

DROPPING YOUR GUARD: THE VALUE OF OPEN RELATIONSHIPS

DIGGING DEEPER, RISKING CHANGE (PART ONE)

EXODUS 13–14; NUMBERS 11



The Heart of the Matter

For well over four hundred years, the Israelites lived as slaves in Egypt under conditions that grew more and more unbearable. In His grace, God heard their cries and ultimately called Moses to lead them out of Egypt in the most miraculous manner—through the parted Red Sea. Under Moses's leadership, they left the painful but familiar setting of Egypt. With the yoke of slavery broken from their necks, God's people followed Him into an uncharted, unpredictable, unexpected wilderness. Their destination? Canaan. They had struck out on a journey none of them had ever dreamed possible . . . and right away they faced trials that tested their faith.



Discovering the Way

1. As God Begins to Lead Us, He Often Tests Us (Exodus 14)

After the Israelites left Egypt, God tested their faith by placing them between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea. The fearful Israelites had to decide whether or not they would trust God.

2. Resist the Urge to Complain (Numbers 11:1–6)

Instead of thanking God for His miraculous deliverance, the Israelites complained about their lack of security and shortage of food. Their grumbling showed that they didn't trust God.



Starting Your Journey

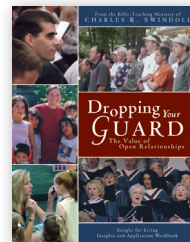
In order to follow God on the journey He has for us, we must stop trying to recapture the tranquility and simplicity of yesterday. We must trust God's sovereign leading and choose to follow Him. And we must pull together with our church family and follow God in unity.



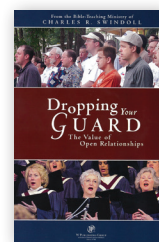
Tools for Digging Deeper



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