

January 18, 2026 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group

“Israel Fights a Dangerously Fierce Foe” – Exodus 17:8-16

Questions for Younger Ones (ages 5-18) to Answer from the Text:

1. Who attacked the Israelites at Rephidim (v. 8)?
2. What did Moses instruct Joshua to do when the Amalekites attacked (v. 9a)?
3. Where did Moses position himself during the battle (v. 9b-10)?
4. What happened when Moses held up his hands during the battle (v. 11)?
5. Who helped Moses keep his hands raised (v. 12a)?
6. How long did Moses keep his hands raised during the battle (v. 12b)?
7. What was the outcome of the battle between Israel and Amalek (v. 13)?
8. What did God instruct Moses to do after the victory over Amalek (v. 14)?
9. What did Moses build after the battle, and what did he call it (v. 15)?
10. What did God declare about Amalek after the battle (v. 16)?

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

11. What role did Israel’s conflict with Amalek play in God’s plan of redemption?
12. How do many atheists and Gen-Zers view God’s command for Israel to annihilate the Amalekites?
13. How would you justify and defend God’s command to annihilate the Amalekites?
14. What does the phrase, “the sanctity of human life,” mean? What must a Christian guard against when employing this phrase?
15. What does the term “holy war” mean in the Old Testament?
16. What is “holy war” from a New Testament perspective [see Galatians 5:7; 1 Peter 2:11; WCF 13.3]?
17. May Christians engage in physical warfare under the Gospel [see Luke 3:14; Romans 13:1-4; 1 Peter 2:13-14; WCF 23.2]?
18. How do God’s people overcome and “conquer” people in this New Covenant age?
19. How do Christians rally to the banner of the LORD?
20. What is a great comfort to you knowing that the LORD is your banner?