

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

November 2013

Moses: Learning To Lead God's Way

Lesson #7: Walking By Faith

INTRODUCTION

When have you seen God do something supernatural? How was faith involved?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read Exodus 13:17- 14:31

Note: From the 70 Israelites who originally entered Egypt, their numbers were about 2 million now. "The most direct route to Palestine was along the coast. But this would have thrown Israel into immediate conflict with powerful enemies. The people needed time to learn to trust God, time to become organized. So God led them by a roundabout route down the Sinai Peninsula." ¹

1. Why did God lead the Hebrews down a "dead-end" street? (13: 17-18) (14:1-4)
2. What was the Pharaoh's response to their predicament? (14:5-9)
3. How did the Israelite "armament" compare to that of the Egyptians? What difference did the pillar of fire make?
4. What was the Hebrews response when they saw the approaching army? (14:10-12) Who got blamed? What does this teach us about Godly leadership?
5. What pressures were piling up for Moses? (14:10 - 16)
6. What was his response to their accusations? (14:13 - 14)
7. Why didn't he defend himself? How does this demonstrate his spiritual maturity?
8. How did God initially demonstrate His protection? (14:19-20)
9. What became of the Egyptian army? (14:27-28) The Israelites? (14:29-31)
10. What can we learn about God based on the opening/closing of the Red Sea? Why is this lesson hard to apply?

APPLICATION

How have you grown as a result of a "Red Sea" experience?

Did you notice what Moses wanted the people to do? "Do not fear. Stand by. See. Keep silent." These are responses that demonstrate our trust in God during predicaments.

Unfortunately, though, those four commands rub against our natural instincts. When Pharaoh's army bears down on us, we often fear the worst, rush right into the fight, look to ourselves instead of God, or try to talk our way out of things. But God wants us to do the exact opposite. He wants us to show confidence in Him, face our dilemma, watch Him at work, and keep quiet as He delivers us.

"Moses", page 101, Chuck Swindoll

Now comes one of the dramatic moments of all time. Moses lifts his rod and the waters of the sea are divided. His people have a way of redemption opened. This moment of deliverance would be forever after interpreted as *the* redemptive event of Israel's history. It would hereafter be celebrated as the focal turning point of the nation of Israel. It would be a monument of historic value and abiding wonder. What the coming of Christ is for the New Testament (revealing, redeeming act of God) this crossing-of-the-sea-event is to the Old Testament.²

¹ Richards, L., & Richards, L. O. (1987). *The teacher's commentary* (88). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

² Langley, R. (1972). Exodus. In F. H. Paschall & H. H. Hobbs (Eds.), *The teacher's Bible commentary* (F. H. Paschall & H. H. Hobbs, Ed.) (63). Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers.