



RED

SEA

ROAD

God's Path to Freedom

# EXODUS

## The Road Out

The Greek word *Exodos* means “the road out.” This book tells the story of God creating a road out for the Israelites living in slavery in Egypt. It traces their journey through the wilderness and towards the Promised Land. Along the way, God makes a covenant with the people at Mount Sinai, gives them the law, and dwells with the people physically for the first time since the Garden of Eden.

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The people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side!  
Exodus 14:22

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**Who wrote it?**  
Moses

**What is the context?**  
Exodus is the second book of the Bible. In Genesis, God creates the world and makes a special covenant to a man named Abraham. God promises to make Abraham's family into a great and holy nation. This great nation will be called Israel and they will reveal God's glory to the rest of the world. Genesis ends with the Israelites living in a foreign nation and Abraham's great-grandson Joseph as the second most powerful man in Egypt. However, at the beginning of Exodus, the Israelites are living as slaves in Egypt.



**What is the central theme?**

Exodus is a book about God's faithfulness. God can be trusted to keep His promises, even when we don't hold up our end. God hears our prayers, cares about our pain, and acts in response, but it will be His timing. God is powerful enough to make a way forward when we can't see the way. God demonstrates his faithfulness over and over as He leads the people from slavery to true freedom.

# Stuck in Egypt

week 1

## WHERE WE ARE

Joseph was sold into slavery by his own brothers because of their jealousy. Yet, he ended up becoming a ruler in Egypt after impressing the Pharaoh by interpreting his dreams. The Book of Genesis ends with Joseph's family, the Israelites, reuniting in Egypt during a famine. The Israelites, God's chosen people, are now living in Egypt.

*These are the names of the sons of Israel who went to Egypt with Jacob, each with his family: Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah; Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamin; Dan and Naphtali; Gad and Asher. The descendants of Jacob numbered seventy in all; Joseph was already in Egypt.*

*Now Joseph and all his brothers and all that generation died, but the Israelites were exceedingly fruitful; they multiplied greatly, increased in numbers and became so numerous that the land was filled with them.*

*Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. "Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country."*

*So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites and worked them ruthlessly. They made their lives bitter with harsh labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labor the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly.*

Exodus 1:1-14

The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God.

Exodus 2:23

# Discussing Exodus

**God originally established a covenant with the Israelite people through Abraham.** Read Genesis 17:1-14. What does God promise in the covenant? What are the people required to do?

- God:
- The People:

*Throughout the Exodus story,* God will remain faithful to His covenant promises. How do you see God remaining faithful, even while the Israelites are in slavery?

- At this point in the story, which covenant promises do not yet seem to be a reality for the Israelites?
- What do you think the Israelites' feelings towards God were and why?

*In Exodus 2:23-25,* there are two things the people did and four things God did.

- What two things did the people do?
- What four things did God do?

## Bible Reading PLAN

- Exodus 1
- Exodus 2
- Exodus 3
- Exodus 4
- Exodus 5

# WATCH

*Week 1 Introduction*

on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)  
under the Red Sea Road Playlist

# Experiencing Exodus

- The Greek word 'Exodos' means "the road out". How have you experienced God leading you on a "road out" from a certain situation or circumstance and leading you to a better place?

- The Israelites were stuck in Egypt without much hope of life ever changing or getting better. In what aspects of your life do you feel stuck or stagnant today?  
*Examples: a broken relationship that you can't fix, negative feelings you can't get rid of, pain you can't heal, a challenge you can't figure out, lack of clarity about next steps, feeling spiritually stagnant, etc.*

- What specific circumstances or emotions are blocking your progress and keeping you feeling stuck?

- Some Israelites believed God had forgotten or abandoned them in slavery. They gave up hope of God fulfilling His promises. Have you ever doubted that God would come through for you? How can we respond in these situations and maintain hope?

- The Israelites' Promised Land was a physical location, but it was also the feeling of true freedom. How do you envision a personal "promised land" in your own life? What does it look like? What does it feel like?

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## Doodle Your Feelings

(It's okay if it's during group - we won't tell!)

# On the Red Sea Road

- Refer back to the second question from the [Experiencing Exodus](#) section. Pick one aspect of your life where you feel stuck or stagnant to focus on over the next eight weeks. Turn to page 34 and write this on the map of Egypt on your Red Sea Road.

This will be the starting point for your Red Sea Road journey!

- The Israelites persistently cried out to God. Write a short prayer asking God to lead you on a personal Exodus from feeling stuck to experiencing freedom.

Make this your regular prayer throughout the journey.



# Burning Bush

week 2

## WHERE WE ARE

Moses escaped death as a baby when his mother sent him down the river in a basket. He escaped slavery when Pharaoh's daughter found him and raised him as a prince. He escaped punishment by fleeing to Midian after he killed an Egyptian man. Now, God tells Moses he will lead the escape of his people. Moses was born a slave, raised as a prince, ran as a fugitive, and now was being transformed into a leader.

*One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a blazing fire from the middle of a bush. Moses stared in amazement. Though the bush was engulfed in flames, it didn't burn up. "This is amazing," Moses said to himself. "Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go see it."*

*When the Lord saw Moses coming to take a closer look, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" "Here I am!" Moses replied.*

*"Do not come any closer," the Lord warned. "Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God.*

*Then the Lord told him, "I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile and spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk and honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites now live. Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt." But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?"*

*God answered, "I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain."*

*But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they will ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what should I tell them?" God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. Say this to the people of Israel: I AM has sent me to you."*

Exodus 3:1-14

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“Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground.”

Exodus 3:5

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# Discussing Exodus

**Take a moment to read Exodus 3-4.**

- A theophany is an appearance of God to a human being. Why do you think God chose to appear to Moses as a burning bush?
- When God called Moses, he was not a prince, prophet, or priest. He had been a shepherd for the last 40 years. How do you think this job prepared Moses as a leader?
- Why do you think God chose Moses to lead this exodus journey?
- What were Moses' fears and doubts about God's plan? (*Exodus 3:11-15, 4:1, 10, 13*)
- How did God respond to these fears and doubts? (*Exodus 3:11-14, 4:2-9, 11-12, 14-17*)
- When Moses asks for God's name, God says, "I am who I am." Why do you think God tells Moses to call him this? What do you think this name is intended to teach us about the character of God? (*Exodus 3:13-14*)
- What is God's plan for freeing the Israelites? (*Exodus 3:16-22*)

## Bible Reading PLAN

- Exodus 6
- Exodus 7
- Exodus 8
- Exodus 9
- Exodus 10

# WATCH

*The Book of Exodus - Part 1*

**on YouTube.com/weomaha  
under the Red Sea Road Playlist**



# Experiencing Exodus

- If you heard God's voice calling out to you from a burning bush, how do you think you would react?
- Share about a time when you experienced God telling you to do something you didn't want or didn't think you could do. What were your fears, doubts, or reservations about it?
- How have you overcome fears and doubts in the past?
- God didn't tell Moses he was the perfect leader or fully equipped to do this. God told him, "I will be with you" (v. 12). How does the presence of God help us overcome difficult situations that may seem insurmountable on our own?
- God also didn't tell Moses this journey would be easy. God tells him there will be adversity along the way (v. 19-20). What do you think is the reason behind God allowing obstacles on Moses' mission? Why isn't it a perfectly smooth path if it is God's plan?
- God reassures Moses' fears by giving him a partner, his brother Aaron (4:14-17). Who has God put in your life that could help you make the journey from stuck to freedom? How could they help?

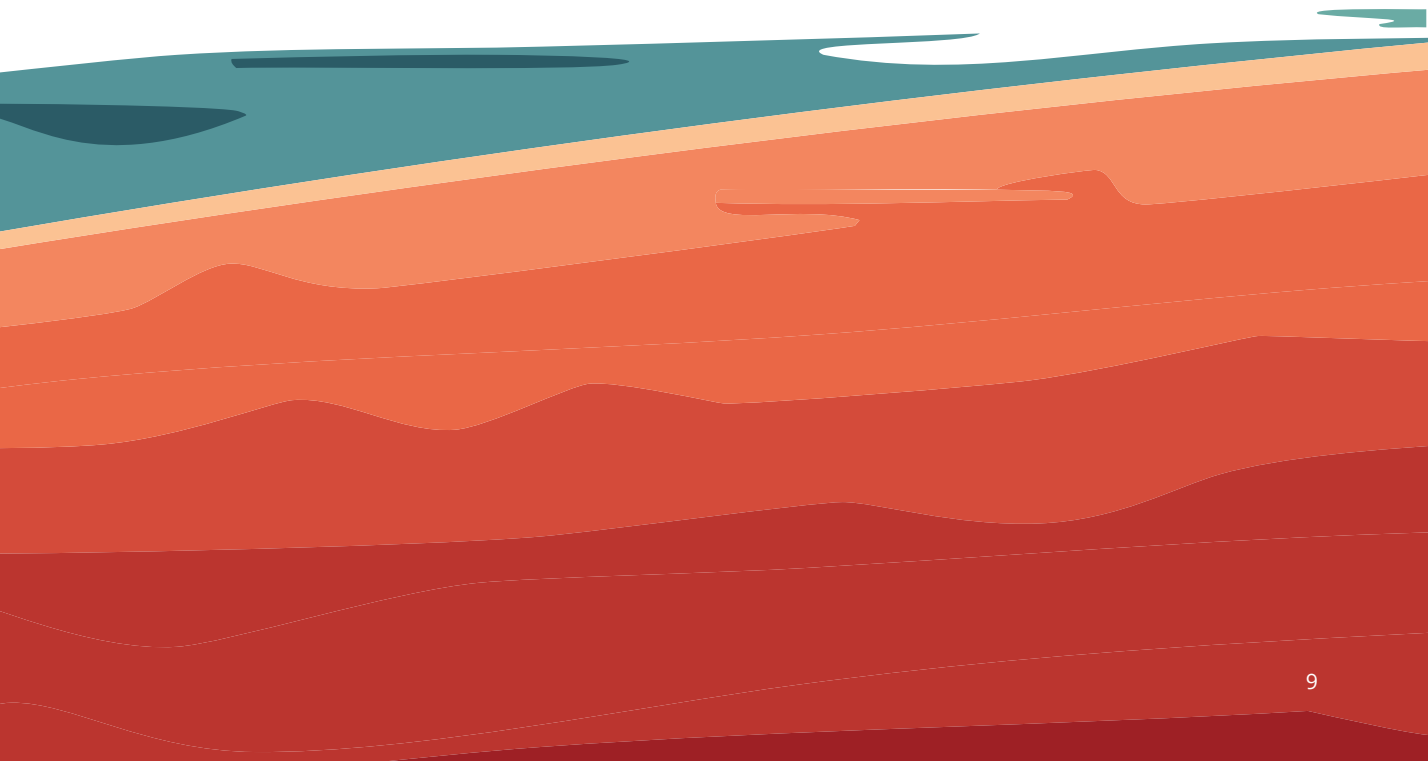
# On the Red Sea Road

- Look back at your Red Sea Road Map on page 34 and your response from last week about an aspect of your life where you feel stuck or stagnant. What specific fears and doubts are preventing you from making progress and keeping you stuck in this circumstance? Write those fears and doubts inside the burning bush.
- God listened to Moses' fears and reassured him many times. Select a verse below to be your memory verse for this week. Add this verse to the burning bush image on your Red Sea Road Map.

"I have heard their cries of distress...  
so I have come down to rescue them"  
(3:7-8)

"I will be with you"  
(3:12)

"I am who I am"  
(3:14)



# The Great Escape

week 3

## WHERE WE ARE

Moses asked Pharaoh to let his people go, but Pharaoh refused. God causes a series of plagues in Egypt, but the frogs, boils, hailstorms, and locusts still didn't convince the Pharaoh. The tenth plague was the death of all firstborn sons causing Pharaoh to finally surrender. He ordered the Israelites to leave Egypt immediately, sending them out into the wilderness.

*Then the angel of God, who had been leading the people of Israel, moved to the rear of the camp. The pillar of cloud also moved from the front and stood behind them. The cloud settled between the Egyptian and Israelite camps. As darkness fell, the cloud turned to fire, lighting up the night. But the Egyptians and Israelites did not approach each other all night.*

*Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the Lord opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land. So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side!*

*Then the Egyptians—all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and charioteers—chased them into the middle of the sea. But just before dawn the Lord looked down on the Egyptian army from the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw their forces into total confusion. He twisted their chariot wheels, making their chariots difficult to drive. "Let's get out of here—away from these Israelites!" the Egyptians shouted. "The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt!"*

*When all the Israelites had reached the other side, the Lord said to Moses, "Raise your hand over the sea again. Then the waters will rush back and cover the Egyptians and their chariots and charioteers." So as the sun began to rise, Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the water rushed back into its usual place. The Egyptians tried to escape, but the Lord swept them into the sea. Then the waters returned and covered all the chariots and charioteers—the entire army of Pharaoh. Of all the Egyptians who had chased the Israelites into the sea, not a single one survived.*

*But the people of Israel had walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, as the water stood up like a wall on both sides. That is how the Lord rescued Israel from the hand of the Egyptians that day. And the Israelites saw the bodies of the Egyptians washed up on the seashore. When the people of Israel saw the mighty power that the Lord had unleashed against the Egyptians, they were filled with awe before him. They put their faith in the Lord and in his servant Moses.*

Exodus 14:19–31

So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side!

Exodus 14:22

# Discussing Exodus

## Take a moment to read Exodus 14.

- Moses does not lead the Israelites on the most direct route to the Promised Land (13:17-18). Why do you think God takes the people on a journey that is much longer than necessary?
- Some Israelites told Moses they didn't even want to leave Egypt and escape slavery (14:12). Why do you think they preferred to stay in Egypt even though they were slaves?
- How does Moses reassure the people's fears? (14:13-14)
- Throughout this story, God is often described as a divine warrior that 'fights' for us (14:14, 25). How does God 'fight' for us?
- God often mentions that certain events are happening so His glory will be displayed (14:4, 17-18). What does this mean? Why was this important to God?

## Bible Reading PLAN

- Exodus 11
- Exodus 12
- Exodus 13
- Exodus 14
- Exodus 15

# WATCH

*Learn How God's Anger  
and Love Work Together*

**on YouTube.com/weomaha  
under the Red Sea Road Playlist**

*How do you see God being slow to anger in this story?*

# Experiencing Exodus

- The Israelites preferred the known situation of slavery over the unknown journey into the wilderness. Is fear of the unknown keeping you stuck in a certain situation right now? How so?
- Do you typically approach the unknown with optimism or pessimism? With an unknown situation you are currently facing, what could the best-case outcome look like?
- God takes the Israelites on the scenic route instead of the fastest route to the Promised Land. Have you ever been taken on the 'scenic route' by God before? What did you learn on this journey that you might've missed on a faster route?
- At the water's edge, the Israelites looked back and saw the Egyptians. They looked ahead and saw the water. They felt trapped and out of options, but underestimated God's power to make a way. Have you ever felt trapped and experienced God making a way where you thought there was no way? How did God make a way?
- The Israelites were on the verge of surrendering right before experiencing their miracle at the water's edge. How would your life be different if you approached challenges with the expectation that God will provide a solution?
- God didn't part the Red Sea on His own. Moses had to obey and act by raising his hand in order for the waves to part. What might God be instructing you to do in order to make a way through the waters that are keeping you trapped?

# On the Red Sea Road

- What is the “Red Sea” challenge or situation keeping you stuck that you’re unsure how to get through?

*Examples: inability to forgive, broken communication, a diagnosis, lack of solutions or options, impatience, confusion, etc.*

Turn to your Red Sea Road Map on page 34 and write on the water image what it would look like for you to be able to “walk on dry ground” through these waters.

- What is your first step to begin walking through these waves? How will you take that first step this week?

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# Quail and Manna

week 4

## WHERE WE ARE

The Israelites can still see the Red Sea behind them, but no longer have the Egyptian army on their heels. They are finally free. After a miraculous escape, they set out into the wilderness and continue their journey towards the Promised Land. But they aren't there yet. While wandering in the wilderness, their trust in God is tested.

*There, too, the whole community of Israel complained about Moses and Aaron. "If only the Lord had killed us back in Egypt," they moaned. "There we sat around pots filled with meat and ate all the bread we wanted. But now you have brought us into this wilderness to starve us all to death."*

*Then the Lord said to Moses, "Look, I'm going to rain down food from heaven for you. Each day the people can go out and pick up as much food as they need for that day. I will test them in this to see whether or not they will follow my instructions. On the sixth day they will gather food, and when they prepare it, there will be twice as much as usual."*

*So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "By evening you will realize it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt. In the morning you will see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaints, which are against him, not against us. What have we done that you should complain about us?" Then Moses added, "The Lord will give you meat to eat in the evening and bread to satisfy you in the morning, for he has heard all your complaints against him. What have we done? Yes, your complaints are against the Lord, not against us."*

*Then Moses said to Aaron, "Announce this to the entire community of Israel: 'Present yourselves before the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole community of Israel, they looked out toward the wilderness. There they could see the awesome glory of the Lord in the cloud. Then the Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the Israelites' complaints. Now tell them, 'In the evening you will have meat to eat, and in the morning you will have all the bread you want. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.'"*

*That evening vast numbers of quail flew in and covered the camp. And the next morning the area around the camp was wet with dew. When the dew evaporated, a flaky substance as fine as frost blanketed the ground. The Israelites were puzzled when they saw it. "What is it?" they asked each other. They had no idea what it was. And Moses told them, "It is the food the Lord has given you to eat."*

Exodus 16:2-15

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“ In the evening you will have meat to eat, and in the morning you will have all the bread you want. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God. ”

Exodus 16:12

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# Discussing Exodus

**Take a moment to read Exodus 16.**

- How would you describe the temperament of the people in this section of the story? After being rescued from slavery, experiencing a miracle, and heading towards their long-awaited Promised Land, why aren't the people happier?
- How does God respond to the people's complaints? How do you think you would have responded if you were God in this story?
- God only allows the people to collect one day's worth of manna each day (16:16-20). Why do you think God established this rule? What was He trying to teach the people?
- Read John 6:53-58. Jesus refers to Himself as "the true bread that came down from heaven". He specifically mentions manna. What is Jesus trying to teach us by comparing Himself to the daily manna provided in Exodus?

## Bible Reading PLAN

- Exodus 16
- Exodus 17
- Exodus 18
- Exodus 19
- Exodus 20

# WATCH

*God Loves You, But  
What Does That Mean?*

**on YouTube.com/weomaha  
under the Red Sea Road Playlist**

*How do you see God's loyal love demonstrated in this story?*



# Experiencing Exodus

- Have you ever complained to God? How did God respond to you?
- Israel was complaining again only three days after the parting of the Red Sea (15:22-24). Israel is quick to forget all the ways God has miraculously provided for and protected them in the past. What is something you are currently anxious or worried about? How has God helped you in similar situations in the past?
- By remembering how God provided for them in the past, the people could have avoided some feelings of frustration, anxiety, and fear. How can we intentionally remember and remind ourselves of God's past work in our lives to decrease our worries about the future?
- Most of us aren't worried about having enough food and water tomorrow. What are some things we need God to provide for us daily?
- Despite God's instructions to gather one day's worth of bread, the people tried to store up manna to ease their worries about tomorrow. In what ways do we try to "store up manna" so that we can depend on that instead of depending on God daily? Why do we do this?
- The people didn't pray and ask God to provide for them, they angrily complained to Moses. Who or where do we typically seek assistance from when we are in need, instead of turning to God in prayer? What is one thing you'd like to ask God to provide for you this week?

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## Doodle Your Feelings

(It's okay if it's during group - we won't tell!)

# On the Red Sea Road

- Look back at your Red Sea Road Map on page 34 and review your starting point on the map. What “quail and manna” do you need God to provide in order for you to move from this stuck place to a place of freedom? Write your responses on the bread image.

*Examples: patience, clarity, a friend, wisdom, courage, strength, community, health, peace, material resources, trust, etc.*

Write a short prayer asking God to provide these things for you.

# The Law

week 5

## WHERE WE ARE

The Israelites are two months into their journey in the wilderness. They have arrived at Mount Sinai, the mountain of God, where Moses encountered God in the burning bush. Moses speaks to God on this mountain again. God wants to renew His covenant with the people and give them the law. These laws are guidelines for how the people should live, worship, and interact with one another. They are also intended to set the Israelites apart from other nations as God's holy nation.

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“Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth”

Exodus 19:5

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*Then God gave the people all these instructions: “I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery.*

*You must not have any other god but me. You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands.*

*“You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God. The Lord will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name. Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. You have six days each week for your ordinary work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the Lord your God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, your livestock, and any foreigners living among you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart as holy.*

*“Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you. You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely against your neighbor. You must not covet your neighbor's house. You must not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.”*

Exodus 20:1-17

# Discussing Exodus

## Bible Reading PLAN

### Take a moment to read Exodus 19-20.

- Before giving the law, God repeatedly reminds the people how He rescued them from Egypt (19:4, 20:2). Why might this be significant for understanding the laws that follow?
- Theologians have distinguished three purposes of the law. The *pedagogical* purpose is to teach us about God's righteousness and character. The *civil* purpose is to give us procedures for justice and punishment. The *moral* purpose is to provide guidance on how to live good lives. How do you typically understand the purpose of law?
- What do these laws teach us about God's righteousness and character?

Exodus 21

Exodus 22

Exodus 23

Exodus 24

Exodus 25

- The Hebrew word for commandment in this passage is 'mitzvah'. The word 'mitzvah' means "good deed or act" and emphasizes that this is an action more than a thought or belief. How does this emphasis change your understanding of the ten commandments?

# WATCH

*The Book of Exodus - Part 2*

on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)  
under the Red Sea Road Playlist

# Experiencing Exodus

- Many view the law as something that restricts us, but the law was given to help the Israelites experience true freedom. How does the law help us experience true freedom?
- How have God's laws been a blessing in your life? How have they protected you or led you down the right path?
- The first four commandments are about our relationship with God. The last six laws are about our relationships with other people. What is important to God in our relationship with Him? What is important to God in our relationships with others?
- Jesus said the most important commandments are, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind and love your neighbor as yourself." The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments" (*Mt. 22:37-40*). How do you see these two commandments reflected in the ten commandments?
- Which of the ten commandments is the hardest for you to faithfully obey and why? What would your life look like if you were able to obey this law better?

# On the Red Sea Road

- Look back at your Red Sea Road Map on page 34 and review your starting point on the map. What commandment could help you experience freedom in this situation? Write your responses on the stone tablets image on page 35.
- How will you commit to following this commandment more faithfully this week? Who can help you be successful?

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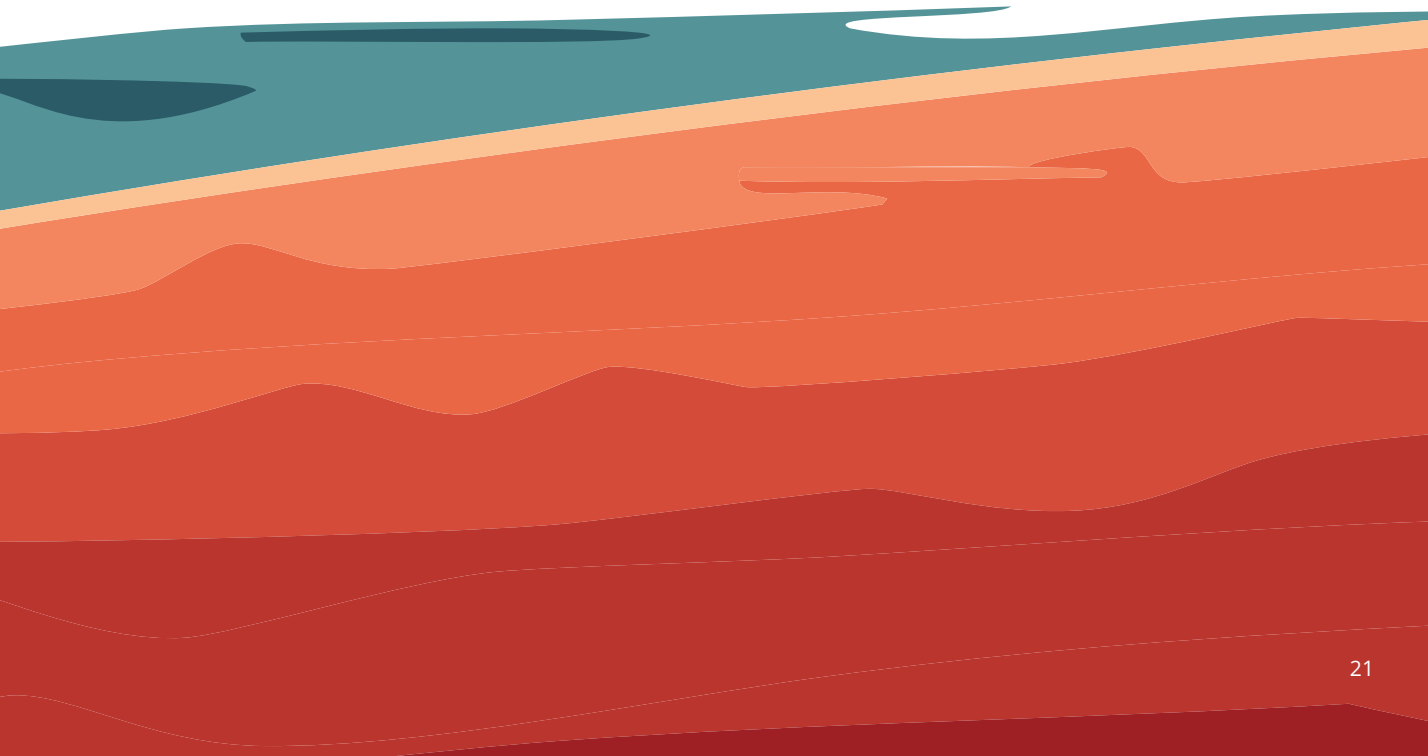
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# The Golden Calf

week 6

## WHERE WE ARE

Exodus chapters 20-31 continue to outline the laws that God gave Moses. For forty days and forty nights Moses has been up on the mountain receiving laws, instructions for building the tabernacle, and guidelines for ordaining the priesthood. But back at camp, the people are getting restless and impatient.

*When the people saw how long it was taking Moses to come back down the mountain, they gathered around Aaron. "Come on," they said, "make us some gods who can lead us. We don't know what happened to this fellow Moses, who brought us here from the land of Egypt."*

*So Aaron said, "Take the gold rings from the ears of your wives and sons and daughters, and bring them to me." All the people took the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. Then Aaron took the gold, melted it down, and molded it into the shape of a calf. When the people saw it, they exclaimed, "O Israel, these are the gods who brought you out of the land of Egypt!"*

*Aaron saw how excited the people were, so he built an altar in front of the calf. Then he announced, "Tomorrow will be a festival to the Lord!" The people got up early the next morning to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings. After this, they celebrated with feasting and drinking, and they indulged in pagan revelry. The Lord told Moses, "Quick! Go down the mountain! Your people whom you brought from the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. How quickly they have turned away from the way I commanded them to live! They have melted down gold and made a calf, and they have bowed down and sacrificed to it. They are saying, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.'"*

*Then the Lord said, "I have seen how stubborn and rebellious these people are. Now leave me alone so my fierce anger can blaze against them, and I will destroy them. Then I will make you, Moses, into a great nation." But Moses tried to pacify the Lord his God. "O Lord!" he said. "Why are you so angry with your own people whom you brought from the land of Egypt with such great power and such a strong hand? Why let the Egyptians say, 'Their God rescued them with the evil intention of slaughtering them in the mountains and wiping them from the face of the earth'? Turn away from your fierce anger. Change your mind about this terrible disaster you have threatened against your people! Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You bound yourself with an oath to them, saying, 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven. And I will give them all of this land that I have promised to your descendants, and they will possess it forever.'"*

Exodus 32:1-14

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“ How quickly they have turned away from  
the way I commanded them to live! ”

Exodus 32:8



# Discussing Exodus

## Take a moment to read Exodus 32.

- Aaron was a co-leader with Moses and knew better than to do something like this. Why do you think he went along with the people's requests?
- After everything the people had experienced with God and Moses, why would they betray them like this?
- What is Moses' argument for why God should spare the people from a terrible punishment? (32:11-13, 31-32)
- Can our prayers change God's mind and plans?
- In what ways do Moses' actions here foreshadow the work of Jesus?

## Bible Reading PLAN

Exodus 26

Exodus 27

Exodus 28

Exodus 29

Exodus 30

# WATCH

on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)  
under the Red Sea Road Playlist

*God's Consistent Posture  
Toward All Humanity*

*How do you see God's grace demonstrated in this story?*



# Experiencing Exodus

- God was taking too long for the people. Share about a time when you felt like God was taking too long.
- The people weren't sure if God or Moses would ever come back to lead and care for them, so they turned elsewhere. When God feels absent or too slow, what are some other things or places we turn to for guidance and comfort in an effort to speed things up?
- How can we cultivate patience in our relationship with God?
- Moses used the privilege of his direct access to God to intercede for other people. How could we intercede for others?
- In Biblical times, idols were often other gods. People would make statues or shrines of these gods and worship them. Today, our idols look different. An idol is any object, idea, or belief that people prioritize, worship, or place above their relationship with God. What are some examples of modern-day idols?
- What is something that could potentially become an idol in your life? What strategies or practices can you implement to prevent this from becoming an idol in your life?
- God had just established a covenant with the people and they already failed to uphold their end of the deal. Yet God still keeps His covenant promises. What does this teach us about the nature of our relationship with God?

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## Doodle Your Feelings

(It's okay if it's during group - we won't tell!)



# The Tabernacle

week 7

## WHERE WE ARE

On Mount Sinai, God gave Moses the law, but He also gave him specific instructions for building a tabernacle. The tabernacle was a portable and temporary sanctuary that served as a place of worship for the Israelites during their time in the wilderness. The word 'tabernacle' means "dwelling place". It was the dwelling place of God amongst the Israelites throughout their journey.

*He took the stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant and placed them inside the Ark. Then he attached the carrying poles to the Ark, and he set the Ark's cover—the place of atonement—on top of it. Then he brought the Ark of the Covenant into the Tabernacle and hung the inner curtain to shield it from view, just as the Lord had commanded him.*

*Next Moses placed the table in the Tabernacle, along the north side of the Holy Place, just outside the inner curtain. And he arranged the Bread of the Presence on the table before the Lord, just as the Lord had commanded him.*

*He set the lampstand in the Tabernacle across from the table on the south side of the Holy Place. Then he lit the lamps in the Lord's presence, just as the Lord had commanded him. He also placed the gold incense altar in the Tabernacle, in the Holy Place in front of the inner curtain. On it he burned the fragrant incense, just as the Lord had commanded him.*

*He hung the curtain at the entrance of the Tabernacle, and he placed the altar of burnt offering near the Tabernacle entrance. On it he offered a burnt offering and a grain offering, just as the Lord had commanded him.*

*Next Moses placed the washbasin between the Tabernacle and the altar. He filled it with water so the priests could wash themselves. Moses and Aaron and Aaron's sons used water from it to wash their hands and feet. Whenever they approached the altar and entered the Tabernacle, they washed themselves, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.*

*Then he hung the curtains forming the courtyard around the Tabernacle and the altar. And he set up the curtain at the entrance of the courtyard. So at last Moses finished the work.*

*Then the cloud covered the Tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. Moses could no longer enter the Tabernacle because the cloud had settled down over it, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle.*

*Now whenever the cloud lifted from the Tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out on their journey, following it. But if the cloud did not rise, they remained where they were until it lifted. The cloud of the Lord hovered over the Tabernacle during the day, and at night fire glowed inside the cloud so the whole family of Israel could see it. This continued throughout all their journeys.*

Exodus 40:20-38

The Lord said to Moses, "Have the people of Israel build me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them"

Exodus 25:8

# Discussing Exodus

## Bible Reading PLAN

### Take a moment to read Exodus 40.

- The tabernacle had two inner rooms; the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. Only priests could enter the Holy Place to perform religious rituals and duties. The priests had special access to God. What would an ordinary individual's relationship with God have looked like?

- Only the High Priest could enter the Most Holy Place and he could only enter once a year on the Day of Atonement to offer animal sacrifices and prayers for the forgiveness of sins on behalf of the entire community. Why is Jesus called the High Priest?

*(Hebrews 9:11-12).*

- The Ark of the Covenant was a sacred and symbolic object that housed the stone tablets inscribed with the Ten Commandments. It was considered the most sacred item in the tabernacle and was kept in the Most Holy Place. The Ark was believed to be the physical presence of God among the Israelites and was carried ahead of them during their journey. Up until this point, God's presence was rare to experience and dangerous to approach. This was a big shift to a more accessible God. How would this have changed the people's relationship with God?

- The Ark was God with the people. The Gospel of Matthew describes Jesus as 'Immanuel' meaning "God with us". How does the person of Jesus compare and contrast to the Ark of the Covenant?

Exodus 31

Exodus 32

Exodus 33

Exodus 34

Exodus 35

# WATCH

*How God Begins to Describe Himself*

**on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)  
under the Red Sea Road Playlist**

*How do you see God's compassion demonstrated in this story?*

# Experiencing Exodus

- Where or how do you best experience the presence of God? When you're struggling to feel God's presence, what do you do?
- Our churches today don't have an Ark of the Covenant housing God. Where does God's presence dwell today?
- God's presence guided the Israelites as a cloud during the day and a fire at night. When we face a fork in the road of life, how does God guide us today and communicate where we should go?
- The Israelites had specific instructions and special priests tasked with earning forgiveness for everyone's sins through rituals. When we sin, how do we receive and experience forgiveness from God?
- The tabernacle made God more accessible and present with the people, but there were still a few walls between God and the people. Because of Jesus, we all now have full access to a relationship with God (*Mt. 27:51*). In what ways do you personally engage with God now? Do you feel like you have full access to God or is there still some separation or walls in your relationship?

# On the Red Sea Road

- Look back at your Red Sea Road Map on page 34 and review your starting point on the map. How are you currently experiencing the presence of God? What walls are there between you and God? Write your responses on the Ark of the Covenant image on page 35.
- What is a next step you will take this week to tear down the walls that are separating you from God? Who can help you?

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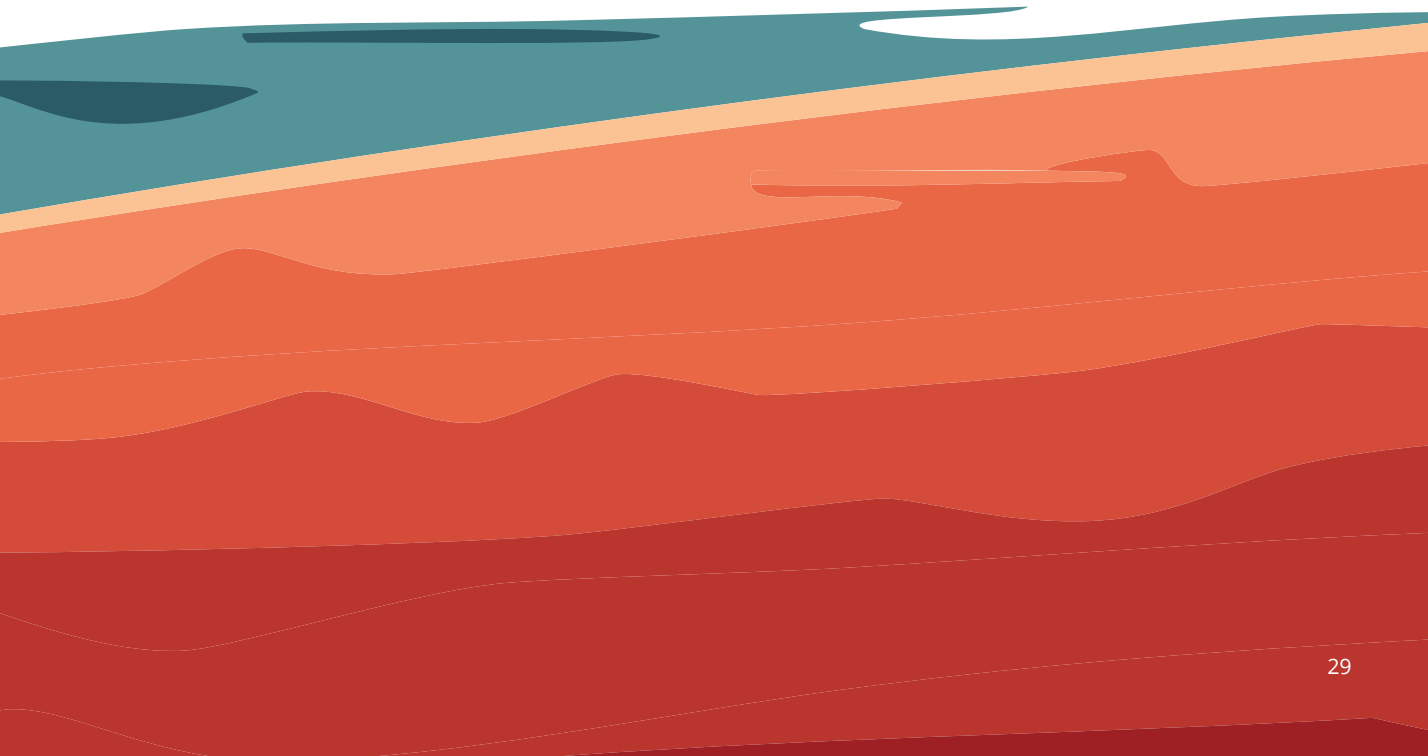
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# The Promised Land

week 8

Reading The Conclusion to The Exodus Story  
(in Deuteronomy)

## WHERE WE ARE

The Book of Leviticus continues to outline all the laws and rituals God gave Moses. In Numbers and Deuteronomy, Moses continues to lead the people through the wilderness. At the end of Deuteronomy, Moses reaches the border of the Promised Land but was not allowed to enter. In Numbers 20:2-13, the people of Israel were complaining about the lack of water. God instructed Moses to speak to a rock and it would bring forth water. However, in his frustration and anger with the people, Moses struck the rock twice with his staff instead of speaking to it as God had commanded. This act of disobedience demonstrated a lack of trust in God's provision and glory, and as a result, God told Moses that he would not be able to enter the Promised Land.

*Then Moses went up to Mount Nebo from the plains of Moab and climbed Pisgah Peak, which is across from Jericho. And the Lord showed him the whole land, from Gilead as far as Dan; all the land of Naphtali; the land of Ephraim and Manasseh; all the land of Judah, extending to the Mediterranean Sea; the Negev; the Jordan Valley with Jericho—the city of palms—as far as Zoar. Then the Lord said to Moses, “This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob when I said, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’ I have now allowed you to see it with your own eyes, but you will not enter the land.”*

*So Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, just as the Lord had said. The Lord buried him in a valley near Beth-peor in Moab, but to this day no one knows the exact place. Moses was 120 years old when he died, yet his eyesight was clear, and he was as strong as ever. The people of Israel mourned for Moses on the plains of Moab for thirty days, until the customary period of mourning was over.*

*Now Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him, doing just as the Lord had commanded Moses.*

*There has never been another prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. The Lord sent him to perform all the miraculous signs and wonders in the land of Egypt against Pharaoh, and all his servants, and his entire land. With mighty power, Moses performed terrifying acts in the sight of all Israel.*

Deuteronomy 34

There has never been another prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face.

Deuteronomy 34:10

# Discussing Exodus

## Take a moment to read Deuteronomy 34.

- God showed Moses the whole land. Why did God do this? What was the point of viewing it if he was not allowed to go? How do you think Moses felt in this moment?
- Moses' punishment for an outburst of anger seems harsh after all his previous faithfulness leading the people. Why do you think Moses didn't get to enter the Promised Land? What is the lesson there?
- Deuteronomy 34:7 describes Moses at the time of his death. What do you think this verse is trying to tell us about Moses in this moment?
- Moses freed the people and led them to the Promised Land, but they weren't always his biggest fans. More often than not, they were complaining to him or about him. How did the people react to his death? (*Deut. 34:8*)

## Bible Reading PLAN

■ Exodus 36

■ Exodus 37

■ Exodus 38

■ Exodus 39

■ Exodus 40

- This chapter reads like it's Moses' obituary. What does the author want us to know and remember about Moses?

# WATCH

*The Reason You Can Trust God*

on [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha)  
under the Red Sea Road Playlist

*How do you see God's faithfulness demonstrated in this story?*



# Experiencing Exodus

- Share about a time in your life when you experienced disappointment or setback, similar to Moses not being allowed to enter the Promised Land. How did you respond to the situation? What did you learn from it?
- How does your relationship with God help you get through times of disappointment?
- Moses spent time investing in Joshua and left behind a legacy of strong faith and leadership. Why is it important for us to invest in others and share our faith with them? Who are you inviting, teaching, supporting, or praying for right now?
- Moses didn't experience the freedom of the Promised Land, but he experienced the true freedom of "knowing God face to face" (34:10). How can we know God "face to face"?
- In your own words, describe the freedom you experience as a result of your relationship with God.
- The Promised Land in Exodus was a physical location. Our personal "Promised Land" may be a location, a circumstance, a feeling, a relationship, a mindset, a spiritual reality, or any other type of freedom that God is leading us towards. What "Promised Land" do you hope God is leading you towards right now? What does it look like and feel like?

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## Doodle Your Feelings

(It's okay if it's during group - we won't tell!)



# RED SEA ROAD

God's Path  
to Freedom



Step into Egypt



week 2

week 3

week 4



week 6



week 7



week 5

Promised  
Land



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# Continuing on the Red Sea Road

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Review your entire Red Sea Road Map and reflect on the journey you've taken over the past eight weeks. The journey does not end here! We can continue to grow closer to God and experience more freedom in our lives. Some spend time reflecting on the questions below and making plans to continue your journey on the Red Sea Road.

What did you learn about yourself on the Red Sea Road?

What did you learn about God on the Red Sea Road?

How did you grow closer to God and experience more freedom?

What next steps will you take to continue moving towards your personal "Promised Land"?



To stream the Weekly Videos, follow these steps:

- Go to [YouTube.com/weomaha](https://www.youtube.com/weomaha) and find the Red Sea Road Playlist

***OR***

- Scan the QR code below to our YouTube Playlists page





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