



# The Parting of the Red Sea

Exodus 14

## *Items Needed*

- ✓ Bible with marked scripture
- ✓ Crayons/Markers/Pencils
- ✓ Large throw or blanket
- ✓ Copies of coloring sheet
- ✓ Copies of take home overview



## The Parting of the Red Sea

### Objective of Lesson

The objective of this lesson is to study the story of Moses and the parting of the Red Sea, and to discuss how this is a picture of how God saves His people from their sins.

### Scripture Reference

*Exodus 14 - the entire chapter*

### Lesson Instructions

1. Today we are going over a story recorded in the Bible we refer to as, "The Parting of the Red Sea." Let's do a quick review so we know a little bit about what had happened to the Israelites right before this story was recorded. This whole story starts out with a man named Moses. He was a man chosen of God to go into Egypt and stand before their king and demand God's people, the Israelites, be released and set free from their slave labor. They had been slaves in Egypt for four hundred years. God promised to send them a deliverer to set them free from that bondage and take them to a land the Lord God had promised to them. That man was Moses. Moses, under the command of God, went into Egypt and demanded the Pharaoh of Egypt set God's people free, but time after time the King refused. Because Pharaoh

refused to set them free, God sent ten different plagues upon Egypt. He made their water undrinkable; he swarmed them with lice and flies and frogs. He sent horrible storms and rained fire from heaven and He killed all of their first-born sons. Finally Pharaoh had enough and he said, "Let them go! Stop all these plagues!" This is where we pick up the story we are going to discuss today.

2. Six hundred thousand men, plus women and children, set off for the Promised Land. As soon as the Israelites left Egypt, Pharaoh's heart was quick to change his mind once again. "What have I done? We must capture the Israelites so they can work for us again!" Pharaoh took six hundred of his fastest chariots and an army of soldiers to recapture the Israelites. As Moses reached the shores of the Red Sea, the Israelites saw the army of Pharaoh coming. "We will die here in the desert," they cried! Moses shouted, "Stand firm! And do not be afraid! The Lord will fight for you!" God told Moses to lift up his staff and He would split the sea in half and make a way for the children of God, His Israel, to escape Pharaoh and his army.
3. Before we go any further, I need some volunteers to help me demonstrate what happened next. We are going to pretend this blanket is the Red Sea. (Fold the blanket in half. Have one child hold the corners of one half and the other child hold the two corners of the other half. Have them walk towards each other until the two sides of the blanket touch.) This represents the sea. Moses lifted his staff and the seas parted. (Have the children back away from one another so the blanket is being held in a U- shape, with the lowest part on the floor enabling the other children to walk through it) It was a miracle! The children of God walked through the sea with great walls of water on either side of them, (The walls of the blanket represent the walls of water) and they walked on dry ground to the other side of the sea. (Have the children walk through the U-shaped blanket to the other side of the sea).
4. The Egyptian army saw this and they followed Moses and the Israelites and

started across the sea after them, but when morning came the Lord threw the Egyptian army into a panic and caused the wheels on their chariots to break and made their travel very difficult. The Egyptians cried out, "God is fighting for them against us! Let's go back!"

5. God would not let them escape. As soon as the Israelites reached the other side in safety God told Moses to stretch out his staff again over the Red Sea. The powerful waters crashed down on top of the Egyptian army. They were completely destroyed and not one of them survived. (Have the children walk through the blanket again but this time have the children cover them up by closing the gap in the blanket and covering them in the blanket completely, demonstrating what happened to the Egyptians) When the people of Israel saw this they rejoiced and knew they could trust their God to keep and protect them.
6. Like all stories recorded in the Bible this one teaches us something about our Lord Jesus Christ and how He saves His people from their sins. Let's see how this one demonstrates that message as well. When the people of Israel came to the sea, why were they afraid? It was because they had no way out! They were completely shut in with no escape! God put them there on purpose. God puts ALL of His people in that position when He is about to reveal to them His saving mercy and grace. God will always put His people in a place where all options are taken away from them. They can't save themselves and they know it. That is what our Lord did here. He brought them to a place where they knew they could not save themselves.
7. Another thing we learn here is that only God can save and He is willing and able to save His people. Even though the people of Israel thought they were doomed God told them Peace! Be still and see the salvation of the Lord! Did the Lord tell the Israelites jump in and swim across? No. They wouldn't have made it. They would have surely drowned in the sea. They couldn't do it if they tried. They didn't have the ability to do it! That is a picture of all helpless sinners. If we tried to save ourselves from the law of God and sin,

like those Israelites, we will surely die under the wrath of God. God puts His people at this spot on purpose. He is about to show them how He saves His people from their sins. He told them to stand still. That is what all of God's children do. They come to a point where they know there is nothing they can do. They are surely doomed to die for all their sins. God puts His children in a place where they are boxed in and they can do nothing but rely on Him for their salvation. God never turns away any needy sinner in need of salvation. God says, "Stand still. I will show you the salvation of the Lord." Then He shows them the whole work of Christ. Our Lord God did it all. Don't try and jump in and swim, you will surely perish for your sins. Stand still and quit trying to work out your own salvation. Stop and behold how God the father makes a way of salvation for His people. That way is Christ.

8. What else did we learn from this story? God not only gave them a way of escape but He also destroyed their enemies so they would no longer be threatened by them again. Hmm... Does that sound familiar? Yes! Do we need deliverance from an enemy? What is our enemy? Our enemy is sin and the penalty of it under God's law. What is the penalty of sin under God's law? Death. Can we pay it? No, but who can? Christ Jesus, through the sacrifice of Himself, puts that sin away so completely that we are never threatened by it again. Our sins are paid for completely!
9. We don't need to escape an army but we do need a savior, right? We need an escape from the law of God under which we will surely die. WE are doomed to die under it if God doesn't deliver us, just like those Israelites were doomed to die by the hand of Pharaoh if God didn't deliver them. God has made a way. Christ is that way of salvation. Christ came to this earth in the body of a man, just like we are, and shed His own blood and died on the cross for the salvation of His people.
10. Just like Israel was given a way through the sea, Christ is the way of salvation for all His people, and just like God destroyed all of Israel's enemies, he destroys our enemy as well through the death of His precious

Son. Our great and merciful God has taken away all our sins. They are gone!  
Paid for! Never to threaten us again! What a beautiful picture of God's  
mercy and grace. Amen

## Lesson Activities

- Coloring Sheet
- Blanket demonstration

# Take Home Lesson Overview



## The Parting of the Red Sea

### Scripture Reference:

Exodus 14

### Lesson Overview:

Like all stories recorded in the Bible this one teaches us something about our Lord Jesus Christ and how He saves His people from their sins. When the people of Israel came to the sea, why were they afraid? They were afraid because they had no way out! They were completely shut in with no escape! God put them there on purpose. God puts ALL of His people in that position when He is about to reveal to them His saving mercy and grace. God will always put His people in a place where all options are taken away from them. They can't save themselves and they know it. That is what our Lord did here. He brought them to a place where they knew they could not save themselves.

God not only gave them a way of escape but He also destroyed their enemies so they would no longer be threatened by them again. What is our enemy? Our enemy is sin and the penalty of it under God's law. What is the penalty of sin under God's law? Death. Can we pay it? No, but who can? Christ Jesus, through the sacrifice of Himself puts that sin away so completely that we are never threatened by it again. Our sins are paid

for!

Just like Israel was given a way through the sea, Christ is the way of salvation for all His people. Just like God destroyed all of Israel's enemies through the death of His precious Son, our great and merciful God has taken away all our sins. They are gone! Paid for! Never to threaten us again! What a beautiful picture of God's mercy and grace.



# Crossing the Red Sea

