



This is the account of the parting of the Red Sea and the destruction of Pharaoh's army. Insurmountable odds and impenetrable barriers are overcome by God's power. If we want to experience God's power, we need to be willing to step out and trust God to work.

## Opening Question:

When have you had to trust someone/something when you were uncertain or even afraid of the potential risks?

**Read:** Exodus 13:17 - Exodus 14:31

Where did you experience God's presence this week?

What insights or questions do you have from this weekend's message or worship service?

## Understanding the Story:

Why do you think God did not lead his people directly into the Promised Land? (13:17-18)

The presence of God (called either a cloud, or God's angel, in the passage) has been leading the Israelites up to this point; in vs. 19, the cloud positions itself instead between the fleeing Israelites and the Egyptian army. What is the significance of this movement?

What did God's plan for escape require of Moses and the people (14:15-18)?

## Living the Story:

Faith operates both long-range (Joseph) and short-range (following the cloud pillar). What areas of your life require long-range or short-range trust in God?

When you are facing challenges or difficulties in life, how do you respond when things aren't going your way or at the speed you like them to move? What role does prayer play in your life during these times?

Think about times when you have felt like Israel, trapped between Egyptians and the Red Sea. What did you do and why?

## Pray:

Thank the Lord for the ways he has delivered you—either physically or spiritually from the challenges, dangers or "Egyptians" in your life.