



Your word is a lamp for my feet; a light on my path.  
– Psalm 119:105

# True North: Overview

## Day One

**Daily Theme:** Trailhead

**Promise Point:** God has a plan for me.

**Memory Verse:** The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart for all generations. – Psalm 33:11

## Day Two

**Daily Theme:** Off Course

**Promise Point:** My choices have consequences.

**Memory Verse:** So be careful to do what the LORD your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left. – Deuteronomy 5:32

## Day Three

**Daily Theme:** Sherpa

**Promise Point:** I can trust God.

**Memory Verse:** Your word is a lamp for my feet; a light on my path.– Psalm 119:105

## Day Four

**Daily Theme:** GORP

**Promise Point:** God will take care of me, now and forever.

**Memory Verse:** My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. – Philippians 4:19

## Day Five

**Daily Theme:** Leave No Trace

**Promise Point:** God's rules are for my good.

**Memory Verse:** For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. – John 1:17

## Day Six

**Daily Theme:** Summit

**Promise Point:** God has a Promised Land for me.

**Memory Verse:** As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you or forsake you. – Joshua 1:5b

# Day One Chapel: Trailhead

Main Text: Exodus 2:1-10

- Baby Moses is set adrift by his mother, found/adopted by Pharaoh's daughter

Promise Point:

- God has a plan for me.

Memory Verse: Psalm 33:11

- The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart for all generations.
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## INTRODUCTION

- Welcome campers
- Introduce yourself
- Introduce this week: True North
  - Backpacking, hiking, orienteering all started because of real needs
    - to find food (*follow herds, find good plants/land*)
    - to find shelter (*or supplies for shelter*)
    - for safety (*from humans, animals, nature*)
    - for power (*conquer enemies, enlarge territory, control trade routes*)
  - Orienteering= the art of getting oriented with your surroundings
    - Camp may seem big/strange/unfamiliar now, but you'll figure it out!
  - Now hiking is mostly done just for fun, challenge, adventure, escape, curiosity
    - Desire to push self to new heights
      - Many fun things to do this week at camp
    - Desire to push self to new depths
      - Much to learn about self, others, & God this week
  - Gear up for the week
    - Backpackers must be serious about what to bring AND what to leave behind – every ounce counts
      - Bring: open heart, good attitude, willingness to try new things, good shoes, snacks, toilet paper
      - Leave: drama, fear, technology, distractions from home
        - *Note: We ALL have baggage and many of these campers may be carrying way too much - we don't want to suggest that they shouldn't be concerned about these things or*

*that they shouldn't be authentic about who they are or where they come from. Rather, we simply want to encourage them to be engaged in the camp experience, including what God has to offer them this week.*

- Introduce today: Trailhead
  - "A journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step." – Lao-Tzu
  - Lots of preparation before arriving at trailhead
    - Lots of preparation to get here today (parents/family, self, pack, travel, counselors, cooks, etc.)
    - Get equipped for journey!
      - Outfitters have gear, resources, maps
      - We have Bible, Holy Spirit, traditions, churches, parents
      - It's okay to be nervous!
  - Trailhead is just the beginning of the hike, points the way to great views, possible challenges
    - Everyone starts somewhere – journeys of faith/learning/skill/family/love aren't accomplished in one day
    - Hikers come from different places to travel together for this particular leg of the trail
      - "Everyone has a different path on the same trail." – AT thru-hiker Eric "On Purpose" Lorrain
      - Like at camp – from different places, families, schools, here to walk together this week!
- Introduce Moses
  - Leader of Israelite people in Old Testament
    - Spent forty years walking, wandering, camping in desert
    - Witnessed and participated in many miracles
      - Plagues, Passover, parting of Red Sea, cloud by day, fire by night, water from rock, manna from sky – we'll hear all about it this week!
    - Was definitely chosen by God for a specific plan, but at the beginning of his life, that wasn't so obvious....

## SCRIPTURE/APPLICATION

- *Genesis 37-47 - Joseph was sold by his brothers, but God brought him into a position of leadership to save his family years later. The family moved to Egypt to avoid famine.*
  - *Genesis 15:13-14 – God to Abraham – already knew the events of the Exodus Moses would lead generations later*
    - *God is not surprised*
    - *God has a plan*
      - *Memory Verse: Psalm 33:11*
        - *“through generations” – knew Moses would do this before Joseph existed*
          - *God’s plan exists LONG before we’re aware*
          - *Abraham (who was childless during this conversation) is Joseph’s great grandpa*
  - *Exodus 1 - Joseph’s family multiplies, new Pharaoh comes to power, scared of Israelites, enslaves them & orders killing of baby boys*
- *Exodus 2:1-10*
  - *vv. 1-2 - Jewish woman had a baby and hid him for three months*
    - *broke rules to keep him alive!*
      - *Exodus 1:17-19 – God used midwives’ disobedience to accomplish His plan*
        - *Uses surprising ways/people*
      - *Day Five: rules vs. grace*
    - *Moses was a baby!*
      - *A real human, the Bible is true*
      - *Babies are weak, vulnerable – Moses is legendary hero – all great things start small*
        - *You never know where God’s path will take you!*
    - *Hebrews 11:23*
      - *Sometimes people in our lives can see God working in/on/through us before we can*
  - *vv. 3-4 – mother sent baby in river*
    - *to keep him alive!*
      - *Not because she didn’t care - still loved him- prepared basket, sent sister to watch*

- *(Today's Promise)* God has a plan
  - things that seem bad may actually be for our good!
- vv. 5-6 – Pharaoh's daughter finds baby
  - had compassion on him
    - knew he was Hebrew, cared enough to defy her father
  - wasn't an accident
    - she had the power to save him
    - God led the baby to her
    - maybe Moses' mom knew the princess' schedule?
- vv. 7-10 – given back to his family
  - Miriam – trusted her mom, had courage to talk to princess (she was a slave!)
    - Risk requires trust
  - Mom – trusted God, had courage to save baby
    - Got her son back to feed/care for
    - Courage to give him BACK to the princess
      - Knew it was best for him
      - Had to let him go twice!
        - *Today's Small Group: Mary also had to trust God, had to let her Son go*

## WRAP UP

- Here we are at the trailhead! Let's make this a great trip!
- Promise Point
- Memory Verse

# Day One Small Group: Trailhead

## **\*\*Helpful Hints\*\***

Today sets the tone for other discussions you will have with your campers this week. It's up to you to walk a fine line between energy and focus so that campers will both look forward to and learn from Small Group. We want campers to feel comfortable answering and asking questions without being distracting or silly, so just continue to be your super fun self, but emphasize respect for each other and reverence for the awesomeness of God's Word as you begin. If you are genuinely excited about the Bible and the things God has taught you about Himself and yourself through it, the campers will catch your enthusiasm and want to know more.

Campers may not be ready to share very much this early in the week – that's okay! Acknowledge those who do and don't press those who don't. Remember: They're tired. It's been a big day of travelling, saying goodbye to family, meeting new people, doing new things. Discussions will grow as relationships do.

### Promise Point:

- God has a plan for me.

### Memory Verse: Psalm 33:11

- The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart for all generations.

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## INTRODUCTION

- ~ Small Group intro
  - o Time of Bible study/theme discussion
  - o Just as cool as horses, swimming, crafts, other parts of camp
  - o Confidential/safe space to share
  - o Special, specific time each day, but you can ALWAYS follow up/ask questions about all this "God stuff" to any staff at any time!
- ~ Theme intro
  - o This week: True North, orienteering, hiking, camping
    - **Have you ever used a compass or set up a tent by yourself?**
      - Tricky/hard/weird/confusing at first...and can still be hard after experience/practice!

- Sometimes getting into church/camp/Bible/faith is hard, too!
  - Whole new thing for some
  - Something we've seen someone do but never really done ourselves
  - Ok to be confused, overwhelmed – we're learning together!
- **What do you think when you hear the phrase “True North”?**
- **Have you ever really needed to know which way “north” was?**
- **What is your favorite outdoor activity?**
- **Would you rather go on an adventure on a river, through a jungle, or in a forest? Why?**
- *Personal Story, Option A: Share a short, funny tale about something that happened while camping or hiking*
- Today: Trailhead
  - **What do you think when you hear the word “trailhead”?**
  - **What is your favorite trail to hike with your friends or family?**
  - *Optional: Trailheads have lots of signs – maps, directions, rules, names – take a minute to revisit camper names, camp rules, where the bathrooms/dining hall are, etc.*

## HIKING

- Orienteering = getting oriented with your surroundings – use map and compass to figure out which direction is which and how to get from here to there
  - Necessary skill for hunters, hikers, explorers
  - Now more of a hobby/sport
    - **With GPS and all kinds of apps, why is it still important to know how to read a map/compass?**
- The USA has amazing National Parks and trail systems for cool hiking and camping adventures
  - **Have you ever been to one? What was your favorite part?**
- Some of the most famous trail systems (that we'll be talking about this week!) are the Pacific Crest Trail and the Appalachian Trail.



- Pacific Crest Trail (PCT): 2663 miles along the top (ridgeline/crest) of 9 mountain ranges from the Mexican border, through California, Oregon, and Washington to the Canadian border
- Appalachian Trail (AT): 2180 miles through 14 states from Georgia to Maine
- Both have popular areas to hike for a day or two, but some people commit to doing the WHOLE trail. These people are called "Thru-Hikers." It takes MONTHS of focus, strength, and endurance.
  - **What is one thing you want to accomplish, even if it will be hard?**
- Famous Thru-Hiker tradition to adopt a nickname for the course of the hike
  - Can be totally random or based on looks, hometowns, interests, background, personality (Bubbles), or career (military = Sarge, farmer = Old McDonald)
    - **What would your thru-hiker name be? Why?**
      - *Optional: let campers decide if they'd like to be called that name this week (just make sure you know their real name for safety reasons!)*
- Today's Theme: Trailhead – the place where the trail begins
  - We are at the beginning of the week, but our camp journeys started before this moment
    - Packing, traveling, planning, registration, deciding to come
  - **Do you like to plan or just go with the flow?**
  - **What kind of preparation would someone need for a 3 hour hike?**
  - **What kind of preparation do you need for a 3 DAY hike?**
  - **What kind of preparation do you need for a 3 MONTH hike?**
  - **No matter how long the trip was, what would happen if someone arrived at the trailhead without any planning or preparation?**
- Part of the fun of the trail is that (no matter how prepared you are) you never really know what's around the next corner – an amazing view, a refreshing stream, a beautiful bird, etc.
  - **Have you ever been surprised by something awesome? How did it affect the plans you had?**

- Just like good things can surprise you, even when you have a plan and plenty of supplies, bad things can happen along the trail – illness, weather, scary animal encounters, etc.
  - o **Have you ever had a plan that you were excited about that didn't work out or went badly? What happened? How did you react?**

## DISCUSSION

- The trailhead is a fun place to pause, take pictures, and get excited for the journey ahead - but the real adventure is just beginning!
- At chapel today, we heard (*or will hear*) about the beginning of Moses' story: the Pharaoh was afraid of the strength of the Israelites in his kingdom and wanted all the boy babies killed, but Moses' mother saved him by putting him in a basket in the river, where he was found and adopted by the Pharaoh's daughter.
  - o (*Even/especially if you don't know the rest of Moses' story,*) **do you think God had a plan for Moses before this moment?**
  - o (*Even/especially if you DO know what happens next for Moses,*) **how can you see from this beginning that God was planning and preparing Moses for something special?**
- All week in Small Group we will be looking at moments in Jesus' life to see how His adventure on Earth was similar to Moses'!
  - o Read (or have a volunteer read) Luke 1:26-38.
    - **How does this compare with what we know about Moses so far?**
      - (*both moms had to trust God to do something crazy like putting a baby in a river or becoming pregnant by the Holy Spirit*)
    - **This is the beginning of Jesus' story on earth, but do you think God had a plan for Mary before this moment?**
    - *Personal Story, Option B: tell about a time with God asked you or someone you know to do something that seemed crazy, but that was obviously part of His plan*
- Read (or have a volunteer read) Matthew 2:1-16.
  - o **Why did King Herod want to kill baby Jesus?**
  - o **How does this compare to what we know about Moses so far?**
    - (*both were in danger from an angry/fearful/jealous king*)

- *Fun fact: Jesus and His family fled TO Egypt for safety while Moses and his were trying to get OUT of Egypt!*
- So, God had a plan for Moses before the river. He had a plan for Mary before the angel's visit. He had a plan for Jesus before He was even born (a plan that started when Adam & Eve disobeyed God and took Jesus all the way to the cross).
  - **Do you think that God has a plan for YOU? How do you know? Have you seen part of it yet?**
- Read (or have a volunteer read) Psalm 139:13-16.
- Read (or have a volunteer read) Isaiah 43:2-7.
  - **How do these verses make you feel about God's plan for you?**
- Today's Memory Verse is Psalm 33:11 – "The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart for all generations."
  - **How does it feel to know that God's plans never fail?**
  - **How does trusting God's plan help us know which paths to take?**

## REFLECTION

**\*\*TO BE ANSWERED SILENTLY IN BOOKLETS\*\***

- **What are you most excited for this week?**
- Along many trails you can find signs, blazes (markings on trees), and cairns (piles of rocks) that tell hikers which way to go AND which way not to go.  
**What are some things or who are some people that can help people figure out which way to go or not go in real life?**
- **Do you really believe God has a plan for you?**

## WRAP UP

- ~ Promise Point: God has a plan for me.
- ~ Memory Verse: Psalm 33:11
- ~ Pray or have a volunteer pray to close.

## Day Three Take Ten: Sherpa

Imagine you are lost in the woods with a friend. You've been wandering for hours when you decide to split up for ten minutes to look for a path. When you get back together, your friend declares, "Here's the plan! We'll go north for two miles, then west for half a mile until we cross the creek, and then go uphill 500 yards and we'll be at the campground!"

**What would you say? How would you feel?**

What if your friend had started off with "When we split up, I ran into a forest ranger, and he told me...."? **Would it be easier to trust the plan? Why? On a scale of 1-10, how important is it for you to know the source of the plan before you jump into action?**

**Read Exodus 3:13-15.** When Moses asked God who he should say sent him, God called Himself the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob - major figures in the history of the Israelites! Abraham was the one who got the original promise of the "Promised Land" that Moses would lead the Israelites toward. Abraham trusted God's plan for his family, even though he didn't even have any children yet (*Genesis 15:1-7*). **Have you ever trusted God with something that seemed impossible, and then it actually happened? How did that affect your faith?**

Isaac was the first son of Abraham's wife, Sarah – the one through whom the promise would come true. But in Genesis 22, God asked Abraham to go up a mountain and sacrifice Isaac! At the last minute, God provided a ram and Isaac was saved. Both Abraham and Isaac trusted that God had a plan for them as they started hiking that day. **Have you ever trusted God, even though you were scared and had no idea how things would work out?**

Jacob was the son of Isaac and the father of Joseph. Joseph worked for the (nice) Pharaoh during a famine, which led to Jacob's whole family (aka the Israelites) coming to Egypt in the first place. **Read Genesis 15:12-14.** Talking to Abraham (Jacob's grandfather), God already knew that the Israelites would be enslaved and then freed, 400 years before Moses was ever born.

**How does it make you feel to know that God already has plans for your triumphs, even before your troubles come?**

Promise Point: I can trust God.

Memory Verse: Your word is a lamp for my feet; a light on my path. – Psalm 119:105

# Day Three Object Lesson: Sherpa

## Supplies:

- Rock climbing gear (harness, rope, ATC, carabiner)

## Set Up:

- Put on gear
  - *Optional: have campers meet at the bottom of a cliff, ropes course, or climbing tower – presenter belays down to start presentation*

## Object & Application:

- Hikers can face extreme trails/terrain that requires climbing or belaying
- Show/explain gear set up
  - Harness – allows you to tie in, connects you to system that will keep you safe
    - Word connects us to God's plan, helps us see the way
      - Memory Verse
  - Rope – will hold you, help you get where you're going
    - God holds you – Isaiah 41:10, Psalm 63:8, Psalm 139:10
  - Carabiner – locks into belay device, others clip into bolts along the way
    - Holy Spirit guides along the way - John 16:13
  - ATC – used as brake to slow descent, hold in place to rest, stop fall
    - God will take care of you (tomorrow Promise Point)
    - Sometimes we need to slow down or go back to start
    - Sometimes we need to take a break and refocus
    - Sometimes we fall and need to be saved
- Have to trust anchors, gear, belayer, bolts
  - can't always see the top/bottom
    - Memory verse – not a floodlight – one step at a time
  - don't always know when/by whom bolts were placed
  - Promise Point
    - can't always see/hear/feel God, don't always know His plan
      - CAN always trust Him!

Promise Point: I can trust God.

Memory Verse: Your word is a lamp for my feet; a light on my path. – Psalm 119:105

# Day Three Small Group: Sherpa

Memory Verse: Psalm 119:105

- Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Promise Point:

- I can trust God.

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## INTRODUCTION

- Recap yesterday: Off Course
  - o Promise Point: My choices have consequences.
  - o Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 5:32
- Theme Intro: Sherpa
  - o **Does anyone know what a sherpa is?**
    - *The word sherpa is now used to describe any hired mountain guide. The term started with the Sherpa people, a native group in northeastern Nepal, who were known for their expertise and skill in the Himalayas. Most famously, explorers climbing Mt. Everest would hire Sherpa men to help them on their expeditions, because of their familiarity with the area.*
  - o **If you were lost, would you rather take directions for a local or a tourist? Why?**

## HIKING

- Most basic form of natural navigation is the use of landmarks. Most of us can (and do!) give directions without using street names or directions.
  - o **What landmarks do you use to tell people how to find your house?**
- We all use landmarks and naturally associate certain points with distance – knowing how long it will take after we see a certain thing until we reach our destination – but **what happens when the landmark we depend on changes?** (*the tree gets cut down, the house gets painted, the business gets a new sign, etc.*)
  - o **What happens when things that we've used for direction in real life change?** (*parents getting divorced, loved one dying, new home, illness/injury, breakup...*)

- *Personal Story, Option A: tell about when you felt lost or had to redefine your direction when something/someone solid in your life changed or disappeared*
- Sometimes the landmarks change, but the other problem is that it really only works for locals. When you're in a new place, you wonder if THIS was the hill you were supposed to turn at the top of or if you should wait for another, bigger hill. You wonder if the "house with the red roof" was that kind of orange-ish one or if you should be looking for a REALLY red one...
  - That's the benefit of a sherpa – a local guide who knows for sure!
    - **When have you faced a new experience without someone to show you the way? How did you feel?**
    - **When have you faced the unknown with a guide by your side? How was that different?**
    - **Why is it so scary to go into new territory?**
    - **What are some new paths you may be facing soon?**

## DISCUSSION

- **Do you think it's easier to trust a guide who has actually been there before or one who is simply confident in that sort of situation? Why?**
  - *Personal Story, Option B: tell about the difference between two friends that tried to help you – could be a simple example (one who googled directions to a place vs. the local who had been there a thousand times) or a more personal one (a friend who didn't know how to help when your mom got cancer vs the friend who had walked with their dad through chemo a couple years ago)*
- One of the beautiful things about having Jesus as our guide is that He not only knows about our lives and our challenges, but He has also actually, physically experienced them!
  - *Including hunger, tiredness, pain, anger, grief, being looked down upon, being challenged/mockd, betrayal by a friend, wishing things were different, asking God for guidance...*
- **Why is it important to be able to trust your guide on the trail?**

- **How would a hiker/climber know if they can or should trust their sherpa?**
- Read (or have a volunteer read) Psalm 9:9-10.
- Read (or have a volunteer read) Psalm 111:2-9.
  - **What do these verses say about why we can trust God as our guide?**
- *Personal Story, Option C: tell about when you or someone you know went through a really hard time and didn't know what direction to go, but trusted that God would get you through simply because He's done it before*
  - *Psalm 143:5 & 8-10*
- Just after Jesus got back from His time in the desert (*yesterday Small Group*), He started gathering His disciples.
  - Read (or have a volunteer read) Matthew 4:12-22.
    - **How do you think you'd react if you were Andrew or James?**
    - **What did they actually do?**
- Jesus said "follow me" and they DID. He said "come with me" and they OBEYED right away! (v. 20 - "at once"; v.22 - "immediately")
  - **How do you react when someone tells you what to do?**
  - **Why do some people view obedience as a flaw or weakness?**
- Obedience (especially to God!) doesn't require weakness. Often, it requires great strength.
  - **How is Moses showing strength in obedience in our chapel story so far?**
    - (*listened to God by heading back to Egypt even though he's scared, even though he left both of his families even though he doesn't think he's a good leader, even though the last time he was there Pharaoh was trying to kill him*)
  - In Exodus 4:13 when Moses was talking to the burning bush, he said "O Lord, please send someone else to do it." He didn't want to go!
    - Even Jesus, the night before He went to the cross, asked God three times to "take this cup away" (Matthew 26:39, 42, 44), but He also prayed that He would follow the path God had for Him.
      - **Why is it so hard to do the right thing, even when you KNOW it's the right thing?**



- Sometimes obedience is scary. Often obedience is difficult. But it's worth it.
  - o Appalachian Trail/Pacific Coast Trail thru hikers walk for weeks and months at a time, averaging 20 miles a day, carrying heavy packs, getting blisters and losing toenails, sleeping on the ground, feeling cold and wet and tired and hungry and thirsty...
  - o ...and every one of them who has finished the 2,000+ miles will tell you it's worth it.
    - Read (or have a volunteer read) James 1:12.
      - If we can stick with the journey, it's worth it!
- Every journey is made one step at a time
  - o Memory Verse: Psalm 119:105
    - **How is God's Word like a light for us?**
    - *Personal Story, Option D: tell about a verse or passage of Scripture that guided you through a dark time*
    - Have you ever been walking in the woods at night? Even just from campfire to the cabin, it's really helpful to have a flashlight! Sometimes we'd rather see the whole journey lit up like a floodlight, but often the "light to my path" only reveals one step at a time.
      - **Why is it important to trust God when we can't see the big picture? How does the Bible help in these times?**
- There's a difference between wanting to hike the Appalachian Trail and actually hiking it. There's a difference between getting the right compass bearing and actually sticking to it. And there's a difference between knowing the Truth and actually following it.
  - o **What if the disciples heard the call and believed it, but stayed to fish?**
  - o **What if you know what's right but don't do it?**
  - o **What if you know what's true but don't confront the lie?**
  - o **What are some times that it would be a big step of faith/obedience to follow where God is leading you?**

## REFLECTION

**\*\*TO BE ANSWERED SILENTLY IN BOOKLETS\*\***

- **Who is someone you would trust to be your sherpa in a new situation?**

- In another version of the story where Jesus called his disciples, it says that "...they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him." (Luke 5:11)
  - o **How much trust did it take to leave EVERYTHING and just obey?**
  - o **What is the connection between trust and obedience?**
- Read Proverbs 3:5-6. **What does it mean that God will "make your paths straight"?**

## WRAP UP

- Promise Point: I can trust God.
- Memory Verse: Psalm 119:105
- Pray (or have a volunteer pray) to close.

# Day Three Chapel: Sherpa

Main Text: Exodus 4:20-14:31

- Moses returns to Egypt, meets with Pharaoh
- Plagues, Passover
- Exodus through Red Sea

Promise Point:

- I can trust God.

Memory Verse: Psalm 119:105

- Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
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## INTRODUCTION

- *Personal Story, Option A: Tell about a time when you had to trust God when you could only see part of the plan*
- *Personal Story, Option B: Contrast a time when you had to obey someone you didn't trust vs. a time when someone you do trust asked you to do something wild*
- *Personal Story, Option C: Tell about a time when God kept His promises over and over on a journey you were nervous about*
- *Personal Story, Option D: Tell about a time you were faced with a big challenge or decision and God used Scripture to guide you and increase your trust in Him*

## SCRIPTURE/APPLICATION

- Exodus 4:20-23 – Moses leaves for Egypt
  - o v. 21 – God tells Moses that He will harden Pharaoh's heart
  - o v. 23 – God planned the plagues before Moses ever met with Pharaoh
    - God is true to His word and loyal to His people
      - (so we can trust Him)

Exodus 5:1-23

- o vv. 1-5 – Moses and Aaron ask Pharaoh to let the people go for a 3 day festival
  - v. 1 - go without REALLY knowing what's in store
    - Promise Point
    - Memory Verse - sometimes one step at a time (lamp, not floodlight)

- v. 2 – Pharaoh: I don’t know the Lord, why should I obey?
  - Obedience is easier with trust
- vv. 6-19 – Pharaoh takes away straw for bricks, making Israelites’ job harder
  - vv. 20-21 – Israelites confront Moses, don’t trust him
  - vv. 22-23 – Moses confronts God, doesn’t trust Him
- Exodus 6:1-12 – reassurance and doubt
  - vv. 1-8 – God responds to Moses
    - reminds him who He is
      - “because of MY mighty hand ”(x2)
      - “I am the Lord” (x4)
      - Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (x2)
    - we can trust God because of Who He is
  - v. 9 - Israelites don’t trust/obey because discouraged, didn’t believe
    - we get caught in our own troubles, can’t see what God is doing
      - hikers get lost when tired/hungry/head down – better to keep bearing by looking up
    - *Personal Story, Option E: tell about a time when it was hard to trust God (or a human) because you were caught up in your own difficult/painful situation*
  - vv. 10-12- Moses sent back to Pharaoh, still nervous
    - also Exodus 3:11, 4:10 & 13, 6:30 – doubt his own ability
      - went anyway!
        - trust and obedience are more important than skill/talent
    - *Personal Story, Option F: tell about a time when it was difficult to trust God (or a human) because you were not confident in your own abilities*
- Exodus 7:1-15 – Moses and Aaron sent to Pharaoh
  - vv. 3-4 – God will harden Pharaoh’s heart, he will not listen
  - v. 7 – never too old (or young) for God’s plan
  - v. 10 – went to Pharaoh
    - even though scared, unsure
      - not the only one to wonder but still trust/obey!
        - Gideon, Jeremiah, Mary, JESUS!
  - vv. 10-12 – signs from burning bush

- v. 13 – Pharaoh doesn’t listen
    - “just as the Lord had said” (*at least 7x just in chapters 7-9!*)
      - I can trust God (Promise Point)
  - v. 15 – met Pharaoh on the bank of the river during morning routine
    - perhaps God reminding Moses of Exodus 2:5?
      - There’s been a plan all along!
        - God is trustworthy!
- Exodus 7:17-12:30 - Plagues
- 7:17-11:10 - Plagues
    - Bloody water, frogs, gnats, flies, livestock disease, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, death of firstborns
      - Israelites unaffected
      - Pharaoh says go but changes mind - heart is still hard
        - 11:9 – “so that my wonders may be multiplied”
          - We can trust that God’s goodness can shine through terrible circumstances
  - 12:1-30 – Passover
    - Israelites trusted and obeyed
- Exodus 12:31-41 – the Exodus
- vv. 31-32 – Pharaoh finally says (and means) go
  - v. 36 – plundered Egyptians on the way out
    - as God said to Abraham in Genesis 15:14!
      - all part of the plan!
  - left with 600,000 men - plus women, children, & animals! (v. 37-38)
    - Moses as their “sherpa” – leading into the unknown
- Exodus 13:17-14:3 – in the desert
- 13:17 – God knows how much we can handle
    - Memory Verse – lamp vs. floodlight, one step at a time
  - 13:21-22 – presence of God led them 24/7
    - we may wander, but we don’t wander alone!
      - God is our sherpa – trustworthy leader!
    - Kept leading through the whole journey (Exodus 40:36-38)
  - 14:4 – God hardens Pharaoh’s heart again
    - For God’s own glory!

- Exodus 14:5-31 – the Red Sea
  - vv. 5-9 – Pharaoh’s army pursues the Israelites
  - vv. 10-14 – Israelites scared, Moses reassures
  - vv. 15-30 – Israelites walk through the sea, Egyptians drown
    - v. 31 – “when the Israelites saw...the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant”
      - Why not trust when kept safe from plagues, passed over by angel of death, released from 400 years slavery, walking through the Sea.....?

## WRAP UP

- We can trust God because He does what He says He’ll do
  - God’s Word is a lamp – we can look to the Bible to know what He says
  - Everything happened for Moses just as God said it would
    - Exodus 6:6-8...“I will..”
      - Bring you out
      - Free you
      - Redeem you
      - Show my might
      - Take you as my people
      - Be your God
      - Keep my promise
      - Give you possession of the Promised Land
        - And He did!!
          - And He can/will for us too!
- Promise Point
- Memory Verse
  - when we’re scared (like Moses), God’s Word shows us over and over that we can trust Him, helps us take the next step