



These are basic Bible studies intended to help our teachers personally grasp the “big picture” of our VBS theme. Feel free to use anything here in connecting with your students.

### **Key text: Exodus 14**

The children of Israel had been slaves in Egypt for 400 years (Gen 15:13; Acts 7:6), but God had sent Moses and Aaron with a message for Pharaoh—“Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘Let my people go’” (Exo 5:1). Pharaoh was stubborn, so God sent ten plagues to teach Pharaoh who was really in charge (7:14-12:32). By the end of the tenth plague, Pharaoh told the people of Israel to leave and they were led by God into the wilderness by a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night (13:21-22). Eventually, they came to the edge of the Red Sea.

Pharaoh changed his mind about letting his slaves go and started chasing them with more than 600 chariots (14:5-7). When the Israelites saw the water of a sea in front of them and Pharaoh’s army chasing them from behind, they were very afraid.

And Moses said to the people, “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.” (14:13-14)

When Moses stretched out his staff over the sea, the LORD drove it back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, dividing the waters (14:15-21). The people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground with the waters like a wall to the right and left (14:22). When the Egyptians chased them into the path of the sea, the LORD told Moses to stretch out his hand over the sea again and the waters returned, covering the chariots and all of Pharaoh’s army (14:23-29).

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians... Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. (14:30-31)

### **The “trust and obey” connection:**

- Moses wanted to make sure that the children of Israel understood, the LORD is the one who had won this victory (Exo 15:1-21). It’s important we give God the glory he deserves.
- God parted the waters, but the people of Israel had to be willing to go forward by faith (Exo 14:15; Heb 11:29). Faith is all about trusting God and obeying him (Heb 11:6).
- Being stubborn and refusing to submit to God always comes with consequences.

# The Exodus

