

Discipleship Adventure

18 Day Exodus
by Alan Lee

Table of Contents

Discipleship Adventure	1
18 Day Exodus	1
HOW TO BEGIN THIS ADVENTURE	3
Trust the Bible, the Word of God	5
Believing, even without seeing	8
Following the Type (Pattern) for The Christian Life	11
From Egypt to Canaan	15
Why The Lamb? And Show Me The Door!	18
Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth	22
You Can't Leave Without Applying The Blood	27
Put "The Leaven" Out Of Your House	32
Don't Forget!	36
Purposeful Instructions	40
Phylacteries, Frontlets & Unleavened Bread	43
Isn't It Shorter to Go This Way?	46
Pillar of Cloud/Pillar of Fire	50
More insights on the Journey	53
Abraham's Servant is Sent to Find a Bride for Isaac	57
"God, Why Did You Lead Us Here?"	61
Turn Your Fear into Faith	65
Taking God at His Word, and walking by Faith	69

HOW TO BEGIN THIS ADVENTURE

You are getting ready to voyage on a growth program like you've never known before. This Quiet Time Adventure (QTA), may not be quiet at all. In fact, there might be times when you just have to shout a praise out to God. If the Word creates a burning in your bones (Jer. 20:9), than let it out. Shout to the Lord, give Him praise, for He is worthy of your praise.

The only reason I would call this a "Quiet Time" is so that you will know to get away in quietness and listen to the God. That right, just you and God; no one else, no radio, no TV and best of all, no homework, and no job! It's a time for you to be alone with God. This will be a time for you to listen and talk with your heavenly Father who created you in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17) and knows you better than anyone (Psa. 139:13-18). God loves you and desperately wants to communicate with you. He has wonderful plans for your life and He wants to impress them into your heart. Will you let Him speak to you? You've allowed Him to be your Savior, now, will you allow Him to be your Lord?

This study is designed for you to get **handles** on *why God has saved you and what He has for you as a result, and the path that He wants you to walk to realize the purpose for your Christian life*. The effectiveness of this plan is simple-get away by yourself, bring your Bible, your study guide, a small spiral ring notebook, and oh yea, don't forget your pen. Find a **quiet** spot away from any distractions. Get comfortable and prepare to meet with God. Begin with some **Spiritual breathing**. *Spiritual breathing* is like warm-up exercises to an athlete. This will help to get you in the right frame of mind to hear from God.

After you have finished your breathing exercises take out your spiral ring notebook and spend a few minutes reflecting on what God has done in your life over the last 24 hours. Simply jot down anything that may come to mind. Then begin the day's Adventure and the discovery of Who God Was, Is, and Is to come.

Begin each day of this Adventure with prayer!

Prayer is like *spiritual breathing*. It is not a chant, but a two-way conversation (sharing & listening) between you and the living God. Talk to Him honestly, because He will respond to you honestly. Below, I will give you some "*handles*" to help you grow in your daily walk with the Lord.

Exhale (Step 1): In your own words ask God to check your heart and motives and to bring to your mind anything that is impure. Then listen! If He brings anything to your mind, be sensitive to His leading, turn from it and thank Him for His faithfulness to reveal to you anything that would keep you from growing mature in your faith.

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."-Psa. 139:23,24

Inhale (Step 2): Tell God that you would like to exchange your life for the life of His Son, Jesus, today. Ask Him to fill you with His Spirit (Eph. 5:18), in exchange for your own desires. Once you exhale out the “waste products” from your spiritual life, you need to “inhale the source of Life”, the Spirit of God. This is so important if you want the life of Christ to live in you and shine through you throughout the day.

“I have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer I who live, but Jesus lives in me.”-Galatians 2:20

Open Your Eyes (Step 3): Ask God by His Holy Spirit to open the eyes of your understanding so that you can see clearly and understand what He is saying to you.

“Open my eyes O God, that I might see the wonderful things from your Word.”
Psa. 119:18

Commit to Hiding God’s Word In Your Heart (Step 4):In order for this Adventure to be truly life-changing it is vital that you make three commitments. **One**, Commit yourself to begin each day with some *spiritual breathing*. **Two**, Commit yourself to *memorize the verse* from God’s Word at the end of each study. Memorizing God’s Word is a big key to living for Jesus. **Three**, Once the Word is hidden in your heart, take what you have just memorized and go share it with several people. Keep the thought before you at all times (meditate upon it) during the day, and look for as many opportunities to share the Word as you can.

“Your Word have I hidden in my heart that I might not sin against thee.” Psa. 119:11

signature

beginning date of journey

Day 1

Trust the Bible, the Word of God

(It speaks the truth of Jesus Christ and our life in Him)

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Final Checklist:

Bible _____ **Notebook** _____ **Pen/Pencil** _____ **Receptive life** _____

Are you ready to begin? I'm sure you are. The question is not, are you ready? But, where do I begin? The Bible is a very big book! Where should I start my journey? Do I begin in the Old Testament with Genesis? Do I read a book in The New Testament? Questions like these have plagued even the oldest Christian. But, we don't have to be confused. God laid out a plan for every Christian, and if we follow that plan, than we will end up accomplishing what God originally intended for each of us to achieve. Let's begin in the New Testament, than we'll go to the Old Testament.

Scripture Passage of Study: Old & New Testament Passages

You probably know by now that the Bible is made up of two books. One of them is called the Old Testament, while the other is called the New Testament. The Old Testament and the New Testament fit together like a hand in a glove. The reason they fit so well, is because, one is a **pattern or type** for the other. As you grow, spiritually, you'll find that there is nothing mentioned in the New Testament (N.T.) that didn't have its origin in the Old Testament (O.T.). With both of these Testaments given to us, we are able to learn about God's entire plan for our lives, and how we should live, so we can please the One who bought us.

Every day, you will be asked to use your Bible to look up specific verses and passages. The Bible [Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12], is your **weapon to fight** off Satan's attacks. It's very important that you know how to use it well.

Setting our course for success: fitting the Old and New Testaments together.

Match the following Scriptures from the Old and New Testament passages with the correct choice.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <u>1</u> Romans 15:4 | a. Two men who found the One that Samuel and all the prophets spoke of. |
| <u>2</u> Deuteronomy 18:15,18 | b. Old Testament Prophecy of His Birth (Matt. 1:23) |
| <u>3</u> Acts 3:24 | c. All Scripture (O.T./N.T.) is Inspired by God! |
| <u>4</u> John 1:45 | d. How Jesus revealed Himself to the men on the Emmaus Road after He was raised from the dead. |
| <u>5</u> Isaiah 7:14 | e. Christ, the prophet like unto Moses (Acts 3:22; 7:37) |
| <u>6</u> 2Timothy 3:16,17 | f. Old Testament Prophecy of His death (Gospel accounts) |
| <u>7</u> 2 Peter 1:20,21 | g. Samuel and the other Prophets foretold of these days. |
| <u>8</u> Isaiah 53:4-12 | h. During His earthly ministry he used the books of Moses (Gen.,Exod.,Lev.,Numb., & Deut.)to try to convince the Jews that He was the Messiah. |
| <u>9</u> Luke 24:25-27 | i. Old Testament Prophecy concerning His greatness (Luke 1:33-35) |

10 John 5:39,45-47

j. All the Old Testament is for “our” learning that we might have hope.

11 Isaiah 9:6,7

k. There is no private interpretation of Scripture

12 1 Corinthians 10:1-11
(specifically vv. 6,11)

l. The life of the Children of Israel under Moses is a pattern for the Christian walk today.

Before filling in the blanks with your answer, make the proper letter conversions from below.

1 5 12 10 4 7 3 6 8 9 2 11

Conversions: a=H; b=O; c=Y; d=O; e=R; f=W; g=L; h=S; I=D; j=G; k=O l=D

Key thought: *God’s Holy Word*, The Bible, is the main thing that we should be investing our lives in. When you stop and think about it: there’s only one pursuit worth talking about; only one thing worth searching for, and there is one thing that delights the heart of God. This topic that is worthy of your time, conversation, and inquiry, is found in three Words: God’s Holy Word. It’s perfect! You’ve probably already figured that out, though. No other book is like the Bible. For, no other book was ever inspired by God.

Read and Memorize: *Jeremiah 9:23,24*

A wise man once said, “Once you become aware of the reason God has you here, most of life’s problems will fall into place. What makes life worthwhile is having a big enough objective, something which catches our imagination and lays hold of our allegiance; and that the Christian has, in a way that no other man has. For what higher, more exalted, and more compelling goal can there be than to *KNOW GOD’S WORD*, which tells us of *HIS PLANS* for our journey.

Close your study time in prayer. Take the time to thank God for His Holy Word. It will be the key to you understanding the path that lies before you.

Challenge: Now go share with someone what God has spoken to you about today. Hide it in your heart, and be ready to build on these thoughts tomorrow.

Day 2

Believing, even without seeing

(Seeing God's pattern of teaching us.)

Welcome back to another Adventure!

Before we begin our time together, take the time to think through how your day went, yesterday. In order to do that, you must begin in **Prayer**. If you want to *guarantee* a great adventure with the Lord, studying His Word, spend time in prayer before you begin.

Do you remember the steps to **Spiritual Breathing**? Like physical breathing, it involves **exhaling and inhaling**. The reason why I've chosen this picture in teaching you how to pray is so that you can *parallel* it to an event that has taken place in the past. Every minute of the day your body is breathing in and exhaling out. Your body is taking in fresh air and exhaling the carbon dioxide that is not useful to your body.

Spiritually, if we expect God to speak to us, we must carry out our Spiritual breathing. And in reality, just as we breathe in and exhale out all day, we should be praying all day (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Just as oxygen is essential to your body for this life, so to is prayer for your spiritual life. Take some time, before you begin this adventure, to get rid of any *spiritual waste*.

___ **Exhale:** Ask God to *check your heart and motives* for all that you did yesterday. Ask Him to *bring to your mind anything that is impure* (Psalm 139:23,24) Then listen! The thoughts and actions that He brings to your mind, don't have to be repeated today. Dedicate yourself today to be sensitive to His leading, turn from those actions that don't please God, and thank Him for the strength that He'll give to you to overcome those spiritually wasteful actions.

___ **Inhale:** Now that you have taken care of *exhaling*, ask God to fill you with His life-giving presence today. The Bible calls this, being filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). Ask Him to empower you and *fill* you with His presence, right now.

___ **Open Your Eyes:** Ask God, by His Holy Spirit, to open the eyes of your understanding so that you can see clearly and understand what He is about to say to you.

“Open my eyes O God, that I might see the wonderful things from your Word.”
Psa. 119:18

___ **Commit to Hiding God's Word In Your Heart:** When you hide something, you put it away for safe keeping, so you can reveal it at the right time. Spiritually, this is what you're doing when you take God's Word and hiding it in your heart. Yesterday, I gave you **three** ways to help you hide God's Word in your heart. Today, I want to help you remember those three steps by giving you a clear picture or pattern.

Each one of these steps can be patterned to your hand. You'll notice that you have four fingers and a thumb. Your **thumb** is the key to holding onto everything. So, make sure you begin your study time with *spiritual breathing*. For each one of the fingers there will be a spiritual exercise to commit to, and before you know it, you'll have hidden some of God's Word in your heart (Psalm 119:11).

Pointer finger: always read your scriptures carefully.

Middle finger: think about what the Scriptures are saying.

she must stop clinging for He had not finished His business. She left the resurrected Christ and ran to tell the disciples the good news, that Jesus was alive.

Meanwhile, the disciples were in a private room, terrified. Can you imagine the thoughts that were going on in their heads? The man that they had surrendered three years of their lives to, was crucified, buried, and now to add insult to their injury, Mary (who must have been hallucinating), comes and tells them that He's alive. I can't imagine the confusion they felt.

Later that same day, Jesus calmly entered into the room where the disciples were huddled (v. 19), and He showed them His hands and His side. When the disciples recognized who He was, they rejoiced (v. 20). Unfortunately, not all twelve disciples were there. One of them was missing, Thomas. When Thomas arrived, the disciples could not wait to tell them that they had seen the Lord (v. 25). Right here, I want you to notice how Thomas responds *in doubt!* **Yet, if there's proof, he'll believe.**

Thomas said, "Except I shall see in his hands the prints (Gk. tupos) of the nails, and put my finger into the print (Gk. tupos) of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe." John 20:25

Did you catch those fancy Greek words? "Unless the holes in his hand **match the exact shape** of the nails that He was crucified with, I will not believe."

Now notice what happened eight days later (vv. 26-29). Jesus comes walking through the doors and revealed Himself to Thomas, just like He did to the others. Thomas was told to place his finger in the nail print and his hand up into His side, so he could experience the risen Christ, but he didn't. When he saw the nail print (type) matched the hole in His hand perfectly, like the others, he believed.

Middle Finger Exercise: It is a fact, that Jesus Christ came to this earth and paid the price of our sin by dying on an old rugged cross. But today, He sits at the right hand of His Father in heaven (*Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 10:12; 12:2*) acting as your High Priest (*Hebrews 4:14-16*). He is not hanging on a cross. He is risen, just as He said (*Matthew 28:6*)! And one day, you will see those same "**prints**" in His hands and feet, and where the spear opened up His side, just as the disciples did. Until we see Him face to face, He has given us the Scriptures that are full of His "**prints**" (types). But, blessed are those who have not seen, with their *physical eyes*, (the "**prints**"), but have seen with their *spiritual eyes* (*John 20:29*). Keep your eyes opened wide for "**prints**" coming your way!

Ring Finger Exercise: memorize **John 20:29**

Pinky Finger Exercise: Go share this story with another person. You might want to pass this study onto them. You could be like Mary, and start a tidal wave of good news. Oh, don't worry about being misunderstood, The Lord will show them the way.

Close in Prayer: Take the time to thank God for the resurrection of His Son, as well as all of the evidence in "type" that proves it. Give Him the glory!

Prayer, “Spiritual breathing.” Each of these three days, the focus has been on preparing ourselves for meeting with and hearing God. Do you remember the steps to “Spiritual breathing”? Each day, I will get farther away from defining the process for you. But I will continue to remind you of the importance of prayer. See if you can fill in the blanks, without going back to your Day 1 or 2 Adventures. (If you have to go back to your previous studies to fill in the blank, that’s O.K. .)

_____ Take the time to look back over your last 24 hours and ask God to reveal any “strongholds” (problem areas) that you did not have victory over. Make a commitment to purposefully handle those different today. Commit them to God and ask Him to give you victory over them as you depend upon the Holy Spirit’s help. It’s very important that we avoid entering our study time with an unclean vessel towards God (Matthew 23:25,26).

_____ Ask God to fill you with His Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). Up to this point, I have been emphasizing that you begin your study time in prayer. What I haven’t told you is that Ephesians 5:18 speaks of constantly living under the influence of the Spirit, rather than being controlled by the flesh (i.e. being drunk with wine). As you move on through this Bible study and into your day, remember to keep asking for the filling of the Spirit in every circumstance.

_____ Ask God, by the Holy Spirit that dwells in you, to open your eyes to understand His Word (Psalm 119:18; Ephesians 1:18,19), so that you can begin to learn the purpose why you have been saved.

_____ Apply the pattern of your hand throughout the remainder of this day.

Pointer finger: Always read the Scriptures carefully.

Middle finger: Think (meditate, chew on the message for a while) about what the Scriptures are saying.

Ring finger: Memorize the Scripture for the day and it’s reference.

Pinky finger: Share what you’ve learned with one or more people today.

^Sinking Prayer Shafts^: As we continue to study together, I will often challenge you to look up some extra Scriptures. This is not an exercise in futility! There are many purposes for this. Here’s two: 1) The more familiar you are with your “Sword” (The Word of God), the better you’ll be able to stand strong in the Lord, and 2) The more Scriptures that you know regarding a particular subject, the more emphasis you’ll see in that area.

Two finger exercise: Read **Luke 18:1; 21:36; & Romans 12:12.** On the lines below, write out a summary of what those Scriptures are telling you about **prayer.**

Final checklist for your journey:

Bible _____ **Notebook** _____ **Pen/Pencil** _____ **Receptive life** _____

Scripture Passage of Study: 1 Corinthians 9:24-10:13

In our last study, you'll recall (**middle finger**) our topic dealt with "patterns" or "types." Our study, today, will take you into the *most complete* "type" of the Christian life, found anywhere in God's Word. It will be out of these Scriptures that we build our entire three-month adventure. **Scripture Alert:** Did you notice that our Scripture passage crossed over into two chapters.

Teaching point:

=====

Originally, the Holy Scriptures did not have the divisions (chapters and verses) of today's Bible. The only divisions would be that of the book. For example, Paul's first letter to the Corinthians was a long letter, not sixteen (16) chapters. It wasn't until the 1400's that divisions were used within books of the Bible. Up until this point, individuals really had to know where things were in the Bible. The original divisions were accomplished by dividing the Scriptures into paragraphs (i.e. A,B,C,D,...). Within one hundred years, chapters and verses were added for easier study.

"Pointer finger" exercise for today: 1 Corinthians 9:24-10:13

The Christian life is compared to a race. Each person, when they accept Christ is entered into this race (9:24). This race, like every other race, has a prize at the end. In order to win that prize, *you must run the race purposefully* (v. 24,25). At the end of this race (your life), you and I will stand before the Lord Jesus Christ to give an account on how we have run this race. At that time, you will either be rewarded with the prize or disqualified (v. 27).

***Sinking Shafts*: 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15.**

Chapter, ten begins with the term, "And," "Moreover," or "For," depending on your translation.

Teaching Note: =====

Whenever you see the terms "and," "for," "wherefore" "moreover," or "therefore," you need to ask yourself the question (?) *what are they there for?* You'll find that they are always used to connect a thought from the preceding verses. In our study, you can see that the journey of the Israelites, under Moses, is compared to the "race" that Paul spoke of, in chapter 9: 24-27.

Middle finger exercise: Answer the following questions as you **think** through the Scripture passage in chapter ten.

1. How many of the Israelites passed through the sea? (v. 1) _____
2. How many were baptized unto Moses? (v. 2) _____
3. How many did eat of that spiritual meat? (v. 3) _____

4. How many drank of the spiritual drink? (v. 4) _____
5. Check the appropriate spiritual drink that they all drank.
 ___ The real thing (Coke) ___ The choice of a new generation (Pepsi) ___ The Un-Cola (7-Up) ___ Just what the Dr. ordered (Dr. Pepper) ___ Generic (brand X)
 ___ Christ (the real thing, the choice of your generation, the spiritual un-cola [crystal clear & makes your nose tingle], Just what the Dr. ordered, and in no way is he generic! But, he did die on a cross [X])
6. How many were saved? (v. 4) _____
7. Did all of them run the race the way they were supposed to? (v. 5) _____

Go back to your lesson from yesterday, Day 2 (**Believing, even without seeing**). Go to your **Teaching note** section on “types.”

8. List the five words used in Scripture for “types.” _____, _____, _____, _____, & _____.
9. Which two words for “type” do you find in verses six (6) and eleven (11)?
 _____ & _____.
10. How many events in the life of the Israelites are given to us as a type? _____
11. Why were all of these events given to us, as Christians, today? (v. 11) _____
12. What word does verse twelve (12) begin with? _____

God has placed you and I in this race to win! He has given us instructions and examples, in “type,” to show us how to run a victorious race. And though, at times, it may seem like you can’t win, remember the words of encouragement from verse thirteen (13). Though, the world, the flesh, and the Devil, may tempt you (vv. 7-10), God will provide a way for you to win. Keep your eyes open to every avenue in which you can pursue victory! Run to win.

Ring finger Exercise: Memorize **1 Corinthians 9:24**

Pinky finger Exercise: Let other Christian friends know, if they don’t already, that this Christian life is like a race. It requires training, discipline and a focus on the prize ahead. See if they’ll commit to training with you. Don’t stop until you find someone who will be your “training partner.”

Close in Prayer: Thank the Lord for His death and resurrection. **Wherefore** (because of His death and resurrection), Lord, give me the strength and endurance to run this race in your power.

Why is overcoming temptation such a big deal? James 1:1-12 tells us “why” we’re tempted, and “what effect” it has on us when we endure it, and verse twelve concludes with a special reward for those who don’t stumble during the trial. This reward is related to the prize in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

“Blessed is the man that patiently endures trials & temptations, for when he is *tried* (literally, *approved* at the Judgment Seat of Christ, not disqualified [1 Corinthians 9:27]), he shall receive the crown of life [the prize]. James 1:12

I’ve got to ask you a question? **“Do you want to win the prize?”**

Prayer, “Spiritual Breathing.” With these additional thoughts, you should be better equipped to pray for strength and courage to win the battle over your fleshly desires, and serve God more effectively.

____ **Exhale** (step 1): In your own words ask God to check your heart and motives and to bring to your mind anything that is impure (Psalm 139:23,24). Then listen! If He brings anything to your mind, be sensitive to His leading, turn from it and thank Him for His faithfulness to show you how to **“escape”** the temptation in the future.

____ **Inhale** (step 2): Ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). Exhaling and Inhaling (spiritual breathing) is like changing directions in a sailboat. At one point your going in one direction, you realize it wasn’t the best way, so you turn the rudder and adjust your sail to catch a fresh breeze to move you in a better direction. Keep seeking the best winds

____ **Open Your Eyes** (step 3): Ask God to open your eyes so you can understand His Word (Psalm 119:18; Ephesians 1:18,19). God’s Word is a road map for your life. Ask the One who wrote it to give you understanding in reading it. He will.

____ **Commit to Hiding God’s Word in Your Heart** (step 4): Why should I hide God’s Word in my heart? So that I might not sin against God (Psalm 119:11). Take the time right now to look up Psalm 119:9. How can you keep your way pure?

Final checklist for your journey:

Bible _____ **Notebook** _____ **Pen/Pencil** _____ **Receptive life** _____

Scripture Passage of Study: Exodus 12:1-6

So far, on day 4, we have addressed “temptations” and the importance of overcoming them, in light of 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. Now, go back to when God began revealing Himself to you, and let’s move forward to when you finally realized Who He was and what He did for you on the cross.

Pointer/Middle Finger Exercise: Read the Scripture passage carefully, and answer the following questions.

- 1) What day of the month did the children of Israel take **a** lamb? _____
- 2) What day of the month did the children of Israel kill **their** lamb? _____
- 3) Did God start the new calendar year on the tenth day? _____ The fourteenth? _____

Spiritual Breathing: Remember the importance of prayer! Without it, your time with God will be ineffective. Satan loves nothing more than for you, or I, to enter into a time of study without having our heart prepared to receive His Word. Prayer is a provision of God's **grace**. Proper preparation in prayer will maximize your sensitivity to hearing from God. Take the time to go through the steps that we've been practicing for the last four days.

____ **Exhale:** (Psalm 139:23,24) Ask God to clean your life of anything that would displease Him. He knows your heart better than you do. Ask Him to reveal anything that would be keeping you from walking pure and righteous in His sight. Give it over to Him. For He weighs you in His righteous balances, and He knows the integrity of your heart (Job 31:6 *paraphrase*).

____ **Inhale:** Ask for the filling of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18), Who will guide you into all truth (John 16:13).

____ **Open Your Eyes:** Ask the Lord to open your eyes so you can see the wonderful things from His Word (Psalm 119:18).

____ **Commit to Hiding God's Word in Your Heart:** Do you remember why you should "hide God's Word in your heart?" Do you remember, "how to keep your way pure?"

Remind yourself of the truths found in Psalm 119:9,11.

***Day 5 Evaluation*:** How have you been holding on to the Word of God? Review your last five days. Apply the "hand" method to your studies. Give yourself a rating of 1-10 on each finger (1 the poorest job, 10 couldn't be better). Draw your hand, on a piece of paper, in your journal. Label each finger correctly (see day 2). Place a number rating on each finger. If any of the fingers are below a 7, ask yourself why? Then write down a way in which you can make it better, today. At the end of this lesson, come back and follow through with your desire to make "Your Own" rating higher.

Final checklist for your journey:

____ **Bible** _____ **Notebook** _____ **Pen/Pencil** _____ **Receptive Life** _____

Scripture Passage of Study: Exodus 12:7, 12, 13, 21-29

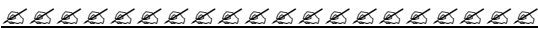
The passage that you focused your study on, yesterday, was part of the command given by God to Moses, to give to the children of Israel. Today, we will continue and see the application of the command.

By this time, a question may have come to your mind? "**Why a Lamb?**" And, "**Why was He killed?**"

Background information: Moses has come to Pharaoh nine times, before this point, in Exodus. Each time he demanded for Pharaoh, to "let the people go."(Exodus 5:1; 7:16; 8:1,20; 9:1,13; 10:3,4) All nine times, Pharaoh said, "No!" As a result, God brought the tenth judgment upon Egypt. Exodus 11:5 tells us:

And **all** *the firstborn* in the land of Egypt shall die, from *the firstborn* of Pharaoh that sits upon his throne, even unto *the firstborn* of the Maidservants that are behind the mill; and all *the firstborn* of beasts.

The only ones that could escape this *plague of death*, were those individuals that placed the blood of **The Lamb** around their door. Any individual that went into a house, whose door was covered with blood, would be saved from the *judgment of God*. And any house that did not have the blood on the door, their firstborn would die in God's judgment. On that evening (v. 6), the fourteenth day, thousands of lambs were killed. And millions were saved as they applied the blood of **The Lamb** to **their** house. Yet, in Exodus 12 you never see the expression "lambs" (plural). Every time it is mentioned it is singular. *Do you wonder why?* The Scripture, in type, was pointing to **The Lamb of God**, who would enter Jerusalem on the tenth day (Matt. 21: 5-11), be slain by the entire congregation of Israel (Luke 23:18; Acts 2:36, 3:12-15), on the evening of the fourteenth day (Matt. 27:45). Keep in mind through this entire study, how the Old Testament is a *perfect type* for everything in the New Testament--isn't that COOL!

Teaching Point: 

The Jewish, twenty-four hour day is much different than our twenty-four hour day. For Israel, a new day began in the evening at 6:00 p.m. Daylight hours were measured from 6:00 a.m., 12 hours after the day had begun. Therefore, when Matthew 27:45 mentions the sixth and the ninth hour, it's speaking of 12:00-3:00. Though you and I would consider this to be the middle of the day, the Jewish day recognizes this as evening (3 hours short of a 24-hour day). It would be equivalent to 9:00 p.m. according to our clock-keeping standards.

The blood of **The Lamb** was to be applied to the two side posts, and the upper door post (v. 7). So, when the Lord would pass through Egypt that night, He could identify the houses that placed their **faith** in the blood.

Teaching Point: 

Faith is, simply believing what God has to say about the subject at hand. **Faith** cannot exist apart from God's revelation to man. In other words, it would be impossible for the children of Israel to apply their faith, in the blood, if God didn't tell them what it provided for them--salvation.

The Lamb was slain, on the front porch of the house. The blood that flowed from his body was applied with a bunch of hyssop (bunch of long grass bound together), from the bason (first step) of the door. After the blood was applied, the people were instructed to stay in the house and remain there until morning (v. 22). Every Jew, and every Egyptian (cf. Exodus 12:38), that entered through the doorway, which had applied **The Lamb's** blood, was saved. For, on that evening, the Lord looked for one thing, and only one thing! He looked for the **blood of The Lamb** (vv.13, 23, cf. v. 29) applied to the door of each house.

Jesus is The Door (John 10:7,9). He is The Lamb of God (John 1:36; Acts 8:32; 1 Peter 1:19; cf. Exodus 12:27). His head, which bore the crown of thorns, brought forth blood from above (upper doorpost). His hands nailed and His side pierced, brought forth blood from the sides (the side posts). And all of the blood ran down towards His pierced feet (the bason of the porch). As a result of His death, every individual that would apply **His blood (faith)** to their life will be saved!

Simple thoughts to ponder upon and answer:

1. Did God look at what type of house it was? _____
I.e. neighborhood, color, how many floors, bay window, etc.
2. Did God look inside to see what color the people inside the house were? _____
I.e. black, yellow, red, white, or brown,
3. Did God look inside to check out the status of the people? _____
I.e. rich, poor, fat, ugly, skinny, beautiful, etc.
4. Did God look inside the house to see if they were eating the Lamb? _____
5. Did God look inside the house to see if they were dressed to leave Egypt? _____
6. What did God look for? _____
7. Aren't you glad that you've experienced the **grace** of God and had your life covered in the blood of **The Lamb**? _____
8. How many times did **The Lamb** have to die? _____
Look up *Hebrews 9:26,28; & 1 Peter 3:18*. How many times did Christ die?

9. Did **The Lamb** have to come back to life to save the people? _____
10. What saved the people that night? _____
11. What did Jesus say, just before He died, in John 19:30? _____
12. Did Christ have to do anything else for you and I to be saved? _____
Thought question: If it was Christ's death that saved me (cf. 1 Corinthians 2:2), than what was the resurrection for? We'll get to that in another lesson. Think about it, until then.

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **Exodus 12:12,13**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Review the Scriptures from Exodus 12 and how they match up perfectly with the New Testament sacrifice of Christ, **Our Lamb**. Share the story with at least two people today. Check "Your Own" rating, and commit to rising above, today.

Close in Prayer: Thank the Lord for His **gracious** provisions towards us through the death of His Son. Ask the Lord, to lead you to some people who haven't accepted Christ as their Savior, and need to apply the blood.

Day 6

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

(Recognizing where salvation ends and obedience begins)

Welcome to Day 6! What a great day this is already. As you come to the end of your first week of study, remember to keep in mind all the details of what you have learned. As you meditate (**middle finger**) upon the Word of God, you'll find that it is much easier to have victory in the spiritual realm.

Begin your time with the Lord in *prayerful review*. Often, you will find time is running short to do the things that are most important. This exercise that you're going to do will be worth the time. Follow it closely and let the Lord speak to you. At first, many of these prayer exercises may seem stiff and rigid. But, that's OK, anything new is that way. Keep working and do it with your whole heart. Enjoy the time, don't rush.

Prayerful review:

- 1) If you find your mind racing, take a deep breath, exhale, and focus your attention on God. Ask Him to take control of your **inhaling** and **exhaling**.
- 2) Today, we'll add some thoughts to your prayer time. You have learned some beautiful thoughts about God over the last week. Open your time with Him in **praise**. *Psalm 109:30* says, "I will greatly **praise the Lord** with my mouth; yes, I will **praise Him** among the multitudes." Take the time right now to **praise Him**. Whatever wonderful truths come to your mind, **Praise Him!**
- 3) **Give back to God a mental offering**. Rehearse in your mind the *Scriptures* that you've memorized (*Jeremiah 9:23,24; John 20:29; 1 Corinthians 9:24; 1 Peter 1:19; Exodus 12:12,13*). He loves to hear you quote Scriptures back to Him and the Devil hates it! As long as you keep hiding that Word in your heart (*Psalm 119:11*), Satan knows He's got a battle on his hands.
- 4) **Give back to God Scriptural truths** that you've hidden in your heart and thank Him for those. E.g. The perfection of His Word, in type; His provision in your life to overcome temptations; For Him becoming your perfect Lamb; etc.
- 5) **Ask God** to give you a hunger and thirst for His Word (*Matthew 5:6*).
- 6) **Commit your mind to God**. Always make the commitment to carry out your "hand" exercises. **(PF)** Always read your Scriptures carefully. **(MF)** Think or Meditate on what the verses are saying. **(RF)** Memorize the Scripture and reference for the day. **(PF)** Share what you've learned with someone else.
- 7) Are you ready to begin? Let's get started.

Final Checklist:

_____ Bible _____ Notebook _____ Pen/Pencil _____ Receptive Life

The **shoes**, like the loins, bring the journey into view. They speak of the preparation for their walk. There's a couple of interesting verses in Deuteronomy 29:5 and 8:4 that will shed some light on this topic for us. Moses was coming to the close of his life, and he said, "I have led you forty years in the wilderness; your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and your shoe is not waxen old upon your foot." "Neither did your foot swell these forty years."-I wish my shoes were like that
Throughout the entire journey God provided for His pilgrims. What an amazing "feet."

Scripture parallels the **shoes** on our feet, to sharing the gospel of peace. A two-fold message of good news, concerning how to be saved and the purpose why God saved us (Isaiah 52:7; Ephesians 6:15).

The **staff** in their hand was a symbol of pilgrimage. As the newly redeemed people left Egypt, they would journey through a wilderness where they would be strangers and pilgrims, on route to the Promised Land. Their home was not in Egypt (a type of the world), and neither is ours. Our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20). God speaks to us, and leads us, as strangers and pilgrims (1 Peter 2:11) through this place which is not our home.

The **staff** provided strength to lean on outside of themselves. Clearly this is the written Word, given to us for security and support. Psalm 23:4 says, "thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

With all of these details, let's not forget that they were to **eat it in haste** (12:11). They were to be ready to leave Egypt immediately. The focus of the people was on their deliverance from bondage. For their entire life, they knew only bondage and slavery. Now, they are going to experience freedom from their past life. I don't think they wanted to hang around, do you? Though they did not know what was out in front of them, they knew that God would lead them.

Congratulations on finishing this study!

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize *2 Timothy 2:15*

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Review your salvation experience (Feed on **The Lamb**). Tie up anything that would cause you to stumble (gird your loins). Prepare to share the message of good news (put your shoes on). Rely upon something beside yourself, The Word of God (thy staff). Be ready to go (eat it in haste). Now, go and share the story with someone.

Close in Prayer: After a lesson like this, how would God lead you to pray? Pray as He leads you.

Area 3)

Area 4)

Ring Finger Exercise: Review your six memory verses and their locations in the Bible.

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Share with another Christian these areas that Satan seeks to prevent us from sacrificing, serving, and feasting in. Ask them to help you, by holding you accountable, keep everything turned over to the Lord.

Close in Prayer: As God leads you.

Day 8

Put “The Leaven” Out Of Your House

(Begin a pure walk with God)

Welcome to your second week of study, Day 8. We have spent our first week with our attention on **The Lamb**. This week we will begin our focus on leaving Egypt, which typifies separating ourselves from this present world.

How are you doing on your **spiritual breathing**? Sometimes you may feel like moving right ahead into your studies with out it, but let me encourage you not to do that. It’s quite obvious that you desire to grow in a deeper relationship with the Lord. I know this, because you are here on day 8. Be careful! Do not give Satan any opportunity to sabotage your quality time with the Lord.

Always take the time to pray before you begin your studies. From this point on, I will only give you a checklist for your spiritual breathing. Go back and refresh your mind on previous lessons if you forget things, but don’t rush your prayer time. Godly preparation for study leads to fewer hindrances during your study time.

___ **Exhale: Psalm 139:23,24**

___ **Inhale: Ephesians 5:18**

___ **Open Your Eyes: Psalm 119:18; John 16:13**

___ **Commit to Hiding God’s Word in Your Heart: Psalm 119:9,11**

Final checklist:

___ **Bible** ___ **Pen/Pencil** ___ **Notebook** ___ **Receptive Life**

Scripture Passage of Study: Exodus 12:15-20

Yesterday, you looked at passages of Scripture that dealt with ways that Pharaoh tried to keep the people from leaving Egypt and worshipping God. Fortunately, Pharaoh’s attempts failed. Unfortunately, for most Christians, those schemes are still being employed today, and they’re working on quite a few. You, however, do not have to give into those schemes. You can leave Egypt and go out to the Land in which God is calling you

Two Finger Exercise: In order to do this, focused attention must be given to our passage today. Take the time to read over these six verses and answer the passage questions.

After they applied the blood (salvation)...

- 1) What were they supposed to put out of their houses? (v. 15)_____
- 2) What type of food did God command them to eat? (v. 15) _____
- 3) How many days would they have to eat this food? (vv.15,18)_ _____
- 4) What would happen to that individual who disobeyed this command? (vv. 15,19)____

- 5) On which days, was there to be no work done? (v.16)_____

Every detail in the Word of God is significant (the order, who the message is addressed to, where it took place, how it took place, etc.). Numbers are no exception. Every time you find a number in Scripture, it appears for a reason. **Seven, 7**, is a very good example. **Seven** is the biblical number for **perfection** and **completion**. This number finds its origin in the opening verse of Genesis where there are **7** Hebrew words used to show God's complete creation of the heavens and the earth. This opening section ends in Genesis 2:1-3, on the **seventh** day, when God ceases from His labor (*We'll discuss the opening chapters of Genesis in a further study*). God did not rest as a result of growing tired. Rather, God rested in the sense of *completion and satisfaction*. God's completed work was *good and satisfying*-nothing else was needed. Therefore, He rested on the **seventh** day.

Seven in our passage shows a **perfect period of time**. Typically, it speaks of a time period ranging from the **first day** of our Christian pilgrimage (**salvation**) until the **seventh day** (our **final rest**, which lies out before us). It is on these **two** days that we find no work being done (*Ephesians 2:8,9; Hebrews 4:11*), but in between those two days, we are supposed to be laboring. Our labor is to be done without the presence of **leaven**.

^Sinking Old Testament Shafts: for future application

For the Israelites, the **seventh** day was very significant.

- 1) They were to observe a Sabbath rest, patterned after Genesis 2:1-3. Work six days and rest the **seventh** (Exodus 16:23,30).
- 2) Tied in with the first thought is Exodus 31:13-18. The Sabbath was given to Israel as a sign of a future day, yet to come. The New Testament refers to this day as the **Lord's Day**, the **Day of Rest**, and the **Millennial Kingdom**.
- 3) The **seventh** month of the year, for the Israelites, was especially holy. In that month, all three fall feasts are observed (Leviticus 23:24,27,34).
- 4) The nation of Israel was commanded to refrain from farming the ground every **seventh** year-to allow the soil to rest (Leviticus 25:4).
- 5) **Seven sevens** of years were counted (forty-nine years), and then the next year (the fiftieth) was to be the Jubilee year in which all debts were forgiven and all slaves set free (Leviticus 25:8-12).
- 6) **Seventy sevens** of years were "determined" upon the Jewish people during which time God would bring to perfection and completion His redemptive purposes (Daniel 9:24-27).
- 7) The Book of Revelation records the consummation of this age. It uses the number **seven** more than fifty times. Significantly the book revolves around **seven** seals, **seven** trumpets, and **seven** bowls

If an individual did not follow the rules (removing leaven from their house) pertaining to the **Sabbath** (the **seventh** day), that soul (life) would be **cut off** from congregation of Israel. We will not go into great depth here, but it will be sufficient to say that "those" being **cut off**, through disobedience, did not lose what they experienced the night they applied the blood of **The Lamb** (their **salvation**).

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize Hebrews 4:11

Middle Finger Exercise: The message today is simple and direct: For you and other believers, who have, by faith accepted the sacrifice of the **Passover Lamb** upon Calvary, Passover is past history. It will never be dealt with again in your lifetime. The deliverance by Christ, the true **Passover Lamb**, has already been experienced in your life. And as a result, you are now living in the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** where **purity and separation from leaven are required**. You are no longer under the power of sin (Egypt)-it has been broken for you through the blood of Christ. You are no longer a helpless slave to sin (*Romans 6:1-18*). However, if you choose to sin it is because you are drawn away by your own lusts (*James 1:14,15*).

Modern Celebration:

Today, Jewish households begin their painstaking preparations weeks before the Passover arrives. Walls are washed and painted, cooking utensils are scalded, clothing is washed with pockets turned inside out, carpets are cleaned, vacuum bags are discarded, and even special china dishes are brought out for the feast. Everything is scrubbed, scoured, cleaned, and aired in preparation for the feast of Unleavened bread.

On the night before Passover eve, after evening prayers in the synagogue, the father of each household will perform the *Bedikat Hametz*, or “Search for Leaven” ceremony. This ancient ceremony purges the last traces of leaven from the house. Earlier that evening, each mother will place a few bits of bread in several corners or on windowsills of the house so that there will be some leaven present to be found.

After reciting the benediction for the occasion, the father begins the search. He uses an old wooden spoon and a goose feather. By candlelight, the father leads the children from room to room to discover the distributed bread scraps. The children follow behind with great excitement as he carefully uses the feather to sweep the bread he finds onto the wooden spoon. Finally, the bits of bread, the wooden spoon, and the feather are placed inside a bag or wrapped in a cloth. This is tied with a thread and set aside to be burned. During the time of the burning men will join around the fire and celebrate as the streaks of orange sparks fill the cool April sky.

Go through your house and life, and remove all the leaven you can find. As you follow the “Candlelight” (symbolic of the Holy Spirit), you’ll quickly realize what is evil and corrupts. Lord bless you as you seek to walk this journey of holiness.

Close in Prayer: As the Lord leads you.

Day 9 Don't Forget!

(Always remember the day of your salvation)

Welcome to Day 9. After reading the title for the day, you should be able to tell that you're supposed to **Remember Something!**

You have probably already experienced the "rat-race" of this hectic life within the last 9 days, but I hope it has not slowed you down for God. Satan never lets up. He's always working harder and harder to try to distract you from your focus on the most important topic in the World-God, and he doesn't grow weary of trying. Look at the following list of wrong priorities and see if any of them apply to you.

The wrong priority

The result of wrong priorities

We have taller buildings	but	shorter tempers
We have wider freeways	but	narrower viewpoints
We buy more	but	enjoy less
We have more degrees	but	less common sense
We have more experts	but	more problems
We enjoy the worldly pleasures	but	pray too seldom
We have multiplied our possession	but	reduced our values
We have learned to make a living	but	forgot how to live
We have added years to life	but	not life to our years
We have conquered outer space	but	not inner space
We have cleaned up the air	but	polluted our souls
We have split the atom	but	not our prejudice
We have learned to rush	but	not to wait
We have higher incomes	but	lower morals
We have become long on quantity	but	short on quality
These are times of world peace	but	domestic warfare
These are the days of two incomes	but	more divorce
These are the days of fancier houses	but	more broken homes
There is much in the showroom	but	not in the stockroom

These are the days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one-night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It's a time when God says, "The average Christian will be consumed with the world, causing him to be lukewarm and making God sick (Revelation 3:15ff)." It's truly a time of ... but...

Be honest with yourself. How are your priorities? Take the time to prioritize God. Satan is not going to stop trying to distract you, unless you purposefully submit to God and resist him (James 4:7).

Two Finger Exercise: Examine the Old Testament Scriptures (*type*) with the New Testament Scriptures (*antitype*).

Exodus Passover (Type)	New Testament Communion (Antitype)
12:25-an annual ordinance	Matthew 26:17-19
12:42---a night to remember	Matthew 26:20
12:27---what is the meaning of this?	1 Corinthians 11:26
12:27---Lord's Passover	Mark 14:22,23
12:42---How long shall we observe this?	1 Corinthians 11:26; cf. Mark 14:25
12:43---No stranger can eat it	* 1 Corinthians 6:19,20
12:44---Only a bought servant can eat	* 1 Corinthians 7:23
12:47---All of the congregation	cf. Acts 20:28b

* Only a person who has been purchased by God, through the shed blood of **The Lamb** can remember the Passover. For an unsaved individual has nothing to remember, because he has not applied the blood of **The Lamb** to his life the first time.

In the majority of churches of today, communion, (NT version of the Passover) is observed. Many people believe that *communion* is a part of their salvation. However, Scripture clearly shows that salvation is by grace through faith in the shed blood of our substitute Lamb. Taking part in *communion* is an act of obedience to remember what has already taken place in your life.

Teaching Point: Confusion to Clarity
The Passover is mentioned approximately 71 times in Scripture. Within those 71 appearances, it is being observed on **ten (10)** different occasions (Ex. 12; Numbers 9:5; Josh.5:10; 2 Kings 23:23; 2 Chron. 30:25; 35:19; Ezek. 45:21; Ezra 6:19; John 2:13; Matt. 26:19). **Ten** in Scripture, like seven, is a number of perfection. It implies that nothing is wanting; that the number and order are perfect and the whole cycle is complete. I.e. Noah (**10th** generation), **Ten** Commandments, Jesus Model Prayer (**Ten** clauses), The Tithe (**10%**), **Ten** Plagues, **Ten** Nations, Silver Sockets of the Tabernacle (**10 x 10**), **Ten** Virgins, **Ten** "I AM's of Jesus in John. And there are many more. Once again we can see the perfection of the Word of God.

Every year the Passover would be celebrated. For those who had already placed their faith in the blood of that Lamb, it was for remembrance. For those who were coming of age and able to understand what the Lamb represented, their faith was for their salvation.

The keeping of this ordinance continued throughout all of the Old Testament and into the New Testament (Luke 2:41). It stopped being observed in 70 AD when Jerusalem was destroyed, by Titus and his Roman Army. Up until the time of Christ's death, faith in the Passover Lamb and His blood was looked upon in the same way that it was in Exodus 12.

After the time of Christ's death the Old Testament sacrificial system became of no effect, because the pure spotless Lamb was slain (Hebrews 9:26).

Salvation has been the same from the very beginning of man's separation from God (Genesis 3:21). It has always been given by grace and accepted through faith placed in the substitute and in His blood. ---Praise God for His marvelous gift.

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **Exodus 12:43**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: There is much more to this ordinance of *communion* (Lord's Supper, The Passover) than time will permit in this study, but one more detail should be noted. After the moment of salvation, the Passover required special preparation of cleansing from the individual before he could participate in the feast, for it marked the first day of the feast of Unleavened Bread. In our Churches today, it is no different (1 Corinthians 11:27-32).

Share with someone today how you became a Christian. Relive the day that Jesus Christ saved you, and the next time you take *communion*, thank God for His free gift.

Close in Prayer: Give God praise for what He has done for you.

Day 10

Purposeful Instructions

(Introducing the reason why you have been saved)

Welcome to Day 10.

In our nine days together the Lord has revealed some wonderful truths to us. John 16:13 tells us that the Holy Spirit desires to lead us in all truth. Whereas, Satan who is the father of all lies (John 8:44) desires to lead us astray. It is very important for you to remember the importance of staying totally focused and dependent upon the leadership of the Holy Spirit in your life (Ephesians 5:18).

In the Spiritual realm there is the real thing and there is the counterfeit. God's plan is the original blueprint and Satan is the counterfeit (2 Corinthians 11:14). Both can look quite similar on the outside, but as you take time to study carefully, you'll find out which one is the truth and which is the lie. This is one reason why we are spending so much time examining "types."

"Types" are the blueprints for understanding spiritual truth throughout the Word of God. They are accurate down to the smallest details, and we can rely on them completely since God inspired them (2 Timothy 3:16; cf. Luke 24:25-27). Because of their accuracy, students of the Word use them as a "checks and balance" system in order to remain consistent with the themes in Scripture.

Knowing the accuracy of God's Word should inspire us to focus even more, on preparing ourselves, for the study in front of us. Take the time to practice your **Spiritual Breathing**.

Place a check in each box after you have completed each phase of your Spiritual Breathing.

___ Exhale ___ Inhale ___ Open Your Eyes ___ Hide His Word

We have spent our entire study on the marvelous work of **The Lamb**, our Savior Jesus Christ, Who has saved us by His grace. In our last lesson, we were encouraged "**not to forget**" what He did for us. In this lesson you will be introduced to "**why**" He died for us.

Understanding "**why**" is very important. Everything that we are told to do in Scripture has a "**why**." **Ephesians 2:8-10** tells us how we were saved (vv. 8,9) and the reason "**why**" we have been saved (v. 10). Write down the "**why**" on the following line.

The Scripture tells us, "That we are His *workmanship* created in Christ Jesus." A "*workmanship*" is a *special work of art* that is unlike any other. Each piece has been "created" individually according to its specific purpose. **2 Corinthians 5:17** tells us, that you are a "new creation in Christ, old things are passed away and all things are become new."

Did you notice two similar words in our **last two verses**? They are the words "created & creation." Something that is "created" is created for a purpose. In Scripture we find several things being created. Look at the list below and marvel at *the created company* God has put you with.

from those whom He has bought. He also deserves the first of everything that we have (our lives, our money, our time, our possessions, etc.).

Earlier in the book of Exodus, the children of Israel were told that they would leave the land of Egypt and enter into another land, which flowed with milk and honey (Ex. 6:2-9; a fruitful land for animals and vegetation). At that time the people could not appreciate this promise because of their great bondage in Egypt. It was not until after they applied the blood that they were able to understand and appreciate the purpose for their salvation-so too with us (1 Corinthians 2:14).

What a moment that must have been for those redeemed individuals. For 400 years they had been in slavery to the Egyptian taskmasters (Ex. 1:11,12). They did not know what was outside of Egypt, except the promise that God was going to lead them into a land that would become their inheritance (Genesis 15:13-21; Exodus 6:8; 15:17). It was the possession of this land that kept moving them forward. With the blood applied what could hold them back?

Everything surrounding the deliverance of the Israelites-from Moses and Aaron's first appearance unto Pharaoh (Exodus 5:1-4) to the overthrow of Pharaoh and his armed forces in the Red Sea (Exodus 14:21-31)-was done with one purpose in mind, to bring them into the land of their inheritance.

God had predetermined this entire sequence of events at a time before the nation of Israel was ever in bondage (Genesis 15:13-21). To tie it all together, the departure of the Israelites from Egypt was exactly the same purpose originally seen in the promise given to Abram in Ur (Genesis 12:1-3).

Two Finger Exercise: Look up Deuteronomy 6:23 and write the reason why God delivered the Israelites that night, from the bondage in Egypt. _____

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **1 Corinthians 6:19,20**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Exodus 12 deals with your salvation. Exodus 13-Joshua 24 deals with the purpose of your salvation. Exodus 13 begins with the thought of "sanctifying all the firstborn." Have you done that in your life? Think through your life and yield it completely to the One Who purchased you with His Own blood.

Meditate (think awhile) on the purpose why God saved you. It wasn't just to save you from "Egypt." His purpose is to take you from Egypt into the "land of your inheritance." This land for you and I is not an earthly land, but a heavenly land (Hebrews 11:8-10; 13:14). This land is called the New Jerusalem. You can read more about it in Revelation 21 & 22. We'll discuss this more in later studies.

Close in Prayer: Thank God for His salvation and plans for your life. Ask Him for clear direction as you seek to follow the Word of God in your life.

Day 11

Phylacteries, Frontlets & Unleavened Bread

(why did I put that string on my finger?)

Welcome to day 11. The Lord has kept before us “remembering” all the details of the original Passover night, which took place in Egypt so long ago. The same should be true concerning the day that we accepted Christ as our Lamb. On this final study day before we leave Egypt, it seems fitting that God would give us a “*piece of string*” to wrap around our finger so on our journey of many miles we would not forget his sacrifice, which allows us to be on this journey.

We have addressed in previous studies how easy it is to allow the things of this world to clutter our minds, and crowd God out. The world demands so much of our time, yet God says, “I must be at the center of all your thoughts (Colossians 3:23-25).” The world will always give you a reason why you are supposed to do something, but when that reason is compared with God’s plan, the two do not compare.

The question we must ask ourselves is: “How do I keep the Lord the central thought on my mind?” The answer is quite easy, but disciplining ourselves into the habit is not so easy. Being honest and open before God in every area of your life is essential to making this work. Remember that Satan has a counterfeit for everything. So, stay in the Word, follow God’s “road map,” the Bible, and it will never lead you in the wrong direction.

Get Honest with God:

Spiritual Breathing: Place a check in each box after completing each step.

Exhale Inhale Open My Eyes Commit to Hiding God’s Word

Final Checklist:

Bible Notebook Pen/Pencil Receptive Life

Scripture Passage: Exodus 13:6-16

Yesterday you learned the importance of sanctifying yourself to the Lord (v. 2); the importance of “remembering” the day of your deliverance, and knowing it was for a purpose. As you read this passage of Scripture, pay close attention to the fine details. Any time the Lord repeats a thought in Scripture, it’s always for a purpose. Repeating thoughts are like big road signs for you and I-pay attention!

Take the time right now to read the passage. Make some notes in your journal about each verse.

<u>Verse</u>	<u>New Details to a Familiar Message</u>	<u>Compare</u>
13:7	<i>no leaven in all your quarters</i>	12:15-19
13:8	<i>you shall show your son in that day</i>	12:26-28
13:9	<i>sign upon your hand...</i>	12:42
	<i>Memorial between your eyes...</i>	
	<i>Lord’s law may be in your mouth...</i>	
	<i>Strong hand brought them out...</i>	
13:10	<i>in his season from year to year</i>	12:17

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| ___ Genesis 22:3 | a. Matthew 11:28 |
| ___ Genesis 22:5 | b. Can enter Jerusalem only under the authority & control of the king (Matt. 21:5). |
| ___ Genesis 49:14 | c. cast outside the gates of the Holy City |
| ___ Deuteronomy 22:10 | d. could not go to the place of worship |
| ___ 1 Samuel 9:3 | e. not a free animal, but a beast of burden |
| ___ Zechariah 9:9 | f. how can two serve together unless they be agreed (Amos 3:3) |
| ___ Jeremiah 22:19 | g. an ass that was lost and not found |

The ass is not looked upon in Scripture as the type animal that any man should model his life after! Before a person is saved, it is his nature (unclean, senseless, perverse, ungoverned, and fit only to have his neck broken). After he is saved, living the lifestyle of an ass (governed by the fleshly desires) is sickening to the Lord (cf. Revelation 3:14-17).

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **Exodus 13:16**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Come up with a couple of ways (**phylactery** or **frontlet**) that you can constantly keep the Word of God in front of you so you can walk out an obedient lifestyle to the One who purchased you with His blood.

1. _____
2. _____

Rate yourself on how your “visible” walk is with God. Rate yourself on a scale of 1-10. One is like it was before you became a Christian and ten is I’m doing all I can right now.

- _____ Dedicated service to God (**Sign** upon my Hand)
- _____ Everyone can tell I’m walking focused on God (**Memorial** between my eyes)
- _____ John 14:15 and 1 John 5:3 are obvious (**Law** in my mouth)

Close in Prayer: However the Lord would lead you.

Day 12

Isn't It Shorter to Go This Way?

(The Necessity of the Wilderness)

Welcome to Day 12. It has taken us eleven days to bring us to this point of leaving Egypt, and though more could be said, we will choose to press on.

Can you imagine what it was like for 2-3 million people having to leave Egypt the night after the Passover? Wow, what a feat! There is no other way to explain it other than GOD. We have an Awesome God!

On day 6 (Exodus 12:8-14), you learned how they prepared **The Lamb**, how they ate **Him**, and why they dressed a particular way. Looking backwards, it is very easy to figure out details when one knows the end of the story. But, for them, they had to live each moment, walk out each detail, and continue to **believe** that God's ways were correct. Their life was consumed with following God's plan exactly as it was given.

Take the time and *try* to put yourself in their position. What do you think the atmosphere was like in the house on Passover night? What thoughts do you think were going through their mind as they girded their loins, put the shoes on their feet, held the staff in their hand, and ate **The Lamb** in one night?

In one way we are like the Israelites. We haven't been into the future and we don't know all the experiences that lie in front of us, but we do know Who goes before us. We know that He will lead us, just as He led them. He asked that they walk by **faith**, and He asks the same of us (Romans 1:17). Our situation, however, is a little different, because we have more information about the entire journey from beginning to end.

God desires for every Christian to walk by **faith**. Simply put, faith believes what God has to say about the matter (Romans 4:17b). **F.A.I.T.H.** is trusting God completely; **Forsaking All I Trust Him**. Without **faith** it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6a). **Faith** comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17). **Faith** is essential for the Christian walk. **Faith** was "the arm" that allowed you to receive God's gift of salvation (John 1:12; Ephesians 2:8).

Walking by **faith** is called being **faithful**. "Moreover, it is required that a steward be found **faithful** (1 Corinthians 4:2). Walk by **faith** and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). Our **faith** should *not* stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God (1 Corinthians 2:5). There will be times in your life when your **faith** weakens (cf. Matthew 8:6). When your **faith** wavers remember that it is strengthened as we spend time in the Word of God and when we say NO to the desires of the flesh.

Faith Check: Now that you know a little more about **faith**, how's your **faith** doing?

Paul, said it best, in Galatians 2:20, "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the **faith** of the Son of God Who loved me and gave Himself for me. God gives us the strength to live our lives in **faith**, and, often times, He provides someone "who might perfect that which is lacking in our **faith**" (1 Thessalonians 3:10). Continue to keep your eyes on the Lord and people that God brings into your life to help you a long.

Spiritual Breathing: When we try to live our life by **faith** without using prayer and God's Word, it's like trying to drive a boat without water or fly a plane without air-it just doesn't work. Remember that God loves it, and Satan hates it, when you take the time to pray and ask God for spiritual guidance before you study His word. Take the right amount of time to spend with the Lord in preparation for your study.

___ **Exhale** ___ **Inhale** ___ **Open Your Eyes** ___ **Commit to God's Word**

***Day 12 Evaluation :** How is your **grip** on the Word of God? Review your last few days and apply the **hand** method to your studies. Give yourself a rating of 1-10 on each finger (1 being the poorest and 10 being totally dependent on God). Draw your hand, in your journal. Label each finger correctly (See day 2). Place a number rating on each finger. If any of the fingers are below a 7, ask yourself why? Than write down a way in which you can make it better, today. At the end of this lesson, come back and follow through with your desire to make "Your Own" rating higher.

Final checklist before leaving Egypt:

___ **Bible** ___ **Notebook** ___ **Pen/Pencil** ___ **Receptive Life**

Scripture Passage of Study: Exodus 13:17-22

Two finger exercise: Fill in the blanks after carefully reading this Scripture passage.

- 1) Who led the people out of Egypt? (v. 17) _____
- 2) Did God lead them on the shortest route to the Promised Land? (v. 17) _____
- 3) Why didn't he take them through the land of the Philistines? (v. 17) _____

- 4) Which direction did the Lord lead them? (v. 18) _____
- 5) Whose bones did they take with them? (v. 19) _____
- 6) Where did they stop for camp after leaving Succoth? (v. 20) _____
- 7) How did the Lord lead the people? (v. 21) By day: _____
By night: _____
- 8) How long did the cloud/pillar lead the people? (v. 22) _____

The Promised Land would be about a two-three week journey if they traveled in a straight line. God chose not to take that direction, however. In His divine wisdom He knew there would be warfare with the Philistines. Later on there would be much fighting, but for now He shows His complete protection and tenderness to His "babes" (cf. Psalm 103:13,14).

The course of their journey is the first item that is brought to our attention after the Israelites leave Egypt. God chose the way for His people through the wilderness (cf. Psalm 37:23). They were not left to choose their own path. If they followed their own way, defeat would have resulted in a battle that they were not prepared to fight (cf. Proverbs 14:12). Nothing was left to chance! Nothing was left to poor reasoning! Clearly God lit the way for them, and He desires to do the same for us (Psalm 119:105).

The wilderness, though not the most scenic land, was a mandatory route for the Israelites. It was the place where the passions of Egypt, selfish desires, independence from God, hustle bustle of life, and worldly pursuits were left behind. It is a place where the eye is never dimmed with lust, or the heart swollen with pride. Men's actions are not carried out for human applause. In a word, everything is set aside except the stillness and light of the Divine presence of God. Moses training for God was done here, and great people of God must go through the wilderness if God is to use them. For in the wilderness there is only communion with God.

This journey did not follow the shortest distance between two points, but it was a necessary direction for many reasons:

- 1) It was the only route to the promised Mountain (Mt. Sinai, near Horeb). When God had Moses on the backside of the desert (Exodus 3:1), He told them that the Israelites would serve God upon this mountain.
- 2) So his marvelous power could be demonstrated by delivering them through the Red Sea.
- 3) The sea was a place of death. Those who applied the blood could pass through (baptism), but those who did not (Pharaoh and his army) could not. **Note:** Progression in the Christian life cannot take place unless blood is applied first.
- 4) So they could receive their marching orders (commandments, laws & statutes), on how to enter the Land, with God in quietness and solitude away from every distraction.
- 5) This was the pathway of humility, trials, and proving (cf. Deuteronomy 8:2,3). On this path the Israelites would have to show complete dependence on God.

Joseph's Bones: Exodus 13:19

There are at least two significant reasons why Joseph's bones were carried by the Israelites all the way into the Land. Following is the "Reader's Digest" version of why his bones were taken.

Israel (Jacob's covenant name) was upon His deathbed, and he promised Joseph "that God shall be with you and bring you again into the land of your fathers" (Genesis 48:21). In Genesis 50:24-26, before Joseph's death, he passed on the same promise "that God would bring them into the Land that he swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." At that time, Joseph commanded that his bones be taken to the Promised Land-which would fulfill Genesis 48:21.

By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones (Hebrews 11:22). This event foreshadows that future day when attention will be directed to the bones of Old Testament saints immediately before the deliverance of Israel from a worldwide dispersion. Abraham and his descendants through Isaac and Jacob, who died in the faith during Old Testament times, will be raised from the dead and delivered with the living in the Land (Ezekiel 37:1-14). All of this will take place at the end of what Scripture calls the time of "Jacob's Troubles (Jeremiah 30:7)," or the Great Tribulation, which will last 7 years.

Secondly, Joseph is one of the clearest types of Christ in all of the Old Testament (Genesis 37-50). The Carrying of Joseph's lifeless bones, for you and I, relates to our

need to “Always be bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus might be made manifest in our body (2 Corinthians 4:10). On our journey to the Promised Land, we should never forget the death of our Lord Jesus! Carry it with you everywhere you go. Do not let what He has done for you ever slip from your mind. As you continue to identify with his death, His life will be manifested in you.

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **Hebrews 11:6**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Take the time to meditate upon the path that God is directing you. Often times we don’t understand why we would have to be taken on the “wilderness pathway,” but God does. Don’t ever get discouraged when the “scenery” of your Spiritual pilgrimage looks bleak and dry. God, by necessity is taking you a long the “best” pathway. He has got a perfect plan for you! Keep following His direction, even if it doesn’t appear to be the shortest distance between two points.

Close in Prayer: Thank the Lord for His leadership and the wilderness pathway. Thank Him for His death and the opportunity you get to serve Him. Pray for strength to walk **faithful** today.

Day 13
Pillar of Cloud/Pillar of Fire
(Following the One who will *NEVER* leave you)

Welcome to Day 13. The path that God leads us on does not always appear to be the straightest path, but when you take into consideration what God’s plans are-it’s always the correct path.

Have you ever tried to take a short cut, just to find out that it actually slowed you down? I have. Especially when I’m driving. If traffic seems to be too slow, I’ll attempt to take a back road thinking that it will get me to my destination faster. However, it usually backfires, and just as I turn onto my shortcut the long traffic line starts moving.

Often times we do this to God. If we think He’s not moving fast enough in our life than we decide we’re not going to wait around. If we think He’s moving too fast, than we want to get off and travel to another road that will be an easier pace. Let’s face it-humans are too finicky. Every time we get onto our shortcut, and out from underneath God’s leadership, without fail we fail.

Today’s Bible study is on learning characteristics of God’s leadership-the Holy Spirit, the part of the Godhead that dwells in you (John 14:16,17). The One that goes before you, marks your path, prepares the way, leads you into all truth (John 16:13), and regardless of your faithfulness He never leaves you.

Spiritual Breathing: I’m so excited for you today! I think you’re going to enjoy your study thoroughly. So, don’t rush into it. Ask for God’s guidance through your entire study, and expect Him to reveal to you marvelous truths about this aspect of your Journey to the Promised Land.

____ **Exhale**

(As part of your prayer time, go back to day 12 and read the introductory page on **faith**.)

____ **Inhale** ____ **Open Your Eyes** ____ **Commit to God’s Word**

Final Checklist:

____ **Bible** ____ **Notebook** ____ **Pen/Pencil** ____ **Receptive Life**

Scripture Passage of Study: *Exodus 13:20-22*

You will recall that God uses “types” to accurately portray spiritual truths to us from the Old Testament (Day 2, page 2). The Lord used them as a perfect pattern to illuminate our minds for greater understanding regarding whatever topic is at hand. Today we will be looking at one of the clearest types in Scripture, the *Pillar of Cloud/Pillar of Fire*.

This was the Object that God used to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt into the Promised Land. For you and I, the *Pillar of Cloud/Pillar of Fire* typifies the *Holy Spirit*. This “*pillar*” was the visible sign of the Lord’s presence with Israel (v. 21; John 14:16). No one would be able to give an accurate description of the Pillar, but apparently its upper portion rose up to heaven in the form of a column; its lower portion spread out like a cloud, over Israel’s camp. The cloud did not change its form (Exodus 14:24), because it was one object. It would have been a “*pillar of fire*” in its upper portion and a

“pillar of cloud” below. It is clear from other related Scriptures that the whole cloud was illuminated at night time to give them light in the way they should go (Numbers 14:14; Nehemiah 9:12).

Two Finger Exercise: Read the Scripture passages carefully and draw your own conclusions about the *Holy Spirit* (typified by the *Cloud*).

1) (Type) When was the Cloud given to the Children of Israel? Before they applied the blood of the Lamb or after they applied the blood? **Compare** Exodus 12:21-23, 29 Vs_ 13:17-21 _____
(Antitype) How does this relate to the Holy Spirit and us? _____

*Remember the order in the New Testament: First, the death of God’s Lamb, followed by His resurrection and ascension, and then the public descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

2) (Type) Did the Children of Israel request the guidance of the cloud, or was it given to them as a gracious gift to lead them? **Look at** our Scripture Passage for the day for__ your answer. _____
(Antitype) Jesus told His disciples that He would be leaving them, and they were troubled and very sad, but did they request that Christ leave behind the Holy Spirit? Read John 13:31-33; 14:1-18. _____

3) (Type) What was the purpose of the “Pillar”? Exodus 13:21 _____
(Antitype) According to John 16:13 and Romans 8:14 what is the purpose of the Holy Spirit? _____

4) (Type) What was the purpose of the pillar of fire? Exodus 13:21; Nehemiah 9:12 _____
(Antitype) Isaiah 11:2 says, “He is “the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.” Just as the Cloud led the Israelites in the path they need to follow the Spirit of God will do the same for us today (John 16:13)

Trivia Quiz: What is the temperature like in the desert during the day? _____
What is the temperature like in the desert during the night? _____

Answers: Extremely hot and extremely cold.

5) (Type) What would be the purpose for the Cloud covering the Israelites both day and night (Psalm 105:39)? _____

(Antitype) Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would be our “comforter” (John 14:16). He will be there in your most difficult trials (bright, hot days) and during the darkest and coldest periods of your life (dark, cold nights).

5) (Type) Did anything come out of the Cloud? (Psalm 99:7; Exodus 33:9) _____

Day 14

More insights on the Journey

(Why is the Holy Spirit guiding us?)

Welcome to Day 14 of our Journey. Over the last several days we have seen the beginning of God's guidance towards the Israelites. He has chosen to lead them through the wilderness, rather than straight into Canaan. His method of leadership has been through the pillar of the cloud and pillar of fire.

The path, through the wilderness, that the Lord led the Israelites cannot be over emphasized. It was a path to humble them, prove them, to see what was in their heart, and to test them to see if they would keep His commandments. God led them on this pathway so that they might be totally dependent upon Him. There were not grocery stores along the way, so He provided manna. There were not Outlet Malls, so He supernaturally provided the means for which their clothing and shoes did not wear out. He even intervened physically, by keeping their feet from swelling (Deuteronomy 8:2-4).

Such lessons would never have been learned if they had gone in the way of the land of the Philistines. If they would have gone that way, they would have learned of *war* too early in their spiritual careers; but "*in the way of the wilderness,*" they learned lessons concerning the *flesh*, in all its *crookedness, unbelief, and rebellion*. Fortunately, God (I AM), was there, in all His patient grace, His unfaltering wisdom, and infinite power. No one else could have met the demand of the Israelites.

There are many *directional lessons* to meditate upon over the last several days. *First, the way is of God's choosing, not ours.* What an important lesson to learn from the very beginning. If we would ever stop to see why our "spiritual vehicle" is not running well, it would be because of choosing our own direction and not following Gods. Therefore, knowing that God's plans for us are perfect we can follow Him completely. For "If God is for us, who can be against us (Romans 8:31)?"

Secondly, His way for us is always one in which we are made to realize just how weak we really are. If you haven't noticed already, it's very easy to give into the fleshly desires. The Scripture tells us that our flesh is weak, but the Spirit is willing (Matthew 26:41). Therefore God has to take us along the pathway that will cause us to rely completely upon Him. We are to pray "*Lead* us not into temptation," (Matthew 6:13) and then follow His leadership. In all cases where escape is possible, without being disloyal to the Lord, we are to flee the disobedient passions of the flesh rather than face them: "Flee also youthful lusts." "Abstain (hold off) from fleshly lusts." Flee, as Joseph fled. (2 Timothy 2:22; 1Peter 2:11; Genesis 39:7-13)

At this stage of our journey we have not obtained the inward spiritual strength that is necessary to enter the Land. The Philistines may have a way into Canaan by the short natural road; but our road is a totally different path. Of necessity, we must travel by the way of the sea. The way of the sea is the only path for God's people.

Not only has God selected out the correct path for them to travel, but He also came down to talk with them, and make Himself known according to their need. He was not distant, nor impersonal. He did not merely deliver them out of the furnace of Egypt and then allow them to make the best of their way to Canaan-this was not God's method towards them. He knew that they had a very difficult journey ahead of them, through

serpents and scorpions, snares and difficulties, drought and barrenness; and praise the Lord, He did not allow them to go this journey alone. He went before them as a pillar to guide them and direct them along each experience within their journey.

He was their guide, their defense, and ready to save them from their every fear. Unfortunately, as you'll see in upcoming lessons, they did not realize His ultimate power to lead and guide, and as a result they murmured against the Lord. Had they humbly and contentedly confided in His guidance they would have triumphantly entered the Land, right on schedule. Their march would have been victorious from first to last. With Jehovah in front of them, no power could have interrupted their onward progress from Egypt to Canaan. Without a doubt, He would have carried them through and planted them in the mountain of His inheritance (Exodus 15: 17,18), according to His promise. There would not have been allowed even a single Canaanite to remain in the Land. Every enemy would have been defeated and every foe vanquished.

It is for this reason that God has given us Israel's march as a type for our Christian journey (1 Corinthians 10:1-13). We are given this story to learn of God's plans and provisions for our march to the Land of the inheritance. Every fleshly pitfall, of Israel's, was recorded so that you and I would not follow in the same path (1 Corinthians 10:6-13). My prayer for you, even as I write these studies, is that you will examine the Israelites pilgrimage and realize, without the rebellion, what God's calling is for your life (Ephesians 1:16-19).

Spiritual Breathing: In the previous paragraphs you have been reminded about the significance of the Holy Spirit's guidance in your life and the path in which He leads you. As you continue to grow in your knowledge of the Lord and His plans for your life, you'll grow in an understanding of the importance of prayer. Take some time to reflect upon the introductory paragraphs and prepare your heart for the study that is ahead.

_____ **Exhale** _____ **Inhale** _____ **Open Your Eyes** _____ **Commit to God's Word**

Final Checklist:

_____ **Bible** _____ **Notebook** _____ **Pen/Pencil** _____ **Receptive Life**

Scripture Passage of Study: *Genesis 21-25 (Type-Antitype Study)*

Everything in God's Word is divinely ordered. There are no mistakes! Every story, every number, every person, place and thing has been meticulously detailed out for our instruction that we might have hope (Romans 15:4). Our focal passage is orchestrated to give us some understanding on what God's plans are with mankind. Just as the pillar of cloud and of fire (typifying the Holy Spirit) was given to the Israelites to lead them along their journey, so to is the Holy Spirit for us today (John 16:13).

The Spirit of God supernaturally inspired the prophets of old to write down the Scriptural truths to guide our lives today. One of the most beautiful pictures of this is in the book of Genesis. Within these chapters you will find treasures just ready to be mined. They contain typical pictures that unlock so many truths concerning God's plan throughout the ages. For our study we will focus in on chapter 24.

The chapters that follow (23-25) carry out the story beyond Christ's crucifixion beautifully. Abraham's wife, Sarah, typifies God's wife, the nation of Israel, is set aside in death. But she is buried in the land of Macpelah within the Promised Land of Canaan. This is the land that God promised would be given to Israel as an inheritance through the seed of Abraham (Genesis 13:14,15; 15:18-21; etc.) By Abraham burying his wife in Macpelah ("double portion"), he demonstrated faith in the Word of God that the Lord would one day resurrect Israel to inhabit that land. Not only was Sarah buried there, but so too were Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. These burials in a particular place point out to a future date when Israel will be resurrected upon the earth to inhabit the Land that they never fully occupied, in order to fulfill Scripture. Ezekiel 37 is one passage that would give some information concerning this coming day.

As a result of Israel's rejection and crucifixion of Christ (Acts 2:36; 3:12-17), Israel was set aside for a period of time (Acts 28:28). During this time, Israel is looked upon as being dead. Therefore, God is calling out a "new people" for His name (Acts 15:14-18; Ephesians 2:11-16; 2 Corinthians 5:17; etc.) through the indwelling, ever present ministry of the Holy Spirit.

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is seen in Genesis 24 where Abraham's Servant, Eleazer (typifying the Holy Spirit) is sent to find a bride for the Son.

In tomorrow's lesson we will take up in significant detail the working of the Holy Spirit, which in our Exodus story is represented by the Pillar of Cloud/Fire.

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **Romans 15:4**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Learn the story of Genesis 22 and share it with a friend.

Close in Prayer: Pray, as the Lord would lead you. Within that prayer thank the Lord for the perfections within His Word.

home in heaven and we will leave our home in this world to meet Him and then we will be taken back to his dwelling place.)

It is very interesting to note that we have not seen Isaac since he came off the sacrificial altar (22: 13). Only Eleazer, typifying the Holy Spirit, has made himself known in the story, towards the perspective bride.

Today, The Holy Spirit is dwelling inside of you leading you into the purpose for why you've been saved (John 16:13). He is using the Word of God to point you to the prize, the precious jewels, and a special position as Christ's Bride for the coming millennial age of 1,000 years. Just as Rebekah could have refused the offer and missed the opportunity, without it affecting her family status, any Christian can also.

Two Finger Exercise: Go back through this study and compare your spiritual characteristics with those of Rebekah. *How are you coming a long?*

1) Because you're saved, we know that God looks upon you as a virgin. Read *Matthew 25:1-10*. Would God look upon you as a **wise virgin** or a **foolish virgin**? _____

Note: The extra supply of oil carried by the wise virgins demonstrates the filling of the Holy Spirit in the virgins' life.

2) Are you **dwelling by the well**? _____ Are you **drinking from the well**? _____
Are you **drawing water for others** who need to receive from the well? _____

3) Do you possess a **willing and diligent heart** to serve others with this water? _____

4) Is your "spiritual house" **accommodating for the Holy Spirit**? _____

5) Are you willing to leave family, friends, popularity, and the things of this world in order to **go with Him**? _____

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **Genesis 24:58**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Take the time to reflect upon this story and share the progressive thoughts with a couple of friends, today.

Close in prayer: As the Lord leads you, thank Him for His perfect plan and how He is using the Holy Spirit to call you out from the family of God to be His Bride.

anything to your mind, give it to Him in the same way you would exhale the waste products from your lungs. He will take those ‘wasteful’ things and make it possible for you to take in ‘profitable’ things to help sustain you in life (Psalm 139:23,24).

Inhale: Tell God that you would like to exchange your life for the life of His Son, Jesus Christ. Ask Him to fill you with His Spirit (Ephesians 5:18), in exchange for your own desires. This phase of prayer is so important if you want the life of Christ to be the source of your strength throughout your day (Gal. 2:20).

Open Your Eyes: Ask God by His Holy Spirit to open the eyes of your understanding so that you can see clearly and understand what He is going to say to you during your time of study (Psalm 119:18).

Commit to Hiding God’s Word in Your Heart: In order for this Adventure to be truly life-changing it is vital that you make three commitments. **One:** Begin each day with some *spiritual breathing*. **Two:** Commit yourself to *memorize the verse* from God’s Word at the end of each lesson. Memorizing God’s Word is a big key to living for Jesus. **Three:** Once you’ve hidden the Word of God in your heart (Psalm 119:11), take what you’ve just memorized and share it with several people. Keep the thoughts before you at all times (meditate upon it: Psalm 1:2), and look for as many opportunities to share the Word as you can.

Final checklist:

Bible _____ **Notebook** _____ **Pen/Pencil** _____ **Receptive life** _____

Scripture Passage: Exodus 14: 1-18

The Children of Israel have followed the leadership of the Lord into a situation that looks like a very bad situation. They have just recently left Egypt (Exodus 13) and they have traveled to the edge of the Red Sea. From all visible tactics, this would not be a good place for the Lord to lead the Israelites, since it would cause them to be trapped in on every side, the wilderness and the Red Sea.

From a military perspective, their position, here in Exodus 14, makes them an easy target for Pharaoh and his army to come and destroy the ones that they’ve just recently begged to leave (Exodus 12:33). However, as we’ve seen in times past God’s ways are not man’s ways. His ways are much higher than our ways (Isaiah 55:8). For this reason, it’s very important for you and I to follow His leadership. Even into situations that don’t look tactically correct from our perspective. The Holy Spirit will always lead you in the right path (cf. John 16:13). And when we follow His way there is always blessing associated with that path (Proverbs 8:32).

Many Christians choose not to follow His leadership for the very reason that we’ve just got done discussing. When we trust Him completely to guide our path, it often times puts us into positions that make us feel very uncomfortable. But, it’s during these times that God reveals his ‘works’ and ‘wonders’ in our lives (cf. Psalm 107:23,24).

For the Israelites this was a day of trial and testing. A necessary test. A test that would make them depend wholly upon the Lord, their God. Without this testing time, they would not be able to experience the reality of God’s presence. His presence is not appreciated, as much, during our time of peace, but when the difficulties of life coming

roaring in like the waves that roll over a ship. God never promised us that we will not go through difficult times; in fact, He told us just the opposite (1 Peter 4:12ff.)

In our Christian journey we have the privilege to experience both the up and down sides (Philippians 1:29). The peaceful times and the trialsome times. The beautiful truth to always keep in mind is the guarantee of His presence (Exodus 13:21,22; Nehemiah 9:19). His promise to us is just as sure as it was for the Children of Israel. He will be with us throughout our entire journey! (Hebrews 13:5b; cf. Deuteronomy 31:6,8; Psalm 37:25).

A wise man once said, “God’s presence *in the trial* is much better than exemption from the trial. The sympathy of *His heart with us* is sweeter far than the power of His hand for us.”

Scripture is full of these examples which show God’s presence *with us, in the trial*. Take the time to read one example of a story, before we continue our study on the children of Israel.

Scripture reference

Story line

Daniel 3

The Master’s presence with His faithful servants while passing through the furnace was far better than the display of His power to keep them out of it.

Often times, we would much rather just avoid a situation like this . But, this would result in a serious loss. What happened as a result of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, standing for the Lord? _____

How would the end result have been different if they would have bowed down? _____

Two Finger Exercise: Read through Exodus 14:1-4 and answer the following questions:

1) When God had them “turn”, where did He have them encamp? List the geographical location of their encampment: (v. 2) _____

2) Why did He lead them here? (v. 3,4) _____

With the children of Israel encamping in a “poorly strategic” place, we see behind the scenes that Pharaoh, had repented of his decision to let the Israelites go out of his land, and he determined to make a last effort to get them back (Psalm 106:36-38; Exodus 14:5; 107:7-10). The Scripture says, vv. 6ff, that Pharaoh made ready his chariot and took his people with him. And he took six hundred chosen chariots and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them... And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were so afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the Lord.”

This is a very difficult situation. One in which their human effort can do nothing about. The sea was before them, Pharaoh’s armies behind them, and the mountainous wilderness around them. And most amazing is that God has ordered all of it! He marked out “**Pihahiroth**, between **Migdol** and the sea, over against **Baal-zephon**.” And on top of that, He permitted Pharaoh to come upon them. Why? Why? Why? In order to display

Himself in the deliverance of His people, the total overthrow of their enemies, and his wonderful mercies (Psalm 136).

As we have learned, in lessons prior to this one, every name in Scripture has great significance. Examine the meaning of each of our geographical locations in this section of Scripture and apply the meaning of their names to the story.

Pihahiroth means “*the place of liberty/freedom.*”

Migdol means “*tower or fortress.*”

Baal-zephon means “*lord of North*” dealing with ‘judgment.’

In our Scripture lesson for the day, we have seen a situation that appears to be a place of futile despair, and this is how many of our situations in life look. However, the truth of the matter is that as we keep our eyes on the Lord, we will soon find out that the **situations** we find ourselves end up being the very place that *provides our freedom* (**Pihahiroth**) and *refuge in God* (**Migdol**). During this time when we experience His deliverance, we know that God will have taken care of the enemy (**Baal-zephon**).

Something for you and I to keep in mind as we continue on our journey with the Lord is that He could have moved Israel through the Red Sea, and far beyond the reach of Pharaoh’s hosts, long before the enemy could have left Egypt. *But, God’s plans aren’t just to plant us in our final destination. His plans are to bring glory to Himself and teach us that total dependence is required to make a successful journey.* It’s unfortunate that we lose sight of these truths, and that results in our hearts giving away in the time of trial. If we could only look upon a **difficult crisis** as an occasion for bringing out, on our behalf, the sufficiency of God, it would strengthen us to preserve the balance of our souls, and His glory, even in the deepest waters (**cf.** Psalm 106:23,24).

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **Isaiah 55:8**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Write down any situations, past or present where you have seen God deliver you from your place of futile despair. If you have never been through a difficult situation where God has had to deliver you, thank Him, and look forward to walking that soon coming day through with Him, for His glory and your growth.

Close in Prayer: Ask the Lord to give you the courage and strength to keep your eyes totally upon Him during these times in your life. Take the time to thank Him for these times when He shows Himself to you.

Day 17

Turn Your Fear into Faith

(Learn how to rely on God)

Welcome to day 17 . As you saw in yesterday’s lesson, we don’t always like the path that God chooses for us. But, “the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord and He delights in His way” (Psalm 37:23). Isn’t it great that we are not left alone to choose our own path? If we did, our outcome would be much different than if we had trusted in the Lord.

As we continue our journey with the Israelites, it’s important to remember that our journey is patterned after theirs (1 Corinthians 10:6,11). For Israel’s journey, they were given the visible presence of God through the cloud and an audible voice that spoke. You and I are not that way. We’ve been given The Holy Spirit to dwell within us (their visible cloud) to guide us through the spoken Word of God, the Bible (2 Timothy 3:16; John 16:13). God’s Word says, “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet” to reveal the pitfalls and obstacles of the way, “and a light unto my path” to make clear the path out in front of us (Psalm 119:105). All of it to give us full provision to run this race (1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Hebrews 12:1,2) and to walk out this journey faithfully (Ephesians 2:10).

Today, we are going to move closer to one of the greatest events in all recorded history-the parting of the Red Sea. This event, among many others in the journey of the Israelites, made a huge impact on Israel’s enemies.

“When they heard how the lord dried up the water of the Red Sea, after they came out of Egypt; and what they did to the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon, and Og, whom they utterly destroyed, that as soon as they heard these things their hearts melted, neither did there remain any more courage in any man because of these events. For the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.” (Joshua 2:10,11)

Now that’s the kind of life that I want to live, a lifestyle that makes a powerful impression on those around me. A life surrendered to the leadership of the Lord still has that effect upon people. I know this, because our God doesn’t change (Malachi 3:6; cf. Hebrews 13:8). How about you, are you ready to move on? Are you ready to make an impact? Let’s pray for His guidance so our next steps are right in line with the Holy Spirit.

Spiritual Breathing:

_____ **Exhale: Psalm 139:23,24**

_____ **Inhale: Ephesians 5:18**

_____ **Open My Eyes: Psalm 119:18; John 16:13**

_____ **Commit to Hiding God’s Word in Your Heart: Psalm 119:9,11**

Final Checklist:

_____ **Bible** _____ **Pen/Pencil** _____ **Notebook** _____ **Receptive Life**

Scripture Passage of Study: Exodus 14:10-15

As we continue with our Red Sea passage, we'll want to take notice of the response that the children of Israel spoke to Moses (vv. 11,12). After seeing what God had done for the Israelites in delivering them through the 10 plagues (Exodus 5-12), we would think that they would have **faith** enough to trust in the Lord during this situation. However, let's not be so quick to judge them. For the more we know about our own evil heart (Jeremiah 17:9), the more we shall see how much we are like them. *This is one of the reasons why the Lord uses Israel as our pattern-so we can see the error of their way and not follow in their footsteps.*

Israel had seen so much, yet, when the "dark cloud" appeared in their "rear view mirrors", upon their horizon behind them (cf. Luke 9:62), their **confidence in the Lord gave away**, their **hearts failed**, and they spoke words of **unbelief**:

"Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Wherefore, have you dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt saying, "let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."(Exodus 14:11,12)

These words spoken in **fear** were the farthest words from the truth. For back in Exodus 3:12, the Lord promised the Israelites that they would worship Him in Mount Horeb, on the other side of the Red Sea. God never lies (cf. Romans 11:29), so how could they perish here in the wilderness?

These words of **fear and unbelief** have been passed down from generation to generation. They led David (King of Israel) to say, in an evil hour, "I shall one day perish by the hand of Saul; there is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines" (1 Samuel 27:1). Yet, how did this story end? Read 1 Samuel 31:3,4 & 2 Samuel 1:4-11. _____

(Saul was slain, and David reigned in His Kingdom)

It was this same **fear and unbelief** that led Elijah the Tishbite, into a moment of deep depression to flee for his life from the wrathful threatening of Jezebel (Even though he just got done slaying 850 false prophets [1 Kings 18]). But, notice how it turned out? Read 1 Kings 21:23 & 2 Kings 9:30-37 _____

(Jezebel died and Elijah was taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire)

And so we see it with the children of Israel in their very first moment of trial. Amazingly enough, they thought that the Lord had gone to all that trouble in Egypt to deliver them merely to let them die in the wilderness. They had imagined that the blood of the paschal lamb had preserved them in order that they might be buried in the

wilderness. This **fearful unbelief** *led them to interpret God in the presence of the difficulty, instead of interpreting the difficulty in the presence of God.* What the Lord had done in Egypt on the night of the Passover, placed them in the presence of God for the rest of their journey (Exodus 13:21,22; cf. Hebrews 13:5b). Yet, through their **fearful unbelief** they found themselves losing the enjoyment of it-and experiencing the power of it .

Since their eyes were upon the Egyptians (v. 10), and not the Lord, their **faith** weakened and they became **fearful**. It is always this way. The only cure for **fear** is for our “spiritual eyes” to remain fixed on the Lord (Hebrews 12:1,2); to have our mind occupied with Him, not on our circumstances and surroundings. The minute we lose sight of Him, we lose our peace in Him. We see this same truth when Peter was walking on the water (Matthew 14:26-33).

When they cried out to the Lord for help (v. 10), they did not cry out in **faith and hope**. Instead it was a cry of **complaint and despair**. That becomes clear as we read the next couple of verses. Their cry reminds us of another perilous situation in the New Testament, when the Disciples said to Jesus, “Don’t you care that we perish?” (Mark 4:38)

Important Note: It is not until a saved individual begins moving forward with the Lord that the enemy comes to attack him.

Two Finger Exercise: Read Exodus 14:13-15 and write out the correct order in the blanks.

- 1) _____ (v. 13) 2) _____ (v. 13)
- 3) _____ which He will show you today (v. 13).
- 4) The Lord shall fight for you & _____ (v. 14)
- 5) _____ (v. 15)

At this point in our story, divine intervention had occurred between God and the Israelites through the Lamb. Now the issue is not between God and Israel, but God and the Enemy (cf. Romans 8:31). In the sequel to this story (Exodus 15) we see all of Israel safe on the other side and the enemy completely defeated, *but how did this take place?*

The children of Israel followed the simple five step plan that you listed above .

1) Fear Not (v. 13). This phrase occurs over and over again in Scripture. It was what God told Abraham (Gen. 15:1). **Fear not**, neither be dismayed” was His message to Joshua (Joshua 8:1). **“Fear not”** was His command to Gideon (Judges 16:23). **“Fear Not”** was David’s counsel to Solomon (1 Chronicles 28:20). **“Fear not”** was the angel’s counsel to Daniel (Daniel 10:12). **“Fear not little flock”** is the Lord’s message to us (Luke 12:32). This can only be attained by following Isaiah 26:3. Write this verse down on the space provided and meditate upon it for a while until the truth sinks in .

(Isaiah 26:3)

- 2) Stand Still (v. 13). It's at this point where all effort of self-help must end! All activities of the flesh must end! Yet, this is the hardest thing to do because our old nature always wants to be doing something. And the more movement we do, the more dust we stir up. The more dust we stir up, the less we see the deliverance of God. If we stop and think about this, "what could they have done?" Dried up the sea? Leveled the mountains? Annihilated the hosts of Egypt? The answer is "no" to all of them. There they were enclosed, within the most difficult circumstances, unable to help themselves, and having to depend upon the Lord. (cf. 2 Kings 6:13-18).
- 3) See the Salvation (deliverance) of the Lord (v. 13). At this point it's important that we don't start trying to "see" something with our "*physical sight*," instead of our "*spiritual sight*." Hebrews 11:29 tells us that they passed through the Red Sea by **faith**, and **faith** is the opposite of "*sight*" (2 Corinthians 5:7). This is a strange paradox, indeed. However, it's important to know that **faith** is not *looking* at the things which are seen, but *looking* at the things which are not seen (2 Corinthians 4:18). "These all died in **faith**, not having received the promises, but having *seen* them afar off." (Hebrews 11:13). It's only after being still, that we can *know* that God is God (Psalm 46:10).
- 4) The Lord shall fight for you...Notice the promise of the Lord: He shall fight for them! Before He could, however, that salvation (deliverance) must first be received by **faith**. And you shall hold your peace (v. 14). Can you imagine 600,000 men, besides women and children (Exodus 12:37), were to remain motionless and silent? WOW! That's similar to what God commanded the Israelites to do after they crossed the Jordan river, in Jericho (Joshua 6).
- 5) Go forward (v.15). Go forward does not contradict, but it compliments "stand still." This is always the spiritual order of things. We are not ready to "go forward" until we have first "stood still" and "*seen*" the salvation of the Lord. And just as important, before the command to go forward, there was the "promise" which He would show them that day.

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **Isaiah 26:3**

Pinkie finger Exercise: Take the time to think about the situations that you've found yourself in recently. Think about how you're doing with those trials in your life. Write Yes or No in the blanks to see how you're doing in the midst of your trying time.

Difficult Situation I'm facing Fear Not Be Still See Silent Go Forward

Close In Prayer: Ask the Lord to give you eyes to see what He would have you to do in the midst of every situation that you face today and every day. Thank Him for His guaranteed presence and power to deliver you through all the times where your **faith** might turn into **fear**.

Day 18

Taking God at His Word, and walking by Faith

(Lord, are we going to need 'gills' for this journey?)

Welcome to Day 18 . Each day during this series of lessons at the Red Sea we will learn more and more practical information to help you with your personal journey with the Lord, towards that Promised Land (Revelation 21,22). I'm thankful to the Lord that you've continued on the journey this far. We still have a long way to go, but you'll find that the adventure ahead is well worth walking through. By the world's standards there may be times along your journey that appear to be as "dry" as the wilderness, but with God's presence you'll find an "oasis" around every corner. As you go out in **faith** you will find the reality of His presence stronger and stronger with each step that you take. Today, you are going to venture into a realm that you've never been before. You're going into the place of death (the Sea).

Don't be alarmed by the high waters or the enemy that will try to pursue you. Remember Who is leading you each step of the way. He's about to fulfill His promise to you of "not seeing them again anymore," (Exodus 14:12) because it is the Lord who will fight for you-so hold your peace (v. 14).

How did your day go yesterday? Were you able to make a great impact on those around you (Joshua 2:10,11)? Take the time to evaluate yesterday with the Lord's guidance. Read the verses below, take the time to pray and prepare yourself for this day when His mercies are new and fresh.

Godly Impact Evaluation								
Surrendered to the enemy	Ran in fear	Couldn't stand still	Saw His Salvation					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

At this point in our journey and at other points a long the way you might find it difficult to depend upon the Lord.

*(This is one of the reasons that the Lord has given us the type of the Israelites. By studying and learning what they did and what they did not do, we can walk our life out in **faith** and experience the deliverance of God in every situation.)*

At this point in their journey, Israel panicked. They took their eyes off the Lord and put them on the enemy. Yet, we find God being very patient with them and giving them more and more opportunities to follow Him-Isn't God good! He's so merciful.

Prayerfully read the following Scriptures and record your thoughts on the verses.

Psalm 40:11 _____

Psalm 51:1 _____

Psalm 79:8 _____

Today is a new day. Let's step out in **faith** and follow Him wherever He goes.

Spiritual Breathing: Match the verse below with the phrase above. Put into practice your Spiritual Breathing.

_____ **Exhale** _____ **Inhale** _____ **Open my Eyes** _____ **Commit to His Word**
D. Ephesians 5:18 2. Psalm 139:23,24 Y. Psalm 119:9,11 A. Psalm 119:18

2-DAY let Him cleanse you, fill you, guide you in a new and fresh way.

Final Checklist:

_____ **Bible** _____ **Pen/Pencil** _____ **Notebook** _____ **Receptive Life**

Scripture Passage: Exodus 14:16-31

As we move forward in **faith** into our next step of our journey, it is very important to remember that 'going forward' is not a contradiction to 'stand still.' This is always the order that the Lord uses. By following this plan it allows you to gain your strength, gain your focus, recognize your reliance upon Him, and rest securely in the fact that the victory comes from the Lord (cf. 1 Samuel 17:47). Isaiah 40:31 instructs us to wait upon the Lord and you shall mount up with wings as eagles, run and not grow weary, walk and not faint." The shepherd in Psalm 23 leads His sheep besides the still waters and green pastures before going into the perilous portion of the journey. God ministered to Elijah for nearly 3 ½ years at the river and in the widow's house before He called him to that incredible task of confronting Ahab and the prophets of Baal, on Mt. Carmel (1 Kings 17,18).

These are just a few examples from the past, in Scripture, and God is doing the same today. What an incredible blessing we have to be apart of God's working. What a joy it is to be His vessel in which He chooses to carry out His work (2 Timothy 2:20,21). God demonstrates a noteworthy order in all of His working.

- 1) **There is always the command/instruction or promise.** *This must be given first for the individual to determine whether or not they will act in **faith**.*
- 2) **The individual takes the information and acts by *faith* or by sight**
- 3) **Based on the individual response to God, God uses them according to His divine plan.**

Two Finger Exercise: Match the command/instruction or promise with the verses that show **the end result** of the Israelite's faith.

<u>Command/instruction or promise</u>	<u>Fulfillment of God's Word</u>
___ Command/instruction to Moses v. 16	a. v. 22
___ Promise to the Israelites v. 16	t. v. 23
___ Promise to harden Pharaoh in his pursuit v. 17a	f. v.21
___ Promise concerning Pharaoh's army v. 17b	h. vv. 25-28
___ Promise that God will be honored v.18	i. vv.8,23

cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them. And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these; so that the one came not near the other all night” (vv. 19,20).

Do you notice any special workings of the Lord, which allowed the Israelites to carry out their faith?

The Lord placed Himself between His people and every enemy, so that “no weapon formed against them could prosper”(Isaiah 54:17). The spiritual lesson here is overwhelmingly powerful and we will deal with it in length in our next study.

The Egyptians, in their physical presence, represent all that the Israelites were in bondage to before they applied the blood of the Lamb. Once they applied the blood, they were set free from all of their past, which held them captive. God placed Himself between those ‘chains’ from the past and gave them light to press on the best path for them, and He does the same for us today. It’s only when we take our ‘spiritual eyes’ off the Lord and begin living by ‘sight’ that we fall into a state of fear and panic (vv.10-12).

Let me encourage you today, if the “Egyptians” of your past continue to haunt you, remember that God provides a protective barrier between you and them. He’s desiring for you to move forward in **faith**, encouraging you to move through the ‘Sea’ to the other side where you’ll be able to ‘walk in newness of life’ (Romans 6:4).

Ring Finger Exercise: Memorize **2 Corinthians 5:7**

Pinkie Finger Exercise: Take the time to think through ‘the haunting Egyptians’ of your past that keep you from walking forward in **faith**. Make a list of them below and ask God to reveal His protection to you so you can move away from them under His guidance and assured victory.

Close in Prayer: We have talked a lot about **faith** vs sight today, and we’ve also highlighted some thoughts on the victory we have over our past, because of the finished work of the Lamb (for us, this was at Calvary). Thank the Lord for His promise in Exodus 14:13, and ask Him to strengthen your **faith** where it is weak (Luke 17:5).