

A Walk? Sure!

By Richard Bott

© 2005 Richard Bott

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 2.5 Canada License. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.5/ca/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 171 Second Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, California 94105, USA.

richard.bott@gmail.com – Maple Ridge, BC, Canada

This was written for an afternoon worship time at Camp Bimini – 7 to 9 year old campers.

- 1 – Narrator
- 2 – Moses
- 3 – Chorus (3 people)
- 4 – God

- 1 – Today, we're going to take a bit of a walk.
- 2 – A bit of a walk? Sure! I like walking.
- 1 – That's right, a bit of a walk.
- 2 – So... where are we going?
- 1 – We're going to the Promised Land?
- 2 – The Promised Land? Sounds nice!
- 1 – Oh, it is! Its a wonderful place.
Its a place where the water is delicious.
- 3 – Delicious!
- 1 – Its a place where there is always enough food.
- 3 – Enough food!
- 2 – What kind of food?
- 1 – Milk.
- 3 – Milk!
- 1 – Honey.
- 3 – Honey!
- 2 – *(looking around)* Do you hear an echo around here?
- 1 – No.
- 3 – No!
- 2 – *(looking really startled)* Oh! *(pause – 3 beats)*
Well... Storyteller, tell me more about this land of milk and honey and good water.
- 1 – Certainly!
Our story starts thousands of years ago, in a place called Egypt.
- 3 – Duh-na-na!!!!
- Aud - Duh-na-na**
- 1 – Yes... in our story there were two groups of people living in Egypt.
The Egyptians – who owned everything and were pretty much the rulers of everything,

and the Israelites – who were considered to be... well...

3 – Workers?

1 – No.

3 – Servants?

1 – Not quite.

3 – Slaves?

1 – Yes. That's it. Slaves.

2 – Slaves?

3 – Slaves!

2 – I'm sure I'm hearing an echo around here.
Whatever.

So, there were these evil Egyptians who were stomping down on the humble slaves...
and then... what?

1 – The Egyptians weren't evil. Everybody just thought that that was the way things were
supposed to work. You know – rulers rule and slaves work.

2 – Whatever. What happened then?

1 – One of the baby boys of Israel was adopted by the daughter of the chief ruler –
the Pharaoh.

3 – Duh-na-na!

Aud - Duh-na-na!

1 – Because of the way things worked out, he learned about how to be a ruler, but also the
story of how his people – the Israelites – came to be slaves.

3 – *(louder)* Duh-na-na!

Aud - Duh-na-na!

1 – One day, when he saw a slave being beaten, he got really angry, and he hit the slave
owner, over and over.

3 – *(louder)* Duh-na-na!

Aud - Duh-na-na!

1 – The slave owner died.

3 – *(loud)* Duh-na..... he died?

1 – Yes... he died.

3 – Oh. That's sad.

1 – Yes... it is sad.

2 – What did this guy do then?

Did he get turned into a slave?

Did he get thrown into jail?

What did he do?

1 – He ran away.

2 – He ran away?

3 – He ran away.

2 – What was this guy's name?

1 – His name was Moses.

2 – Hold it. My name is Moses.

I'm pretty high up in the Egyptian government.

I was adopted by the Pharaoh's daughter!

Are you talking about me?

3 – Duh-na-na!

Aud - Duh-na-na!

1 – Yes.

2 – But... but... but...

1 – Don't worry about it, Moses. Just follow the story, and you'll learn what you did.

2 – but... but... but...

1 – Don't worry! On with the story!

3 – On with the story!

2 – But, what do I do?

1 – Just act like you usually do... everything will work out.

2 – Ok... but I'm trusting you.

1 – That's a good start.
(talking to the audience) Moses ran away until he came to the farm of a relative – far, far, far away from Egypt. He worked for a couple of years as a shepherd, taking care of his uncle's sheep. Perhaps you could help us with the next part. I need to you sound like a flock of sheep.
(flock of sheep sounds)
 Great!

1 – One day while he was out taking care of the sheep, Moses saw something weird. A bush that was burning in flames, but wasn't burning up.

3 – *(pretending they're a burning bush)* Crackle, crunch, burn, burn, burn *(etc. etc. etc.)*

1 – He rushed over to try and put it out, knowing that a fire burning in a dry place could be very dangerous. As he got close he heard a voice saying:

4 – Stop!

2 – Stop?

4 – Stop! Take off your shoes.

2 – Take off my shoes?

3 – Take off your shoes!

4 – Take off your shoes. You're standing in a holy place.

2 – I'm standing in a...

4 – Moses. Stop repeating me. Take off your shoes and listen up!

2 – *(Moses kicks off shoes. Sits down on the ground.)*
 Uhhh... hello Burning Bush... my name is Moses... but you seem to already know that.

4 – Relax Moses. Its God.

2 – A god? Which god?

4 – The God of your great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great... ummm – great – grandfather Abraham and as many greats grandmother Sarah. I am the God of the people of Israel. I'm your God.

2 – My God?!

4 – Your God.

2 – Oh!

1 – Oh!

3 – Duh-na-na!

Aud - Duh-na-na!

4 – Moses, I've got a job for you.

2 – Better than being a shepherd?

4 – Much better!

2 – Great! Tell me all about it.

4 – I want you to go to Egypt and...

2 – EGYPT?

3 – Duh-na-na!!!

Aud - Duh-na-na!!!

4 – Enough with the sound effects, ok?
 Moses, I need you to go to Egypt and tell Pharoah?

2 – PHAROAH?

4 – Now **I'm** hearing an echo here.
 Moses, I need you to go and tell Pharoah that I want him to let my people go.

2 – *(nervous)* Well, God, it sounds like a great job and all, but, you know, uhhh, I'm, ummm,

- not, uhhh, umm, uh... well.... uh... *(very fast)* I'mnotverygoodatpublicspeaking.
- 4 – I know, Moses. Get your cousin to help.
- 2 – My cousin? Well – I could ask him...
- 4 – Great. It's settled! I'll be watching – if you need any help, just call.
- 2 – But... but... but...
- 4 – Moses. Trust me. If Pharoah doesn't want to listen... I'll help him figure out what he needs to do.
- 2 – But.... but... but... uh... welll....
(in a little voice) o.k.
- 4 – I knew you could do it!
- 1- So, Moses headed back to Egypt.
- 3 – He did?
- 2 – I did?
- 4 – You did.
- 3,2 – Oh.
- 1 – So, Moses headed back to Egypt. He let the people of Israel know what God wanted. They were excited about leaving. Could eveybody show me how excited they were?
(sounds of excitement) Great!
Moses then let Pharoah know what God wanted. He wasn't excited. He grumbled. Could eveybody show me how unexcited he was?
Can you grumble for me? *(sounds of grumbling)* Great!
Pharoah took a *lot* of convincing... most of it by God. But that's another story. In the end, he decided to let the People go.
- 3 – Duh-na-na
- Aud - Duh-na-na!**
- 1 - Well, then he decided to recapture them.
- 3 – Duh-na-na!
- Aud - Duh-na-na!**
- 1 - But, in the end, God made sure that the people would be free.
- 3 - DUH-NA-NA!
- Aud - DUH-NA-NA!**
- 2 - And that's the end of the story, right?
The people got away, took a short walk, got to the Promised Land filled with good water and good food, right?
Everybody lived happily ever after, right?
- 1 - Well, no.
- 2 - No?
- 3 - No!?
- 4 - NO!
- 1 - The people thought it was great to be away from Pharoah. They weren't slaves anymore.
They were happy. They were excited. They shouted and hooted and hollered because they were so happy. Can you show me how happy you think they were?
(sounds of happiness)
Great!
- 2 - But then...
- 3 - Duh-na-na
- Aud - Duh-na-na!**
- 1 - But then, they realized that they had no idea how to survive in a desert.
- 3 - Repeat after me: “Oh, we are sooooo tired!”
- Aud - Oh, we are sooooo tired!**
- 3 - Oh, we are sooooo thirsty!

Aud - Oh, we are sooooo thirsty!

3 - Oh, and Moses...

Aud - Oh, and Moses...

3 - we are soooooooooooooo hungry!

Aud - we are soooooooooooooo hungry!

3 - The people shouted: Moses...

Aud - MOSES!

3 - tell God to give us shelter and water and food.

Aud - tell God to give us shelter and water and food.

1 - Moses looked at the people and thought...

2 - I have no idea what to do.

I don't know how to find shelter or food or water out here.

I'll just tell them that.

(to audience) I don't know how to find shelter or food or water out here.

3 - OH, NO!

Aud - OH, NO!

3 - We're going to die.

Aud - We're going to die!

3 - Why did we ever leave Egypt?

Aud - Why did we ever leave Egypt?

3 - We worked hard.

Aud - We worked hard.

3 - Really hard!

Aud - Really hard!

3 - But we knew we'd always have enough to eat!

Aud - But we knew we'd always have enough to eat!

1 - So Moses went to have a chat with God.

2 - God - your people want shelter and water and food... and I don't know what to do.

4 - Moses...

2 - If I don't find them some shelter and water and food... I think they're going to kill me!

4 - Moses...

2 - What am I going to do? What are we going to do? God? WHAT are we going to do?

4 - Moses! Relax!

2 - Oh. ok.

4 - About the shelter - there are people in your group who know how to make tents.

Get them working.

About the water... here's what I want you to do. Take your walking stick. Find a big red rock that looks like it has a hundred-thousand-million holes in it. Whap the rock really hard with your stick. There will be a spring of fresh water under it.

The food... sigh... well, a flock of birds will be landing in about - oh - 10 minutes. Catch just as much as you need for today. In the morning there will be this white sticky stuff on the ground. It's nutritious and delicious. Have everyone pick up just as much as they need for the day.

2 - Thanks for the help, God... but... I get the feeling we're going to be out here for a while. Shouldn't we gather just a bit more of the bird and stuff from the ground?

4 - No.

2 - No?

4 - Do you trust me, Moses?

2 - Well, yes.

4 - The people don't trust me... yet.

After we feed their tummies every day, they'll trust that I'm here with them.

After they see me leading them - looking like a big cloud during the day, and a bunch of flames at night - they'll trust that I'm leading them to a new and good place.

- 2 - Are you sure?
- 4 - Oh, Moses, when it comes to people, I'm never sure about anything!
But we're going to try, right?
- 2 - Right!
- 1 - So, Moses showed the people how to make the shelters, just like God said.
Moses broke open the rock and found the good water, just like God said.
Moses watched the birds land, and helped to gather them up, just like God said.
Moses pointed out the nutritious and delicious ground stuff, and helped the people to gather enough up – just like God said
- 3 - And the people trusted in God.
- 1 - Well, sometimes they did....
- 2 - And sometimes they didn't.
- 1 - But they kept walking.
- 3 - For how long?
- A week?
- 1 - *(pause) (To audience) Can you help me here?*
When I shake my head like this (back and forth), can everybody say - "NO!"
When I nod my head like this (up and down), everybody shouts - "YES!"
(shake head)
- 3 - A month?
- 1 - *(shake head)*
- 3 - A year?
- 1 - *(shake head)*
- 3 - Ten years?
- 1 - *(shake head)*
- 3 - TWENTY YEARS?
- 1 - *(shake head)*
- 3 - FORTY YEARS?
- 1 - *(NOD head)*
For forty years, God led the people of Israel on their great journey.
- 2 - Sometimes we were sad.
Sometimes we were happy.
But – all the time – we were trying to understand who we were.
Who God wanted us to be.
- 1 - At the end of forty years...
- 2 - we reached the Promised Land... well, most of us, anyway.
- 1 - But *that's* a story for another day!