

*As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!" Exodus 14:10-12 (NIV)*

## **A Way**

**Here you are. There is no looking back. There is no going back. There is only going forward.** There does not seem to be a way forward or backward. I can agree with you about not looking or going back. But, I can't see my way out of this situation. I can't see my way forward. **That's good.** What do you mean, that's good? How could it be good that there is no way out of my situation? **That's not what I said.** What did you say? **I didn't say that there was no way out of your situation. It's good that you can't see your way forward. It's good that you can't see your way out of your situation.** I'm confused. **Just because you can't see a way forward out of your situation does not mean that there isn't one. Realizing that you can't see a way forward out of your situation is what's good.** What's good about that? **You tell me.** I've got nothing to say. **Then I will ask you some questions.** Go ahead. **What have you done when your situation has looked hopeless? What have you done when you could see no way out of your situation? What have you done when you could see no way to move forward?** I have cried out to you. I have asked you for your help. **Who have you stopped relying on when you have been in a hopeless situation?** I have stopped relying on myself when I have been in a hopeless situation. **Is that about where you are right now?** Yes, I am in a hopeless situation right now. **Does it seem like you have two possible choices right now?** Yes, it does. **What are your two choices?** I could curl up in a ball and quit. **Yes, you could. Is that what you want to do?** No, that is not what I want to do. **What is your other choice?** I can cry out to you and ask you for your help. **Yes, you can. What would that mean?** It would mean that I would stop relying on myself and begin to rely on you. **Is that what you want to do?** Yes, I want to have faith in you. Yes, I want to trust you. Yes, I want to rely on you. Yes, I want to listen to your instructions and follow you. I believe that you will show me a way when there is no way. **Why do you believe that?** You have always showed me a way when there was no way when I have cried out to you. You are my way. You have been leading me through life. **Yes, I have. Is this a lesson that you can't seem to remember? Is this a lesson that is very easy for you to forget?** Somehow, I occasionally do forget that you are my way when there seems to be no way. Sometimes, I have forgotten to ask you for your help. Forgive me. **I do forgive you.** Help me to keep my eyes on you. Help me to follow you as I go through difficulties in life. Help me to rely on you. You are my way when there seems to be no way. **Yes, I am.**

*Lord, I will not allow myself to become paralyzed with fear and indecision by focusing my attention on difficult circumstances I will face in life. Instead, I will place all my faith and trust in you. I know that you will lead me through every difficulty as I rely on you. Amen*

**Let Us** *Serve The Egyptians*

As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

NIV Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *Be Slaves To The Egyptians*

As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the LORD, and they said to Moses, "Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren't there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? Didn't we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, 'Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!'"

NLT Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *Serve The Egyptians*

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."

NRSV Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *Serve The Egyptians*

When Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked up, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them; and the Israelites were exceedingly frightened and cried out to the Lord. And they said to Moses, Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you treated us this way and brought us out of Egypt? Did we not tell you in Egypt, Let us alone; let us serve the Egyptians? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.

AMP Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *Serve The Egyptians*

As Pharaoh drew near, the sons of Israel looked, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they became very frightened; so the sons of Israel cried out to the LORD. Then they said to Moses, "Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt? "Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."

NASB Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *Serve The Egyptians*

When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."

ESV Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *Serve The Egyptians*

And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

NKJV Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *We're Better Off As Slaves In Egypt*

As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up and saw them—Egyptians! Coming at them! They were totally afraid. They cried out in terror to GOD. They told Moses, "Weren't the cemeteries large enough in Egypt so that you had to take us out here in the wilderness to die? What have you done to us, taking us out of Egypt? Back in Egypt didn't we tell you this would happen? Didn't we tell you, 'Leave us alone here in Egypt—we're better off as slaves in Egypt than as corpses in the wilderness.'"

MSG Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *Be Slaves*

As the Egyptian army approached, the people of Israel saw them far in the distance, speeding after them, and they were terribly frightened and cried out to the Lord to help them. And they turned against Moses, whining, "Have you brought us out here to die in the desert because there were not enough graves for us in Egypt? Why did you make us leave Egypt? Isn't this what we told you, while we were slaves, to leave us alone? We said it would be better to be slaves to the Egyptians than dead in the wilderness."

TLB Exodus 14:10-12

**Let Us** *Serve The Egyptians*

When the Israelites saw the king and his army coming after them, they were very frightened and cried to the LORD for help. They said to Moses, "What have you done to us? Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in the desert? There were plenty of graves for us in Egypt. We told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone; we will stay and serve the Egyptians.' Now we will die in the desert."

NCV Exodus 14:10-12

# Serve The Egyptians

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Let Us** – Exodus 14:10-12

**In Context:** *Read Exodus 14*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!" Exodus 14:10-12

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

As Pharaoh approached, | the Israelites | looked up, | and | there were | the Egyptians, | marching after them. | They were terrified | and | cried out | to the LORD. | They said to Moses, | "Was it because | there were | no graves | in Egypt | that you | brought us | to the desert | to die? | What have | you done | to us | by bringing us | out of Egypt? | Didn't | we say | to you | in Egypt, | 'Leave us alone; | let us | serve | the Egyptians'? | It would | have been | better | for us | to serve | the Egyptians | than to | die | in the desert!" Exodus 14:10-12

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**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I will not allow myself to become paralyzed with fear and indecision by focusing my attention on difficult circumstances I will face in life. Instead, I will place all my faith and trust in you. I know that you will lead me through every difficulty as I rely on you. Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

**When have you felt like there was no way forward through a difficult circumstance you were facing?**

When have you been paralyzed by fear and indecision as you focused on a difficult circumstance?

When have you wanted to retreat to the way things were rather than go forward through difficult circumstances?

**When have you had to make a choice between retreating, giving up or moving forward with the Lord?**

How have you been able to move forward through difficult circumstances, as you trusted the Lord?

**How as your faith in the Lord grown as you have moved forward through difficult circumstances with Him?**

What has the Lord taught you as you moved forward through difficult circumstances with Him?

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**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Trust in the Lord to bring you through difficult circumstances that you will face in life.

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**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will provide a way through difficult circumstances in life, as you trust Him.

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**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has brought you through difficult circumstances in life.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you have faith to rely on the Lord to lead you through every difficult circumstance in life.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will rely on you to lead me through every difficult circumstance in life.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I rely on you more completely as I go through difficult circumstance in life?*

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