

Karissa Harrison // Sept. 13, 2020

*The Story: Deliverance*

The middle is **MESSY**.

How do we keep going? What is God doing? Where is He?

The stories of God's people have been collected and passed down so that we can learn from their experiences.

**Exodus 2:23-25** *The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them.*

God **REMEMBERS** you.

**Exodus 3:13-15** *Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name? Then what shall I tell them?'"*

*God said to Moses, "I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.'"*

*God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.'*

*"This is my name forever,  
the name you shall call me  
from generation to generation.*

God **REVEALS** himself to you.

**Exodus 6:6-7** *Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take*

*you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.*

God **RESCUES** you and **REDEEMS** your story.

**Exodus 6:9** *Moses reported this to the Israelites, but they did not listen to him because of their discouragement and harsh labor.*

**Exodus 14:10-14** *As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"*

*Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."*

What do you do when the middle is messy?

When they were **DISCOURAGED**, God taught them to remember God's faithfulness in community.

- Join a life group. (text "lifegroups" to 474747)

When they were **EXHAUSTED**, God taught them to rest.

- Rest like it's your job.

When they were **AFRAID**, God taught them to sit still and watch.

- Limit the noise.