



WHEN YOU'RE TRAPPED...

BIG IDEA

When you're trapped, just stay calm and watch the Lord rescue you.

SCRIPTURE

Read Exodus chapter 14.

OPENER

Do you enjoy roller coasters? If yes, what is your favorite roller coaster? Roller coasters build excitement and anxiety as they approach the big drops and turns. What is your biggest fear of the unknown at this time?

QUESTIONS

1. Why did God perform this series of miracles for the Jewish people? Share a time in your life when the Lord made a way for you (rescued you - perhaps a job, needed resources that you did not have, etc.) when you did not think it possible. How did your experience with God's faithfulness affect you? Discuss.
2. See below the triangle images that John showed us during the sermon: The Israelites were trapped by the Philistines (fear over a tremendous army), the Egyptian Army (anxiety over sure death) and the Sea (an impossible situation). Why did the Israelites forget their God who was among them? Why do unknown health concerns, potential for a financial set-back, and possible loss of life paralyze us? How can we learn to solely trust God's word and not depend on what we see or feel?



3. Can you relate to the Israelites in Exodus chapter 14? The Israelites panicked because they made our big God too small. Share a time in your life when you panicked because you thought the obstacle was too big to be handled. In what ways do you make God too small?
4. The Israelites "cried out to the LORD." Have you ever really cried out to the Lord? Not asking God to take some problem away, but really cried out "there's no way I can do this on my own!" Explain.



5. Moses told the people to not be afraid. How do you think the people felt hearing that? How is *feeling* afraid different than *being* afraid? How can we choose faith even when we *feel* afraid?
6. Our natural inclination is “fight or flight,” yet God through Moses says, “Stand still!” John explained that “just stand still = just be faithful (gather, give, serve).” How hard is this for you? Where is God telling you to be still? Where is God telling you to get moving?
7. Take time right now (and throughout the coming weeks) to pray for God to revive the Church and bring the lost to a saving faith in Christ throughout this pandemic! Don’t forget to Text “Helper” to 317-350-1996 if you can volunteer to serve our community!

TAKEAWAY

We have a choice to trust God when it looks impossible. When you are trapped, just stay calm and watch the Lord rescue you. We will look back and say “It was the Lord who delivered us.”

Just stand still = Just be faithful (gather online, give, serve) and He will make a way.

REFERENCES

Exodus 3:7-8; 14:31.

Psalms 46:10; 77:16-20

Isaiah 43:5-7; 54:17

Mark 4:40

Acts 16:31b

Romans 8:31

1 Corinthians 15:54-56

2 Corinthians 5:7

Ephesians 3:20; 6:10

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read Matthew 14:28-33. How does this passage parallel the Exodus 14 passage we looked at this week? What can we learn from this passage to help us overcome the storms in our life? Why do you think Peter was the only one of disciples to walk on water? In verse 31, to whom do you think Jesus was talking (Peter or the other 11 in the boat)? Why?
- *Unbelief complains, but faith obeys and brings glory to the Lord.* Discuss how we can apply this statement to our situation as it relates to the pandemic and its aftermath.
- In 1 Peter 5:8-10, we are reminded to stay alert and stand firm against our enemies. How can we remain focused in difficult situations, so we are prepared to overcome our “enemies”?
- Where do you relate to Moses? Where have you stepped out as a leader in your business or family? Maybe you stepped out to begin worshipping God with your finances, and now you feel trapped? Discuss.