

1. Learning to sing a new song

- a) What new song did the children of Israel sing after they had passed through the dark trial of the Red Sea, pursued by Pharaoh's army? Exodus 15:1-5, 6-10, 11-13, 14-16, 17-19
- b) How did Miriam respond to the great deliverance the LORD had provided? Exodus 15:20-21

2. Opportunities to sing their new song of deliverance

- a) What new trial did the children of Israel face in the Wilderness of Shur? Exodus 15:22-23
- b) Instead of singing their new song of deliverance, how did the children of Israel react? Exodus 15:24
- c) How did the LORD provide for His people in this time of trial despite their lack of faith? Exodus 15:25
- d) Did the tree make the waters sweet or was this another manifestation of the LORD's power?
- e) Why were the children of Israel so quick to doubt God's ability to provide for them at Rephidim? Exodus 17:1-3
- f) How did the LORD provide for His people at Rephidim? Exodus 17:4-6
- g) What revelation did the apostle Paul share regarding the miracle at Rephidim? 1 Corinthians 10:1-4
- h) Why does the LORD allow us to face times of suffering, trial, and darkness? Why doesn't He just solve all our problems ahead of time?

3. Singing in the Judean desert

- a) What time of darkness did Jesus experience following His baptism? Matthew 3:13-17, 4:1-11
- b) What song do you hear Jesus singing during this dark time in the Judean desert? (See also Psalm 119:11,105 – an inspired Scripture song)
- c) When did Jesus learn to sing these songs? What lesson can we learn from the example of Jesus?
- d) What counsel from the apostle Paul encourages us to follow the example of Jesus? Colossians 3:15-17

4. Our opportunities to sing a new song in the darkness

- a) What inspired counsel did the apostle Peter give to Christian pilgrims scattered abroad (that includes us)? 1 Peter 1:3-9
- b) Name some followers of Jesus who learned to sing a new song in times of suffering, trial, or darkness. (Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathea, Paul and Silas in prison, the Philippian jailer, etc)
- c) Share a time when you passed through a dark time of suffering and God gave you a new song to sing. Psalm 40:1-3,16-17
- d) What are some ways you can encourage a friend who is passing through a time of suffering and trial?

