



Sermon Discussion Guide for Groups

“After The Battle, There Will Be Rest”

Preached by Daniel Grothe

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Summary

Have someone in your group read the following summary aloud.

Pastor Daniel preached from Exodus 15, focusing on the first worship song recorded in the Bible after God delivered the Israelites from Egypt through the Red Sea. The message explored four themes from this pivotal moment in biblical history. First, God is a warrior who fights for our salvation, demonstrating His fierce love and commitment to setting His people free from bondage. Second, after dramatic salvation experiences, God often leads us on a divine slowdown - because He is more interested in our formation than our comfort. The Israelites could have taken an 11-day journey to the Promised Land, but God led them on a 40-year wilderness journey to heal and establish their identity as His people. Third, covenant is the core of our relationship with God, requiring our commitment to obey and follow Him wholeheartedly. Finally, God promises rest for His people - after the battles

and wilderness seasons, He brings us to places of refreshment and restoration, symbolized by the 12 springs and 70 palm trees at Elim where the Israelites camped.

Key Passages

- Exodus 15:1-3
- Exodus 15:19
- Exodus 15:25-26
- Exodus 15:27

Opening Prayer

Open your session in prayer, using the words below or your own

Heavenly Father, we come before You this morning with open hearts and minds, ready to receive what You have for us. Just as You led the Israelites through the wilderness and taught them who You are, we ask that You speak to us today through Your Word. Help us to set aside our own agendas and preconceptions and make us receptive to the truths You want to reveal to our hearts. Holy Spirit, guide our discussion and help us to encourage one another as we grow in our understanding of Your character and Your ways. We pray this in Jesus' name, **Amen**.

Getting Going

Allow time for each member to answer the following questions before moving on.

What's one place you've visited that felt like an oasis or a place of rest to you?
What made it so refreshing?

Discussion Questions

Answer as many of the following questions as time and interest permit.

1. How does viewing God as a warrior who fights for our salvation change your perspective on the challenges you're currently facing?
2. Pastor Daniel mentioned that 'the shortest route is not always the wisest route.' Can you think of a time in your life when God took you on a longer journey that ultimately proved beneficial for your growth?
3. What are some 'Egypt' situations that God has delivered you from, but you still struggle with the 'Egypt' mentality or habits?
4. The Israelites could have reached the Promised Land in 11 days but instead wandered for 40 years. How do you typically respond when God's timing doesn't match your expectations?

5. What does it mean to you personally that 'God is committed to war against the things that are warring against your well-being'?
6. How can we find rest in God during seasons that feel like wilderness wandering rather than oasis experiences?
7. Pastor Daniel emphasized that God is more interested in our formation than our comfort. How have you seen this principle play out in your own spiritual journey?

Making It Personal

Take the opportunity noted below to apply this week's sermon to your everyday life

This week, identify one area where you've been trying to take the 'shortest route' instead of trusting God's process. Commit to surrendering that area to God and asking Him to form your character through whatever journey He has planned, even if it takes longer than you'd prefer. Additionally, spend time in prayer asking God to reveal any areas where you need to repent and enter into deeper covenant with Him.

Key Takeaways

Commit to memory one point from the message before you dismiss.

- God is a warrior who actively fights for our salvation and freedom from things that enslave us.
- The shortest route is not always the wisest route - God often takes us on longer journeys for our formation and healing.
- Covenant commitment is essential to our relationship with God and requires our obedience and surrender.
- After seasons of battle and wilderness, God provides rest and refreshment for His people.
- God is more interested in our character formation than our comfort or convenience.

Closing Prayer

Have someone from your group close your time in prayer, using the words below or your own.

Lord Jesus, thank You for being our warrior and our salvation. Thank You for fighting for us even when we don't deserve it. Help us to trust Your timing and Your process, even when the journey feels longer than we expected. Give us the courage to enter into deeper covenant with You, surrendering the areas of our lives that we've been holding back. When we're weary from the battles and the wilderness seasons, remind us that You are our rest and our refuge. May we find our strength and our song in You alone. We pray this in the powerful name of Jesus, our Yeshua, our salvation. **Amen.**