**Going Camping With God Part 2**

**September 13 & 14, 2025**

**Speaker: Tom Hughes**

**Opening:** [15 mins] We suggest you begin with an opening prayer and then a brief “catch up” or “icebreaker” before moving into the *scripture reflection* and *application questions*.

**Icebreaker: If you won the lottery what is the first thing you would buy?**

**Scripture Reflection:** [20 mins]

Read the passage: Exodus 13:17-21

* What verse or verses stood out to you about this passage, and why?
* What does the passage say about God, His character/attributes?
* What does the passage say about man?
* What is God inviting you to act in this passage? Were there any commands or instructions? Were there any promises or warnings?

**Application Questions:** [40 mins](*These questions will help you and your group dig deeper into the weekend sermon. Feel free to edit or use only those which fit your allotted time.)*

1. Tom reminded us that the fastest way and the best are not always the same way.
   1. Think about a time when you’ve taken a shortcut. How did that work out for you?
   2. How can we remind ourselves to continue to trust God even though it might be tempting to go the shorter route?
   3. For the Israelites we see that the long route meant protection from war. Have you ever seen God gently protecting by taking the longer way?
2. Secondly, we learned that God often uses the long way when He knows we might be tempted to quit on the short way.
   1. Do you find this principle to be true for you as well? Share a story.
   2. God knew the Israelites though armed for battle were not ready for war. Can you think of a time when you thought you were ready to handle something but really weren’t?
3. Thirdly, Tom taught that God’s guidance comes just in time.
   1. Are you facing a significant decision in life? What does this principle teach you about testing and waiting on God?
   2. How might you handle this decision differently now that you’ve heard this message?
   3. Are your prayers different?
4. Lastly, we learned that God’s presence in better than a plan.
   1. What does this statement mean to you?
   2. How can you apply this truth?

**Closing & Prayer**: [15 mins]

* Pray for any major decisions group members are faced with.
* Pray for group prayer requests.