

## Your People

### Description

[RG 091322](#)

Exodus 5:10-23

For 400 years Israelite lives hinge on the whims of Pharaoh. In their despair concerning the new command to make bricks without straw, the people plead with Pharaoh for mercy saying, “You are unjust to your own people.” Your people. They have come to identify themselves as the people of Pharaoh.

In response to Pharaoh’s decree and Israel’s rage, Moses falls before God in despair at God’s inaction. He cries out the ultimate human question: Why do you allow suffering, God? Why do the powerful sit uncontested on the throne? Moses demonstrates the appropriate posture of faith, not suppressing doubt and fear, but rather giving it voice to God’s very self in the midst of his pain and uncertainty. Moses lays the responsibility for redemption where it belongs, at the feet of God.

We are invited to bring our doubt, confusion, and despair into the presence of God, but always remembering our identity as the people of God.

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