

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Williamstown, WV

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Searching for God Lessons from the Life of Moses

This is God's Word for my life in this Place and at this Time. Today I am a new creation in Christ, I am God's very own, and I <u>KNOW</u> He has a purpose for my life. When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, Pharaoh and his officials changed their minds about them and said, "What have we done? We have let the Israelites go and have lost their services!"

So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him. He took six hundred of the best chariots, along with all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them. The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, so that he pursued the Israelites, who were marching out boldly.

The Egyptians—all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops—pursued the Israelites and overtook them as they camped by the sea near Pi Hahiroth, opposite Baal Zephon. As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!" 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. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. 16 Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground." Exodus 14:5-16

Where is God when I feel *TRAPPED*?

Slave's Response to a crisis...

EMOTIONAL Response – shut down of the rational mind

"They were terrified and cried out to the LORD." v10

Slave's Response to a crisis...

EMOTIONAL Response

ESCAPIST Response – shut down of options & alternatives

"Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'?" v12 Slave's Response to a crisis... **EMOTIONAL** Response **ESCAPIST** Response **EXAGGERATED** Response – shut down of hope and vision "It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!" v12

Faithful response to a crisis...

Get a <u>GRIP</u>!

Confidence comes from self-control and self-discipline

"The Law of the Lord is a lamp, and its teachings shine brightly. Correction and self-control will lead you through life." Proverbs 6:23

Faithful response to a crisis...

Stand on your **CONVICTIONS**

"Strong convictions precede great actions." James Clarke "Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock."

Matthew 7:26

When I pray, LORD God, my enemies will retreat, because I know for certain that you are with me. I praise your promises! I trust you and am not afraid. What can man do to me?" Psalm 56:9-11 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4

Faithful response to a crisis...

The **FUTURE** belongs to God.

Trust and Obey, for there's no other way!

Get moving!

Sometimes, the depth of your relationship with God is only revealed when your back is against the wall.