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**Much Love!**

Pastor Ed

**Title:** Open Door

**Text:** Exodus 14:10-16/Hebrews 11:29-31

**Target:** God opens doors that are closed, and closes doors that are open, and creates doors that do not exist.

I. A Dead End of Despair: “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.” (Ex. 14:10)

A. Their Outlook was Delusional: “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?” (Ex. 14:11)

B. Their Outcome was Defeat: “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.” (Ex. 14:12)

II. A Dead-End of Deliverance: “And Moses said to the people, “ (Ex. 14:13a)

A. Trust His Promises: “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.” (Ex. 14:13b)

1. Faith over Fear: “Fear Not”

2. Stand in Strength: “Stand firm”

3. Witness the Work: “See the Salvation”

B. Trust His Protection: “The LORD will fight for you” (Ex. 14:14a)

C. Trust His Prerequisite: “And you have only to be silent” (Ex. 14:14b)

III. A Dead-End requires a Decision: “The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward.” (Ex. 14:15)

A. Pivot from your Past: “why do you cry to me?” (Vs. 15a)

1. Delete the Loop in your head.

2. Admit you need help to get out.

3. Stop with the Excuses.

B. Step into your Future: “Go forward” (Vs. 15b)

1. God's already there.

2. Choose the path least traveled.

3. Invite others to come with you.

IV. A Dead-End becomes a Doorway: “Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground.” (Ex. 14:16)

A. God wants to use you: “lift up your staff and stretch out your hand” (Vs. 16a)

B. God wants to show you: “and divide it” (Vs. 16b)

C. God wants to affirm you: “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.” (Ex. 14:31)

Takeaway: God didn't carry you this far to drop you now!