

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

2/17/19

Text: Exodus 14:5-6, 10, 13-31

Title: The Pillar of Cloud & Fire

Teacher: Tim Rice

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

In Tim's sermon we looked at the well-known story of Israel's crossing the Red Sea. As Tim said, even though the people of Israel had been in Egypt for 400 years, and were well-versed in the customs and theology of the Egyptians and their gods, God had displayed His power and authority through the plagues and called His people out of Egypt. Now, God had brought them to a threat that exceeded their power to overcome. They were being pursued by Pharaoh's army of chariots, and they were up against the Sea, a symbol of chaos and death. When under great pressure in our lives we will run, fret, complain, question, despair and seek any escape. But the miracle of the Gospel is that God tells His people to fear not, stand firm, and see; as God is the one who stands between Israel and her enemies, God is the one who fights for them, and God is the one who saves. We can stand, see, and fear Him, because in Jesus He has overcome the greatest threat: our sin and death.

Reflection Questions:

- 1. Tim told about his experience as a young boy, trapped in a situation that led to him being sexually abused. Like he said, it was a threat that exceeded his power to overcome.*
 - When have you felt trapped or threatened by something that exceeded your power to overcome?***
 - Have you ever felt trapped or threatened by your own sin?***
- 2. Tim said, God cares more about developing our character, than He does for our comfort. He allows us into situations to reveal our need for Him. But He also stands between His people and their enemies, He fights for them, and He ultimately saves them.*
 - When have you seen God lead you to a place of utter dependence on Him?***
 - How have you seen God "stand between," "fight for," and "save" you?***
- 3. In light of the Gospel, our response to God should then be to stand, see, and fear Him. We stop, wait and see God overcome our greatest adversary, and see that the good Jesus does for his people can not be overcome by the evil or trials of this temporary world.*
 - What situation have you been fearing, fretting or trying to control, rather than waiting and trusting in God?***
 - What would it look like to stand, see, and fear God?***
(Spend time in prayer)

The Facilitator

WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart from this sermon.)

1. ADORATION *(The Father)*

Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions

2. CONFESSION *(Me)*

Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited

3. THANKSGIVING *(Jesus)*

Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)

4. SUPPLICATION *(Holy Spirit)*

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

5. Prepare for Gospel Community *(My Neighbor)*

Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.

Prayer Items

- 1. Worship the LORD for His grace to save us as His people! Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that He is loving, wise and all-powerful in His work on our behalf.*
- 2. How have you lived self-reliant, as if God cannot be trusted? Confess your pride and unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and secure you in His power to save vs. your impotence before your guilt and deadness.*
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for His unrivaled work to come to our rescue, standing between us and what would destroy us. Thank Him that in His holiness, that He would fight for us by His love, wisdom and power.*
- 4. Who do you know that questions Jesus' relevance? Pray for them, asking the Lord to convince them of just how overwhelmed they should be because of their guilt and spiritual deadness.*
- 5. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you quit seeking to define yourself by your own efforts, and to trust Jesus' work on your behalf. Pray that the Spirit would bear in your heart the fruit of love, joy and peace*