

*Overview:* This week we will be reviewing the account of the Israelites crossing the Red Sea. They found themselves caught between the Red Sea and the approaching Egyptian army with no way out. However, Moses commanded the Israelites to “stand still” to see the Lord fight for them. This week we will be challenging group members to reflect on whether they are trying to save themselves, or they letting the Lord fight for them.

Scripture Reading: Exodus 14:10-14  
2 Corinthians 12:9-12

### Getting Started

If you could be any actor/actress, who would that be? Why?

If they were going to make a movie out of the greatest struggle of your life, what would the title be?

### Digging Deeper

Charlie's sermon discussed Israel's situation when they were stuck between the Egyptians and the Red Sea, and couldn't see any way out. Reread Exodus 14:10-14. What was Israel's response in their circumstances?

*Israel responded by saying that they would rather be in slavery in Egypt than in the desert (v.12). They could not see outside of their perspective. There was no way out.*

How did God answer? (See Exodus 14:21-29)

*Not only did he part the sea for the Israelites to escape the Egyptian army, but he also caused the sea to swallow up the Egyptians who were pursuing them.*

Recently, we've talked about how God asks us to take an action step (such as ending a bad relationship, starting to read the Bible, or changing a lifestyle) in order for Him to bring us up out of our current struggle. Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. Based on these verses, what was Paul's experience with God?

*Paul experienced that when he was most weak, God's divine power and saving strength could be realized. By embracing and even boasting in his weaknesses, he was able to give up trying to save himself.*

What action did Paul have to take? Does this contradict your expectations of how God should work when life is hard?

*He had to let go and give up trying to save himself.*

### Application

In the Red Sea account, the Israelites were at their weakest point. Could the Israelites save themselves?

Are you in a similar position, wondering how to save yourself? How is that working for you?

Conclusion: *It is in our utter weaknesses that God's power can be seen and felt. When we understand that we cannot save ourselves, it provides the ideal opportunity for the display of divine power. The hardest part about this is giving up control, and the knowledge of how things will turn out. The unknown can be the most difficult realm to enter, but the most fulfilling when God is allowed to do His work.*