

2-19-23

## **When to Stop Praying: When you're substituting prayer for action** **Jon Rychener**

It's time to stop praying when we're substituting prayer for action.

**Exodus 14:13-14 (NIV):** Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

**Exodus 14:15 (NIV):** Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on."

### **Step #1: Anticipate Opposition**

**Exodus 14:10 (NIV):** As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord.

### **Step #2: Change Your Thinking**

**Exodus 14:11-12 (NIV):** They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

### **Step #3: Take Your Fear to God**

**Exodus 14:13-14 (NIV):** Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

### **Step #4: Identify the Next Move**

**Exodus 14:15 (NIV):** Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on."

### **Step #5: Open Your Ears**

**Exodus 14:16 (NIV):** "Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground."

### **Step #6: Nurture Your Faith**

**Exodus 14:21-22 (NIV):** Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.