



## YouthBytes.org - A Powerful Tool for Youth Workers

YouthBytes is a simple, yet effective tool in the hands of those who have a passion to reach and teach this generation. The Episode Guide is designed to help you implement YouthBytes into your particular setting at whatever level you choose: from a full meeting schedule to just a small video to enhance your meeting. We encourage each worker to add his or her own stories, experiences and illustrations to make your particular scenario work. The discussion questions are also just a starting point and we encourage each group to go further and deal with local issues and topics that might be relevant.

### Each YouthByte Episode will include :

- Video summary
- Icebreaker
- Primary Lesson
- Facts, figures and illustrations used in the episode
- Key Scriptures
- Complimentary story
- Discussion Questions

We look forward to getting your feedback and comments for these Episode Guides. Also let us know what subjects you would want new YouthBytes to cover. As always, testimonies are welcome. Comments, ideas, and testimonies can be sent to [feedback@youthbytes.org](mailto:feedback@youthbytes.org).

## Disc 9 ~ Chronicles of Egypt 1 The Relic



### Video Summary

Egypt is the backdrop for our exploration into the mysteries of eternal life. This ancient culture has left an incredible legacy of architecture and art that has fascinated millions for generations. But the legacy the ancient Egyptians hoped to leave failed to endure the effects of time. Eternity, the Bible says, has been placed in the hearts of men, but only a precious few, have embraced the secrets of its acquisition, and experienced what it means to live forever.

Chad and crew delve deep into the unknown past, peering through ancient texts and confronting an eternity that is foreign to naïve minds. Will they find what they are looking for?



### Icebreaker ~ Smoking Mummy

In 1998 a Canadian man dressed up as a mummy for a costume party. He wrapped himself from head to toe in fluffy cotton batting and cotton balls. The cotton was taped at the wrists and ankles, and white gloves and running shoes completed his ensemble. As the mummy waited for his girlfriend to dress for pictures, he carelessly lit a cigarette; and the fluffy cotton ignited and burst into flames. The reason we have flame-retardant costumes became clear to all involved.

Firefighters arrived within minutes, yet already the mummy costume was reduced to ashes, right down to the white coveralls and underwear underneath. The man kept repeating, "It's my fault!" He was taken to Soldier's Memorial Hospital with 2nd and 3rd degree burns.

Source: <http://www.darwinawards.com/darwin/darwin1998-11.html>



## Primary Lesson

This lesson is relevant to all who walk the earth. The Bible indicates that we are created with an eternal soul that will live forever. Yet countless people either ignore or avoid this truth, hoping that the fateful day of their natural death will possibly arrive unnoticed.

The Bible says that Jesus came and gave His life as a ransom for many, that whoever would repent and believe in Him and His completed work on the cross could live forever. The Apostle Paul reiterates this glorious mystery in 1 Corinthians 15:55-57 *"Death is swallowed up in victory, O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

The Ancient Egyptian Pharaohs spent vast fortunes and wasted countless human lives on their quest for eternal life; but we can't truly fault them for their efforts. The fear of death and the desire to live forever still haunts men's hearts today.

What are the vain and futile attempts we apply in our lives to cheat death and live forever? Are your efforts based in Christ and God's plan or do you trust in your own ideas and good works? God's plan is very clear: salvation is only attained through God's Son, Jesus Christ!



## Facts, Figures & Illustrations ~ Egypt

### Land & Climate

Egypt covers 95,450 sq km, slightly more than three times the size of New Mexico, USA. It has a desert climate with hot, dry summers and moderate winters. The country is basically a vast desert plateau interrupted by the Nile valley and delta.

### Population

More than 76 million people live in Egypt. Life expectancy is around 70 years. Birth rate is on average 2.95 per woman. Literacy rate is 68% for men and only 47% for women.

### Languages

Arabic (official), English and French widely understood by educated classes.

## Pyramids

The first pyramid was built in 2700 B.C. The designer, Imhotep, did it so he could please King Djoser. It was based on a structure known as a "Mastaba", the Arabic word for "bench." King Djoser had wanted his body to be safe from the tomb robbers. After deep thought Imhotep came up with the step pyramid. Once designed, the step pyramid looked like one of those haystacks farmers make around Halloween that you can go on. Imhotep thought it would work, but after King Djoser was buried the robbers still found a way into his tomb.

The mastaba structure was constructed directly over the underground shaft holding the remains of the deceased. The above ground structure was rectangular in shape, had sloping sides, and was about four times as long as it was wide. This above ground structure had space for a small offering chapel equipped with a false door to which priests and family members brought food and other offerings for the soul of the deceased.

## The Book of the Dead

*The Book of the Dead* is the common name (named in 1842) for the ancient Egyptian funerary text known as "The Book of Coming" or "Going Forth by Day".

The book of the dead was a description of the ancient Egyptian concept of the afterlife and a collection of hymns, spells, and instructions to allow the deceased to pass through obstacles in the afterlife. The book of the dead was most commonly written on a papyrus scroll and placed in the coffin or burial chamber of the deceased.

## Mummies

A mummy is a corpse whose skin and dried flesh have been preserved by either intentional or incidental exposure to chemicals, extreme cold, or very low humidity. Mummies of humans and other animals have been found throughout the world, both as a result of natural preservation through unusual conditions, and as cultural artifacts to preserve the dead. Although mummification existed in other cultures, eternal life was the main focus of all ancient Egyptians, which meant preserving the body forever. Egyptian culture believed the body was home in the afterlife to a person's soul and spirit, without which it would be condemned to eternal wandering.



### Key Scriptures (From NKJV, unless otherwise noted)

**Hebrews 9:27** ~ *And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment.*

**Acts 4:12** ~ *Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved. (NIV)*

**Eph 2:8-10** ~ *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

**2 Corinthians 6:2b** ~ *I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. (NIV)*

**John 11:25-26** ~ *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die."*

**John 10:9a** ~ *I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved.*

**Isaiah 19:19-20** ~ *In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the LORD at its border. And it will be for a sign and for a witness to the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt.*



### Discussion Questions

1. Discuss what the Bible says about salvation. Discuss what you believe about eternal life and how it may differ from God's idea and plan.
2. The Bible declares in Proverbs 8:36 that "all that hate me (God) love death." Since God is the author of eternal life, why do men continually hate His instructions of life? Discuss the ways we disobey and ignore God's all encompassing picture of eternal life, and life in general.
3. To walk in victory we must distinguish between faith and fear. The enemy has managed to dilute much of our Christian walk by whispering subtle lies to us that we receive as coming from ourselves. Whose voice are you listening to? Are you responding to eternal life with fear or faith? Discuss the fears that most people have about death.
4. Discuss the deception of works-based faith and man's propensity to trust in his own works and goodness. (Hint: See Romans 6:23)



### Complimentary Story ~ The Fool & The King

Long ago a great king had a court Jester who entertained him marvelously. One day he said to the court jester, "Oh, court jester, you are the biggest fool I know." He extended to him his royal scepter. He said, "Court jester, you are the biggest fool I know. Keep this scepter until you find a bigger fool than yourself."

For years, the court jester kept the royal scepter of the king. Then the days came when the king knew he was going to die. He found himself upon his deathbed never again to arise. He called for his court jester to come in and he said, "Oh court jester, I am going on a long journey, never again to return." (speaking about death).

The court jester said, "Oh, sir, what preparations have you made for this long journey?" The king shook his head and said, "Alas, I've made none." In that moment the jester extended to the king his scepter. He said, "Here sir, you are a bigger fool than I. I have jested about things in this life; you have procrastinated about things in the next life."