

— FROM SLAVERY TO PRESENCE —

FORMED TO BELONG

— ♦ EXODUS 19:3–6 ♦ —



— ♦ —

FORMATION GOAL

Becoming people who receive God's grace,
belong to him, and make room for his
forming work in our lives.

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NOTICE

Notice what God has already done—and what he says about who his people are.



REFLECT

Israel arrives at Sinai already rescued. God begins not with a demand but with grace: ‘I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself.’ Before God tells Israel what to do, he reminds them whose they are.



NOTICE

Read Exodus 19:3–6 slowly.

- ◆ What verbs describe God’s actions?
- ◆ What does “I brought you to myself” reveal about the purpose of rescue?
- ◆ What names or descriptions does God give Israel?



PERSONAL REFLECTION

Write: *Where am I tempted to think of salvation only as rescue rather than a life of belonging to God?*



IN COMMUNITY

- ◆ Why does grace come before command in this passage?
- ◆ What is the difference between being rescued from something and brought to someone?

LISTEN

Listen for the kind of people God is forming us to become.



READ SLOWLY

Exodus 19:4–6 ♦ Romans 12:1–2 ♦ 1 Peter 2:9–10

Israel could have stopped at rescue or rushed ahead to assignment. At Sinai, God begins with formation: ‘Obey my voice and keep my covenant.’ God is shaping a people who belong to him—a treasured possession, a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation.



LISTEN

Where might God be forming you right now?

BELONG — Where do you need to remember that you belong to God?

LISTEN — What part of your life needs greater attentiveness to God’s voice?

BECOME — What quality of Christlike character might God be growing in you?



PERSONAL REFLECTION

Write: Am I more tempted to stop at being rescued—or rush ahead to calling? Why?



IN COMMUNITY

- ♦ Why can calling become unhealthy when it is separated from character?
- ♦ How can a church help form people rather than simply keep people busy?

RESPOND

Make room for God's forming grace.



PRACTICE THIS WEEK

Choose one place this week to make room for God's forming grace.

1. **PRAYER** — Spend a few quiet minutes each day asking, “God, what are you forming in me?”
2. **SCRIPTURE** — Read Exodus 19:3–6 slowly several times this week.
3. **REFLECTION** — At the end of the day ask, “What shaped me today?”
4. **COMMUNITY** — Ask a trusted Christian friend to pray with you and check in.

*These practices do not earn God's grace.
They make us available to the grace already at work.*



MY NEXT FAITHFUL STEP

Where will I intentionally make room for God's forming grace this week?



IN COMMUNITY

Share the practice you chose.
Invite someone to ask how it is going.

*The question is not only, ‘What is God calling me to do?’
but also, ‘Who is God forming me to become?’*