

**Red Sea Rule 10:**  
*Don't forget to praise Him.*  
Luke 17:11-19  
September 6, 2009

This morning we are concluding our study of *The Red Sea Rules*. Week-by-week since early June we have been thinking about what it means to live by faith. Each week we have studied a biblical principle and thought about how to apply it in our lives when we are going through difficult times. The final rule is a simple one: *Don't forget to praise Him.*

In some ways it's amazing that we should even need this rule. When you and I are in the middle of some crisis or trial, we imagine that when God gets us through it we will be so filled with thanksgiving that no one will be able to stop us from praising God! Yet the sad truth is that we do so often forget even to say thank you to God. That's why we need this rule. *Don't forget to praise Him.*

Think about the story of the ten lepers who were healed by Jesus.

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" (Luke 17:11-18)

Do you feel convicted when you read that story? I know I do. We need the reminder that we find in Red Sea Rule #10: *Don't forget to praise Him.*<sup>1</sup>

That is what we are going to do this morning. This morning we have the opportunity to share with each other the ways that God has provided for us. You can feel free to share anything that you are thankful to God for. One person in the church sent me a note this week. Here's what the note says:

I praise God for the way He guides and stretches us, while He encourages us to grow in patience!

I've finally completed writing a book entitled: Don't Leave Your Life to Luck. It took 4½ tears to write a short 40-page book. I was learning and growing every step of the way. How I treasure that time—seeing God's faithfulness over and over!

If you desire to reach out to those who don't know God, this book will be given freely this fall.

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<sup>1</sup> Robert J. Morgan, *The Red Sea Rules* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2001), 105.

Maybe you have something for which you need to express thanks to God. Let us join with you in praise.

Of maybe you would like to share with us how *The Red Sea Rules* have helped you. How has God provided for your spiritual growth through these biblical principles? Maybe there is one of these rules that has helped change your outlook on some difficulty that you are facing. Would you be willing to share that with us this morning? That would be encouraging to all the rest of us, and it would also be honoring to God.

Rule 1: Realize that God means for you to be where you are.

Rule 2: Be more concerned for God's glory than for your relief.

Rule 3: Acknowledge your enemy, but keep your eyes on the Lord.

Rule 4: Pray!

Rule 5: Stay calm and confident, and give God time to work.

Rule 6: When unsure, just take the next logical step by faith.

Rule 7: Envision God's enveloping presence.

Rule 8: Trust God to deliver in His own unique way.

Rule 9: View your current crisis as a faith builder for the future.

If God has helped you through those nine rules, then don't overlook the tenth one. *Don't forget to praise Him!*

I want to tell you a small thing that I am thankful for. Throughout the summer we have tried to keep a supply of *The Red Sea Rules* on hand so that if someone wanted to buy one, they could. On Monday morning we had five copies left, and I wondered if we would be able to sell those or whether we would just have to store them away for future use. On Wednesday our church secretary, Anna Johnson, put a note on my desk saying that there were no more copies left. I was surprised, so I asked her if five people in the middle of the week had come in to buy books, and she said, "No. One person came in and bought all five copies to give away to friends." I give thanks to God for that! This little book, *The Red Sea Rules*, doesn't say anything that's never been said before. That is one of the reasons I like the book. It is such a good summary of tried-and-true principles. It's nice to be able to pass those principles on to others.

Now is your time. Please tell us how God has been working in your life. *Don't forget to praise Him!*

This sermon was preached at the Evangelical Free Church of Bemidji  
on September 6, 2009 by Dr. Frederic Martin  
expanding on [The Red Sea Rules](#) by Robert J. Morgan.