**Sermon Notes – Sunday 30th February**

**‘Exodus – the human longing for freedom’**

**Welcome:** Can you think of ways in which the Exodus story still inspires our culture (The Prince of Egypt, songs), social justice movements etc?

Read Exodus 14:13-14, 15:1-2, 11; John 8:31-32

Watch the video by Andrew Ollerton (week 3) which summarise the big theme from the Bible and its relevance for our lives.

* What are your initial reactions to the film? Did any part of it stand out for you in particular?
* How does western culture define freedom?
* What feels like ‘Egypt’ or ‘Pharoah-like’ challenges to you at the moment? In other words where do you feel trapped?
* What binds the people in the Old Testament physically (slavery, oppression, captivity) can bind us emotionally and spiritually today. Can you suggest ways in which people today are bound or enslaved?
* In what ways do we experience increased freedom when we choose to live God’s way (Exodus 19:4-6)? How have you experienced this personally even though your **outward circumstances** continue to restrict you?
* How has Jesus fulfilled the story of Exodus in the ultimate sense (John 8:31-32)?
* Overall how can the story of Exodus help us to discover greater freedom in our lives?

Response: Listen to the song: ‘No longer slaves’. Thank God for the freedom we have in Jesus and pray for his help to live free and bring freedom to others.

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