



Outward Group Discussion Guide

November 9, 2025 (Salem)

SUMMARY

This sermon explores the Israelites' exodus from Egypt, focusing on the moment when they found themselves trapped between the wilderness and the Red Sea with Pharaoh's army approaching. The pastor emphasizes that God intentionally leads His people through vulnerable, exposed situations not to harm them, but to demonstrate His power and develop their faith. Rather than offering an "easy button" for life's difficulties, God uses our most vulnerable moments to teach us dependence on Him. The message challenges the cultural narrative of self-determination and autonomy, calling believers to surrender authority to God, trust His promises, and follow His direction through Scripture, the Holy Spirit, and Christian community. The sermon culminates by pointing to Jesus' ultimate vulnerability on the cross as the means of our salvation, demonstrating that God identifies with our weakness and saves us through His own suffering.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what areas of your life are you currently trying to 'hit the easy button' rather than trusting God's longer, more difficult path for your growth?
2. How does the contrast between authority and vulnerability help you understand your relationship with God, and where are you struggling to remain in a posture of vulnerability before Him?
3. When have you experienced God taking you from 'point A to point Z' instead of directly to point B, and how did that journey reveal His care for you in ways the shorter path wouldn't have?
4. What promises of God are you struggling to believe right now, and how might looking at the 'long game' of God's faithfulness throughout Scripture encourage you to keep trusting?
5. How do you discern between the voice of the Holy Spirit and your own desires, and are you regularly seeking wisdom from God's word and God's people in your decision-making?
6. Why do you think we so often want to return to our 'Egypt' (our old patterns of sin and slavery)?

when facing difficulty, even after God has clearly delivered us?

7. In what ways might you be saying 'I have peace about this' to justify a decision that contradicts God's word or the counsel of wise believers in your life?
8. How does understanding Jesus's ultimate vulnerability on the cross change the way you view your own vulnerable, exposed, and difficult circumstances?
9. What would it look like practically for you to 'fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord' in the specific challenge you're facing right now?
10. Are there areas where you need to stop trying to fight your own battles and instead be silent and watch God fight for you?