

December 7, 2025 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group

“Israel Crosses the Red Sea without a Boat” – Exodus 13:17-14:31

Questions for Younger Ones (ages 5-18) to Answer from the Text:

1. Why did God not take the Israelites by the shorter route toward the land of the Philistines when journeying to the promised land (13:17)?
2. What display led Israel on its journey (13:21-22)?
3. Where did Israel camp that caused Pharaoh to take notice of them (14:1-3)?
4. What caused Pharaoh to change his mind about letting the Israelites leave (14:4)?
5. What was Pharaoh's attitude toward the Israelites when he heard about their wandering in the wilderness (14:5-6)?
6. Whom did Pharaoh send to capture the Israelites (14:6-9)?
7. How did the Israelites react when they saw Pharaoh's chariots coming after them (14:10-12)?
8. What did God tell Moses to do (14:15-18)?
9. What kept the Egyptian chariots from overtaking the Israelites when they were moving to cross the sea (14:19-20)?
10. How did God divide the Red Sea (14:21)?
11. What happened when the Israelites had completely crossed through the sea (14:23-30)?
12. What effect did this have on the Israelites (14:31)?

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

13. If the Israelites walked through the Red Sea on dry ground (14:22), how would the Egyptian chariot wheels have “clogged” (14:25)?
14. Psalm 106:7 says that Israel “rebelled” at the Red Sea. How do you think the people rebelled in this episode?
15. How might the Red Sea deliverance be an illustration of *sola fide*?
16. Why, from a human standpoint, might God's plan of redemption have looked as though it might cease at the Red Sea?
17. At what other times did God's plan of redemption seem to teeter on the brink of extinction?
18. How might God's action in the Red Sea incident encourage you when you face difficult times?
19. Why do you suppose that the LORD God planned for Israel to have another encounter with Pharaoh after leaving Egypt?
20. How was the Red Sea deliverance definitional for Israel and other nations of that time? (See Psalm 106; 136:13, 15; Jeremiah 49:21)

21. How might an extraordinary event such as what happened at the Red Sea be misconstrued or taken out of proportion by God's people?
22. Do you agree or disagree with the statement: "The extraordinary in God's redemptive plan paves the way for the ordinary"? Explain.
23. What extraordinarily ordinary things have been happening in your life lately? In your family? In your church?
24. In what ways does the crossing of the Red Sea illustrate your deliverance in Christ?