

The Road Out

God against Oppressors

WEEK 1

WARM-UP

- Tell us about a time you surprised someone with something special. Was it successful? Why or why not?
- What is one instance of kindness you encountered that made an impact on you?
- Have you ever done something foolish because you were emotional? What happened? What would have been a better response?

WORD *“Say therefore to the people of Israel, ‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. ⁷I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.’”* **EXODUS 6:6-7**

(Study **EXODUS 2-6**.)

The Israelites, God’s people, had been living in Egypt since the time of Joseph (Exodus 1:5–7). After Joseph’s generation, the Egyptians realized that the Israelites were too powerful and attempted to gain control over the growing nation by making them work as slaves under harsh conditions. But God knew exactly what was happening. While God promised Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars, they would go through a time of oppression and slavery (Genesis 15:13–16). Despite this, God miraculously led the Israelites on the road to deliverance, leaving behind their life of slavery to live in His promises.

Today, we'll talk about three ways that God relates with those who put their faith in Him, especially when they are undergoing oppression.

1 | God is mindful of His people.

Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the people of Israel whom the Egyptians hold as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant.

EXODUS 6:5

God never forgets His people and His purposes. When God said He *remembered* the covenant, it meant He was about to fulfill His promise. But even when He sent Moses to speak to His people, they *did not listen to Moses, because of their broken spirit and harsh slavery* (Exodus 6:9). Sometimes, we may find it hard to hear and believe God's promises when we are in a place of brokenness and pain. The truth is that He is always mindful of us. Have you ever been broken to the point of doubting God's promises? What does Isaiah 55:8-9 say about His sovereignty?

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2 | God is faithful to His people.

³*I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them.*

⁴*I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they lived as sojourners.* ⁵*Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the people of Israel whom the Egyptians hold as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant."*

EXODUS 6:3-5

No one is faithful the way God is, who remembers and keeps every promise. He established a covenant with His people, and He would be loyal to the covenant whether or not His people were faithful. This is just as true for us today. Was there a time you felt that you were unfaithful to God? What does 2 Timothy 2:13 say about God's faithfulness to us?

3 | God is powerful to fulfill His promises.

"Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.'" **EXODUS 6:6**

(Read also **EXODUS 6:7-8**.)

God knows exactly what we want to say before we say a word (Psalm 139:4). In fact, He has the power and might to fulfill His promises and keep His covenant. He had the power to fulfill His promise of delivering the Israelites from slavery, as He foretold (Exodus 3:20). He also has the power to work and move in our situations today. How have you witnessed the power and might of God in the past? What is one situation you are believing God will move in today?

APPLICATION

- What is one promise from God that you're holding on to? What Scriptures can you dwell on this week to remind you of His love and faithfulness?
- Is there something you're going through now that is breaking your spirit? How can you respond in faith rather than fear?
- Name one person that you think needs to be reminded of God's sovereignty. Pray for this person and find an opportunity to encourage them personally.

PRAYER

- Ask God for the faith to hear His voice even through painful situations. Hold on to His promises and His sovereign purpose for you.
- Thank God for His great faithfulness to you that remains the same no matter what you do.
- Pray for the perspective to see your situations through God's eyes instead of your own. Share your testimony of how God is doing this in your life with someone this week.



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