



## WHAT TO DO WHEN THE ENEMY IS IN PURSUIT!

**Text:** Exodus 14:1-15 NKJV

*"Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: "Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal Zephon; you shall camp before it by the sea. For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.' Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD." And they did so. Now it was told the king of Egypt that the people had fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him. Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them. And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness. So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon. And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? 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." And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace." And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward."*

**Intro:** This story resembles and speaks to our current situation in so many ways

- It seems as though this Pandemic is Pursuing us on many different levels
  1. Physically - Sickness
  2. Mentally - Worry
  3. Emotionally- Fear
  4. Financially - Economic Upheaval
- The Red Sea speaks of facing unpredictability and instability, a fluid situation that has us being tossed up and down back and forward like waves. There are six lessons for What to do when the Enemy is in Pursuit

### I) Cry Out To The Lord

- Not just cry, cry out to the lord
- "In my distress I called upon the LORD, And cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry came before Him, even to His ears." Psalms 18:6 NKJV
- "I cried out to God with my voice— To God with my voice; And He gave ear to me." Psalms 77:1 NKJV
- This is the proper response to crisis
- Who do you cry out to when a crisis shows up?
- Where do you go when a crisis shows up?

### II) Reject Fear

- Fear is a natural reaction
- Don't be controlled by Fear
- Fear is a Thief
- Fear steals peace
- Fear steals stability
- Fear Steals joy

- Fear robs you of Rest
- Fear Limits your Life!!!!!!
- “Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; ‘For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.’ ”” Isaiah 12:2 NKJV
- *“Crisis does not create character; it reveals it”- Dennis Leary*
- Say out loud: I will not FEAR!

### III) Stand Still (Get a Grip)

- Don’t let your imaginations and panic cause you to become frantic
- Remember when our parents would say “Get somewhere and be Still”
- Get a Grip on your Thoughts, Emotions and Words
- *“Losing your head in a crisis is a good way to become the crisis” - C.J. Redwine*
- “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” Psalms 46:10 NKJV
- Being Still is the Posture for Knowing God

### IV) See The Salvation

- Be careful what you focus on in crisis
- Children of Israel were focused on the enemy
- Sometimes we can’t see until we first get Still
- It is possible for more than one thing to be happening at the same time
- God is at work to do you good in the midst of this
- *“When written in Chinese, the word crisis is composed of two characters. One represents danger and the other represents opportunity” - John F Kennedy*
- “See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil,” Deuteronomy 30:15 NKJV
- Plagues are not the work of an angry God but the product of a broken creation in revolt against a loving God - Isaiah 24:4-5
- Expect His salvation
- Say out loud: I’m expecting God to do something good!

### V) God is Fighting For Us

- In a crisis remember God is on our side
- We are not alone
- “You must not fear them, for the LORD your God Himself fights for you.” Deuteronomy 3:22 NKJV
- Even when it seems like everything is against you and it seems like there is no way, no how
- Say out loud: God is fighting for me

### VI) Stay Forward Focused

- God said tell the people Go forward
- There is life after the crisis
- 1. Get focused
- 2. Become creative
- 3. Lean into the unpredictable & unstable fluid situation with a faith that says God will take us to the other side
- God always makes a way to bring us out or take us through: Daniel lions den and the 3 Hebrew boys in the fire
- Say out loud: We are going to get through this!

***Crisis can be a unique opportunity to change your path. To explore new opportunities, to help you become the person you were meant to be***

**“And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus. Now all glory to God our Father forever and ever! Amen.” Philippians 4:19-20 NLT**