

# From Slaves to Wilderness





# Brainstorm

What can you recall of the  
Exodus Narrative?







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## Exodus 2:23-25 nrsv.

Then Israelites groaned under their slavery, and cried out. Out of the slavery their cry for help rose up to God. God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them.

don't get lost in  
that red sea....

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- What happens if Moses gets lost?





A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a wooden swing set stands on a rocky, sparsely vegetated hillside. Two people are sitting on the swing, looking out over the valley. The background consists of rolling, eroded hills with distinct horizontal ridges, characteristic of a desert environment. The sky is clear and bright.

# The Wilderness

Landlessness does strange things to Israel – Walter Brueggemann

What do you recall of the Wilderness Narratives?





**Was this the  
promise of the  
Exodus?**





# Was this the promise of the Exodus?

Wilderness is not simply an in-between place demanding more stamina. It is a space away from ordered land. It is Israel's entry into the area of chaos, like the darkness of creation is "formless and void." Nothing grows here, it is a land without promise, without hope, where no newness comes. – there is no future. Here faith rapidly erodes.

(Brueggemann)

- Were they better off in Egypt?
- Why

# Amos 9:7

Are you not like the Cushites to me oh Israel? Says the Lord.

Did I not bring Israel up from the land of Egypt?

And the Philistines from Caphtor and the Arameans from Kir





Then the Israelites groaned under their slavery, and cried out. Out of the slavery their cry for help rose up to God. God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them.



Who then is YHWH for?

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