

2022



THANKFUL FOR MY PROCESS

FROM "THANKFUL" SERIES

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

The Bible commands us to thank God. Because we are people of faith, we must thank Him for what He's already done and for what He will do. His love, goodness, grace, and mercy are just a few of the many reasons to praise Him. Thankfulness is not an option, but a command. I'm thankful for...

THANKFUL FOR MY PROCESS

Exodus 13:17-18 NIV - [17] When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt." [18] So God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt ready for battle.

- God will take you through a dry place to block you so you can say "thank you."
- The long route protects you from dangers seen and unseen and builds up a "thank you."

What has God taken you through just to get a "thank you" from you?

WHY?

Exodus 14:4b NIV - [4] I will gain glory for myself

Exodus 14:17b NIV - [17b] And I will gain glory

- The process is the events that shaped us - the things that happened in our lives.
- What you are going through isn't about you. God will be glorified through your process.
- Focus on your progress and not your process.

What has God done for you and you selfishly took the credit for it?

PREPARE TO CHECK

Exodus 14:13 NIV - [13] Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. [14] The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

- God has not brought you this far to let you down now. Your miracle is about to happen.
- Whatever had you bound will no longer be your issue. This is your last time to deal with that.
- Open your eyes and pay close attention to what God is doing. Be still and let the Lord fight for you.

What are you standing in the need of deliverance from? What are you doing to receive deliverance? How will you thank God for your deliverance?

WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

THE CHECKLIST

THE LORD LED YOU

Exodus 14:19 -[19] who had been traveling in front of Israel's army.

- God ordered your steps.

Where has the Lord led you? Have you deviated from your journey? Why/why not?

THE LORD PROTECTED YOU

Exodus 14:19b - [19b] withdrew and went behind them.

- This is not your fight or issue - it's God. He protected you from danger seen and unseen.

Share a time in your life where God shifted directions for you. What was the shift? How did you respond to the shifting of directions from God?

THE LORD BLINDED YOUR ENEMY

Exodus 14:20 - [20] cloud brought darkness to the one side

- The enemy cannot hit you when he can't see you.

What have you released to the enemy that God told you to keep to yourself?

THE LORD SHOWED YOU THE WAY OF ESCAPE

Exodus 14:20 - [20] and light to the other side:

- The same pillar of fire that caused darkness for others not to see you or your movement is also the cloud and light that showed you how to escape.

In your dark season, how did the Lord provide you a way of escape?

THE LORD DISTANCED YOU

Exodus 14:20 -[20] so neither went near the other all night long.

- God isolated and separated you to keep the enemy away from you.

What relationships has God severed to stretch you? In this season, did you go back to the familiar relationships or allow God to grow your circle?

THE LORD USED YOU

Exodus 14:21 -[21] Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea

- He used you to be a part of your miracle. God will not command out of you what He did not put in you.

Have you used what God placed on the inside of you?

GOD DID WHAT ONLY HE COULD DO

HE DIVIDED IT

Exodus 14:21 -[21] the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind

- God moved some things that were blocking your way.

What things did God split and move out of your way?

HE DRIED IT

Exodus 14:21 - [21] and turned it into dry land.

- God gave you a walkway through things that should have stopped you.

Have you stepped forward onto the path God cleared for you or are you standing still?

HE SET A TRAP FOR YOUR ENEMY

Exodus 14:23 -[23] *The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea.*

- The enemy wanted to make the issue/circumstance/trial/situation look overwhelming, but it's not bigger than your God.

Why are you afraid of the enemy's pursuit? What has stopped you from trusting the power of the Lord?

HE CONFUSED YOUR ENEMY

Exodus 14:24 - [24] and threw it into confusion.

- God caused an ambush in the enemy's camp. Your praise confused the enemy.

What evidence have you seen in your life of God confusing the enemy?

HE SLOWED DOWN YOUR ENEMY

Exodus 14:25 -[25] He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving.

- God made it difficult for your enemy to do what they normally do and He slowed them down until you were completely on safe ground.

How has the Lord slowed down the enemy (person or thing) that was attacking your life?

HE GAVE YOU CLOSURE

Exodus 14:28 -[28] *The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen---the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea.*

Not one of them survived.

- God flooded every area that caused you stress and you will never deal with that issue again.

What has God removed from your life, but you keep running back to it? Why are you still seeking what you have been delivered from?

WHY DID HE DO THIS?

Exodus 14:4b, 17b NIV - [4] I will gain glory for myself. [17b] And I will gain glory.

- God will get the glory out of your process.

NOW GIVE HIM THANKS!

Exodus 15:2 NIV - [2] "The Lord is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.

He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

- All God wants is a "thank you" for what He's already done. He's done too much for you to focus on the enemy.

When was the last time you thanked God? What does your "thank you" look or sound like?

EXERCISE

Review the checklist and for the next 30 days give God glory and praise for what He's already done. You got so much to be thankful for.

PRAYER

Father, I am so grateful for Your love, compassion, and concern for me. You have delivered me from the hand of the enemy time and time again. You have covered me, healed me, kept me, corrected me, redeemed me, and protected me. I am so grateful to call You my God. There is none like You and I am so thankful for all You have already done. I give You glory and honor, and I will forever exalt You. You are worthy of all the praise. In Jesus name, Amen!