

CROSSING THE RED SEA

Exodus 14:1 – 15:21

Lesson Memory Verse: Exodus 14:13 **“Fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will show to you today.”** (Grades 1 & 2 memorize only the portion in **bold** print.)

Lesson Aim: Teach the children to trust in God's way of salvation.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): Jerry was hot and tired, his feet were sore, and his stomach was growling, as supper time had come and gone. His father had warned him not to wander too far from their campground, and Jerry had meant to stay close by their tent. But Jerry's curiosity and daring spirit had urged him on all afternoon. It had been so much fun just to see what was beyond the next clump of trees or over the next hill. But now it was beginning to get dark and Jerry had not paid any attention to where he was going. He was lost! Knowing he could never find his way back by himself, Jerry sat down on a rock and began to cry and pray that God would help him to get back to his family.

“Is something wrong?” a kind, deep voice asked. Jerry turned around quickly, and the friendly smile of the forest ranger greeted him. “I'm lost and I need to get back to the campgrounds,” explained Jerry. “Come with me, and I'll lead you back,” the ranger said.

They climbed up a small trail and down some hills. Jerry did not recognize any of the scenery. “Are you sure we're going in the right direction?” Jerry asked worriedly. The ranger chuckled and said, “I promised you that if you followed me, I would lead you to your mom and dad.”

No sooner had the ranger spoken than they rounded a clump of trees and there were Jerry's mom and dad. They were talking to other rangers who were just ready to go out and look for Jerry. Jerry was thankful to the ranger for leading him out of the mountains.

HE (for Authority): Just as you heard in our story how the ranger led Jerry from the mountains to safety, so our memory verse tells how the Lord began to lead the Israelites from Egypt to safety. (Read the memory verse in unison.)

Moses spoke to God's people, the Israelites, who fearfully watched the mighty Egyptian army as it chased after them, getting closer and closer. If you had been with the Israelites, would you have been afraid? Most anyone would have been afraid, but Moses told the people not to be afraid and not to run, but to stand right where they were. Why? God had promised to save them from the Egyptians. (This is what it means to “see the salvation of the Lord.”) Now God promises to save us from Satan. When Jesus saves you from Satan, He saves you from your sins and from going to hell. Is Jesus your Savior? When did you ask Him to be your Savior? If you have asked Him to save you, you must trust Him to do it and not be afraid. He promises to save anyone who really believes and trusts Him (John 1:12).

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First, let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. Today's lesson is a true story from the Bible telling how God saved the Israelites from the Egyptians when they trusted Him and did what He said.

I. God's Path (14:1-12)

A. God led the Israelites into the wilderness to a place by the shore of the Red Sea (14:1-4).

The Israelites followed God's directions and found themselves in a place of great danger. They were trapped. There was no way they could save themselves. God sometimes leads people in the paths of great danger so they can no longer trust themselves. They must trust Him or be lost.

B. The Pharaoh sent chosen soldiers to recapture the Israelites (14:5-9).

When Pharaoh heard that the Israelites were trapped in the wilderness, Pharaoh took 600 chariots and captains over the chariots to bring all the Israelites back to Egypt.

C. The Israelites were afraid of the Egyptian army coming after them (14:10-12).

WE: We need to follow God's leading, but sometimes it will look like He has deserted us and left us in a trap where it seems like our spiritual enemies will get the best of us. However, if you have put your faith in Jesus Christ, do not be afraid, but continue to trust God. He has a way for you to escape so you will be saved from being recaptured by Satan. If you have not received Jesus as your Savior, do not delay any longer. He is the only One that can deliver you from Satan. Are you willing to trust Him to save you?

II. God's Promises (14:13-31)

- A. God promised to save Israel from the Egyptian army by fighting for them (14:13-14).
- B. God showed Israel why He led them this way and how to escape from Egypt (14:15-18).
- C. God saved the Israelites by making a wide road through the Red Sea (14:19-31).

God sent them through the Red Sea on dry ground. Then He drowned the Egyptian army who followed them by making the Red Sea come together when they were in the middle of the sea. When Moses and the Israelites trusted God's promise and obeyed His commands, they were saved from the Egyptian army.

WE: We have a greater enemy than the Pharaoh. Our enemy is Satan, and he wants to send lost sinners to Hell. If we have trusted God's promise and obeyed His directions, we can be saved from Satan and not go to Hell. We must turn from our sins to God. Then we must trust in Jesus Christ, Who died on the cross to pay for our sins and rose from the grave to give us eternal life. Then we can go to Heaven when we die.

III. God's Praise (15:1-21)

- A. God's character is praised (15:1-3).
- B. God's drowning of the Egyptian army is praised (15:4-12).
- C. God's present saving work for Israel is praised (15:13).
- D. God's future saving work for Israel is praised (15:14-18).
- E. God's women praise Him (15:19-21).

WE: If we have been saved from our sins and set free from Satan's power, we should praise God like Israel did when they were saved from bondage in Egypt and set free from Pharaoh and his 600 chariots and captains. God is worthy of our praise and thankfulness. Do you have a thankful heart? Do you praise God for saving you?

BE (for Action): God had a plan for Israel's salvation from Egypt. They followed God's plan, and He saved them. God also has a plan for you so that you can escape from Hell. That plan includes repentance from your sins and faith in Jesus Christ. Faith in Jesus means you believe that Jesus died for your sins on the cross in your place so that you would not have to die for them. It also means that you believe Jesus rose from the dead so He could give you life—eternal life. If you believe this, you can ask Jesus to be your Savior. If you really love Him and hate your sins, He will listen to you and save you. If you have done this, do you believe God saved you? If you believe that He has saved you, you should thank Him and praise Him for such a wonderful gift. If you have never done this, please stay after class and let me answer your questions from the Bible on how you can be saved.