

## Uncommon Journey

### Outline

The Audience are tourists on a mystery time travel tour, they drop into different scenes from Moses' being hidden to Joshua leading them into the promised land. Focusing on the Uncommon life of the Israelites.

### Structure

A number of small scenes in which the audience visits different moments in time during the Israel

#### *Scenes*

- Scene 1**\_The Mystery Tour
- Scene 2**\_The Family Secret
- Scene 3**\_Crying out
- Scene 4**\_Moses Returns
- Scene 5**\_New Hope
- Scene 6**\_Amazing Grace
- Scene 7**\_The Outcast
- Scene 8**\_The Blues
- Scene 9**\_Armed and Dangerous

#### *NKJV Reference*

The Tour guide (narrator)

### Music

- We're all going on a summer holiday - Cliff Richard's – *Scene 1*
- Life Uncommon – Jewel – Verse 1 - *Scene 2*
- Egypt's hebrew Slaves - (*chant*) - *Scene 3*
- Life Uncommon – Jewel – Verse 2 - *Scene 4*
- Lead Us On – *Scene 5*
- Amazing Grace – *Tony Backhouse* – *Scene 6*
- El Shaddai – *Michael Card* – *Scene 7*
- Blues Down To my Shoes – *Scene 8*
- Life Uncommon – Jewel – Verse 3 - *Scene 9*

I've Got the Blues

## The Characters

Tour Guide	<i>Narrator</i>	Supporting Role (most scenes)
Aaron	<i>Moses' Brother</i>	Scene 2 Lead - Singing
Jochebed	<i>Moses' Mother</i>	Scene 2 Supporting
Amram	<i>Moses' Father</i>	Scene 2 Supporting
Miriam	<i>Moses' Sister</i>	Scene 2 Supporting
Moses		Scene 4 Lead - <i>Singing</i>
Slaves	<i>Israelites</i>	Scene 3 & 4
Slave 1	<i>Israelites</i>	Scene 4 Supporting
Ank	<i>ex-Egyptian</i>	Scene 6 Shared lead
Ptolemy	<i>ex-Egyptian</i>	Scene 6 Shared lead
Cleo	<i>ex-Egyptian</i>	Scene 6 Shared lead

## Scene 1: The Mystery Tour

Scene Characters:

*Tour Guide, Obnoxious Tourist One.*

Biblical references:

*None*

*Music intro: Cliff Richard's "We're all going on a summer holiday"*

Tour Guide Good evening Ladies and gentlemen, I am Duffy Winston your tour guide, and on behalf of Captain Weatherby and the rest of the crew I'd like to thank you for choosing to travel with Exodus Holiday Express, the time travel experts.

Before we get under way there are a number of safety aspects to our flight so even if you are a frequent flyer please pay attention to the attendant in your aisle.

As we are travelling back in time there are no seatbelts fitted in this vehicle, as they won't have been invented yet. There, where accidents when we tried installing them seat beats disappearing and reappearing in the wrong place, quite a mess.

There are no overhead lockers so please refrain from dropping your luggage on the people sitting next to you.

We will be travelling across the desert so we have dispensed with the life jackets under your seat and in the event of an emergency landing the crew will hand out sunscreen. If we need to exit the vehicle in an emergency the lights will be turned on to enable you to find your way out.

Please ensure you keep all parts of you body wholly within the vehicle during travel – it is not pleasant to find your arm in AD and the rest of you in BC.

When we arrive at each destination, we must stay together and as out of sight as possible we don't want to scare the people and no flash photography – cameras were not invented were we are headed and we don't want to make a mess of time.

If you require any assistance please call on one of our crew members. Please sit back and relax and enjoy your trip

Obnoxious tourist one *(sets of camera flash directed at tour guide)* Do we take off sooon, I want peanuts and a coke can I have peanuts and a coke yet. And where's the duty free ...

Tour Guide Sorry sir there is no duty free in BC and the crewmembers will attend to you shortly.

You will note from your itinerary that we are on a tight schedule. So please remain seated with the main group during each stop.

## Scene 2: The Family Secret

### Scene Characters:

*Aaron, Moses' Mother; Jochebed & Father; Amram, Miriam.*

### Biblical references:

*Exodus 1&2, Numbers 26:59*

Tour Guide Ladies and Gentlemen, Shortly we will be arriving at our first stop– Egypt during the period where The Children of Israel are in slavery Egypt long forgotten are the days when Joseph was a friend of Egypt. The Children of Israel are now Egypt's slaves. We will alight out side the house of the Levites Amram & Jochebed.

*Aaron is standing out side observing through the window what is happening inside he is on watch for Egyptian Soldiers Amram sits at the table holding Moses as Jochebed pitches a woven basket and and Miriam is getting ready for bed.*

Aaron *(moderately paced, thoughtfully, ever watching)* I stand watch *(pause)*  
I must protect the family secret *(pause)*  
I have a younger brother, but no one must know he still lives, so I watch *(pause)*  
*(pause)* I watch for the scared Israelites that would tell the Egyptian Soldiers, *(pause)*  
*(pause)* I watch for the Egyptian Soldiers and I listen. *(pause)*  
Mother is worried, she says we must trust God, but I feel her worry like a cloud engulfing us tonight.  
My brother is 3 months old, He is too old to keep hidden in the house.  
My parents have a plan.  
The whole family prays it will succeed.

Amram *(Holding the baby Moses)* My small son, don't be afraid The God of our father Abraham will watch over you, he will look after you.  
*(pause)* Know that I love you. And what we are about to do we must do.

Jochebed *(as she is pitching the basket)* It has to work Amram, it just has to work...  
*(turns to her daughter)* Miriam, time to say your prayers and sleep, tomorrow is a big day.

Miriam Yes mother *( wanders off to get ready, she kneels at the bed to say prays)*

Aaron We plan to do as Pharaoh commands and cast him into the river. *(pause)*  
See my mother builds him a boat.  
Not what Pharaoh wanted of his command to cast the boys into the river but none the less it abides by his command.  
Praise to God for allowing us to see a possibility, a sliver of hope in a hopeless situation. A deliverance from the despair I see in the faces of my kin who have watched their sons, their brothers, their grandsons, their nephews all cast into the Nile drowned by the fear of a man. Just a man even though he is Pharaoh, a king that is so filled with fear that he enslaves us, creating an enemy of us. Instead of allowing us the freedom to be his ali.  
Great uncle Joseph helped this land survive through famine but that deed is forgotten, so rather than releasing us to return to the promised land he has enslaved us, forcing us to build cities.

Aaron I am not fearful of the Egyptians or what they would do to us if they found out, but I am scared, scared that the plan will work and what that means, who that forces us to be. And even more frightened that it won't and what that would mean. Not that my faith would be a lie but that who I am would be and what I know is true about me *(pause)* and my family. And deliverance for us from this slavery, is much further away than we had hoped, believed, do believe. Tomorrow my mother will put him in the river, near where Pharaoh's Daughter bathes. Miriam will watch him. Somehow I just know...

Amram Don't worry Jochebed, God will protect. He has helped us hide him so far, we cannot believe that was for nothing.

Aaron *(sing)* Don't worry mother, it will be alright  
And don't worry sister, say your prayers and sleep tight  
It will be fine, father of mine, it will be just fine

All *(sing)* Lend your voices only, to sounds of freedom.  
No longer lend your strength to that which you wish to be free from  
Fill your lives with love and bravery and you shall lead  
A life Uncommon

## Scene 3: Crying Out

Scene Characters:  
*Tourguide, Slaves*

Biblical references:  
*Exodus 2*

*Forty years have passed still in Egypt and still in slavery The Children of Israel are tired*

Tour Guide We are now moving on forty years. Amran and Jochabed's plan worked and the child (Moses) was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter she protected him and he grew up as an Egyptian prince. His fellow Israelites however are still slaves surviving on the hope of deliverance

### *Singing / Chanting*

Slave 1 We are Egypt's Hebrew Slaves  
*Slaves We are Egypt's Hebrew Slaves*

Slave 1 We make bricks out of clay  
*Slaves We make bricks out of clay*

Slave 1 We use straw to bind them strong  
*Slaves We use straw to bind them strong*

Slave 1 We work hard in Egypt's sun  
*Slaves We work hard in Egypt's sun*

Slave 1 Sound off  
*Slaves Sound off*

Slave 1 Sound off  
*Slaves Three Four*

Slave 2 Will we ever see our promised land  
*Slaves Will we ever see our promised land*

Slave 2 The one God gave father Abraham  
*Slaves The one God gave father Abraham*

Slave 2 Dreaming I can almost taste  
*Slaves Dreaming I can almost taste*

Slave 2 The crops we'll grow in that wonderful place  
*Slaves The crops we'll grow in that wonderful place*

Slave 2 Sound off  
*Slaves Sound off*

Slave 2 Sound off  
*Slaves Three Four*

### *Conversation*

Slave 3 My arms hurt

All Slaves *Mine too!*

Slave 4 I'm bored too, all I do is stuff straw into mud, straw into mud, straw into mud.

Slave 5 I know what you mean, All I do is put mix into moulds, mix into moulds, mix into moulds.

Slave 6 I Haven't seen Moses in a while.

Slave 7 I heard he left Egypt

Slave 8 I heard he fled.

Slave 12 I heard he killed an Egyptian

Slave 9 So much for being an Egyptian Prince

Slave 10 It hasn't done us any good having one of our own in the Palace, we are still slaves.

Slave 3 He doesn't act like he is one of us

Slave 7 I wish that someone would save us, so we don't have to make bricks any more.

All Slaves Me too

*Egyptian Guard* You slaves stop you talking and get back to work, or no one will be saved from my whip.

*Continuing with song/chant*

Slave 1 We are Egypt's Hebrew Slaves  
*Slaves We are Egypt's Hebrew Slaves*

Slave 1 We work real hard and we don't get paid  
*Slaves We work real hard and we don't get paid*

Slave 1 Pharaoh well he has forgot  
*Slaves Pharaoh well he has forgot*

Slave 1 That Joseph helped Egypt a lot  
*Slaves That Joseph helped Egypt a lot*

Slave 1 Sound off

Slaves *Sound off*

Slave 1 Sound off

Slaves *Three Four*

## Scene 4: Moses Returns

Scene Characters:

Moses, Aaron, Miriam, Moses' Wife and Sons

Biblical references:

*Forty more years have passed still in Egypt and still in slavery The Children of Israel still are tired*

Tour Guide Another forty years, the children of Egypt are still enslaved in Egypt Building cities for Pharaoh. After seeing a burning bush and receiving instructions from God Moses has returned to Egypt, he has been asked to be the instrument of their deliverance. Shy of public speaking Moses is instructed by God to take Aaron to talk to Pharaoh as he is a better public speaker.

Aaron Moses is that you?

Moses It is brother, I have returned this is my wife and these are my sons. I have returned on God's command. He commands I go to Pharaoh and tell him to let our people go, but I can't speak I don't have the words to say out loud. So I asked God and he said I was to take you and you would do the talking, as you are better much at public speaking than I.

Aaron So deliverance is here? Finally the Lord is granting our prayers for deliverance. Praise be to him, that our bondage is to end, and we will go to our home land. Come let us find Miriam and the others, we must tell them what God has used you to do. Then we must tell all the people and we must prepare for going to Pharaoh tomorrow.

*Walks over to Miriam and the others*

Miriam Is this our brother Moses returning to us?  
And his family. Are these my Nephews?

Aaron Moses has come with a mission from God, He has to tell Pharaoh to let us go  
So we can return to the land he gave our father Abraham.

Miriam But Pharaoh will not give us up without a fight, when I think of what we went through to keep you a live Moses when you were just a baby, and now you are to deliver us which I never thought I would see. We must prepare the people.

Aaron But what should we tell the people?

*Moses (sings)* God's heard your anguish, He's heard your hearts cry out.  
We are tired, we are weary but we aren't worn out.

*Aaron joins in* Set down your chains, 'til only faith remains set down your chains

*All (join in singing)* And lend your voices only, to sounds of freedom.  
No longer lend our strength to that which we wish to be free from  
Live our lives with love and bravery and we shall lead  
A life Uncommon



## Scene 5: New Hope!

Scene Characters:

Biblical references:

Tour Guide We will now visit the Israelites as they are entering the wilderness their journey just beginning they have just crossed the red sea by miracle and their spirits are high they are free. Free of Pharaoh and free of Egypt, ready to start a new life, they are headed to the promised land. A land which none of them have ever seen.

Israelite 1 No more bricks

Israelite 2 No more plagues

Israelite 3 No more Egyptian masters

Israelite 4 A new beginning

Israelite 2 A journey

Israelite 4 To a land of our own

Israelite 1 A new life

Israelite 3 No longer slaves

Israelite 2 Praise God

Israelite 3 We are FREE

Israelite 1 A hope that is new to us

Israelite 4 Our dream!

Israelite 3 A land of OUR OWN!

Israelites  
1,2 & 4 Lord Lead us on

All

*Singing "Lead Us On"*

Our Future lies before us nothing to hold us back  
Called to new beginnings by your word  
A journey, we're making  
New life we're celebrating  
We are not alone

As we seek horizons that are new to us  
Lead us on  
As we dare to live the dream of a land of our own  
Lead us on

Our life has clearly started, our journey's just begun.  
Offered new direction by your word  
A journey, we're taking  
New life we're contemplating  
We are not alone

As we seek horizons that are new to us  
Lead us on  
As we dare to live the dream of a land of our own  
Lead us on

Our dreaming calls us homeward, out from being slaves  
Challenged by the wilderness each day  
A journey, we're weaving  
We live our lives believing  
We are not alone

As we seek horizons that are new to us  
Lead us on  
As we dare to live the dream of a land of our own  
Lead us on

## Scene 6: Amazing Grace

Scene Characters:

Biblical references:

Tour Guide    On many occasions that the Children of Israel wanted to return to Egypt finding the wilderness too hard to take. Some of the Egyptians who have been adopted cannot see why they would want to return. This stop we visit them on one such occasion.

Ank            I don't understand these guys, wanting to go back to Egypt? They were slaves! They now have freedom! We all do!

Cleo           Yes I know what you mean Pharaoh was so cruel to them and they still want to go back?

Ptolemy      Just because all they get to eat is manna and quail it's no reason to want to go back

Ank            Yeah in Egypt none of us got enough to eat at times not even us Egyptians. Here there may only be manna and quail on the menu, but the stomach is full everyday.

Ptolemy      Well Ank there is no way I want to go back and I wasn't a slave!

Cleo           All I have heard from these people since we left has been complaints. Ptolemy, I can't believe they have forgotten so quickly what it was like as slaves. I watched many of them punished for the smallest thing.

Ank            That's right Cleo were are the people with such hope that they made us want to be one of them? That believed that their God was going to save them? Well he did and I don't understand why they still complain when they get, we get everything we need from him.

Ptolemy      Food, Water and Freedom in the desert.

Cleo           A real God , not just a man on a power trip that thinks he is one.

Ank            The only true God, powerful enough to save us from the plagues.

Ptolemy      Powerful enough to **send** the plagues.

Cleo           Part the sea and drown the Egyptian army.

Ank            The one true God has called them his people, rescued them from slavery. Kept them alive in the wilderness daily. Yet they are always complaining.

Cleo           When will they stop? When we get to their promised land?

Ptolemy      Our promised land too. For their God has allowed us to become part of his people.

Ank            We have been adopted by grace, Amazing grace.

Ank, Ptolemy & Cleo start then everyone joins in song – Amazing Grace

## Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace how sweet a sound  
Amazing Grace how sweet a sound  
Amazing Grace how sweet a sound  
Saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now I'm found  
I once was lost but now I'm found  
I once was lost but now I'm found  
Blind but now I see

Though many dangers, toils and snares  
Though many dangers, toils and snares  
Though many dangers, toils and snares  
We've already come

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
Grace will lead me home

## Scene 7: The Outcast

Scene Characters:

Biblical references:

Tour Guide We now journey to a time during the Israel's walk in the wilderness. Miriam and Aaron have spoken out against Moses, not believing he was doing God's will. Miriam was punished with leprosy outcast for 7 days not allowed into the camp.

Miriam (Chorus)  
El Shaddai, El Shaddai,  
El Elyonna Adonai,  
age to age you're still the same,  
by the power of the name.  
El Shaddai, El Shaddai,  
erkamkana Adonai,  
we will praise and lift you high,  
El Shaddai.

(Verse 1)  
Through your love and through the ram,  
you saved the son of Abraham,  
through the power of your hand  
you turned the sea into dry land.  
To the outcast on her knees  
you were the God who really sees,  
and by your might you set your children free.

Anna *Miriam you're back? It's great to see you again!*

Rachel The leprosy is it all gone?

*Miriam* Yes, it is all gone. God took it away.

Anna After only 7 days?

Miriam Yes he showed me mercy even after I questioned Moses' leadership. God showed me that Moses was doing His will, and not his own.

Rachel Isolation for 7 days how did you cope?

Miriam I prayed and repented and God forgave me and healed me.

Anna I won't doubt Moses again. I don't want leprosy, it must have been horrible

Rachel Me neither

Miriam It isn't just about getting leprosy it's about how God's will doesn't always look the way we think it should. But it is what we should seek, right now we should listen to Moses because God is truly with him guiding us through him.

We must not doubt it we must follow

## Scene 8: The Blues

Scene Characters:

Biblical references:

Tour Guide      Our destination is the boarder of the wilderness and the promised land. The children of Israel are poised to enter the next day. One Israelite is at the age were he is pondering his undecided fate. Still alive now but will he be tomorrow or will he perish with his peers

Friend 1        Hey there what's going on?

*Obediah*        Not sure!

Friend 2        It's your birthday tomorrow isn't it? 60 years old.

Obediah        Yeah that's right! That's me the one born on the boarder line  
I long to see the land we have travelled so far

Friend 1        Well cheer up tomorrows the day we go in. so surely that means you go in!

Obediah        Yes but I'm no Joshua  
I've companied all the way, God has dragged me through that wilderness kicking and screaming. I could never see how he was going to provide for us along the way, until he did it.  
I mean parting the red sea – couldn't have dreamt that one I thought we would all die when I saw the Egyptians.  
Water from a rock – didn't see that coming until it squirted me in the face and Quail and Manner it took me a long while before I trusted it would be there every morning.

Friend 2        Yes but you haven't turned away have you? You still believed he would do something to provide for us?  
And when they were complaining about the quail and manner when they all did.

Friend 3        You certainly didn't end up with Cora, Dathean or Abirah's fate.

Obediah        No but I still don't feel worthy, I guess I have just got a dose of the blues, not sure where I stand until tomorrow.

*(sings)* I've got the blues  
Blues down to my shoes  
Given me a listen, heres the latest news

*They tell me that I'm headed*

*For the land of my dreams*

But we've been trudging through

The wilderness for nearly forty years

Friend 1        Well I haven't had new sandals

(takes over)    Since we left Egypt's slavery

*They may not have worn out*

*But they're molded to my feet*



All *(joining in switching the verses between singers)*

I've got the blues  
Blues down to my shoes  
Given me a listen, heres the latest news

Friend 2 I'm never sure how long this time  
My tent's pitched here for  
I'm getting good at packing and  
I've learnt how not to hoard

Friend 3 I want to see this land  
Where Milk and Honey flows  
But all I've seen is wilderness  
Where water rarely flows

All I've got the blues  
Blues down to my shoes  
Given me a listen, heres the latest news

Friend 2 Quail and manna is the menu  
Every day of the week  
My stomach is satisfied  
But I taste it in my sleep

Obediah Tomorrow we are headed  
Into that promised land  
Will I get to come along?  
Or will I perish in this sand?  
I've got the blues  
Blues down to my shoes  
I've got the blues  
Blues down to my shoes

## Scene 9: The Promise

Scene Characters:

Biblical references:

Tour Guide Our last destination takes us to a day later as the children of Israel are about to enter the promised land, under Joshua's command

Caleb It is time Joshua, they are all assembled

Joshua Yes it is God gives us this day a land of our own we will praise him and build an altar for us to remember God's goodness in leading us into the promised land.

Caleb We will have battles to fight

Joshua With God on our side we will win and we will claim the land that God gave our father Abraham.

Caleb We will be able to serve him in freedom

Joshua Worship him with joy.

The Israelites mime building the altar and sacrificing in silence almost shadowed on the side – so the audience knows they are doing it but can't see it

Joshua Ok everyone... to the promised land

Joshua and Caleb Come on you unbelievers move out of the way

There is a new army coming

All and we are armed with faith  
to live we must give to live We'll  
Lend our voices only, to sounds of freedom.  
No longer lend our strength to that which we wish to be free from  
Live our lives with love and bravery and we shall lead  
A life Uncommon