



October 15, 2017

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Review:

The Crossing takes us on a journey of faith

- to go where God leads
- that takes risks
- that compels us to take steps of faith

Next week we will look at the component of fulfillment.

Freedom

³¹ Jesus told the people who had faith in him, "If you keep on obeying what I have said, you truly are my disciples. ³² You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ They answered, "We are Abraham's children! We have never been anyone's slaves. How can you say we will be set free?" ³⁴ Jesus replied: I tell you for certain that anyone who sins is a slave of sin!

John 8:31-34 (CEV)

⁶... "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6 (NRSV),

⁴ When the LORD saw Moses coming to take a closer look, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" "Here I am!" Moses replied. ⁵ "Do not come any closer," the LORD warned. "Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground. ⁶ I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God. ⁷ Then the LORD told him, "I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. ⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians

and lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile and spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk and honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites now live. ⁹ Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. ¹⁰ Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt."

Exodus 3:4-10 (NLT)

The Crossing takes you on a journey toward _____.

¹¹ But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?"

Exodus 3:11 (NLT)

A journey of freedom from the bondage of:

1. The _____

⁶ In the past, the law held us like prisoners, but our old selves died, and we were made free from the law.

Romans 7:6a (NCV)

a. Our past _____

²³ For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

Romans 3:23 (NLT)

⁵ In the past, we were ruled by our sinful selves. The law made us want to do sinful things that controlled our bodies, so the things we did were bringing us death.

Romans 7:5 (NCV)

¹ So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. ² And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. ³ The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins.

Romans 8:1-3 (NLT)

b. Our past _____

¹² It is not an enemy who taunts me—I could bear that. It is not my foes who so arrogantly insult me—I could have hidden from them. ¹³ Instead, it is you—my equal, my companion and close friend. ¹⁴ What good fellowship we once enjoyed as we walked together to the house of God. **Psalm 55:12-14 (NLT)**

2. Bad _____

¹⁹ They promise them freedom while they themselves are slaves of destructive habits—for we are slaves of anything that has conquered us. **2 Peter 2:19 (TEV)**

God wants to and will free us from the habits which

- Distract us from his _____ for us.
- Squander his _____ entrusted to us
- Destroy his _____ work in us

3. The world's _____.

¹ And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)

⁹ ... for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. **1 Peter 2:9 (NLT)**

A warning

¹¹ ... “Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren't there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? ¹² Didn't we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, ‘Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!’” **Exodus 14:11-12 (NLT)**

¹³ But Moses told the people, “Don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch the LORD rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. ¹⁴ The LORD himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.” **Exodus 14:13-14 (NLT)**

⁹ So now that you know God (or should I say, now that God knows you), why do you want to go back again and become slaves once more to the weak and useless spiritual principles of this world? **Galatians 4:9 (NLT)**

My Next Step Today Is To...

2. Memorize and or meditate on John 8:32
3. Celebrate the deliverance from bondage that God has brought in my life.
4. Ask God to help me cooperate with him in an area of bondage in my life so that I can experience freedom.
5. Respond to God's invitation to be honest about the bondage to my sin in my life and to repent of that sin so that I can receive his forgiveness and a new life of increasing freedom.