



FEATS Module 4: Genesis/Exodus
Homework to be Completed
Prior to Learning Session #3

Reading Assignments

All of Exodus, using Robert Alter, *The Five Books of Moses: Translation & Commentary*

Written Assignments

1. As you did with Genesis, when you have finished your reading, please note, in writing, seven elements from Exodus that caught your attention. These could be things that surprised you, confused you, made you happy or made you troubled. For each of the seven elements, write a brief (no more than two sentences) description of why.

Also, make a very simple outline of Exodus –include only the episodes that are essential to the story. The story begins with Jacob’s extended family living in Egypt and ends with the nation of Israel worshipping the Lord at the tabernacle in the Wilderness of Sinai, so only include the episodes that are needed to get you from that beginning to that end.

2. A close reading* of Exodus 3:1-4:17.

Since this may be pretty familiar to you, work hard to really listen to this text

3. A close reading of Exodus 32:1-35

* Use the handout from the first learning session, “A Guide to Close Reading” for the format and scope of this exercise. Use the handout format for all the “close readings” in the homework.

Discussion Topics

1. With the Call of Moses, be prepared to discuss why the text devotes so much attention to this episode. It probably took only 15 minutes in real time, yet it receives complete coverage, while sometimes years are covered in just a few sentences. Again, why?
2. On the second close reading, be prepared to discuss the development of the Lord's, and Moses' characterization. And also be prepared to discuss the Lord changing his mind.