**LESSON FIVE**

**Moses and the Red Sea - Trusting God in Difficult Times**

**Overview**

God's people see circumstances differently than the world sees them. A submissive and obedient relationship with God makes all the difference. God works in miraculous ways as His people obey His directions, and His people should rejoice in His mercy and His mighty works.

**Lesson Goals**

At the conclusion of this lesson, students should:

1. Understand that God sometimes leads us into situations where we can do nothing but trust Him.

2. Realize anew that with God nothing is impossible.

3. Decide to trust Him fully even when the results of our obedience cannot be foreseen.

**Teaching Outline**

I. The Cloud

o A. God's people saw light.

o B. God's enemies saw darkness.

II. The Crossing

o A. God's people had safety.

o B. God's enemies had calamity.

III. The Conclusion

o A. God's people rejoiced.

o B. God's enemies mourned.

**Text – Exodus 14:19-31**

19 The angel of God, who had been going before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them. 20 So it came between the camp of Egypt and the camp of Israel; and there was the cloud along with the darkness, yet it gave light at night. Thus the one did not come near the other all night. 21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord swept the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, so the waters were divided. 22 The sons of Israel went through the midst of the sea on the dry land, and the waters were like a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. 23 Then the Egyptians took up the pursuit, and all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots and his horsemen went in after them into the midst of the sea. 24 At the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud and brought the army of the Egyptians into confusion. 25 He caused their chariot wheels to swerve, and He made them drive with difficulty; so the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from Israel, for the Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians.” 26 Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may come back over the Egyptians, over their chariots and their horsemen.” 27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal state at daybreak, while the Egyptians were fleeing right into it; then the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. 28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen, even Pharaoh’s entire army that had gone into the sea after them; not even one of them remained. 29 But the sons of Israel walked on dry land through the midst of the sea, and the waters were like 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 When Israel saw the great power which the Lord had used against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in His servant Moses.

**Exodus 13:21-22 -** 21 The Lord was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. 22 He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

**Exodus 14:1-4 -** Now the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, **2**“Tell the sons of Israel to turn back and camp in front of ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+14%3A1-4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-1892A))Pi-hahiroth, between ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+14%3A1-4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-1892B))Migdol and the sea; you shall camp in front of Baal-zephon, opposite it, by the sea. **3**For Pharaoh will say of the sons of Israel, ‘They are wandering aimlessly in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.’ **4**And ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+14%3A1-4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-1894C))I will [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+14%3A1-4&version=NASB#fen-NASB-1894a)]harden Pharaoh’s heart, and ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+14%3A1-4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-1894D))he will chase after them; and I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, and ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+14%3A1-4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-1894E))the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord.” And they did so.

**John 8:12 -** 12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.”

**Thessalonian 5:5 -** for you are all ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Thessalonians+5%3A5&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29614A))sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Thessalonians+5%3A5&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29614B))darkness;

**1 John 1:7 - 7**but if we ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+1%3A7&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30535A))walk in the Light as ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+1%3A7&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30535B))He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+1%3A7&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30535C))the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**1 John 1:5 - 5**([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+1%3A5+&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30533A))This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+1%3A5+&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30533B))God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

**John 3:19 - 19**And this is the judgment, that ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+3%3A19&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26133A))the Light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the Light; for ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+3%3A19&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26133B))their deeds were evi

**John 14:26 - 26**But the ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14%3A26&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26687A))Helper, the Holy Spirit ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14%3A26&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26687B))whom the Father will send in My name, ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14%3A26&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26687C))He will teach you all things, and ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14%3A26&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26687D))remind you of all that I said to you.

**John 16:13 - 13**But when He, ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+16%3A13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26732A))the Spirit of truth, comes, He will ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+16%3A13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26732B))guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

**Matthew 5:14 - 14**“You are ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+5%3A14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-23249A))the light of the world. A city set on a [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+5%3A14&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23249a)]hill cannot be hidden;

**Genesis 18:14 - 14**([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+18%3A14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-439A))Is anything too [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+18%3A14&version=NASB#fen-NASB-439a)]difficult for the Lord? At the ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+18%3A14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-439B))appointed time I will return to you, [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+18%3A14&version=NASB#fen-NASB-439b)]at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son.”

**Psalm 23:4 -** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

**1 Samuel 17:47 - 47**and that this entire assembly may know that ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Samuel+17%3A47&version=NASB#cen-NASB-7666A))the Lord does not save by sword or by spear; ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Samuel+17%3A47&version=NASB#cen-NASB-7666B))for the battle is the Lord’s, and He will hand you over to us!”

**Hebrews 13:15 -** 15 Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

**Ephesians 5:19 -** 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

**Colossians 3:16 -** 16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

**Ecclesiastes 12:13 - 13**The conclusion, when everything has been heard, is: ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ecclesiastes+12%3A13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-17537A))fear God and ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ecclesiastes+12%3A13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-17537B))keep His commandments, because this applies to ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ecclesiastes+12%3A13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-17537C))every person.

**Deuteronomy 8:11, 18 -** 11 “Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; 8 But you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

**1 Thessalonians 5:18 -** 18 in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

**Hebrews 13:5 -** 5 Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,”

**Exodus 12:30 -** 30 Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians, and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was no home where there was not someone dead.

**Romans 11:29 -** 29 for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

**Exodus 15:1-21 – The Song of Moses and Israel**

**Study Questions**

1. What did God use to lead His people as they left Egypt?

2. What did the Egyptian army see as they approached the Israelites by the edge of the Red Sea?

3. Describe how God made a way for His people through the Red Sea.

4. Describe what happened to the Egyptian army as they pursued the Israelites.

5. How does God lead us today?

6. What are some miracles you believe God has performed on your behalf or on the behalf of people you know?

7. What can we do to become Christians who consistently rejoice?

8. According to Ecclesiastes, what is our whole duty in life?

**Memory Verse**

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 -** 18 "in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus."