

## **What's Next? 6.26.16**

Exodus 13:17-22, 14:1-4

Israel had left Egypt in a hurry! Now, The Israelites are trapped between the Red Sea and the Egyptians, with the steep cliffs of Migdol around them, no where to go, at what seemed like a literal dead end,

Ex 14:5- **12** *Is* this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For *it would have been* better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

**Have you ever felt like the Israelites**, "Lord, did you bring me this far just to let me die here?"

Seasons of Transition - Just like Israel, There will always be "What's Next" Moments, times and seasons in our lives. There must be, or we can never truly grow the way the Lord wants us to!

### **Talk about the "road signs" of life – give examples**

Human life is full of transition. There are different transitions in life. Transition **involves movement, shift, change, relocation among other things**. Transition can be positive or negative.

How we respond to life transitions — both small and large — can bless others who will face what we are navigating today.

How do we navigate the changes we are facing? What's next for us who are part of a strong, bible-based, bible believing, spirit-led church and people in the midst of an almost post-evangelical and post-Christian society? How can we keep our biblical, spiritual and moral values and convictions in place while still being relevant in a world that does not recognize biblical authority?

How do we respond to an ever-changing culture that is more concerned with personal gratification than the will of or heart of God? That strays from biblical directives at every turn?

**Talk about this – "Only the Lord can take what may seem like the cause of our destruction to become one of the sources of our deliverance."**

Exodus 14:13-14 Some tips as we ponder our transitions:

Find constants in life no matter what is happening around us

1. **The surety of God's word** – Ps 119:89
2. **The unchanging character of God** – Mal 3:6, Heb. 13:8  
Sovereign (in control), Infinite, Holy, Just, Righteous, All-Wise (Omniscient), Eternal, Omnipresent, Perfect, Faithful, All-Powerful (Omnipotent), Transcendent (there is no other being like Him), Self-existent, self-sufficient, Good, Gracious, Merciful, Love
3. **The truth and promise of the resurrection** - 1 Cor. 15:20,55  
2 Cor 3:18 And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His *very own* image in ever increasing splendor *and* from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit. AMP

Be sure you will still fight battles. It has been said that at every new level, expect a new devil!

**1. Prayer** Philippians 4:6-7

**2. Planning** James 4:13-15

**3. People** – Proverbs 17:17, 24:6

**4. Perspective** – Get a God Perspective

**5. Perseverance** - Prov 24:10 If you fall to pieces in a crisis, there wasn't much to you in the first place. The MESSAGE

Philippians 3:13-14, Philippians 1:6