

## **THE STORY OF REDEMPTION: EXODUS 17:8-16**

1. Thinking back on this week's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. We learned that the animosity between the Israelites and the Amalekites went as far back as Jacob and Esau (read Genesis 25:19-34). Have you ever seen or been a part of sin or animosity that stretched back generations?
3. In verse 9 we see Moses' staff again referred to as "the staff of God". Do you think there may be equivalent items in existence today?
4. Moses grew weary holding up his hands, and was literally supported by two of those close to him. What does this tell us about Christian community in times of struggle?
5. What does this same instance teach us about the need for support in the lives of our spiritual leaders? Is there some way that you can accomplish this?
6. If the Israelites won the battle when Moses raised the staff, and lost when his hands came down, did those soldiers who died have free will?
7. God deemed the Amalekites worthy of being utterly blotted out. In what way do you find our nation to deserve and/or not deserve the same judgement?
8. The Israelites accepted slavery from the Egyptians, ran from the army of Pharaoh, and fought the Amalekites. How do you tend to respond to hostile situations in your own life?