

HOPE



Groups Questions // Carey Nieuwhof - Online Service (April 5, 2020)

Tips for Participating in Online Discussions:

- Turn on all the lights in your room.
- Mute yourself when you're listening to others.
- Use people's names a lot to draw each other in.
- Put your camera at eye level.
- Speak a little louder than normal.

Bottom Line: When you can't find the way, trust God to make one.

Scripture: [Exodus 14:5-14](#), [Romans 8:38-39](#)

Getting Started:

- What do you miss most about life the way it was even a month ago? Why?
- Thinking back on Carey's message, what was one point or story that stood out to you? Share why it stood out to you.

Jumping In:

- Carey said the pit in your stomach/dread/sadness is grief. How has the crisis impacted you emotionally?
- In this crisis, all of us have lost (among other things) predictability and control. How is that impacting you?
- Sometimes we love the things we get from God more than we love God. Discuss.

Read: Exodus 14:5-14

1. Imagine being the people of Israel in that moment. How do you think you would have felt, and how does that compare to what you're feeling now?
2. Is there anything in these verses that surprises you, frustrates you, or causes you to think? Why?

3. It's hard to come to terms with losing what was and not yet having what will be. But in the message Carey said that while we don't have what was and don't yet have what will be, we have the One WHO IS. How can that help you in this season?
4. You have more in common with the people in scripture now than at any point in your life. Has reading the scriptures changed for you in the last month? How so? What passages or verses can you share with your group that have impacted you recently.
5. Exodus 14:8 talks about God hardening Pharaoh's heart. Earlier Pharaoh did the same (Exodus 8:32). What does this mean for us? Does this bother you? Confuse you? Inspire you? Explain your response.
6. In Exodus 14:13 we see God telling his people to 'Just Stand Still'. There are parallels to this season. What was God doing in the passage while his people were "standing still"? What is true of God in this passage that is still true today. Are you encouraged or discouraged? Explain.
7. Carey said to get in shape for a long crisis, we need to dive into the scriptures and pray to God. Which do you find easier—prayer or scripture? What can you do to embrace both? What is one step you can take this week to take steps towards implementing a regular routine that includes prayer and scripture? If you already pray, start praying specifically about the passages you are reading. If you already do these things on your own, consider how you can do them with another person in your life.

Prayer:

- Pray that your entire group would embrace the truth from Romans 8:38-39.
- Pray for the discipline to implement a new routine that includes prayer and scripture.

Moving Forward:

Plan to start a new Bible Reading plan on YouVersion and make it public to each person in the group so you can hold each other accountable to staying on track.