

STRANGER GOD



THE GOD OF EXODUS



THE BIBLE LAB session two

yes&no

1. Quite often, I lack the courage to tell people what I really think about them.
2. The possibility of pain or punishment convinces me to follow the rules.
3. I am a strong-willed person.
4. God can, and has, changed people's thoughts and feelings against their will.
5. Even after you've learned your lesson, God will bring trials into your life to make sure you really mean it..

info-doodles

EXAMPLE:



I AM A COURAGEOUS PERSON.



I FELL PRESSURED BY MY BOSS.



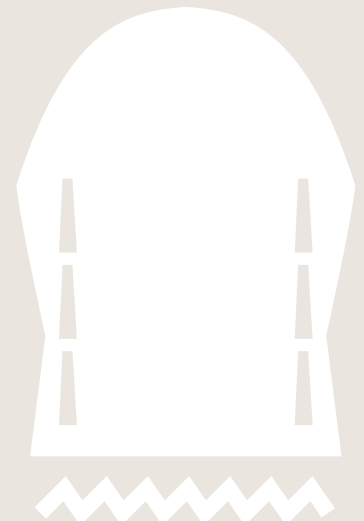
I'VE SEEN A LOT OF TRIALS



MY LEVEL OF COURAGE:



DRAW A HIEROGLYPH THAT SHOWS HOW YOU TYPICALLY HANDLE CONFLICT:



dig deep

CHANGE BY FORCE

- Have you ever been able to change someone's mind by using force (physical/political pressure/an ultimatum)?
- Does this method change someone's mind or just their actions?

DID GOD CHANGE PHARAOH'S MIND?

- READ Exodus 7:3-4.
- What are the reasons you've been told that explain why God "hardened" Pharaoh's heart? What were you told God did here?
- Did God do this so that he could judge Egypt more harshly with even more plagues? What might this say about His character?

DOES GOD EVER IMPOSE HIS WILL ON HUMANS?

- Why or why not?

SCRIPTURE USES TWO WORDS FOR "HARDENED":

- *chazak halev* & *kabad halev*
 - *chazak halev*: courage, strengthen
 - *kabad halev*: stubborn

"PHARAOH HARDENED HIS HEART"

- *chazak*: Ex. 7:22 (1 Nile); 8:19 (3 gnats);
- *kabad*: Ex. 8:15 (2 frogs); 8:32 (4 flies); 9:7 (5 livestock)

"THE LORD HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART"

- *chazak*: Ex. 9:12 (6 boils); 9:35 (7 hail); 10:20 (8 locusts); 10:27 (9 darkness)
- *kabad*: Not used.

GOD HELPS YOU ACT ON WHAT YOU TRULY BELIEVE.

- Why do you think that God chose to strengthen Pharaoh's resolve instead of breaking him down?
- In what areas of our church and leadership positions do we need to be mindful that God acts in this way?
- In our personal lives, how do we need to be mindful of this characteristic of God?

embrace life

TALK WITH GOD THIS WEEK ABOUT THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. How is my stubbornness getting in the way of what God wants to do in my life?
2. What is it that I still need to learn about Your character, God?
3. Who does God need to give me courage and the right words to say to share His true character with this week?