



THE WAY HOME

A journey through the book of Exodus
October 4 - November 22

If life is a journey, why are there so many detours and delays?

How do you know you're headed in the right direction?

The Israelites got stuck in a big backup – for forty years!

Yet God led every step of their Exodus.

Along the way they learned to open

their eyes, hands and hearts to the Lord.

This fall, follow their desert journey and discover how

God wants to lead you home.

The Way Home
Week 1: Exodus 14:10-31

1. When the Israelites saw Pharaoh's army approaching, fear reshaped how they remembered Egypt and interpreted their future. How can fear distort our memory, our judgment, and our view of God?
2. Moses tells the people to "stand firm" and "be still," while God then tells them to "move on." How do you discern when faithfulness means waiting and when it means acting?
3. We often tell God exactly how to solve our problems. What might it look like to listen for God's direction instead of prescribing the outcome we want?
4. The Israelites were tempted to return to slavery because it seemed safer than the unknown. What familiar habits, attitudes, relationships, or patterns can tempt people to trade freedom for security?
5. God may bring us "to the end of ourselves" so that we learn dependence. How can a dead end become a place of spiritual growth without minimizing the real pain involved?
6. What does Exodus 14:19–22 reveal about the ways God protects, guides, and creates a path before His people can see the full outcome?
7. Like Pharaoh, individuals and societies can find themselves working against God's plan. What practices can help us examine whether our choices and actions work with God or against Him?
8. Moses had to obey while looking foolish and facing enormous risk. When have you seen faithful obedience require courage despite criticism, uncertainty, or possible loss?
9. By the end of the passage, the Israelites trust God. How might remembering God's past faithfulness shape the way you face a present "Red Sea" moment?

The Way Home
Week 2: Exodus 16:

1. What does the Israelites' reaction to hunger reveal about how quickly people forget past deliverance when facing present discomfort, and where do you see similar patterns in your own life?
2. In what ways does God's provision of manna challenge our modern ideas of security, planning, and self-sufficiency?
3. How does the daily gathering of manna function as a spiritual discipline, and what practices today help you depend on God one day at a time?
4. Why do you think God intentionally gave the Israelites just enough for each day instead of a long-term supply, and how does that shape your understanding of trust?
5. What does the Israelites' attempt to save extra manna (and its spoilage) teach about obedience, boundaries, and the consequences of ignoring God's instructions?
6. How does the Sabbath command in this passage deepen the meaning of rest, and what does it reveal about God's character and priorities?
7. What emotions or attitudes do you imagine the Israelites experienced as they encountered manna for the first time, and how do those emotions mirror our responses to unexpected provision?
8. How does this story challenge the idea that complaining is harmless, and what does it show about the deeper spiritual roots of grumbling?
9. In what ways does God's patience with the Israelites in this chapter encourage you, and where do you personally need to experience that same patience?
10. The jar of manna was kept as a memorial for future generations. What "memorials" of God's faithfulness exist in your life, family, or community, and how do they shape your faith today?

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Week 3: Exodus 18:

1. What do you notice about Moses' daily routine in Exodus 18:13–16, and what does it reveal about his understanding of leadership?
2. Why do you think Jethro was able to recognize the problem that Moses could not see for himself?
3. Where do you see “bottlenecks” forming in your work, family, church, or community, and what keeps them in place?
4. Which attitudes—ego, self-pity, or fear—most often make it difficult for people to ask for or accept help? Why?
5. How does Jethro's advice in verses 17–23 balance Moses' unique calling with the need to share responsibility?
6. What qualities does Jethro say should characterize those entrusted with leadership, and how could those qualities guide the way we choose and develop leaders today?
7. What is the difference between simply handing off a task and teaching, coaching, and empowering another person to serve?
8. How can sharing responsibility lighten a leader's burden while also helping others discover and use their God-given gifts?
9. Church buildings, committees, and familiar structures can become bottlenecks. How can a church discern when a structure is serving its mission and when it is limiting it?
10. What is one responsibility you may need to share, one person you could begin to equip, or one new form of ministry you could explore in response to this passage?

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Week 4: Exodus 35:30-36:7

1. What stands out to you about the way God calls Bezalel by name and fills him with the Spirit, wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and skill?
2. Bezalel's abilities initially seem impractical or unappreciated. When have you seen a gift that appeared unimportant become valuable in God's timing?
3. How does Bezalel living "in the shadow" shape your understanding of his identity, calling, and place under God's protection?
4. What is the difference between judging people only by what we can see and prayerfully recognizing what God has placed in their hearts?
5. Exodus says Bezalel and Oholiab were given the ability to teach others. Why is passing on knowledge and skill an important part of faithful service?
6. What do Bezalel, Oholiab, and the other skilled workers teach us about the relationship between God-given ability and a willing heart?
7. How did the wide variety of skills and offerings allow the whole community to participate in building the tabernacle, and what might that suggest about the church today?
8. Why do you think the Israelites gave so generously that Moses finally had to tell them to stop? What tends to awaken that kind of generosity?
9. God's glory "shines in our shadows" when we play our part. What might it look like for your everyday work or abilities to bring God's presence near to others?
10. After reflecting on this passage what gift, calling, or act of service might God be inviting you to recognize, develop, share, or use for the Lord?

The Way Home
Week 5: Leviticus 23

1. What do the appointed festivals in Leviticus 23 reveal about God's desire for His people to remember, celebrate, and pause throughout the year?
2. How does the rhythm of work and rest in the Sabbath challenge the way we structure our own lives today?
3. In what ways do the feasts in this chapter shape Israel's identity, and how might spiritual rhythms shape our identity as believers now?
4. What do the agricultural festivals (Firstfruits, Weeks, Booths) teach us about gratitude, dependence, and acknowledging God as provider?
5. How does the Day of Atonement highlight the seriousness of sin and the need for reconciliation with God?
6. Which festival stands out to you the most, and why do you think God included it in Israel's yearly calendar?
7. How might the themes of remembrance, sacrifice, and celebration in Leviticus 23 influence the way we approach worship today?
8. What does this chapter teach us about communal worship versus individual worship, and how do we balance both in our lives?
9. How do these feasts point forward to Jesus, and what connections do you see between the Old Testament festivals and the New Testament fulfillment?
10. If you were to create a "spiritual rhythm" or practice inspired by Leviticus 23, what would it look like and why?

The Way Home
Week 6: Number 13:26-14:9

1. In Numbers 13:26–33, all twelve spies see the same land and obstacles, yet they interpret them differently. What shapes the way each group understands what they see?
2. The ten spies say, “We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes.” What does this reveal about the connection between self-perception, fear, and faith?
3. Why do you think the Israelites prefer returning to slavery in Egypt rather than facing the uncertainty of the Promised Land?
4. Joshua and Caleb do not deny the danger; instead, they place the danger in the context of God’s presence. How does remembering that “the Lord is with us” change the way we face overwhelming challenges?
5. Fear magnifies the size of our enemies and shrinks our own abilities. When have you seen fear distort the way a situation was viewed?
6. What is the difference between being realistic about a problem and allowing fear to determine our response?
7. Change can be made through the process of “small, swell, swarm.” How can small acts of faithfulness grow into a movement that brings transformation?
8. What “giants” or “fortified cities” confront individuals, churches, or communities today, and what faithful response might God be calling forth?
9. Joshua and Caleb stood against the opinion of the majority. What helps a person remain faithful when the surrounding community is discouraged, fearful, or resistant?
10. Will you move forward when God calls? What might a “grasshopper-sized leap of faith” look like in your life or in your church right now?

The Way Home
Week 7: Deuteronomy 6:1-12

1. What does it mean to “hear” God, and how is listening connected to obedience in Deuteronomy 6?
2. There are four key words in this passage: Lord, alone, love, and all. Which of these speaks most directly to your life right now, and why?
3. What does knowing God by name reveal about the kind of relationship God desires to have with us?
4. What priorities, desires, or loyalties compete with God for the center of your life?
5. What might your calendar, spending, conversations, and habits reveal about what you value most?
6. How is loving God different from simply fearing, serving, or obeying God? How should love shape our obedience?
7. What would it look like for you to love God with all your heart, soul, and strength through your family, work, friendships, and daily responsibilities?
8. Deuteronomy 6:6–9 calls God’s people to speak about His commands throughout the day. What practical habits could help God’s Word become a more natural part of your home and daily life?
9. Why does Moses warn the Israelites not to forget God when they experience prosperity and comfort? In what ways can success cause spiritual forgetfulness today?
10. What practices might help us become people who “know what to do” when our faith is tested?