

SPEAKER: Ryan Lingbloom

DATE: May 10, 2026

SERIES TITLE: He Is...

Sermon Title

NEAR

Introduction

This week, we began a new series title “He is...”, focusing on the book of Exodus. This is not a story about Moses, nor a story about Pharaoh. This is a story about God, and seeing who **He is** clearly in a world that has gotten Him wrong. What we see in Exodus time and time again, and what is echoed often in our own lives, is a nature of forgetting just who God is, and seeing the world through the lens of a forgotten, misunderstood God— instead of seeing the world through His lens. Throughout this series, we are going to be diving into understanding more about who **He is**, and what that means for our lives.

Seek the Word: Before discussing this week’s questions, read through Exodus 1:6-20 and Exodus 2:1-22 out loud as a group. What stands out to you from this passage?

HE IS...NEAR

What does it mean to say somebody is “near”? When you think of the people nearest to you, do you focus more on proximity, relationship, or a combination of both?

- **He Is Near, even when He is silent**
 - Throughout Exodus 1 and 2, God does not say a word. What do you think the Israelites were thinking/feeling during this period of silence? What do you think/feel when it seems that God is silent?
 - How have you seen the presence of God in your life, even in seasons where He is silent? What do you learn about God from these experiences?
- **He Is Near, even when the situation feels out of control**
 - Talk with your group about this situation Moses’ mother and sister find themselves in. What sort of things made this situation “out of control” and how did God show up for them? What do you think they were thinking/feeling seeing this scenario unfold?
 - What parts of your life feel “out of control” right now? Do you see God in them? If not, how have you been looking for Him? If so, share how you know that God is near in those situations.
- **He Is Near, in provision and preparation**
 - Provision is what God gives to you, preparation is what God is building in you. Take some time to pause, and then share as a group what provision God is giving to you right now, and what preparation is He doing in you right now.
- **He is Near, even in the wilderness**
 - We will talk more about the wilderness next week, but in preparation for that, talk with your group about where you might be in a wilderness season right now, a season where things might feel too quiet, slow, isolated, and not where you want/thought you would be right now.

Wrap Up

Reminder: **He is...near.** God is not a distant thing, someone who wants nothing to do with us. God is not waiting for us to have our lives all put together, or for us to be doing “good enough” in order to start working in us. We serve an incredibly relational and loving God, who sees us and knows us even in our lowest. In times of silence, God is near. In times of chaos, God is near. In times of provision and preparation, God is near. And even in the wilderness, God is near. This is a truth that should encourage us and give us peace as we live in a world that forgets just exactly who **He is**.

Challenge: He Is Bracelets

You should have received a “He is” bracelet this Sunday. If you didn’t, they will be available this coming Sunday as well, but even if you don’t have one right now you can still join in with this mission. For the next 30 days, we are going to be committing to something incredibly simply, but immensely powerful. Each morning, you will receive a text message from Calvary that will be an invitation to pause. It will include a short passage of Scripture, a short prayer prompt, and a short thought. When you see this text, we encourage you to take that time— before you go into work, school, out into the business of the world— and pause. Take this time to recognize who God is, and ask the question, “God, where have you been showing me who you are?”. If you have not signed up for this text reminder yet, you can text “**HEIS**” to **833-354-6306**.

Prayer: Close your time together by praying to God. Give space for people in your group to ask God to reveal Himself this week, showing ways that He is near. Give praise to God for the ways He has already demonstrated this, in times of silence, chaos, provision, preparation, and wilderness. Ask for the Spirit to help in consistency and faithfulness to remembering who God is during these next 30 days, and that these moments of pause and reflection would be a powerful time of unification and Kingdom change in our church, families, schools, workplaces, and communities.