

## Youth Worship Lesson – September 20, 2020

**Focus Scripture: Exodus 16:2-15**

**Purpose: To continue building community and to explore how God is with us.**

### Preparation

Worship Table – green cloth

Pictures for story/activity at the end of the lesson

**Lighting the Christ Candle:** *We light this candle to remind us that God is always with us.*

### Prayer

O God, our Creator, we join together this Sunday, thinking of a circle which represents:  
symbol of the round earth,  
symbol of your never-ending love,  
symbol of the unity of all.

Help us to experience your presence here with us today, and always.

Amen.

[Song: Blessed \(Hillsong Worship HD w/ lyrics on YouTube\)](#)

Look together at the Unit 1 logo. Our theme is “Gathering into the Sacred Circle.” We are part of the sacred circle of this group, of the Christian community, and of the world. God’s love, which is like a circle, with no beginning or ending, surrounds us.

### Introducing the Theme – “Hopes and Fears”

First we are going to talk about our hopes. What is one hope that you have for this year? What is one hope this year of “Covid” lessons will bring you?

Now we are going to talk about your fears. What is one fear you have this youth worship year? What is one fear about this “Covid” year?

### Exploring the Theme – Bible Story

Last week we told the story of how the people of Israel became free from being slaves in Egypt. Let’s review. How had they become slaves there? How did they get free? How did they feel after they were saved from Pharaoh at the Sea of Reeds?

In today’s story from the book of Exodus, the Israelite people have been in the desert for over a month and they are facing another difficult situation. They are very frightened. The story takes place in the wilderness of Sin.

**Locate the wilderness of Sin on the map. Let's read about what happened. Read Exodus 16:2-15.**

**The Israelites complained about Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into the wilderness to kill this whole group of people with hunger."**

**Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "in the evening you shall know that it was the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and he gives you bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard you complaining about him - what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord."**

**Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord for he has heard your complaining.' "And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God."**

**In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread the Lord has given you to eat.**

**What were some of the Israelites' fears? (that they would starve, that travelling through the desert was more than they were able to do, that Moses did not know the way back to their homeland.)**

**How did Moses relieve them of some of their fears? (by assuring them that God was with them, by telling them God had heard their complaints and that God would give them food.) Moses told the Israelites it was God's command to take this journey. After they found the manna and quail, do you think they trusted Moses more?**

**Moses had lived for years in the wilderness after he fled Egypt, so he knew how to find food there. Some people might say that finding the food was Moses' doing, not God's. What do you think? Could it be both? This story can teach us some important things about our own fears. The first step for the Israelites when they were afraid was to voice their fears and tell someone about their needs. It is important for us to tell someone when we are fearful, and to say what we need. Speaking out about ourselves can be hard, but it's important that others**

know how we feel. Who might you talk to when you are afraid? (minister, friend, parent, etc.). The next step for the Israelites was being assured that God was with them, and that God heard their concerns. Coming to church helps us remember that.

Finally, we must be willing to see with new eyes - to look for and experience God's care where we might not have seen it before. Where do you see God at work in our world?

### **Activity or Craft – Poem**

**Materials:** Pen/ Pencil, paper

Create your own poem or short story about the Bible story we read about today, and send it to Nikki to post in the news of the week or website.

**Nikki Devereux:** [Communications@stouffvilleuc.ca](mailto:Communications@stouffvilleuc.ca)

### **Closing Prayer**

#### **Aaron's Blessing**

May God bless you and take care of you.

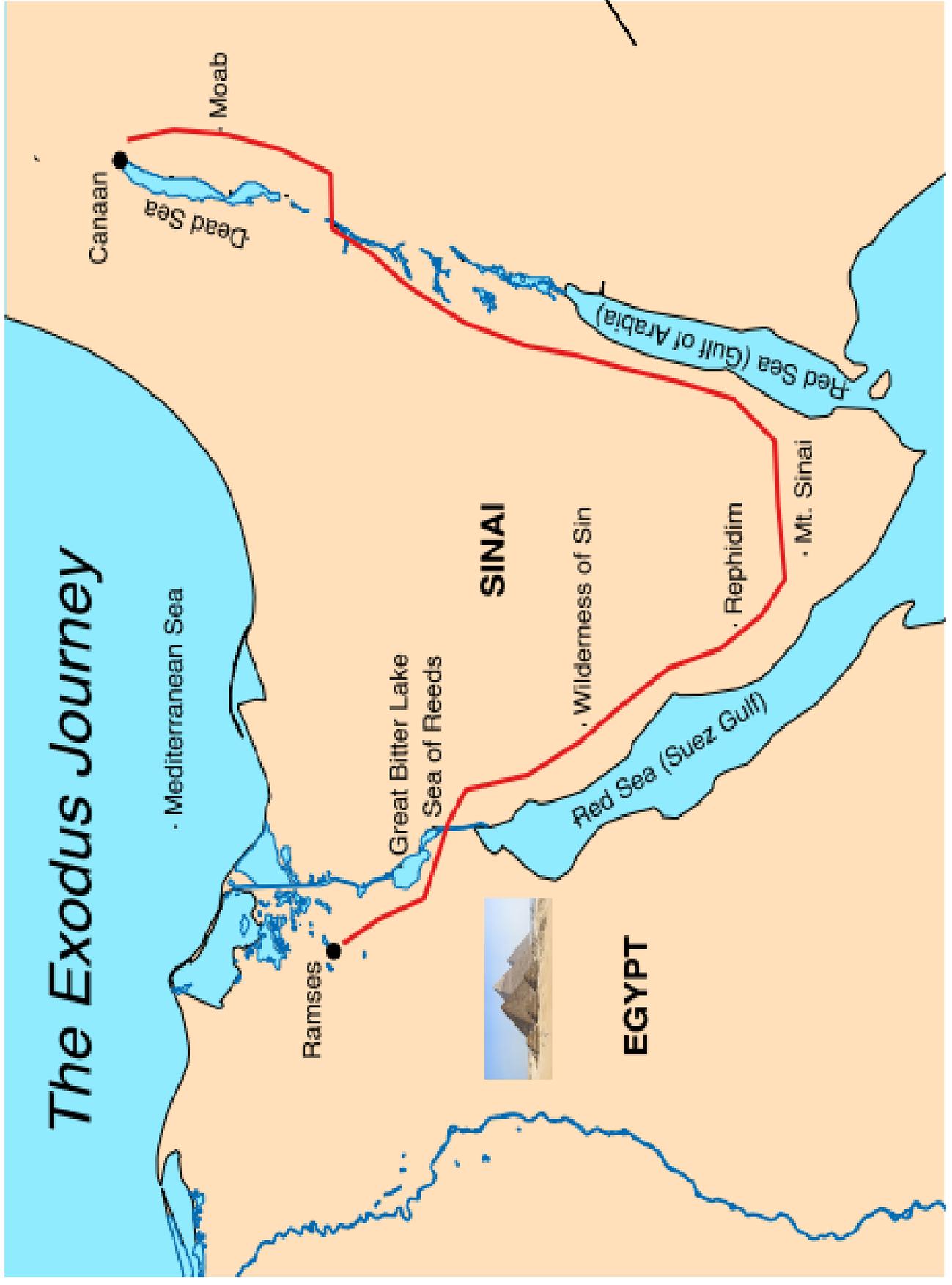
May God be kind and gracious to you.

May God look upon you with favour and give you peace.

Amen.

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# The Exodus Journey



Ramses

Great Bitter Lake  
Sea of Reeds

**SINAI**

Wilderness of Sin

Red Sea (Suez Gulf)

**EGYPT**

Rephidim

Mt. Sinai

Red Sea (Gulf of Arabia)

Moab

Canaan

Mediterranean Sea





# Unit 1

Gathering into the Sacred Circle  
September 6 to October 11, 2020