

WORD.

Sidewalk Thru the Sea

April 14, 2024

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Speaker: Pastor Mark Batterson

Scripture: Exodus 14, Revelation 3:7-9, Isaiah 22:22

Sermon Overview: In their exodus from Egypt, the Israelites found themselves between a rock and a hard place: the Pharaoh and his army pursuing them and the Red Sea preventing their escape. But Moses told the people, “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord,” (Ex. 14:13). Moses was asking the people to stand on God’s promise to save them. And true to His promise, the Lord miraculously opened the way through the Red Sea; He opened a door that no one could shut, and He closed a door that no one could open.

Sermon Series Question:

1. What promise are you standing on?

Sermon-Specific Questions:

1. Read Exodus 14:13-29 and Revelation 3:7-9. In the Exodus passage, what door did the Lord open that no one could shut? What was the door that the Lord shut and no one could open? Looking back on your life’s journey so far, what doors have you seen the Lord open and shut for you? How does that build your faith in your current/future circumstances?
2. Pastor Mark identified five strategies for walking through a rock and a hard place: (1) stay calm and carry on; (2) keep it in perspective; (3) kiss the wave; (4) this too shall pass; and (5) fight one more round. How did Moses implement these strategies as he led the Israelites across the Red Sea? Think of a time when you were between a rock and a hard place and you did not walk by faith. How could you have used these strategies? How could you have walked by God’s word and stood on His promises?

Digging Deeper:

1. Read Revelation 3:7-9 and Isaiah 22:22. What does it mean that God placed the key to the door on His shoulder? Why would it be on His shoulder? What is the connection between this key, the promises of God, and the cross?
2. To stand on the promises of God, we must know the promises of God. Ask the Lord to lead you to two new promises in God's word that you have not seen before. Memorize these promises and ask the Holy Spirit to bring them to your mind when you need them.

Practical Application:

- Join a group or a ministry team, or become a mission partner!
- Get into community with a small group. It's not too late. Check them all out at ncc.re/groups!!