him so we're going in this way today I usually go through and pray a prayer and that's fine I'd ask the worship team to come back up here actually can you guys play that song tremble it's just been in my head all day Funny I we had the game for you yesterday and I was tired and I usually have the gift of sleep and last night I woke up at one thirty with cramps in my legs and I was just laying there praying and I'm not trying to say that I'm like super spiritual because I pray in the middle of the night when I wake up I just wake up and I hate being awake in the middle of night so I don't know what else to do so I pray. And I really felt like God wanted us in this way so I want you to hear from me if you're in this place and you haven't chosen Jesus we celebrate it with communion we sang about it I talked about at the end of this message Jesus died for you and all you have to do to be forgiven is to confess your sins to Him and ask Him to forgive you. It's not hard. And if that's you this morning I want you to come and talk to me at the end of this service I want you to talk to the person

that brought you ask them to pray with you help them that you know ask for help in making a decision in this way I want you to understand that is one of the best decisions you will ever make in your entire life the best decision you will ever make in your entire life to serve Jesus Christ and to receive his forgiveness but there are also people here this morning and I know it's true. That you've been looking at a circumstance and you've allowed it to overwhelm you or you've been praying about a circumstance and you've refused to do the work. I'm going to ask our leadership team to come back up here with their spouse and just sit across the front if you're done I'm going to pray and if you need to go you can go. Do not leave this place. Out allowing God to work in your life like leaders came out actually literally want you to come forward right now OK Jason you're leaving the camera that's awesome come up here don't leave this place without allowing God to do what only God can do. I'm not trying to manipulate anything I'm not trying to make you do it if you're fine. You can go I would encourage you to stay around and pray with other people because that's what family does but if you need to go go. But if there's circumstances that you're locked eyes with right now and you can't see a way out or through. I want to encourage you to get God. God is the God of Exodus it's the God of to. She's. The one who conquered sin and death is the same Jesus today and there is nothing. That is too big for him. There's sickness in your life. I can't promise you got a divine with your side. I can promise you he cares. About your marriage. Schedule time to go meet with counselor. Work on being a better. You can't control what your spouse does all you can do is make sure you're doing what you're supposed. To kid that isn't serving those kids are old enough to have to worry about that. I can't imagine the heartbreak that you experience when the thing that you think is most important to pass on a bridge or. Finances or a mass break into a God you can do something about it and then start making the best decisions you can. Just really feel this morning I want to have I. Really feel like there's at least two or three different people in here. You. Say you have forgiven. And you have not. Carrying. On forgiveness in your heart and it's eating away. Like a spiritual cancer inside. Time to lay down I don't know God. One thirty I really felt like that was a big. I pray for you to go if you. Don't we displace our God to do it only God and Jesus are here. Thank you for who you are I thank you for what you've done I think you that over and over and over in the Bible in this church is just three in our lives you have demonstrated that you are more than enough. But you are bigger than we can imagine and capable of anything that you want to do. God I pray that you just help us to trust you this morning. To see you. And then God to do the work that you ask of do. You know you are not. A myth.