

An illustration depicting the biblical event of the Israelites crossing the Red Sea. The scene is set on a narrow, sandy path that has been miraculously opened through the turbulent, blue waters of the sea. In the center, Moses, dressed in a red tunic and a green sash, holds a long staff aloft in his right hand, leading the people. To his right, Aaron, in a blue tunic, also holds a staff. The Israelites, including men, women, and children, are walking in a line. Some are carrying pack animals, and a wooden ark is visible on the left. The water is rendered with dynamic, swirling brushstrokes, emphasizing the power of the miracle. The overall style is that of a colorful, hand-drawn illustration.

Crossing the Red Sea

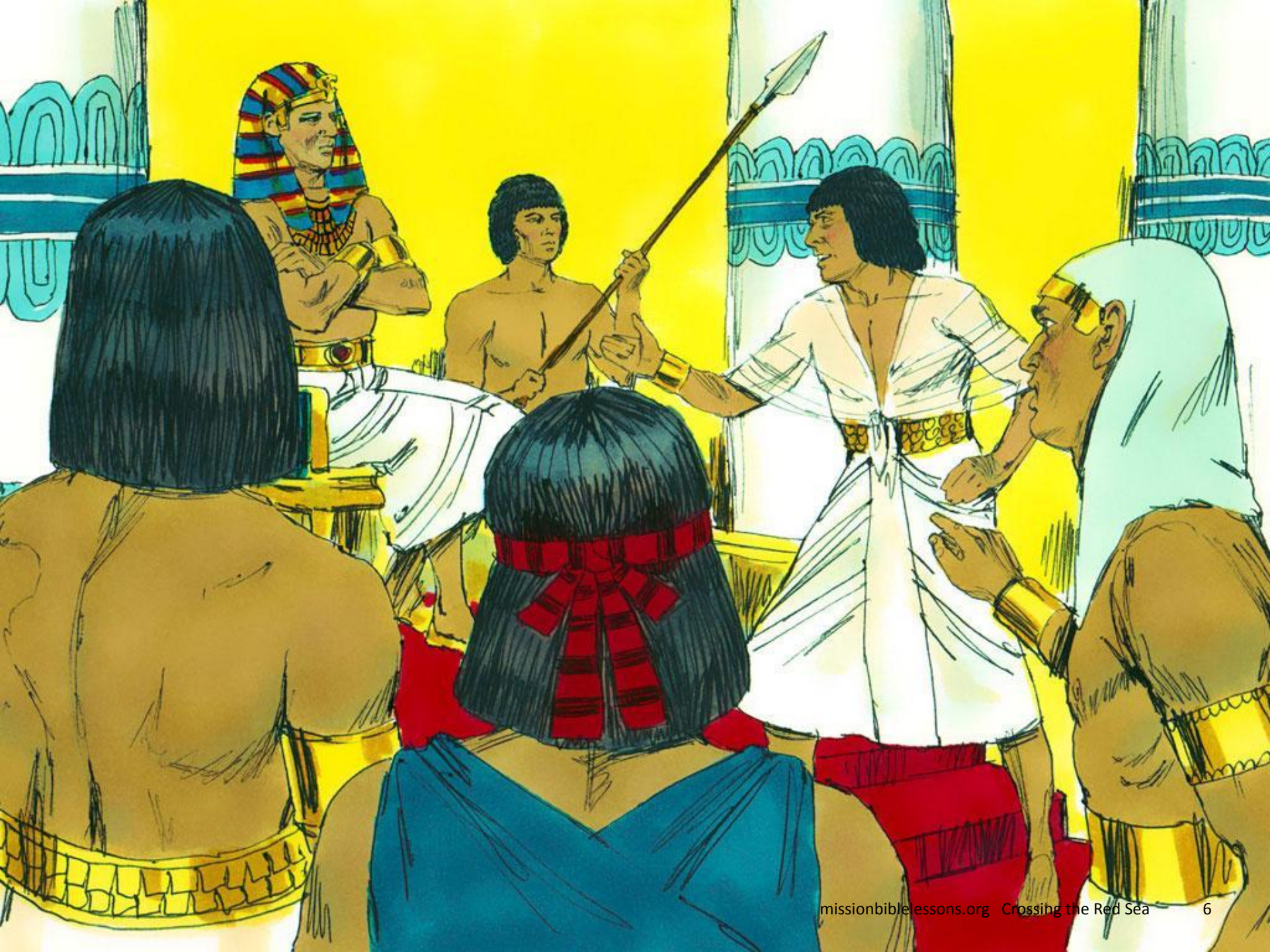
Exodus 13:17-15:21















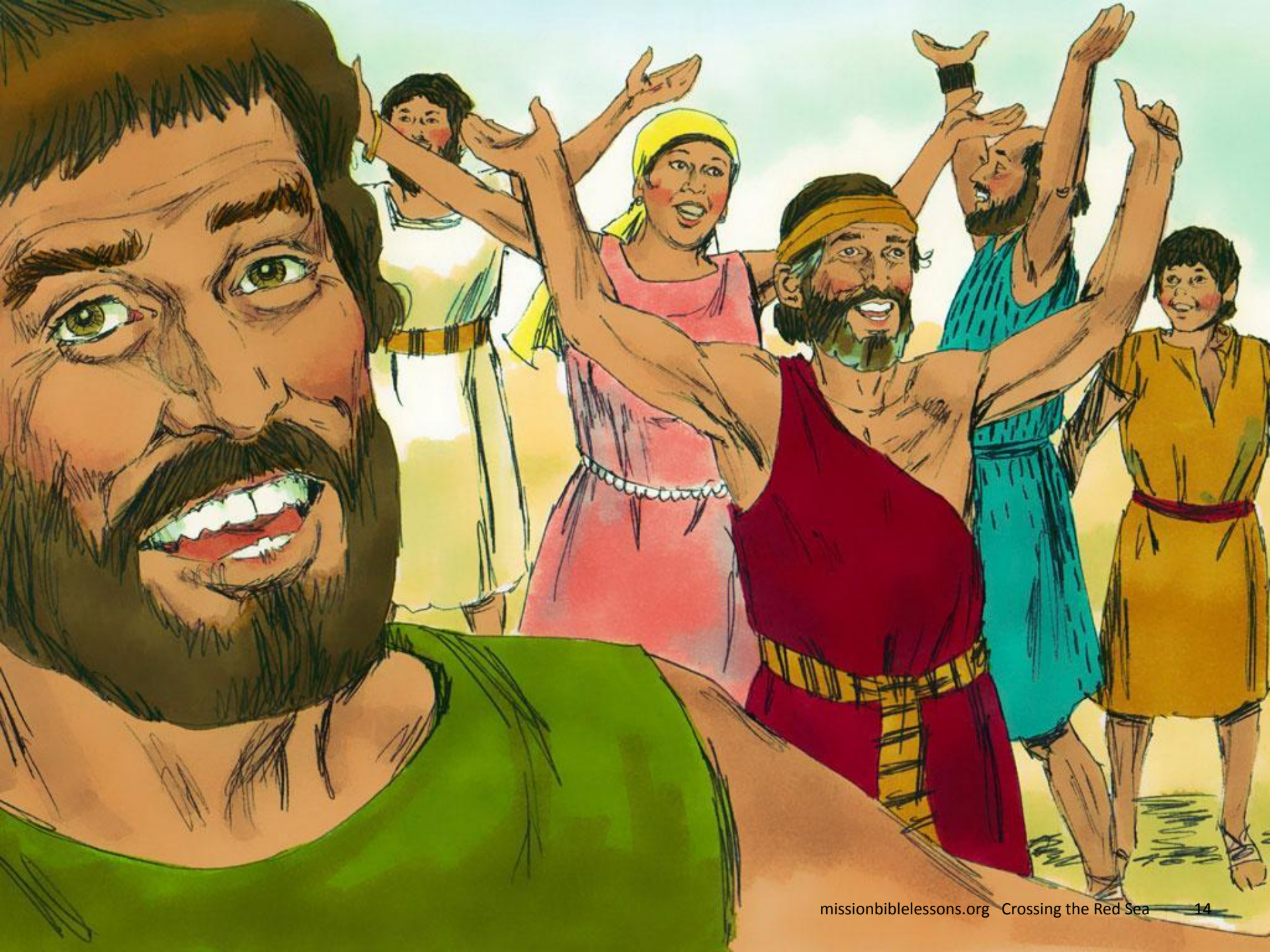














Teacher Notes 1

1. Cover: Crossing the Red Sea

(Exodus 13:17-14:31 and Exodus 15:1-21)

2. God's people, the Israelites, had been slaves in Egypt for 430 years! Now, they were finally free to leave and make a home on their very own land.

God had chosen Moses as their leader, so they packed everything they owned and followed him out of Egypt.

3. Over a million Israelites set off. Moses always knew which direction to go because God put a big, tall pillar of cloud in front of them to point the way.

4. At night, they followed a big, tall pillar of fire. They never got lost because God always showed them the correct way to go.

5. Eventually, the pillar stopped by the water called the Red Sea. The Israelites camped by water and waited for what God wanted them to do next.

6. Meanwhile, back in Egypt, the Pharaoh and his officials began thinking about how all of the Israelites had left. Through the Ten Plagues, God had proven that He was more powerful than the King of Egypt and all Egyptian gods. At that time, Pharaoh and the people had told the Israelites to leave Egypt, but now they were having second thoughts. If all the slaves left Egypt, they thought, then who would do all the work?

7. So, the Pharaoh decided to chase after the Israelites and make them come back. He sent all of his horses and chariots and all of his horsemen and troops. He must have thought, "NO ONE would be able to stop this army!"

8. When God's people saw the Egyptian army approaching in the distance, they became very afraid. There was nowhere to go to get away. The army was behind them, and the Red Sea was in front of them. They were trapped!

9. The people complained to their leader, Moses. They said, "Why did you lead us out of Egypt into the desert to die? We would have been better off to have stayed in Egypt!"

But Moses said, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see how God will save you today. The Egyptians can never win because God will fight for you."

10. Amazing things began to happen right before their eyes. The people thought that they were trapped because of the water. But they were about to see that God is so powerful that he can do anything!

An angel of God had been travelling in front of the Israelites, and he moved back behind them along with the pillar of the cloud. The cloud blocked the Egyptians' view, and they could only see night and darkness.

But the cloud provided light for God's people so they could see everything. They could see the Red Sea in front of them and wished they could cross the sea to safety.

At God's command, Moses stretched out his big staff (stick) over the water, and it began to change.

Teacher Notes 2

11. A strong wind blew the water up into two walls so that there were walls of water on each side and dry land down the middle. God had provided a way to cross the sea to the other side!

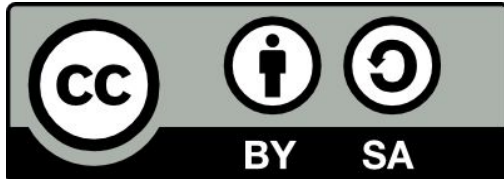
12. When the Egyptians saw the dry land, they followed the Israelites. Do you think they caught up with them?

13. No, they did not. Strange things began happening to them. The wheels of their chariots began falling off, and it became very difficult to drive. By the time the Egyptians realized God was fighting against them, it was too late.

Now that the Israelites were all safely on the other side, God told Moses to stretch his staff over the water again. Soon all of the Egyptian army was drowned in the water.

14. The people were so happy that God had saved them from their enemies. Moses wrote a song about what happened, and everyone sang it.

15. And Moses' sister, Meriam, sang another part of the song. Then she got a tambourine and began to dance. Soon all of the women were dancing with joy for all God had done that day. If you were one of the people there would you join in the celebration?



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