



# SUMMER

*at Cypress*

**June 13, 2021**

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## TEACHING OVERVIEW

This weekend, Pastor Jackson brought us the second teaching in our summer series, "Summer At Cypress." This weekend we looked at the "stand alone" Bible of the Red Sea. When you dig into this story, you'll find the Israelites went through some pretty crazy and intense things. They were enslaved, treated, treated very poorly, and experienced 10 different plagues. This story gives us a great example of what trusting God and going all in looks like!

## Encouragement

We all go through different trials and complications in our lives which can change the way we experience life, but life looks different for each one of us. The same goes for the Israelites. Even though all of them were being treated poorly, they all faced different individual hardships. When reading through this story, pay close attention to how Moses and the Israelites responded to God's instructions regardless of what they experienced in the past and the present.

## Scripture & Discussion

**Read:** [Matthew 5:43-48](#)

### Discuss

1. In verse 48, Jackson points to the use of the word "perfect." Instead of using perfect, try using words like whole or equal. Read this whole passage again and replace the word "perfect" with "whole" or "equal." Did this change how the verse affected you? If so, why did changing the word help you?
2. What is one thing you can think of right now that you could change in your life in order to better love your neighbors? (Forgiveness, Prayer, etc.)



## Scripture & Discussion

**Read:** [Exodus 14:11-16](#)

### Discuss

1. Verses 11 and 12 show us some of the challenges the Israelites faced after they had been set free. On their way to the Promise Land, the Israelites begin to realize they were now facing new challenges like starvation and thirst. They began to wish they had never left Egypt, even though they were enslaved and treated poorly. Have you ever felt this way? Have you ever overcome an obstacle in your life, saw new challenges appear, and then looked back to see where you went wrong?

2. We see God say something a little surprising to Moses in verse 15 of this passage. God asks Moses, "Why are you crying out to me?" This seems odd, but Pastor Jackson did a great job explaining the meaning of this and the history behind mourning in the Bible. After hearing Jackson's explanation, why is it important to know there is a time to cry out to God and a time for "holy action?"

## Prayer

Pastor Jackson talked about praying for your enemies and being a church of radical love. It is not always easy to show love to others, especially when we are faced with difficult circumstances. However, as a church, we are called to love our neighbors. During your prayer time, think of one "enemy" in your life you could pray for this week.

## Next Steps

As our Love Your Neighbor Project has come to a close, I want to remind you to never stop sharing the love of Christ to those around us. What are you going to do in the coming months to spread God's Word? Think of a new way you can take "holy action" and be all in for God's Church today!