

Let the Journey Begin

a study in the book of Exodus

Take the Next Step - Exodus 14:15-18

Lesson 10

God rarely reveals to us the entire path. Our verses today follow the LORD's instruction to the people to *stand still* with the words *go forward*. Each step we take is important to our journey. May you discover a renewed value of each step the LORD directs you to take.

Read Exodus 14:15-18

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns that refer to the *LORD*, *Moses*, *Pharaoh/the Egyptians*, and *the children of Israel*.

Key Words: *LORD*, *Moses*, *Pharaoh/the Egyptians*, and *the children of Israel*

3. List the actions of each of the following:

The LORD

Moses

The children of Israel

Pharaoh

The Egyptians

Read Exodus 14:15

1. Write the words of Moses to the people as recorded in Exodus 14:13,14.

a. Moses' words seem to express a confidence. Yet, before the LORD, Moses shared his fears. What question did the LORD ask Moses in verse 15?

b. There is a time to pray and then a time to act upon what we believe God has told us to do. Explain this in your own words.

1.) God's word contains many answers as to how we should react in a situation. Why do we sometimes pray asking Him for a solution that He has already given?

a.) What might it reveal about us when we do that?

2. What instruction did the LORD give to Moses for the *children of Israel*?

a. God's instruction to the children of Israel in verse 13 was to *stand still*. His instruction in verse 15 was to *go forward*. What have you learned about *standing still* before *going forward*?

1.) Consider the predicament of *the children of Israel*. They were camped between the vast Egyptian Army and the depths of the Red Sea. What thoughts might they have had about *going forward*?

b. We have each found ourselves in places where we feel like the LORD has told us to *go forward*. List a few of the thoughts you have experienced.

1.) What helps you overcome thoughts that tempt you to stay rather than *go*?

Read Exodus 14:16

1. What was the next instruction that the LORD gave to Moses?

a. Moses had seen the LORD do many miracles at the *lifting of his rod*. Record the words of the LORD to Moses at the burning bush:

Exodus 4:2

Exodus 4:17

b. How has your confidence or faith increased because you have experienced God's faithfulness?

2. Notice, the LORD had instructions for Moses that He did not have for others. Certainly, the faith of *the children of Israel* would be stretched as they went *forward*. The LORD would use Moses' actions to prepare the way for others. This is a good reminder to all believers, as we all have people who follow us. Why is it important to heed God's instructions when they are personal?

a. What do you think Moses experienced through his obedience that the others did not?

3. What did the LORD tell Moses would happen when he *lifted his rod and stretched out his hand over the sea*?

a. Lest we give any credit to Moses or his rod, enjoy the power of our God as you write the words of Isaiah 51:10

b. Not only would the waters be *divided*, the *ground would be dry*. The path would be made passable. Consider the words of Isaiah 43:19. What does this tell you about the LORD?

Read Exodus 14:17

1. Compare the words of Exodus 14:17 with the words of Exodus 14:4. What do you see?

2. In what ways does obeying God's instructions, even when they do not seem like the best option, bring Him *honor*?

3. Notice the LORD will *gain honor* over all of Pharaoh's *army, chariots, and horsemen*. Replace the words *army, chariots, and horsemen* with words of people or things people look to today for their success.

Challenge: What have you learned about God *hardening a heart* so that He will be *honored*.

Read Exodus 14:18

1. *Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD...* God has declared this so many times in His word. Record a few of the verses from Isaiah that express God's desire to be *known as the LORD*.

Isaiah 42:8

Isaiah 43:11

Isaiah 45:6

Isaiah 51:15

- a. What is your response?

2. After proving many times that He is the LORD, God set forth instructions for the people in Leviticus. He stated 45 times, *I am the LORD*. What have you learned regarding this truth that helps you choose God's ways?

Review Exodus 14:15-18

1. What have you learned from this lesson about taking the next step?

*And He said to the man who had the withered hand, "Step forward."
- Mark 3:3*

Observation Worksheet

Exodus 14:15-18 And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶ But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. ¹⁷ And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. ¹⁸ Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."