



Out of Egypt

Exodus 2:24 **“God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob.”** This is a really cool path. Again, notice that God initiates the path. Yes, the people cried out, but they did nothing. God hears and God makes a path. It’s a long story, but the Israelites sold themselves into slavery. A famine in the land caused them to sell everything for food, and even themselves. I believe they had left the land in search of food. They did not inquire or trust in the Lord.

There is a time and place to sit still and trust. Most of the time people should inquire first and act second. Think about it. God raised up Joseph to gather grain for the coming famine. They did not see the famine coming but God did. Was it God moving these people into the promise land the hard way? Let’s look quickly at the timelines. These people began to spread out. I think God was disappearing in their lives. God led Joseph to Egypt. Did God cause a famine to move the people to Joseph?

From there. God saved the baby Moses from certain death. He provided a path down the river to the power of Pharaohs household. Finally, the Israelites remembered God and cried out. It was time. God had laid the path to the promised land. From there, God forced Pharaohs hand through a series of miracles. The People were allowed to leave into the desert. God then opened the Red Sea so that they could fully escape Pharaohs army. God also provided a pillar of fire and smoke to lead the people out.

Most of the time we think of Moses in this story. He leads the people. He guided them to the promised land. Yet, that is plainly not true. God provided a series of situations to wake the people up. He even gathered them in one place. God then provided Moses to make the call to leave. It was time. Finally, God provided protection and light to make their way out of Egypt. God parted the sea and then closed it to keep them safe. This whole story has Moses in it, but it's God providing the path out of Egypt.

Right after this story we have the people grumbling to God. Had God led them into the desert wilderness to die? If I was God I would have toasted them right on the spot. Again, through a series of grumbings and calamity. God purged these people of the complainers. It took 40 years. Even Moses did not make it into the promised land. Yet, a remnant of Israel did follow the path God provided. Far too often we cry out to God. When he provides a way, we grumble. Do you grumble when it's not your idea, way, or answer?