

Small Group Questions for the Week of February 22, 2026

Opening Connection

Share about a time you began an adventure, project, or new season of life but were tempted to—or even decided to—turn back:

- What tempted you or made you hesitate or retreat?
- Looking back, do you wish you had kept going? Why or why not?

Read Exodus 14:10–22

- What caused the Israelites to want to turn back toward Egypt?
- In what ways is their reaction surprising?
- In what ways is it completely understandable or predictable?
- Why do you think God led the Israelites into a place where they were trapped between Pharaoh's army and the Red Sea?
- How might being led into difficulty actually grow someone's faith?
- Have you ever experienced a "Red Sea moment"—a situation where you felt trapped with no clear way forward?
- What emotions or questions surfaced for you in that season?

Stillness and Movement

In verse 14, God tells the Israelites to "be still."

- Why do you think stillness was necessary before action?
- What does practicing stillness before God produce in us?

In verse 15, God then tells Moses to move forward.

- Why is the instruction different just one verse later?
- How do we discern when God is calling us to wait versus when He is calling us to step forward in faith?

Read 1 Peter 3:20–21

Both Noah's flood and the Red Sea crossing symbolize God's rescue, purification, and salvation through water.

- In what ways does the Red Sea crossing point forward to baptism?
- Have you been baptized?
 - If yes: Who baptized you, and what did that moment mean to you?
 - If not: What questions or hesitations do you have about baptism?

Returning vs. Remaining Faithful

(Read back through Galatians 4:8–19)

- According to Paul, what problems arise when believers "turn back" in their faith?
- Have you ever:
 - Played the role of Paul, encouraging someone else toward faithfulness?
 - Played the role of the Galatians, needing others to challenge or guide you back toward obedience?

Personal Reflection

- How would you describe the level of joy you are currently experiencing in Christ?
- What do you think is contributing to that season right now?
- We are all vulnerable to "turning back."
 - What forms of turning back have we discussed?
 - Where do you personally feel most vulnerable right now?

Taking the Next Faithful Step

On Sunday we talked about taking our next faithful step with Jesus.

- Where do you see yourself in that picture right now?
- Do you sense a next step God is inviting you to take?
- What fears or obstacles make that step difficult?
- Have you recently taken a step of faith that now feels like walking between walls of water—uncertain but held by God?
- How can this group encourage or pray for you this week?