

5 When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, "What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?"

10 When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the Lord. 11 They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? 12 Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." 13 And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. 22 And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. 23 The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. 24 And in the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, 25 clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians."

27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the Lord threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. 28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. 29 But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

30 Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 31 Israel saw the great power that the Lord used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Summary

Where are you in your spiritual life right now?
Do you know where you want to be/need to be?
What's standing in the way of your growth?

In Exodus 14 the Israelites could only see the difficult circumstances around them and feared they would die. God placed them in an impossible situation to demonstrate His power and to call them to more than what they could see around them. They had to reach the end of themselves, so they could see God's miraculous work in them. Transformation requires honesty about where we are and what's keeping us there, and movement toward greater trust through experience with God.

- To take the risk and follow God into the unknown, we need to believe Him fully. Where is it hard for you to trust God? (In your relationships, with your finances, with your time, etc.)

- Transformation starts with leaving the “here” for the unknown of the “there.” What do you think keeps us from leaving the “here”? What parts are hard to leave behind?

- What do you think our generosity has to do with our spiritual transformation and movement? Why is it an area that Jesus talks about so much?

- We may want transformation in our lives, but unless we are willing to take a step, nothing will change for us. What is the difference between wanting to be “there” and being willing to take steps to get “there?”

Right now, in your journey with God, are you more in the wanting stage or the willing stage?

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On The Potter's Wheel *(Personal Reflection)*

God created us and has a plan and purpose for us. He's inviting us into this process of transformation. What are the unique experiences God is using to show His transformational power to shape your life? If God showed you a picture of what He is shaping you into, what would it look like? What next step in your faith do you need to take to move toward that picture; to move from “here” to “there?”