

Questions for Scene 7

FOREST GOSPEL SINGING

1. Why do you suppose the President and Mr. Douglass had to travel to a secluded forest campground to hear the gospel singers perform?
2. The choir's first song, *Let My People Go*, talks about Israel being in Egypt. Do some research about Israel's captivity in Egypt and compare it to the slaves' captivity in the American South. Who was Moses? Who was Pharaoh? Why would this have been the subject of a Negro spiritual?
3. Have you ever felt like singing a song with the words, "Nobody knows the trouble I've seen?" What were the circumstances that made you feel that way?
4. How does this second song affect the President? Why do you think that is?