

Read Exodus 19:1-9. Israel's arrival at Sinai uncovers a tender truth about God's character: before God gives His people the Law and calls them into the service of a holy life, He reveals His desire for relationship and His nurturing love. Exodus describes how the Lord had been carrying His people all along, bearing them on "eagles' wings" — a vivid reminder that the true God lifts, sustains, and upholds His people. This stands in contrast to false idols later described by the prophet Isaiah, false gods that, instead of carrying their foolish followers, but must be carried instead (*Isaiah 46:1*). The Living God is not a burden we haul through the wilderness; He is the One bearing us, even if all we notice is the strain of the journey.

Standing at Sinai, Israel is invited first into fellowship. Before a single command is spoken, before a covenant is ratified, God reminds His people of the relationship He has already established. He brings them close, not to overwhelm them with expectations, but to assure them of His presence. There is a parallel in Jesus' ministry when He gathers His disciples: He appoints them first to "be with Him," and then to "send them out" (*Mark 3:14*). Fellowship precedes mission; nearness fuels service. Our confidence in what God asks of us grows from the comfort of knowing He wants us near His heart.

From this relationship flows a calling. Israel was invited to become a kingdom of priests, and Christians hear a similar invitation when we are reminded that we are God's own people, set apart so that we may declare the excellencies of the One who rescued us (*1 Peter 2:9*). Evangelism is not an obligation to be feared, but a natural outgrowth of a life nurtured by God's faithful care. When we remember that the One who sends us is the same One who carries us, service becomes less about striving and more about joyfully participating in His strength.

As you reflect on God's care, prayerfully consider the following: In what ways has God been carrying you — even in seasons when you felt most burdened? How might drawing nearer to Him reshape the way you think about what He asks of you? And what could change in your daily life if you saw your calling not as a pressure to perform, but as an overflow of God's sustaining love?

Weekly Memory Verse:

"You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I carried you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself."

Exodus 19:4

Weekly Affirmation:

**God Desires Time
With Me!**

NOVEMBER 2025 GROWTH GOALS

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| ☐ Read the Book of Exodus | ☐ Memorize one of the weekly memory verses. |
| ☐ Watch the Bible Project video on Exodus (<i>available on the website</i>). | ☐ Write out a list of things for which you are thankful, at least one thing from each day of the month. Read it over Dec. 1st. |