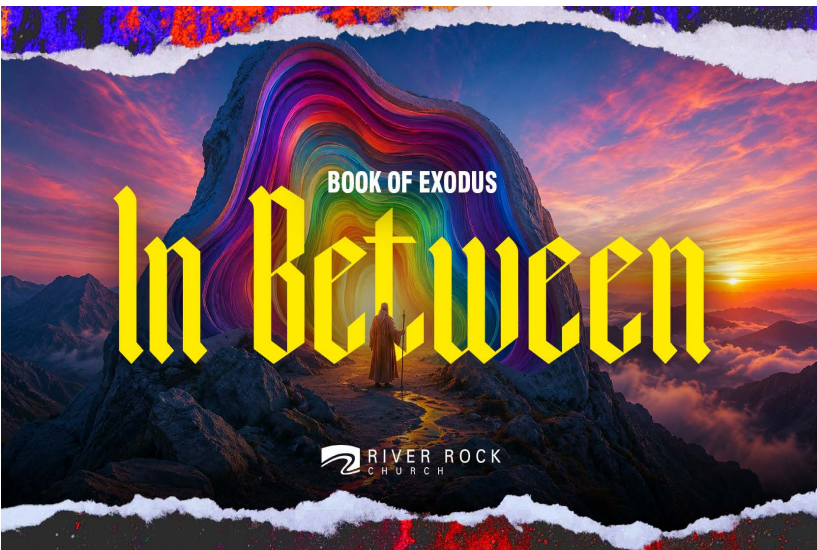


Aug. 16

NEXT STEPS



Exodus Series "The In Between"

Exodus 17

Questions to *Dig Deeper*:

1. Bill named that "the in-between can bring out the worst in us." When life feels unsteady, long, or uncertain, how do you typically react? What warning signs tell you that stress or uncertainty is starting to affect how you treat others or God?
2. Bill highlighted a definition of sin as "a legitimate need we are trying to fulfill in an illegitimate way." The Israelites had a real, vital need for water, but they responded with panic, blaming, and threats. What are some legitimate needs you are carrying right now (e.g., security, rest, validation), and how can we guard against trying to meet them in unhealthy ways?
3. Despite witnessing massive miracles like the parting of the Red Sea and manna from heaven, the Israelites quickly doubted God's presence when faced with a new challenge. Why do you think it is so easy for us to forget past evidence of God's faithfulness when a new hardship arises?
4. In response to the people's hostility, God didn't lash out; instead, He graciously provided water from the rock. How does God's gentle and patient response in Exodus 17 challenge or refine your view of His heart when you are struggling or complaining?
5. Moses named the place to remember their testing and quarreling, not just to highlight their failure, but to remember God's grace in the middle of it. Looking back at a hard or uncomfortable season in your past, how did God show up for you even when you weren't at your best?