

## CHOSEN TO SEE GOD'S PROTECTION

**When life gets tough you can choose:**

**ESCAPE:** Try to go backwards.

**DENIAL:** Get stuck where you are.

**ENDURE:** Go all the way through.

*When Pharaoh finally let the people go, God did not lead them along the main road that runs through Philistine territory, even though that was the shortest route to the Promised Land. God said, "If the people are faced with a battle, they might change their minds and return to Egypt."<sup>18</sup> So God led them in a roundabout way through the wilderness toward the Red Sea. Thus the Israelites left Egypt like an army ready for battle. **Exodus 13:17-18***

*The LORD went ahead of them. He guided them during the day with a pillar of cloud, and he provided light at night with a pillar of fire. This allowed them to travel by day or by night.<sup>22</sup> And the LORD did not remove the pillar of cloud or pillar of fire from its place in front of the people. **Exodus 13:21-22***

**What does it take to make it through?**

### **1. Believe that GOD HAS A PLAN.**

*Then the Lord gave these instructions to Moses:<sup>2</sup> "Order the Israelites to turn back and camp by Pi-hahiroth between Migdol and the sea. Camp there along the shore, across from Baal-zephon."<sup>3</sup> Then Pharaoh will think, 'The Israelites are confused. They are trapped in the wilderness!'<sup>4</sup> And once again I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will chase after you. I have planned this in order to display my glory through Pharaoh and his whole army. After this the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord!" So the Israelites camped there as they were told.*

**Exodus 14:1-4**

*And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. **Romans 8:28***

### **2. Face your GREATEST FEAR.**

*As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the Lord,<sup>11</sup> and they said to Moses, "Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren't there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt?"<sup>12</sup> Didn't we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, 'Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!'" **Ex. 14:10-12***

### **3. Take the NEXT STEP OF FAITH.**

**Don't be AFRAID.**

*"But Moses told the people, Don't be afraid..." **Exodus 14:13***  
**Stand FIRM.**

*"...Just stand where you are and watch the Lord rescue you."  
**Exodus 14:13***

**Be STILL.**

*"...The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm."  
**Exodus 14:14***

**Move FORWARD with faith.**

*Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to Me? Tell the people to **get moving!** Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground."*

**Exodus 14:15-16**

*Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the Lord opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land.<sup>22</sup> So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side!  
**Exodus 14:21-22***

*In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. **James 2:17***