

# When I'm Not Where I Want to Be

EXODUS 1:1-7

LIVING  
FAITHFULLY  
IN A  
FOREIGN  
*Land*

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## *Background to the Book of Exodus*

AUTHOR: Moses

DATE: 1446 to 1406 B.C.

TITLE: "The Way Out," "Departure" or "Exit"

PURPOSE: To show God's sovereign hand in fulfilling His promises to His people

## I. Sometimes God's people find themselves a long way from where they want to be.

A. Unfortunate \_\_\_\_\_ beyond our control lead us where we don't want to be.

*These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each with his household: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin, Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. All the descendants of Jacob were seventy persons ... vv. 1-5a*

B. Undeserved \_\_\_\_\_ by others lead us where we don't want to be.

*... Joseph was already in Egypt. v. 5b*

C. Unexpected \_\_\_\_\_ leave us stuck where we don't want to be.

*Then Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation. v. 6*

## II. Regardless of where we are, it's not where we have to stay.

A. God will fulfill His \_\_\_\_\_ to us.

*But the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly ... v. 7a*

B. God can \_\_\_\_\_ us where we are.

*... they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong ... v. 7b*

C. God can give us \_\_\_\_\_ for where we are to go.

*... so that the land was filled with them. v. 7c*

## III. What is \_\_\_\_\_ by us, or is \_\_\_\_\_ to us, is never \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

*Then the Lord said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete. Genesis 15:13-16*



## DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

# LIVING FAITHFULLY IN A FOREIGN Land

Before you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Have you ever studied the book of Exodus before? If so, what concepts do you remember? If not, what do you expect will be some themes?

2. Read Exodus 1:1-7. So far, what does Exodus seem to be about? How is this a continuation of the story God began with Adam and Eve?

3. Jewish rabbis call Exodus "The Book of Names" or "These Are the Names" because it opens with the names of the sons of Jacob (Israel) who brought their families to Egypt to escape a famine in Canaan (Gen 46). What is the significance of listing these names?

4. *"The people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them."* (v. 7). This fact is so important that it's mentioned three times (1:7, 12, 20). To whom had God promised this would happen? Read the verses listed below for insight.

Genesis 1:28

9:1

17:2, 6

22:17

26:4

28:14

35:11

48:4

5. What link to our first verses in Exodus do these passages suggest?

6. What are you hoping to discover or gain from this new study in Exodus? What thoughts from the sermon encouraged you?

"The central events in the book of Exodus are the miraculous deliverance of Israel from Egyptian bondage and God's establishing the theocratic nation under Moses by means of a new 'constitution,' the Mosaic Covenant (19:3-19). ... The people of promise were miraculously redeemed from servitude and placed under the Mosaic Covenant so that they might become 'a holy nation' (Ex 19:6), an avenue of blessing to the Gentiles (Gen 12:3; cf. 'a light for the Gentiles,' Is 42:6). The Book of Exodus, then, stresses redemption and consecration."

JOHN HANNAH

"Using the experiences of Israel as Exhibit A, the book of Exodus explains what true freedom is, what freedom costs and how it must be used. Exodus teaches us that freedom is not license and discipline is not bondage. God tells us how to enjoy mature freedom in His will, a quality that is desperately needed in our churches and in our world today. The privilege of freedom is precious; the responsibilities of freedom are serious; and we can't have one without the other. ... The Old Testament is God's 'continued story' of His great program of salvation that He announced to Adam and Eve (Gen 3:15) and to Abraham (12:1-3). That explains why the Hebrew text of Exodus begins with the Word and, for God is continuing the story He started in Genesis. God's wonderful story finally led to the coming of Jesus to earth and His death on the cross, and it won't end until God's people go to heaven and see Jesus on the throne. What a story!"

WARREN WIERSBE

### A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

*"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."*

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events).



**LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

**BAND OF BROTHERS: GETTING TO KNOW GOD** This spring, get to know God more deeply alongside other men at Band of Brothers and study His various names found in the Old and New Testament. In this study, you'll sit around tables and discuss the profound truth of God's holiness, power, mercy and love and how knowing what's true about God helps us understand what is true about ourselves. Sign up at [www.ccbcfamily.org/bob](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/bob).

**WOMEN IN THE WORD: WORTHY OF THE GOSPEL** This spring, Women in the Word will be studying Colossians, Philippians, Titus and Philemon to grasp a greater knowledge of the encouragement that comes from Christ and being His disciple. In these letters, Paul gives the Church specific guidance and perspective on following Jesus, encouraging one another and working together to advance the news of the gospel — which is what we want to do in the new year, together! Sign up today at [www.ccbcfamily.org/wiw](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/wiw).

**HOME GROUPS** Faith lived out in community is what a Home Group is all about, and we're excited you are interested in joining one! We hope these groups are a space for you to do life with others as you lift the name of Jesus in community. While we do our best to find the perfect Home Group for you, keep in mind that beginning your own is also an excellent place to start! Visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/groups](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/groups) to start.

**CHECK OUT THE EMBARK CLASS** Embark is our new "get to know Christ Chapel" class and a great for anyone who wants to go deeper with us or is considering membership. Whether you've been here a few weeks or a few decades, Embark will help you learn more about Christ Chapel, find your best next step and meet staff. Learn more today at [www.ccbcfamily.org/embark](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/embark).

**SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY LUNCH** Sunday, Jan. 19th is Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, and as a church family that is for all life, our Local Outreach ministry will be hosting a lunch where you can learn more about our ForLife initiatives, hear from local pregnancy centers and our Quilt for Life Ministry and learn how you can get involved! Find details at [www.ccbcfamily.org/sohl](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/sohl).



**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE** The process is quick and easy—scan the QR Code to start.