**BAM Monthly Reflection & Discussion Tool**

**Sep. – Nov. 2020**

**Theme: “God Is In It”**

***Scripture:*** [**Exodus**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+3%3A5-6&version=NIV) **26-31** [(NIV)](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+3&version=NIV) - records this about how God protected the Israelites from the pursuing Egyptian army.

***26****Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen.”****27****Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward[*[*c*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+14&version=NIV#fen-NIV-1917c)*] it, and the Lord swept them into the sea.****28****The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.*

***29****But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.****30****That day the Lord saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore.****31****And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the Lord displayed against the Egyptians,* ***the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him*** *and in Moses his servant.*

**Stage Setter**

For many of us the past few years have been some of the most tumultuous and stressful that we have experienced. They have been characterized by unusual severe and frequent natural disasters, economic uncertainty, political turmoil, socio-economic division, increasing violence, and social unrest. We’ve witnessed government travel bans of people based on their religion or place of birth, and the wholesale incarceration and separation of families, including young children in the name of national security. During this period, we have witnessed an ever-increasing number of unarmed black men and women being killed like animals by those sworn to defend, protect, and serve. If that weren’t enough to unnerve us along came 2020.

2020 – A year during which the world has been subject to a pandemic that has infected over 25 million and killed almost 900 thousand in just 8 months. A disproportionate of the victims have been the poor and people of color. Yet we see people who are able to take the simple but effective mitigating actions such as wearing a face mask, and social distancing, refusing to do so.

We have experienced the death of civil right icons and displays of open racism by political leaders and right-wing followers world-wide.

Added to all these demonic like forces add our inability to come together for in person congregational worship and fellowship for six months. In such a time as this one might ask, “Where is God?” “Why is He/She letting this happen?”

**Discussion Questions**

**Do you feel that Satan is attacking you?**

**Response:** Satan does seek to destroy us and thus prevent us from accomplishing God’s plan. God is more powerful than Satan and not only loves you but has a covenant with you. Satan was only able to attack the possessions of Job, a righteous and faithful man of God, because God commanded Satan, *“Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life.”*

Although Job lost all his possessions, even his family, he remained faithful to God and for his faithfulness, God not only restored all that was lost, but added to it.

**What the Word says:** Job 1::12 And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has *is* in your power; only do not lay a hand on his *person.*” So, Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

**Job 1:20 - 21** Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. 21And he said:)“Naked I came from my mother’s womb,  
And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord.”

**Job 42:12** Now the Lord blessed ([M](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job%2042&version=NKJV#cen-NKJV-13935M))the latter *days* of Job more than his beginning;………

**Job 42:16 – 17** After this Job lived one hundred and forty years and saw his children and grandchildren *for* four generations. **17**So Job died, old and full of days.

**With all that is bad happening, has God left us?**

**What the Word says:** [**Romans 8:39**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans%208%3A39&version=NKJV) “nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**If the Lord is with me will he be able to protect and keep me?**

**What the Word says:** **Hebrews 13:5 – 6** “*Let your* conduct *be* without covetousness; *be* content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” **6**So we may boldly say: “The Lord *is* my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

**Matthew 28:18 – 20** And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, (“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19**)Go [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+28&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-24215c)]therefore and ([P](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+28&version=NKJV#cen-NKJV-24215P))make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20**)teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am ([R](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+28&version=NKJV#cen-NKJV-24216R))with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.