

(Exodus 14:1-31)
“The Road to Victory”

~ INTRO ~

OK... LAST WEEK...

- We ended our study by talking about Gaining Strength.

WE LEARNED THAT GOD...

- Led Israel into the desert and pointed them toward a dead-end.

HE DID THIS...

- So... they would become battle ready.
 - Their faith would be stretched & strengthened...
 - By witnessing miracles & receiving provisions.

THESE ARE TRUTHS WE STILL LIVE OUT TODAY!

- God's helping hand is present in our lives.
 - He's teaching us to trust Him.

HERE'S A FEW THINGS TO STRENGTHEN US...

IDEA #1 – A PLANNED DETOUR (Ex. 14:1-4)

I LOVE TO TEACH THIS...

- Because in my mind... there's a tendency to think...
 - That if I'm following God and doing His will...
 - Then everything should be smooth sailing.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE TRUTH...

- There are still struggles even in the middle of perfect obedience.

(v.4-b) Key: God said I have planned this!

(Luke 8:22-25-a) NLT

TWO IDEAS:

- 1) Correcting Storms – gets me back on course.
- 2) Perfecting Storms – allows me to exercise my faith.

BOTH ARE PART OF THE CHRISTIAN WALK.

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IDEA #2 – THE ENEMY IS PURSUING ME (Ex. 14:5-14)

(v.10) Their sight caused panic...

- The Egyptian Army is coming in hot... and we're going to die!

THE BIBLE TEACHES US...

- That *fear is contagious* (Deut. 20:8) NKJV
 - And so too is a bad perspective!
- Faithless & negative people are not the ones...
 - You want a close relationship with.
 - This is not the person you want to give you counsel...
 - Because they don't inspire faith!

MOSES TOLD THE PEOPLE...

- (v.13) *Stand still*
- (v.14) *Stay calm*
 - Don't be afraid (2 Kings 6:16-17) NLT

ONE LESSON: “*Be strong in the Lord...* (Eph. 6:10-11) NLT

IDEA #3 – THE WAY FORWARD REQUIRES COURAGE (Ex. 14:15-31)

MANYTIMES...

- We remember (Joshua 1) where God encourages Joshua...
 - *To be strong & courageous* (v.6) (v.7) (v.9).

THERE'S A TIME TO PRAY...

- And there's a time to get moving.
 - (Ecc. 3:1)

IN THIS SCENE...

- God was ready to move, and Moses needed to get going (vv.15-16).

EXAMPLES...

- Moses (Ex. 14:15) NLT (afraid & stalled out)
- Joshua (Joshua 7:10) NLT (guilty & loss victory)
- Elijah (1 Kings 19:9) NLT (discouraged & ran)

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HERE’S A PRACTICAL LESSON OF FAITH...

- We don’t want to get ahead of God...
 - And we don’t want to fall behind God.
 - We want to learn how to walk with God.

(Isa. 30:19-21) NLT

OK... THERE ARE COMMON SITUATIONS...

- That can weaken our faith.

THREE EXAMPLES:

(Luke 14:15-24) NLT Jesus gave a parable of banquet...

- And listed three excuses the guest made.
 - 1) (v.18) Too busy at work
 - (Proverbs 23:4-5) NLT
 - 2) (v.19) Too busy with personal desires
 - (1 John 2:15-17) NLT
 - 3) (v.20) Too busy with family matters
 - (1 Cor. 7:29) NLT

THE PROBLEM IS...

- Knowing the word of God...
 - But living as though it doesn’t matter.

THE PRIORITY OF JESUS COMES FIRST.

- *Love God... Love others...*
 - This is the road to victory.

~ IN CLOSING ~

RECOGNIZE...

- How God is teaching and leading you.
 - He’s showing you what life with Him looks like...
 - And all the joys & privileges that come along with it.