

**Women in the Word**  
**Exodus 14 and 15**

*March 16, 2017*



1. Exodus 14 begins the epic story of the children of Israel beginning their journey to God's Promised Land. The account begins several days into their journey when God changes their route. Read Exodus 14:1-9 and write down the specific instructions God gives the Israelites.

As the Israelites obey God, they find themselves in a unique position. From verse 9 what two obstacles surround them?

Who and what compose Pharaoh's army? List some adjectives that might describe them.

2. Read Exodus 14:10-18. As they see the Egyptians approaching, how do the Israelites react?

Review Exodus 1:13-14. What have they forgotten about their life in Egypt?

While they appear to blame Moses for taking them out of Egypt, what have they forgotten that is confirmed in Exodus 13:3 and Acts 13:17?

3. Look closely at Exodus 14:13-14 and record the straightforward and simple instructions Moses gives the Israelites.

What truth does Moses express in verse 14 that makes the simple instructions possible?

4. Consider your own life and fearful situations in view of these instructions. Record some specific steps you could take to help you follow each instruction.

Fear not:

Stand firm:

See the salvation of the Lord:

5. The stage is set in Exodus 14:19-20 for a great spiritual contest. What happens in verse 19 in preparation for the battle?

Refer to Exodus 13:21-22 and Nehemiah 9:19 and record the purpose for the pillar of cloud and fire prior to this point. Who was present in the pillar of cloud and fire?

The pillar of cloud and fire moved before them to guide them. As it moves behind them, what new idea do you think God is communicating?

6. Read the account of the miraculous Red Sea crossing in Exodus 14:21-31. Describe the events that allow Israel to cross the sea.

Consider and write down some of the laws of nature and physics that are overruled by God in this miracle.

From verses 24-28, list the different ways God intervenes and affects the Egyptians' crossing.

What truth do the Egyptians realize in the ensuing chaos?

7. In verse 31 how do the Israelites respond after observing the great power of the Lord fighting for them?
8. Reflect on your own life and share with your group a fearful experience in your past where God fought for you.

How does remembering God's power and protection impact your opinion of God and your desire to trust Him?

What specific steps can you take to help you remember God's mighty power in your life?

9. Exodus 15:1-21 is a song of worship celebrating what God has just done for the Israelites. Read it slowly paying careful attention to the glory of God expressed in song.

From verses 1-6, list a few words and lines that describe God's strength.

From verses 7-11, list a few words and lines that describe God's power.

From verses 12-18, list a few words and lines that describe God's sovereign control working out His plan.

10. The journey toward Mount Sinai begins in Exodus 15:22-27. Describe the difficulty they experienced both in the wilderness and at Marah.

How do the Israelites react to this new difficulty and how does God respond?

Considering it has only been three days since God miraculously delivered them from the Egyptians and the Red Sea, is the Israelite reaction surprising to you? Why or why not?

11. The Lord establishes a new rule for the Israelites in verse 26. This was a conditional rule as it was dependent upon both parties honoring their responsibility. What does God ask of Israel?

What does God promise in return?

12. Write out your personal prayer request in a few words to share with your small group.

## **A Journey of Transformation**

Exodus 14:1-15:27

### **Transformation begins in a desperate place.**

**14:1-18**

God leads His people to a desperate location and gives them an \_\_\_\_\_ that all will end well. Pursued by their enemy, the Israelites see with physical eyes and respond in fear. Moses instructs them to see with spiritual eyes.

*“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.”*

### **God performs a miracle for His glory and for the benefit of His followers. 14:19-31**

The pillar of cloud moved behind them as a sign of God’s presence and \_\_\_\_\_. God divided the water, dried the ground, and the Israelites walked safely through the midst of the sea. The Egyptians pursued but God released the water and destroyed His enemy.

*Seeing and experiencing God’s miracles leads to reverent fear of God and whole-hearted trust.*

### **Grumbling and crying turns to worship when the Israelites see God.**

**15:1-21**

In worship they acknowledge a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with a Holy God. In worship they acknowledge that God’s power, strength and wonder is completely unmatched. In worship they acknowledge that God will honor His promises, fulfill His plans, and reign eternally.

### **Transformation continues in a bitter place.**

**15:22-27**

God leads His people to a new location and gives no verbal assurance that all will end well. Looking for growing faith, God tests His people in a dry and bitter place. The Israelites reveal their immature spiritual character by grumbling against the Lord. God miraculously provides water and asks for \_\_\_\_\_.

**God miraculously delivers us and changes our identity,  
but we cooperate and participate with the transformation of our spiritual character.**

1. **See with spiritual eyes:** keep God’s miracles, His power and His faithfulness ever before our eyes.
2. **Hear with spiritual ears:** keep God’s words and instructions ever in our ears and do what He says.
3. **Live with divine expectation:** Because God has shown us who He is, we can always trust in His unchanging character.

Key: assurance protection personal obedience

*“GO!” The Story of Exodus*

March 16, 2017

**EXODUS 13:21** And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.

**PSALM 78:13** He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.

**PSALM 77:17-19** The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side. The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lighted up the world; the earth trembled and shook. Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen.

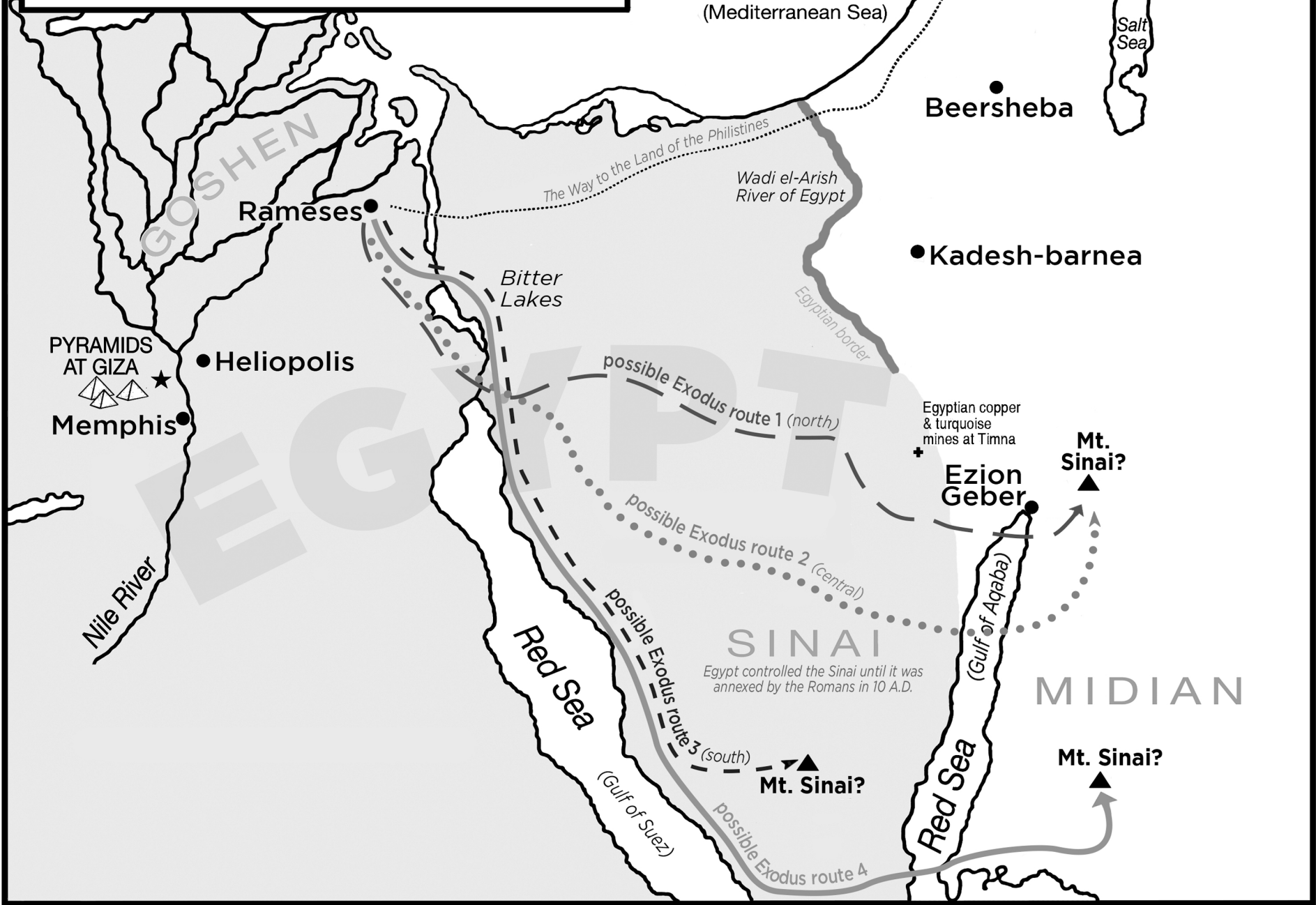
**JOHN 1:12** But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

**EXODUS 3:12b** when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.

**PHILIPPIANS 3:13b-14** But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**EXODUS 16:8b** ... the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD.

# Route of the Exodus and Location of Mount Sinai



THE GREAT SEA  
(Mediterranean Sea)

Salt  
Sea

Beersheba

The Way to the Land of the Philistines

Wadi el-Arish  
River of Egypt

Ramses

• Kadesh-barnea

Bitter  
Lakes

Egyptian border

PYRAMIDS  
AT GIZA

• Heliopolis

Egyptian copper  
& turquoise  
mines at Timna

possible Exodus route 1 (north)

Mt.  
Sinai?

Ezion  
Geber

possible Exodus route 2 (central)

Memphis

possible Exodus route 3 (south)

SINAI

MIDIAN

Egypt controlled the Sinai until it was  
annexed by the Romans in 10 A.D.

Nile River

Red Sea

(Gulf of Aqaba)

Mt. Sinai?

Mt. Sinai?

(Gulf of Suez)

possible Exodus route 4

Red Sea