



Foreign Faith | Lost And Stuck

Preached on July 27, 2025

Speaker: Phil EuBank

Good Morning, Menlo Church, and welcome to a brand new series that we're starting this weekend called foreign faith. And really in these coming weeks, we'll be talking about a tension we all feel of living differently than the culture around us. A special shout out to those of you joining us at one of our campuses in the Bay Area in San Mateo, Menlo Park, Mountain View, Saratoga. It's a little easier even at the end of July working to stay cool. I think we're all praying, "Dear God, please do not make us pay for this in August."

Like, it's been good. Let's just keep going. And a special welcome to those of you joining us online. Thanks for making this a part of your day as well.

Now, before we get started, as I think about this time of the year, if you'll indulge me for just a minute, can I offer you a little bit of pastoral advice as we get ready to turn the page to August? I know I just asked you a question you can't really say no to.

But if your schedule is anything like mine, as you turn the page into August and then certainly into September, it can all of a sudden be a reality that our calendars just get fully loaded really quick. And there are some lessons that I think I'm quick to forget, lessons maybe that you've never heard before or it's been a little while since you've incorporated. And I just want to give you a chance before August hits to think about these first.

Busy does not equal important; it equals unintentional. If time around the dinner table is important to you with your family or friends or just honestly having some margin in your calendar this fall, I'm telling you, if you don't build that stuff in now and work behind that, like work around it, it will get squeezed out.

Lesson number two, you can say yes to the best or say yes to the rest, but you can't say yes to both. And I think this is one of those lessons that this isn't like a Christian thing. This isn't even a faith thing. This is like a thing thing. And so everybody, I think we know we live in a culture that says you can have anything and do everything. And we know intuitively that's not true.

And here's the thing, I just wonder in your life what is most important that you need to make sure is your non-negotiable and everything else works around it.

And if I can poke just like one more degree of discomfort to you, if for you or if you're a student or maybe for your kids, sports are a really big deal. Can I just remind you as we head into the fall, your soul is worth more than sports? Can I get an amen?

Okay, I just, I know that's making you uncomfortable. Just want to, I'll move on quickly.

And finally, rest is a responsibility, not a reward. Whether we're talking about a weekly practice like Sabbath or daily rhythms where you wind down and really rest, we are responsible for stewarding this habit in our life. And we don't wait till we have it all together till we've arrived till everything is perfect to choose to do it. Because if that's when we wait to do it, we will never do it.

So why am I sharing these things? Well, because here's the thing that at least in my life I can have a tendency of doing. I can think about all of these lessons right around mid-August when it's too late to do anything with them. I've already sort of said yes to the things I'm going to say yes to. My calendar's already wound up.

And so my hope is that just with that reminder, maybe you'll think differently about your fall. You actually have agency to control your commitments and what you will do or not do.

I know how our time works. Before we think about it, we will have said yes to everything and we will find ourselves exhausted, overwhelmed, and empty from the things that we thought would fill us up. But it turns out they just left us more empty.

As a matter of fact, in this series, we're going to spend some time discussing the different lives that followers of Jesus have always been meant to live in cultures that look quite different. Our culture right now, it has plans for us. Our culture's plans for us are really for you and me to consume while we are being consumed.

That we're distracted. We don't even see what's happening to us. But there is a better way to live. And we're going to talk about that in just a minute.

In the pages of the Hebrew scriptures, we'll walk alongside God's people, Israel, as they experience the painful lessons of living in the wilderness, surrounded by cultures with different values and different habits. We aren't the first ones to face the tensions we feel. And that's really good news because we can see how God showed up and was faithful before.

Before we dive in any further though, I'm going to pray for us. And if you've never been here before or never heard me speak, before I speak, I pray kneeling out of a deep gratitude for the love that God has extended to each and every one of us and the way that he walks with us even in the darkest times.

Would you pray with me?

God, I am acutely aware of what's going on in the lives of people today at all of our campuses. People walking out seasons of life they didn't anticipate. People who had expectations of this season. People

who had expectations of this summer and those changed. People who are financially in a place that they didn't expect. People who are facing diagnoses that they're not sure how to walk through well. People facing relationships that have changed dramatically. People even thinking about the existential crisis of purpose in their moment.

God, would you be close to the brokenhearted today? Would you remind us even as we're reminded by your people and the pages you've preserved about your love and your faithfulness for us today? It's in Jesus' name. Amen.

Now, going on about three years ago, our family was preparing to move from Colorado where we lived to California. We had lived in Seattle before that. So, there were a lot of things about Silicon Valley that felt kind of familiar. It didn't feel like they were brand new, but I also knew that there would be a lot that I would have to learn.

I remember really early on, shortly after I arrived, when I was having coffee with someone here and we were discussing our hopes for what

God might do next at Menlo, our family's plans to move here. But I have to admit, the entire conversation, I was distracted.

So, we were at a coffee shop and there was a lady that sat down just right next to us. And as she sat down, she took off a winter hat and gloves. Like, it's wintertime gloves. And I thought to myself, I'm judging you. Like, I couldn't imagine that this was the kind of thing that they should be wearing winter wardrobe stuff for. I had come from Colorado. I had grown up in the Midwest and this like mid-50-degree morning didn't seem to warrant gloves or a hat to me. And if you're like, "Wow, how could you judge them?" Just hang on. Just hang on. Fast forward to last week, July of 2025.

You know where this is going. I'm walking to the office on a cool morning in the mid-50s. And I am wearing a puffer jacket. Now I have become a California weather wimp. Now you can make fun of me. I made fun of myself as I realized was like what am I doing right now? Right?

But that's the thing. That's how culture works. Like we just slowly adapt to the temperature around us. Like when we think about a lobster getting boiled, you think it doesn't happen 100 degrees at a time. It happens one degree at a time. And there are a lot of things in our culture today that work the same way.

But we're going to go back in time to when Israel had escaped Egyptian captivity and they were living on the run while still running on a cultural operating system that wasn't God's best for them. Today I want to give you an overview of how they arrived at this point in their history. If your only frame of reference is like an animated movie or a small snapshot of this moment, I want to spend a few minutes examining the bigger timeline and then look at a single snapshot of when they felt lost and stuck so that you can find hope where maybe you feel lost and stuck. And here's the good news. When you feel stuck, God is just getting started.

As a matter of fact, oftentimes, I don't know about you, it takes me coming to the end of my plan before I'm even open to God's plan. And that's what they found as well. That's what's happening with Israel.

They had been in Egyptian captivity for centuries. By the time that they get to the Red Sea moment that we all can kind of think of, whatever version of this story you know, Israel had been in Egypt for more than 400 years. Now, not all of that was in slavery, but for generations, they had lived under Pharaoh's thumb long enough for fear to feel familiar and freedom to feel foreign.

Now, before we get to the Red Sea moment, let's rewind the clock a few hundred years. Normally we walk through just a handful of verses together, but today we're going to look at larger portions of the Bible. And we're going to recap it of how we get to this point for the benefit of the rest of our series together.

First we have the arrival when Israel found itself in Egypt. See, the Israelites didn't start out in Egypt as slaves. They arrived as guests. It

started with some family drama. The kind of family drama that would look maybe like the worst of your Thanksgiving dinner you can think of right now pales in comparison to what we're talking about.

Joseph, one of Jacob's sons, was betrayed by his brothers and he was sold into slavery. He ended up in Egypt. And over years of unfair treatment, false accusations, and unwarranted prison time, Joseph rose to become second in command in the most powerful nation on the planet.

There were plenty of times when he must have felt tremendously stuck, where God was just getting started to putting him into a place he would have never anticipated, to circumstances he would have never asked for. That ultimately was a part of the plan of placing him in leadership and influence to help not only the brothers that betrayed him, but the family that thought he was dead and the entire nation would survive.

Now, when famine hit Canaan just as he had predicted, Joseph's family came to Egypt desperate for food. They needed help. And instead of revenge, Joseph offered forgiveness. And he brought his family about 70 people in total to settle in Goshan, the best pasture land in all of Egypt to outlast the famine and to build for the future.

Now things are starting great. Like they're doing so well. They're protected. They have affluence. They have food. They grew as a people. But over generations, what started as a blessing became a burden, or at least it felt that way, to Egypt.

The memory of Joseph faded and so did their special status in Egypt. From there came the shift. See, a new Pharaoh had come into power who didn't care about the agreements that were made with Joseph or his family. And all he saw was a growing population of foreigners and fear took over.

I think one of those principles we often forget is that fear has a way of reshaping people around us into problems for us. That we forget that people around us, even if they look different than us, even if they have different values than us, that they're created in the image of God. And for Pharaoh, he never had that worldview. So, he certainly didn't bring it to Israel. He decided to enslave the Israelites. He put them into brutal, forced labor, making bricks in the scorching sun and building cities that God's people would never get to live in.

But even under oppression, Israel multiplied. The more Pharaoh tried to crush them, the more God blessed them and multiplied them. So, Pharaoh made things even worse. He commanded the Hebrew midwives to kill every baby boy at birth. When that didn't work, he ordered all male infants to be thrown into the Nile. Generations of Israelites grew up under the collective trauma of seeing their baby brothers taken and drowned.

Now, this wasn't just physical slavery. It was generational despair. After centuries in Egypt, slavery wasn't just their situation anymore. It

had become their identity. They didn't have a memory of what it was like before it. Freedom didn't even feel like an option anymore. Star Trek didn't invent the idea that resistance is futile. Egypt did.

See, Israel had never stopped hoping. Even in the midst of that much pain, even in the midst of feeling that stuck, and it ultimately led to the outcry, in the midst of hopelessness, the people of Israel cried out (Exodus 2:23-25). For years, it probably felt like their prayers were going nowhere.

But God, he heard, and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. And his plans were still moving. So he raised up Moses, a Hebrew baby saved from Pharaoh's genocide, adopted into the royal household, educated in Egyptian culture, but born with a heart for God's people, Israel, for his people.

Moses tried to intervene on his own earlier in his life, and he fails, killing an Egyptian and fleeing to the desert to escape persecution. And for 40 years, he lived as a shepherd, probably feeling as stuck as

you can possibly imagine, feeling like whatever God's best was for him, he had left behind.

But God had not forgotten Moses. And he had not forgotten his people. Out in the wilderness, God appears to Moses in a burning bush and calls him back to Egypt with a mission to lead his people out of slavery. At the moment when Israel must have felt completely abandoned, totally stuck with generations steeped in this intractable and inescapable captivity, God was always working.

When they had given up, God would show up with the deliverance that they had been waiting for. So Moses, he returns to Egypt with a stutter and a brother named Aaron. And he demands that Pharaoh release the Israelites. Pharaoh refuses. And what follows is a cosmic showdown between the God of Israel and the gods of Egypt.

The plagues were not random. If you're familiar with this point, those things that happened, they were not just random things that God

brought about. They targeted the Egyptian so-called gods with each one. The Nile turned to blood. Frogs overran the land. Gnats and flies swarmed. Livestock died. Boils broke out. Hail destroyed crops. Darkness blotted out the sun. And finally, the firstborn sons of Egypt died in a single night. And with each degree of severity getting worse, finally God breaks through to Pharaoh and he lets Israel go.

After 430 years in Egypt, God's people walked out of slavery carrying Egypt's gold, silver, and wealth with them. And it wasn't because they fought their way out. They didn't. It was because God carried them out. It wasn't because their plan worked. It didn't. It's because God never stopped working.

And he still hasn't stopped. So all of this is the background to get us to the moment at the Red Sea when Israel thought they had found freedom. Pharaoh had found them. And this moment, it wasn't just about Israel either.

God had used these hundreds of years to prepare Israel to survive and thrive for the Messiah to come. Centuries later, Jesus would step into the story as the greater Moses. Not to just lead one nation out of physical slavery, but to lead every person out of spiritual slavery to sin and death.

The author of the book of Hebrews in the New Testament puts it this way. “Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and are boasting in our hope.” (Hebrews 3:5-6)

See, the Exodus was a preview, but the cross was the ultimate deliverance that God was always preparing for you. What Israel couldn't accomplish on their own, even if they tried in their own strength. And they did. God accomplished for them at the Red Sea.

And what he could never accomplish in the Red Sea, he accomplishes through Jesus on Calvary, just like we talked about last week. This brings us to the dead end moment (Exodus 14:3). See, dead ends are something that we don't really have a ton of context for anymore, right? If you think about it, most of our modern tools that we use to get places, they not only give us good directions to get there, if there is a different direction, it will help us with that as well.

A generation ago, we might have had to stop and ask for directions or need to get a new map when we entered a new area. But now, even when we don't realize it, usually our plans are being redirected.

Sometimes we assume that a route we're familiar with that's taking us a different way is because there's an accident or traffic or construction we don't know about. So when we do get into a dead-end situation, it feels even more stressful.

A few months ago, I was at a pastoral retreat in the redwoods, and it's beautiful. I'd never driven up there before. And what I didn't realize on my way up is that even though I had lost cell signal, my phone had

loaded the directions beforehand. And so I got where I was going successfully.

But what I didn't think about till I was leaving is that when I was leaving early in the morning before the sun got up that without cell signal, my phone could not preload those same instructions back. And so I'm driving through the redwoods at or before the sun rises in the morning without any directions trying to remember my way back. And so the problem right is I was in this unfamiliar place and there were definitely some dead ends for me.

There were times where I was heading into an area that I was like, "Yeah, this looks familiar." And then nothing or the wrong turn or how do I get back?

And for me in that moment in the morning, I had a bunch of stressors. I was leaving early because I needed to get back for something. And every one of those wrong turns, every one of those dead ends threatened the whole goal of why I left when I left. Not only that, I

drive an electric car and I was unfamiliar of any trees in the redwoods that simultaneously functioned as chargers for my car. So, I was like, am I going to have enough juice to get there? Right? I was very glad it was downhill. It was a big deal.

And I don't know about you, but for me, when I'm not feeling in control, when I don't know the directions, it feels even more frustrating. I feel incompetent. I feel incapable. It reminds me, I grew up in a time before GPS where as my parents were driving around, it could feel like, hey, I think we've seen this gas station before.

You know, like you're just going around in a circle over and over and over again, and you feel completely helpless. Now, for me, I was trying to get home by myself and I was trying to get there within a specific amount of time, but nobody was chasing me.

That wasn't the case for Israel. They had finally escaped, or so they thought, and someone was chasing them, and they weren't a small

crew either. Exodus records that there were 600,000 men that were a part of this group. And when scholars add women, children, and non-Israelites that were traveling with them, it's likely that we're talking about between two and two and a half million people who are traveling in this massive caravan. That's the population of Silicon Valley walking together out of Egypt. And think about how hard it is for us to get out of the Costco parking lot.

I had one, my mom is a Jewish lady and like short little Jewish lady and I just think about like what would a million of her been like trying to escape Egypt, right? Freedom was not a straight line for Israel. They didn't get the choice in Google Maps to take the fastest or the most direct way to the promised land. God was taking them on a long and winding path through the desert. He was actively protecting them from foes they didn't know and preparing them for freedom that they had never known. But Israel, Israel didn't see it this way. They felt stuck.

God had been leading them with a pillar of fire at night so they could keep moving and a pillar of clouds by day. But then God had a message for Moses. Then the Lord said to Moses, "Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-Hahiroth, between Migdal and the sea, in front of Baal Zafon. You shall encamp facing it by the sea. For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, 'They are wandering in the land. The wilderness has shut them in. And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them. And I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord. And they did so.'" (Exodus 14:1-4)

So, let me paint this picture for you. They're trying to escape the land and they are moving in this circuitous path that they just think they're lost. I mean, really, I can remember this as a kid in that drive where we're on a road trip. We're listening to a book on tape. Kids, a tape is like the internet but like before it, we put it on these discs and before that it was, anyway, it's a long time ago.

And so we're listening to a book that I didn't want to have anything to do with. I was using a coloring book. It's like an iPad with really good battery life. And as we're driving around, we're seeing the same landmarks and my mom would say, "Hey, should we stop and ask for...[help]" And then my dad would say, "Don't worry about it." And then we would just keep driving over and over and over and over again.

And so Israel, like that's the experience they're having. Like think about 2.5 million people in this caravan and they're all kind of going like, I think we've been by this tree before. I think I've seen this landmark before.

Not only that, but they end up at this dead end. They end up in a spot that even feels worse at the Red Sea. But see, God, he's placing them in view of Baal Zafon on purpose. This island represented the sea and storm god of Egypt. And by parting the Red Sea and delivering Israel through it, there would be one more sign of the God of Israel's superiority and power over the gods of Egypt.

God used the fact that it looked like Israel was wandering aimlessly to trick Pharaoh. He looks at it and goes, "Wait a second. Let's go get him." And it's a trap. They were racing behind Israel. And Israel had no idea that all of this was a part of the plan. At the moment that they felt they were the most stuck, God had set them up. And God was about to show his power to part the Red Sea directly in front of a monument to the Egyptian god of the storm and sea. God was showing them that there was nothing that could stop his plan. There was nothing that would get in his way. Even when they felt stuck, he was still moving.

And that's still true today. Maybe you can relate. Stuck between faith and fear, staring at circumstances that seem to have no way through. But remember, when you feel stuck, God is just getting started.

It's often because we are willing to admit that we have no way out. It's because we're willing to admit that we need help that we let God into parts of our lives that we've never let in before.

Those kinds of road trips where I would be sitting in the back seat and I'd listen to my parents at some point when we'd kind of realized we were very lost. There was no way to get where we were going. At some point my dad would say, "Hey, maybe we should stop and ask for...[help]" And here's the thing. This was the greatest act of self-control I've ever seen in my life. My mom would say - no sarcasm - 'That's a great idea.' As though no one had ever suggested it five times before, right?

Do you know why God sent Israel on such an indirect path? Well, the good news is Exodus 13, right before the Red Sea moment, we learn why. It says, "When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines." Although that was near, that was the most direct path. "For God said, lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt. But God led the people

**around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea, and the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt, equipped for battle."
(Exodus 13:17-18)**

Maybe this seems cruel or manipulative, but remember how we got here. Hundreds of years where Israel was getting brutalized and they had no way out - where slavery had become their identity. It was not just something they did.

At this critical moment here's the thing. God knew they'd trade freedom for familiarity. Sound familiar? Can you think of some area in your life where you're at a Red Sea moment that God has allowed you to reach where you don't have control because there is no turning back and you have to press forward. You have to ask for help. You can't keep going on your own. God's strategy to deliver Israel from Egyptian captivity was to target the cultural gods they valued and to demonstrate his power over them.

If God were to do that in your life, what gods would he target? And how might he send plagues to deliver you from them? Even if they were painful, they might be necessary. We like to think we're so far removed from Egypt. We're so much smarter, so much freer, so much better. But are we?

I mean, Egypt had its gods of power, pleasure, and security. But what about us? We might have more nuanced terms for them, more modern examples, but are we really that different? Our culture may not bow to stone statues, but we bow to schedules, to screens, to sports, to success.

Pharaoh may not crack the whip, but the gods of busyness, upgrade culture, and image fixation, they keep us running just as hard and just as exhausted. And if you were looking at your life from the outside, if someone was really examining it, who would they say is in charge?

Let's look at those gods for just a minute in our own context. First, I think there is the god of busyness in our moment. We don't call it

slavery. We call it hustle. We think it makes us important. But how many of us are really just run by our calendars, perpetually exhausted, thinking that somehow it's going to take care of itself on its own?

How many of us, we lie to ourselves by saying, "This is just a season that I'm in. Once I get past this quarter, once I get into the next semester, once fall starts, once next year hits, once we're past this earnings report, once I graduate, once..." No, no, no. I'm telling you what you don't realize is that the goalposts just keep moving.

Second is the God of upgrades. God knew that Israel would remember the parts of their captivity, the comfort and the routine of their captivity, but they would forget the pain and the chains that came along with it. That's what nostalgia does.

See, we often think that a lifestyle bump will make us happy when it really just comes with more chains that are heavier. You stay in a job or you stay in an industry that you don't even like anymore, but

you've gotten used to the lifestyle that that line of work affords you.

You find yourself perpetually in debt because you're spending money for the next season that you're not in yet. And every season you're in is paying off the last season you weren't ready for, but with interest, relationally and financially.

And third is the god of image. See Egypt, they worship things they could see, monuments, idols, even Pharaoh himself. We worship an image, too, our own.

Maybe it's through what Instagram tells us or the new trend on TikTok. But our curated lives are suffocating our real needs. We can't even see them because of how consumed we are. We don't even know who we are because we're so consumed with how other people see us.

But here's the good news. God doesn't just point out the idols. He's provided the deliverer. Moses could lead Israel out of Egypt, but only Jesus can lead Egypt out of you and me. The gods that we can so

easily be misdirected to. He didn't just part the Red Sea so that Israel could walk across on dry land.

He tore the curtain in the temple to give you and me permanent and perfect access to God forever. He didn't just crush Pharaoh's army. He crushed sin and death at the cross. And now he calls us to live differently. Not consumed by culture, but set apart with a faith that can feel foreign.

If you have been wondering, "How can I faithfully follow the vision of Jesus in the New Testament of my Bible and check every cultural box in Silicon Valley?" Let me tell you, you can't. And one provides life and one will cost it.

So, let me leave you with three questions that I hope you'll take into this week with you. Maybe it's with your life group this week because we don't do faith by ourselves. We do it in community. Maybe it's over

lunch in just a few minutes with friends or family. Maybe it's even for you personally as you journal this week.

I just want to leave you with three questions for the week ahead.

Number one, where are you trading freedom for familiarity? There may be areas in your life that you know are not good for you, but they have become routine. They have become habitual. They're the things you can't break free of. You don't call them slavery, but you can't quit them. What are those things?

Number two, what cultural gods might God be trying to dethrone in your life? We just talked about a few, but you probably have a list if you were honest about some more that you have.

And here's what we usually do. We take some good things in our life and we just ask God to share the top shelf of our life with those

things. So we go, God, I know right now I'm not as consistent with you throughout the week or consistent in pursuing you as I want to be, but I just need to get past this next review season. I just need to get past quarterly earnings. I just need to get past exam season. I just need to get into this school. This relationship just needs to get stabilized. Can you share some of this shelf space with them with this or with that?

And here's the thing. No, God can't.

And so whenever we do that, whenever we put something else on the top shelf of our life with God, we just push God off of it. And that thing cannot sustain you. It cannot hold the weight of your life. And so if that's a person or a priority in your life, you're actually going to crush it under the weight of who you really are.

Then number three, where do you feel stuck that you need to surrender? Where in your life right now, if you're honest, you are at a Red Sea moment and you came in today going, "I don't know how to, I

don't know how to problem-solve my way. I can't spend my way out of this. I can't time my way out of this. I can't talk my way out of this. God, I'm at a point where this thing isn't going to change unless you change it."

And God's saying, "Great." See, when my dad said, "Maybe we should stop for directions," the directions had been there. The whole time.

For some of us, that's what God's just waiting for us to do. Admit that we need him. And so, for the rest of this series, we're going to look at moments, snapshots in the life of Israel as they wander on their way to the promised land and the lessons that they have for us even today to do that very thing.

Would you pray with me?

God, thank you so much. Thank you for the gift that you give us that even when we are - whether we want to admit it or not - we're chasing things, chasing priorities that are not honoring to you or we've made

good things in our life ultimate and we wouldn't call them gods, but they're taking a bigger priority than you, the true real God.

Would you give us your grace to see it? God, would you give us the humility to surrender even right now? Wherever we're thinking about that person, that thing, that priority, that problem, God, would we just humbly come before you? Say, God, what is it you need me to learn? What is it you're trying to do in this moment? Even if it doesn't work out the way I want, help me walk faithfully with you in the middle of it. Thank you for the example of your people. Thank you for the promise that you will never leave us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Resources -

Books and Articles

- **Walking with God Through Pain and Suffering** by Timothy Keller


<https://www.amazon.com/Walking-God-Through-Pain-Suffering/dp/0525952454>

- **The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry** by John Mark Comer

<https://a.co/d/bPYceKN>

- **Live No Lies: Recognize and Resist the Three Enemies That Sabotage Your Peace** by John Mark Comer
<https://a.co/d/hqNjWOf>
- **Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion** by Rebecca McLaughlin
<https://a.co/d/cldSDDK>
- **Strange New World: How Thinkers and Activists Redefined Identity and Sparked the Sexual Revolution** by Carl Trueman
<https://a.co/d/5Jf2b4q>
- **A Non-Anxious Presence: How a Changing and Complex World Will Create a Remnant of Renewed Christian Leaders** by Mark Sayers
<https://a.co/d/dc7Kx6m>
- **Invitation to Solitude and Silence** by Ruth Haley Barton
<https://a.co/d/7re7a0a>
- **Morning and Evening** by Charles Spurgeon
<https://www.crosswalk.com/devotionals/morningandevening/>
- **Exodus: God's Kingdom of Priests** (Preaching the Word Commentary) by Philip Graham Ryken
<https://a.co/d/amb2N2e>
- **NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible**
<https://a.co/d/aNQG6Fv>

Online Resources (Videos and Podcasts)

- **The Bible Project: Exodus Overview**
<https://bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-exodus>
- **John Mark Comer Podcast: Fight Hustle, End Hurry** (with Jefferson Bethke)
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/fight-hustle-end-hurry/id1480300467>
- **Mark Sayers on Cultural Change and Christian Leadership**
(Podcast: Carey Nieuwhof Leadership Podcast)
<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode404/>
- **Rebecca McLaughlin: How Christianity Makes Sense of Suffering** (Video)
 **How Could A Loving God Allow Us To Suffer? Rebecca Mclaugh...**
- **Tim Keller: How to Deal With Dark Times** (YouTube)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zk8ZXWDaDgI>