

Moses and the Red Sea (Ex 14:5-31)

Read Exodus 14:5-31 and watch the video.

1. Let's review the ten plagues that cause Pharaoh to release the nation of Israel. Was the nation of Israel ever threatened?

What was so significant of Moses and the Red Sea? What evidence was there of the invisible God of heaven?

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| 1. Blood (Ex 7:14-24) | 6. Of boils (Ex 9:8-12) |
| 2. Frogs (Ex 8:1-15) | 7. Hail (Ex 9:13-35) |
| 3. Gnats (Ex 8:16-19) | 8. Locusts (Ex 10:1-20) |
| 4. Flies (Ex 8:20-32) | 9. Darkness (Ex 10:21-29) |
| 5. Egyptian livestock (Ex 9:1-7) | 10. Firstborn (Ex 11:1 – 12:30) |

2. Write down Exodus 14:31. 3.

3. What was God saying to the nation of Israel in the third month out of Egypt?

Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites." (Ex 19:3-6, NIV)

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Teacher Notes

Video Abstract (Author: Max7.org): Through Moses' leadership, God saves the Israelites from slavery in Egypt by leading them through the Red Sea on dry ground. This account clearly shows the power and authority of God, and Moses' complete trust in Him. It shows the drowning death of the Pharaoh's army. This animation is suitable for school aged children and junior teens.

Read Exodus 14:5-31 and watch the video.

At this age, Exodus 14:5-31 can be read by the student by themselves, and then watch the video.

When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, Pharaoh and his officials changed their minds about them and said, "What have we done? We have let the Israelites go and have lost their services!" So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him. He took six hundred of the best chariots, along with all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them. The Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, so that he pursued the Israelites, who were marching out boldly. The Egyptians—all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops—pursued the Israelites and overtook them as they camped by the sea near Pi Hahiroth, opposite Baal Zephon.

As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground. I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them. And I will gain glory through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen. The Egyptians will know that I am the Lord when I gain glory through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen."

Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. During the last watch of the night the Lord looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen." Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the Lord swept them into the sea. The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. That day the Lord saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant. (Ex 14:5-31, NIV)

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Help the student with their observation skills by providing hints and references to the text:

The ten plagues never threatened the lives of the nation of Israel. When they left Egypt, they were cornered, blocked by the sea and facing certain death by the Egyptian army. Through Moses, the sea opened and closed, making the invisible God in heaven tangibly seen and present.

2. Write down Exodus 14:31. 3.

And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant. (Ex 14:31, NIV)

The objective here is to help the student learn how to carefully observe the text and how the nation of Israel came to faith.

3. What was God saying to the nation of Israel in the third month out of Egypt?

Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites." (Ex 19:3-6, NIV)

The number one question that most Christians cannot answer is what does "faith" objectively mean? Allow time for the student to ruminate and share their observations. Here God provides the qualification for what people must do to be considered His people:

God defined what the word faith means:

- 1) "You yourselves have seen" – **believe** that the invisible God in heaven is real and alive.
- 2) "if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession" – **trust and obey God's word** and you will be my kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

Note: Of the generation who witnessed the miracles of the Exodus, God would say of the nation of Israel: In spite of this, you did not trust in the Lord your God (Deut 1:32, NIV).