

If your life was a
book,
what would be the
title?



GOD'S RESCUE PLAN

A dramatic scene of a path of sand leading through a sea of blue waves towards a bright light in the sky. The path is made of ripples in the sand, leading from the bottom center towards the horizon. The waves are dark blue and white, surrounding the path. The sky is bright blue with a large, glowing white light source in the center, creating a lens flare effect.

A Journey Through Exodus

OLD?

BORING?

IRRELEVANT?

OLD

BORING

IRRELEVANT





WHERE ARE WE?

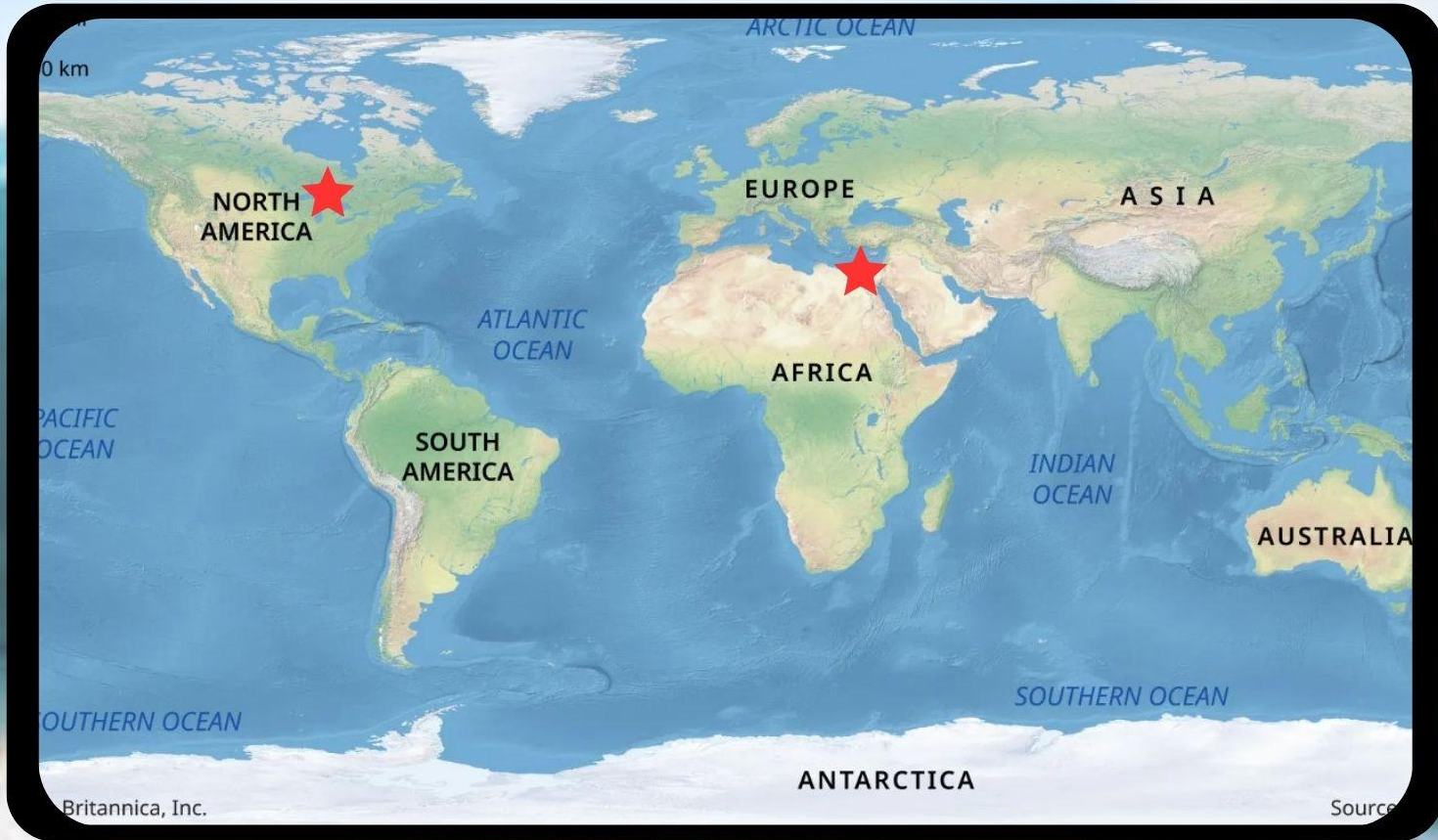
HOW DID WE GET HERE?

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

WHEN DO WE START?

WHAT CAN WE LEARN TODAY?

WHERE ARE WE?



WHERE ARE WE?



WHERE ARE WE?



GOD RESCUES HIS "CHOSEN PEOPLE"

2ND BOOK OF THE PENTATEUCH

**MOSES, THE PLAGUES,
THE FIRST PASSOVER, THE RED SEA,
10 COMMANDMENTS**

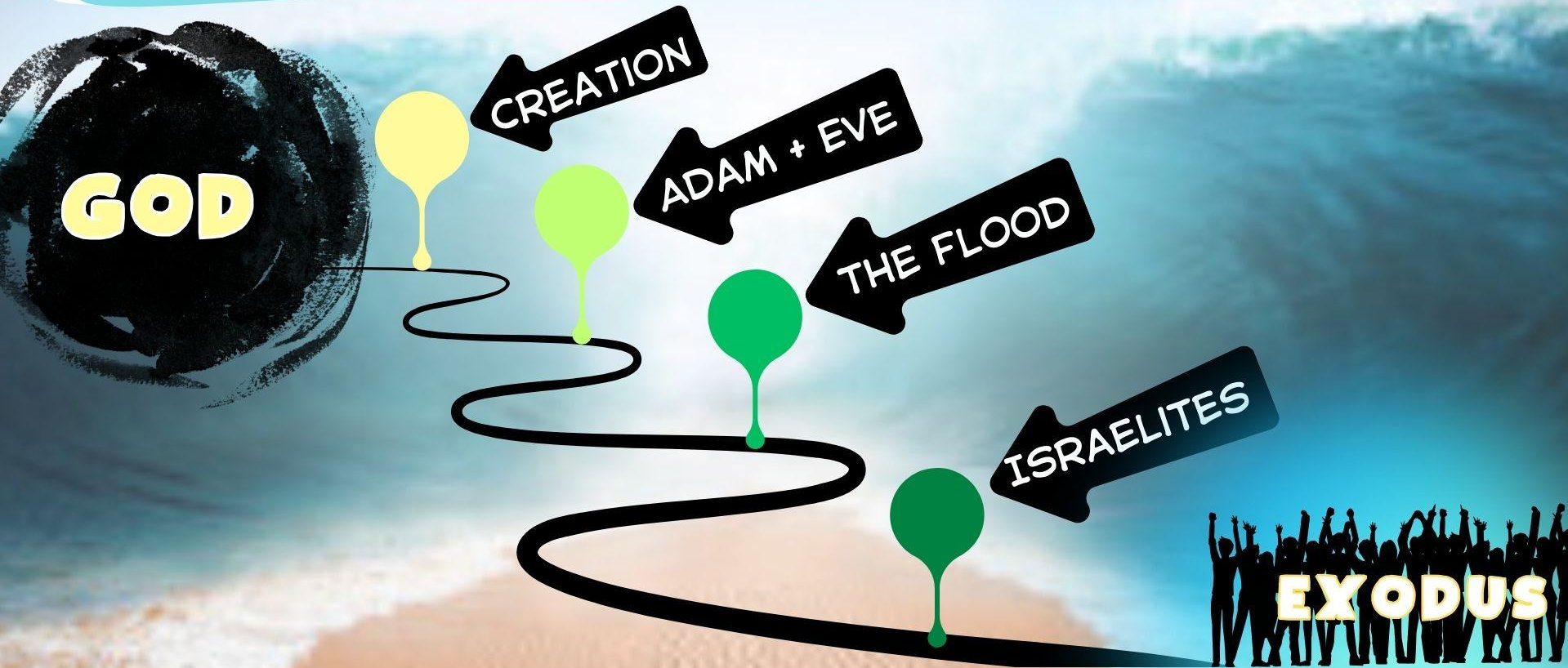
**LONG WALK IN THE WILDERNESS,
GOD IS WITH THEM**

**GOD SETS EXPECTATIONS
FOR HIS PEOPLE**



FACTS

HOW DID WE GET HERE?



WHERE ARE WE GOING?

JESUS!

PROPHETS

KINGS

THE LAW

**ETERNAL
LIFE!**



WHERE ARE WE GOING?

GOD

SAME YESTERDAY,
TODAY AND FOREVER

MOSES

JUST A MAN,
FLAWED YET CALLED

ISRAELITES

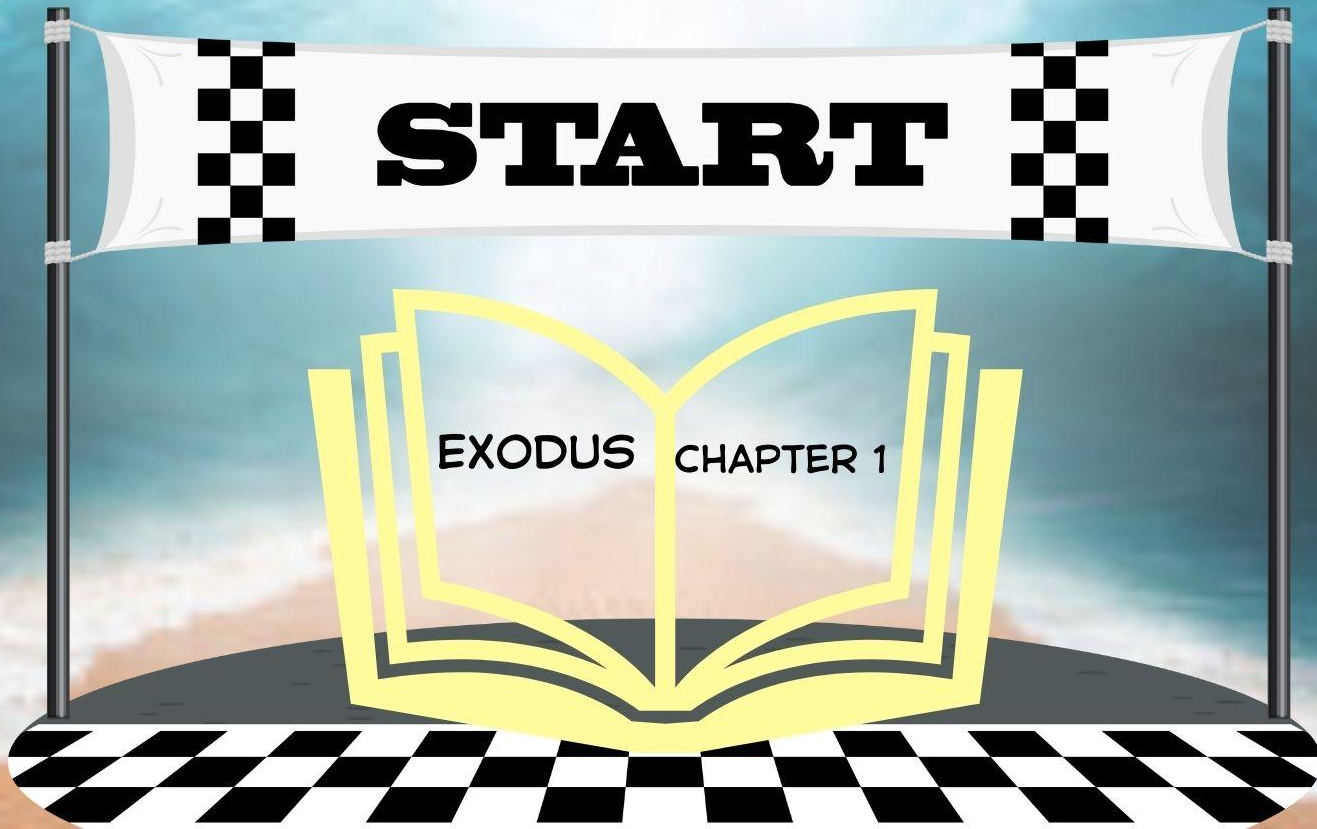
WE ARE THE SAME AS
THOSE "CHOSEN PEOPLE"



WHEN DO WE START?

START

EXODUS CHAPTER 1



EXODUS 1:6-10

6 Now Joseph and all his brothers and all that generation died, 7 but the Israelites were exceedingly fruitful; they multiplied greatly, increased in numbers and became so numerous that the land was filled with them.

8 Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. 9 “Look,” he said to his people, “the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. 10 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.”

EXODUS 1:11-14

11 So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. 12 But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites 13 and worked them ruthlessly. 14 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 1:15-18

15 The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, 16 “When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live.” 17 The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. 18 Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, “Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?”

EXODUS 1:19-22

19 The midwives answered Pharaoh, “Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive.”

20 So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. 21 And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.

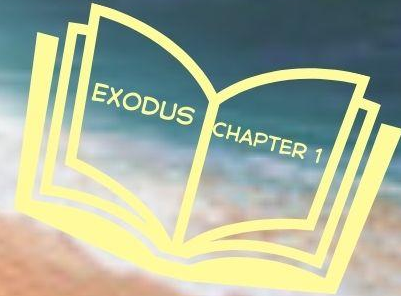
22 Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: “Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live.”

WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT GOD?

HE HAS A PLAN.

**HE REWARDS THOSE
WHO FEAR HIM.**

HE CARES ABOUT WOMEN.

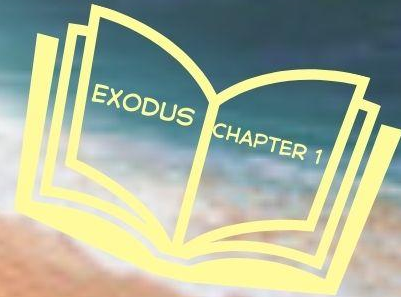


WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT THE ISRAELITES?

THEY ARE CHOSEN.

THEY FEAR AND OBEY GOD.

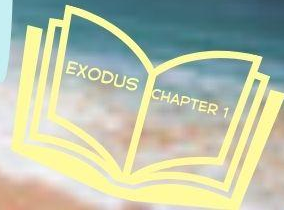
THEY ARE UNSTOPPABLE.



WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT OURSELVES?

**WHEN CHOSEN,
WE ARE UNSTOPPABLE.**

**WHEN WE "FEAR" AND OBEY GOD,
HE SEES AND BLESSES US.**



THE BOTTOM LINE....

**EXODUS IS PART OF THE
BIGGER STORY OF JESUS**

**THE SAME GOD WHO RESCUED
HIS CHOSEN PEOPLE, RESCUES US**

Audio file

[Exodus Intro Audio.mp3](#)

Transcript

So that's what I went with. OK, so we're talking about book titles because today we're starting our new series in Exodus. And I think that Exodus is the best name for the book. And so it tells us exactly what it's about. It's about the mass immigration of the Israelites. There was an exodus, and it's named Exodus, I think. And this is a is a great name. Actually means the origin. And formation of new things. Perfect. I actually love the title for first and Second Kings because it's about kings. Also, judges is about judges. Also my favorite. I don't love the book, but I love the title. It's called numbers. Guess what? It's about numbers like legit. It's just lots of numbers. Perfect and so. I love Exodus, so I'm very excited to talk to you about it. I have a lot of stuff I want to say and I know that people can kind of be turned off by the Old Testament because it is these things old, boring and irrelevant. That's what they say. But that is false.

I will give you.

That it's old. I'll give you. It's old, I actually. Think I'm going to hold this. That's right. There's no disagreeing that the Bible is old, but it is so far from boring and irrelevant. It's the best. So first of all, it's full of greed. Murder, love. There's lots of really weird sex stuff in it. Ohh, there's also broken hearts, family drama, romance. It's betrayal. I'm not describing Game of Thrones. I'm describing the Bible. And you have to read it to understand that. So also it was written by God. About God, about us. With us in mind. So I saw this meme the other day. It was like perfect. It was like my phone was listening to me practice. And this is it, it says. The Bible is the only book where the author is in love with the reader, and that's true. So when you really get into it, when you go slow, when you ask a lot of questions, it can really grab you. And studying the Bible is great personally, but also it is meant to be done in groups. That's why we're here. That's why we're doing this. That's why we have small groups. So you can ask all your questions. That's why if I ever take you out for coffee. We will definitely talk about what you might be reading because I want to know if you're like, I just read this part of the Bible and I don't like it or why is it like this? That's my favorite conversation. So I love to talk about the Bible, but we're talking specifically about Exodus today. So let's get started. I'm going to pray and breathe. Father, we just come before you this morning. We thank you for your word. All of it. We thank you that maybe it's challenging or difficult or old, but we pray that you would teach us today that you would get us excited about this. This book you have so much to teach us in. It, and we just come before you this morning and ask for you to just show up today. Jesus name. Amen. Alright, so I want to get us settled into the Book of Exodus to get excited about it. This is the part. So every week in our kids club we watch a video and there's always like a fun intro part. And then there's a Bible story. And every week it says this is the story before the story and all the kids. It's my favorite 5 seconds of kids Club because I don't have to tell them. They just all shouted as loud as they can. This is the surprise. We haven't heard it. This is the story before the story. And then they're like today, we're in the Book of Luke and every single week without fail. Jeremiah says Jeremiah is Jeff and Stacy's. Good. He so funny. And he says, uh, we're in Luke, why aren't we in Jeremiah? When are we going to get to Jeremiah? And every week the kids are like ha ha ha ha ha.

And I'm like, he's never going to stop doing that until we just ignore it completely. And then I'm also like, Lord, please don't let it be Jeremiah today because I can't teach my 8 year old yet. I'm. Not good enough. But like, it's so cute cause he just cannot wait for us to start reading Jeremiah. It makes me so happy. Alright, so here's some five questions that we're going to answer today. And I promise we'll get them. Done. Where are we? How did we get here? Where are we going? When can we start and what can we learn today? So let's start with where are we? I want to talk about us physically, where in the world is exodus? So this is not the Bible is not. Fake places. It's not Mordor or the Shire or Westeros or Narnia. This is real. So here's us. And that's where Exodus is. So this is the big picture of the Earth. All right, go closer. This it's hard to see, OK. This is the Mediterranean Sea where I know my two Greek women have been to, and we've been there. And then here's Africa. And there's an actual Red Sea, which is pretty awesome. Alright, then go closer, Chris. Alright, so this is the travels of Exodus. So they start here again. Here's the Mediterranean Sea. The place is now called Exodus. This is Egypt. So we're in Goshen, and then they take this long trip and it looks really daunting cause it is and they end up up there in Canaan in the promised land. Spoiler they don't all get to go in. We'll learn more about that, which is awesome. OK, so that is where we are physically. Here's some facts about Exodus. First of all, this is the book where God rescues his chosen people. He loves these people. He has a special relationship with them. The bond with them, they're his chosen people. It's the second book of the Pentateuch, which is Greek, 4-5 books. Also, we might be more familiar with those five books as the Torah, which is the Jewish, Arabic way of saying it. I think that's the the Arabic translation. And then or the Hebrew, sorry, I just. Need to take. A deep breath here. I'm so excited.

About next is.

All right, this is the book that Moses wrote. He wrote five books, the Penta took. We find the stories here of Moses, the plagues, the first Passover, the parting of the red. See and the 10 commandments. Those are all in this book. And if you watch Prince of Egypt, the best cartoon movie ever made, you can watch the whole book of Exodus in one in like a two hour sitting. So it's all in there. This is where we follow the Israelites out of Egypt. And into the wilderness. And God is with them every step of the way, even though they were terrible, whiny, rebellious, selfish people just like us. This is where God sets out his expectations for the people through the 10 Commandments and basically the rest of the Old Testament is about people not living up to those. Alright, what brings us to this book? The only one before this is Genesis, and everyone knows that God created Earth while we were believing that. God created the earth. He was there alone in the void. He didn't like it. He was lonely, so he decided to create humans. And he didn't want to force them to love him, so he gave them a choice right away in the beginning. And about 10 minutes into their lives, they broke that and they went right for the tree that they weren't supposed to. They were tempted by it, and they failed. And I always, we can't blame them because my mom and I agree that if it hadn't been Adam and Eve, it would have been one of us that had just broken. The world, because we're human and we're fallen. And I wanted to see what that tree was like too. So after Adam and Eve, the rest of the Bible is about how God is going to help us save us, get the best lives ever, and end up spending eternity with him. After all, he loves us so much and he tries everything. It is full of his attempts to save us, so there's the flood, which is basically a reboot. Adam and Eve have lots of kids. There are lots of kids. There's lots of kids. Don't think too hard about that because it can be kind of gross in your brain. But all of those kids are bad. They're just human and they make mistakes. So God's like, Nope, I made a mistake. I got to start over. So he finds one family, Noah, and reboots, and just it's not a cute story about little. Animals. It's a story of how God wipes out

the earth and starts over. Well then, after they get off the boat, God's like ohh man. I feel so bad that I did this. I'll never do it again. And then 20 minutes later, Noah is naked and drunk in front of his kids and it just doesn't work. God was like.

This is not.

The answer so he keeps finding ways. So then we get to Exodus because Exodus is after we have Noah, we have Abraham. We have Isaac. Jacob, Joseph. They're all in the line that will eventually have Jesus, but Exodus is right in there, and this is the book where God gives us the law and the law is great. And can we follow it? No, we cannot. So where are we going after this? Chris, there we go. OK. So after Exodus, we have the law. Do we follow it right? No. Before the law, there was no rules. It was just good or bad. You sought God. You feared God or you didn't. Now we have laws and gosh darn it, if we didn't just get it right, the kings don't get it right. And I love reading those kings because literally it's like good King tries to fix everything. Bad King, bad, Bad, Good tries to fix everything. Again. Bad, good, bad, good. That's all of kings. And it's so. Interesting. There's a king that's so fat he can't die when they try to kill him with a sword, it doesn't go all the way through him. Like, that's just. One of the Kings, I love it. OK, so anyway. Spoiler Nothing works, except what Lindsey knows the answer to every question. Jesus is the. Only answer and so finally, God's like. Nope, nothing's working. I have to do the ultimate. Thing. Sacrifice my kid. I'm going to have the prophets talk about him. And then Jesus comes. He lives here with us. And what do we really have? To do. To get to heaven when Jesus comes. He does what? For us lives dies raises from the dead and we have to say we believe that. And he loved me. And that's it. And the answer is there. So God is being proactive with us because we're terrible people and he loves us. Anyway, so OK, let's go back to. Exodus. So here's the deal. If we know that Jesus is the answer, why would we even study the Old Testament? What's the point? Here's my favorite way to describe it. This is like learning about your parents, who your parents were before you came along. They're the same people that you know. But they are not the same people because my parents, for example. Found out two weeks ago. Not only did my mother hitchhike all over Europe by herself at 20 years old, maybe look at. Her face? Don't even. But also my dad, because he loved my mom before they were married, hitchhiked from Pennsylvania to Massachusetts. Is that right? Or Massachusetts to New Jersey, one of those east? Coast places I. Couldn't remember which one? New Hampshire maybe. Connecticut, Massachusetts to Connecticut hitchhiked every weekend. To see her and live because she was living somewhere else and he would go in cars with random people. He told me one guy had just a gun laying on the ground in the front seat and he goes. Yeah. Billy, maybe that's not a good idea. Ohh. You think, dad? So could you even imagine? Oh, it makes me hot thinking about. Oh, that's shocking. But then I see my mom and I'm like, I know my mom. I'm pretty sure I know her wrong. There's a whole life ahead of them. And then my kids love it when they discover my diary from 12 years old. Where we moved to Europe and the first person I met was a hot babe from Southern California.

Who was there as a missionary?

Kid and they like to remind me they were like, is that is that the guy you're talking about? The hot babe and that's what I wrote in my diary. So that's why they teased me about it. And that was a lifetime ago. And so I'm not still that same person, but I 100% am. I married a hot babe from Wisconsin, which is nice. And I only said that's a 12 year old saying I. Wouldn't say that normally as a 48 year old woman, OK, but anyway. Reading the Old Testament is like getting to know your parents before they had you. They had lives. They're the same people. The thing is the God that we read about in Exodus is the exact same God

that we worship. We were worshipping right now. That's the same God who walked with Moses, who took his people out of Egypt. That's the same God. So we want to know God. We get to know Moses. You really can't go through life without studying. Moses. Moses is amazing. He is a flawed man that God chose. I can't tell you why I love that about all the people that God chooses. Why did he pick him? Moses was a legitimate literal murderer, and God was like you're gonna save all my people. And guess what, Moses?

Said Nope, I'm totally not. Nope. You're not doing that. I'm not doing that. He said it while a Bush was burning. In front of.

Him in a holy place and he was like me. No, not me. And God was like, fine, I'll use your brother. But I'm telling you, it's supposed to be you, and then it ends up him, which is awesome. That Jeff is so excited about, I can tell Jeff was excited about talking about him because yesterday he was like I get. To talk about Moses and he was. Doing that thing with his hands, and it was so cute. So I can't wait to hear about. Us but God never stops pushing him and trusting him, and then also talk about relevant. The Israelites are the people that God chose, but we are the same as them. It doesn't matter that there's years and years in between us. Everything that we're about to study about the Israelites. Is going to be like, Oh my gosh, I just did that last week or Oh my gosh, I complained just like that. Oh, my gosh, they're starving. Why isn't it God answering them? Why don't they see that God answered them? It is so relevant to who we are, but God walks with them, he answers their cries. He hears their grumbling. He gives them discipline. He loves them so much. The Book of Exodus may have been written thousands of years ago, but the love that God has for them and for us has not changed one single bit. So then the next question is when can we start? How about now let's do it. So open your books like I haven't even have, like, a starting line. Here we go. We're going to start with Exodus 1. If you're reading along with us and you're on your phone. You can Google Exodus one. We're in the NIV, so it'll be up here. So let me read this to you. We're going to start in, in verse six. Here's the thing. Joseph, all those guys I mentioned before, they're all gone. Nobody cares about them anymore. The Egyptians don't. And so that whole generation seems to be gone, but it's not Israel as the chosen people, David's going to come out of this. So is Jesus. So. The thing is that it they were infamous famous infamous Egyptians were famous, infamous for being totally racist for hating the Israelites. Does this sound relevant or familiar? They wanted to wipe them out the Jews, so that sounds like someone I know. The king that is now happening wants to wipe them out. He's afraid that if they pair up with any of the enemies of Egypt. Egypt is wiped out, so they want to keep the Israelites A minority. So here we go. Verse 6. 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, we'll join our enemies, fight against us, and leave the country. So they put the slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor. And they built pit them and Ramseys 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 and brick and mortar, and with all kinds of work in the fields, in all their harsh labor. The Egyptians worked them ruthlessly. The King of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whom I love, whose names were shifra and Puah. When you were helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, Yikes. First of all, the delivery stool. Gross. If you see that,

that baby is a boy. Kill him. But if it's a girl, let her live. The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do. They let the little boys live. Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live? The midwives answered pharaoh. Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women. They are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive. So God was. Kind to the midwives and the people increased and became more numerous and because of the midwives fearing God, he gave them families of their own. Then Pharaoh gave this order to his people. Every Hebrew boy that is born, you must throw into the Nile. But let every girl live. All right, so here's how to study the Bible. We want to read what can we learn about God? What can we learn about the people who he is talking about or with, and what can we learn for ourselves? What do we take away? So first of all, what can we learn from God? About this passage. He has a plan. He has these chosen people. They're called chosen for a reason. They keep multiplying and nothing is stopping them. If God has some he wants to do, he's going to get it done. Even if they're under slavery, even if they're being persecuted, they keep multiplying. He rewards those who fear him, those midwives who didn't have a law they didn't know. Follow God first, like they didn't know the first commandment, which is don't have any other gods before me. They didn't know that they just feared God, which means. They understood his place. Fear is not like, oh, I'm afraid it's part of that because I'm afraid of God a little bit. But also it's an ah, it's. I am a human and this is the God of the universe. I'm going to do what he says before I do what this guy says. And so they served God. Not the king. And they were brave and they were rewarded. He gave them what they would have wanted at that time. So what else does God he cares about women. There is no doubt. Ever. For me, this is the second. This is the first chapter of Exodus, and he has named two women, Shifra and Puah, which actually mean splendor and beauty. Isn't that amazing? Like ohh my gosh, those midwives saved everybody. Because they stood up to the king and they did what was right. They didn't lie pretty much. I'm guaranteeing the Israelite women were like we're Hardy people and we are no kids and they didn't have to say much, but they definitely did not kill those boys, even though the king said to and without them. I'm sorry, they're an inspiration, and God sees them, and this is only chapter one. Chapter 2 has a lot of women. Too. Alright, So what can we learn about the Israelites? They're chosen. Nothing can stop them from God's plan. Nothing. They fear and they know God. They don't have a lot of rules yet, but God knows they get who he is. They've at least heard who he is. They have been chosen. And he loves them, even though they're just the worst. So what can we learn about them? They're unstoppable. So then let's learn about us. What can we learn? About us. When chosen, we are unstoppable. I would definitely say everyone in the room and listening is chosen. God has something for you and you are unstoppable. Maybe we don't have to worry about genocide at this moment. Maybe we're not slaves. Maybe we're not going through what they went through. But your pain is just as important as their pain. Whatever it is that you're going through, that's really hard. You are still chosen and God is still walking with you and he wants you to succeed. He wants you to do what he called you to do and he will not let that go. And also we have to remember. When we fear God, which means God, you're God and I'm not. And obey him. We know rules. We know what to do to live a good life. Basically. We have to love Jesus. And love others. That's all. When we do that, we will be rewarded. He sees that and he blesses us. You think you're blessed now, but if you spend some time with Jesus and you just say I just want to love you and I want to love the people around you, you will feel different and you will see blessings in your life. Maybe you're not getting what those midwives got. You get what you desire. God will give you blessings. So here's the box. Line we answered all 5 questions. Amazing. We did it. There is so much left to learn in Exodus and I can't wait. I'm in the kids every week, but every Monday morning I get up and I walk and I listen to Jeff

Sermon and I wish I was in the room with you because half the time I'm like that was genius. I hope someone wrote that down or I wish I could watch the slides because he has a lot to say about Exodus and I am so excited to pass the baton to him to do this. Here's two things you have to know. Exodus is the is sorry, Exodus is part of the bigger story of Jesus. The whole Bible is about Jesus from beginning to end. It's our history. God shows us that he will never give up trying to save us for eternity. The same God who rescued the chosen people rescues us, so the series is called God's Rescue plan. God rescues them every step of the way, and he does the same for us. We will learn that the people are chosen, but they are so frustrating.

But so are we.

And God loves them. He rescues them anyway, and he does the same for us. So let's pray. Thank you. Thank you for the lessons of Exodus that we get to learn together. Thank you for the passion that Jeff and I have. For this book, because we know the joys and the amazing stuff in there that we get to learn about you and your people. Lord, I thank you so much that even though it was written so many years ago. We are the same and you love us the same and you are the same. We thank you so much God, for just being amazed. Thing and I ask that you would just be a part of our everyday lives this week that maybe we're not walking in the wilderness, but maybe we are. And I ask that you would walk with us just like the Israelites. We thank you so much for your word and for this morning in Jesus name. Amen.