



# Welcome!

SERIES: WIND AND FIRE  
ENCOUNTERING THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Today's Message: When the Spirit Liberates*  
Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

**PRAYER:** God of Liberation, this story reminds us that often our expectations are unrealistic. We expect things to happen quickly and instantly, and when they don't, we panic and doubt. Forgive us God for our impatience and give us now the ability to wait, trust, and continue to hope in your salvation. Thank you that seas do part, winds do blow, and liberation does come. Alleluia! In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

**ICEBREAKER:** Describe an experience in your life where you felt trapped—how did you get out? How long did it take? What resources did you have, or did you discover?

**INTRODUCTION:** It's a rip-roaring narrative! It's this part of the Bible that has generated those memorable scenes of Charlton Heston as Moses in the 1956 Cecil B. DeMille classic movie *The Ten Commandments*. Led by Moses, Israel marched triumphantly out of Egypt—they were emancipated. **BUT** Pharaoh changed his mind and pursued them with horses and chariots. Helpless, trapped against the shores of the Red Sea: they cry out. With the chariots of angry Pharaoh bearing down on them. Moses declares 'The Lord will fight for you; you need only be still.' However, it takes all night for the sea to open and the way to be made.

**SCRIPTURE:** Read Exodus 14:14-21 (MSG)

## **DISCUSSION:**

1. What stood out in today's message? What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message today? What points did you find most insightful? How did the message challenge you?
2. Read Exodus 14:5-9 and consider the following: Pharaoh had 600 chariots—Chariots had a HUGE advantage over normal foot soldiers. The Israelites were "closed in" from Pharaoh's perspective. Pharaoh was driven by his hardened heart. What is pursuing you right now?
3. Consider the terror of seeing Pharaoh and his soldiers closing in on you with no apparent way out: what would be your response? What can we learn from their experience? How does this change your perspective on obstacles, or attack?
4. In Exodus 14:11, we read that the Israelites were so afraid that they cried out to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness?" What step of faith has God called you to take? Consider a few of God's promises—Numbers 14:40, Deuteronomy 1:11, 8:1, 1 Samuel 2:30, Psalms 145:13, Luke 24:49, 2 Corinthians 1:20, 2 Peter 1:4, 1 John 2:25. How do these promises align with the promises that God gave you?

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5. In Exodus 14:14-21 we are given an example of “faith forward.” However, we are also reminded that liberation takes time. How difficult is it for you to wait for God to set you free from a difficult situation, a toxic relationship, a brutal circumstance? What do you do in the meantime?

**CHALLENGE:** What is one “a-ha” moment you had in our group discussion today. Note it and write it down. If you applied your learning from this week’s message, how would the next week be different for you?

**SERVE:** How is God calling us to live out this message this week? As individuals? As a group?

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at [myspbc.org](http://myspbc.org). You can also “find, follow and like” our Facebook page at [facebook.com/myspbc](https://facebook.com/myspbc), [instagram.com/myspbc](https://instagram.com/myspbc) and [twitter.com/MySPBC\\_online](https://twitter.com/MySPBC_online). Turn on your notifications.

**CELEBRATIONS:** Take this time to share praise reports (e.g., answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

**PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER:** Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

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## We Care!

NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE GRADUALLY REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE. As a small group leader, we depend on you to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

### FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472  
EMAIL: [prayer@myspbc.org](mailto:prayer@myspbc.org).

### FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177  
EMAIL: [Barnabas@myspbc.org](mailto:Barnabas@myspbc.org)

### TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies)  
EMAIL: [ecare@myspbc.org](mailto:ecare@myspbc.org).

### TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)  
EMAIL: [ecare@myspbc.org](mailto:ecare@myspbc.org).

### TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177  
EMAIL: [Barnabas@myspbc.org](mailto:Barnabas@myspbc.org).

### TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000  
EMAIL: [emergencyassistance@myspbc.org](mailto:emergencyassistance@myspbc.org).

### TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

### EMAIL:

- Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams: [Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org](mailto:Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org)
- SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith: [Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org](mailto:Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org)
- Dreamchasers (20-29): Juan Shackelford: [Juan.Shackelford@myspbc.org](mailto:Juan.Shackelford@myspbc.org)
- Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr.: [Lance.Watsonjr@myspbc.org](mailto:Lance.Watsonjr@myspbc.org)
- Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend: [Michelle.Townsend@myspbc.org](mailto:Michelle.Townsend@myspbc.org)
- Encore (50-59): Jamie Duncan: [Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org](mailto:Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org)
- Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman: [Maceo.Freeman@myspbc.org](mailto:Maceo.Freeman@myspbc.org)
- Refiners (70+): Roscoe Jones: [Roscoe.Jones@myspbc.org](mailto:Roscoe.Jones@myspbc.org)

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*GPS is a study guide based on the weekend message. The purpose of this guide is to assist small groups in study.  
Previous GPS Guides are available online at [myspbc.org](http://myspbc.org).*