

Connect Group notes August 25 2025

Jo began a new series on Sunday called '*On the Move – Moving within the Story*'.

Jo commented “we are a people on the move, God is a God who sets things in motion, and our faith is a moving faith”

We are either being *conformed* or *transformed*.

Moving is exciting, it's hard, it's confronting and it gives us a glimpse into our inner selves.

The book of Exodus shows how God intervenes in defence of his people who are powerless. It can help orient us, as we move both as a community and individuals.

Read Exodus 1:1-7

Jo talked about the word 'And' which begins this book. She explained that this shows that this particular story was part of the larger story.

We are also part of the larger story of God, here in Hamilton, or the Waikato, in 2025 -

'whoever we are, wherever we go'

Discussion Points

1. The Bible is the big story.
 - What connotations, thoughts or emotions does the idea of moving (in every sense of the word) bring up for us as followers of Jesus?
 - How is God's bigger story, our story? How can we personalise this?
 - Jo said “The story we live in is the story we live out...” Think about the kinds of stories our culture tells us - how do these stories have the potential to shape us into something that takes us away from God's bigger story?

2. We know that God created a good world, but sin entered our world and ruined what God had created. What is the solution to this part of the story?

- How were Abraham and his family a part of the redemptive plan of God in this story? (see Genesis 12:1-3)
- How is Jesus the culmination and centre of the story?

3. Where are we heading?

- Why is it important to know the story to know our part in it?
- How we can each be a witness for God in our place in the world we find ourselves in? See Acts 1:8.
- Have we seen a glimpse of how God might be using us in our moment in history? Think about the small things as well as the big.
- Why is our death not the end of our story?
- What does it mean for us as a community as we move forward physically and spiritually?
- How can we bless our new neighbourhood in Ham East?

For ongoing personal reflection...

- Is the story of God in me?
- Does it shape who I am as a person?
- When I move about my world, am I intentionally aware of the story I am living in and the story I am living out?

