

## **Exodus 15:1-21 homegroup study questions**

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### **Summary:**

When God saves, his people sing. YHWH's singlehanded victory over Egypt at the Red Sea moves his people to sing praises in vv.1-2, to express the gratitude that is in their hearts. Then as they recount and magnify YHWH's mighty deeds using poetry and music in vv.3-10, their hearts are stirred afresh. The song of victory inspires deeper, undivided worship: in v.11, all they can do is conclude, 'Who is like you among the gods?'. Finally, the song of victory inspires hope for the future in vv.12-18. So great was YHWH's victory at the Red Sea that they can already speak of successful conquest of the promised land and dwelling with YHWH on his holy mountain (Jerusalem) as certain. In v.21, Miriam 'answers' Moses and the people by beginning to repeat the song. But the declaration 'I will sing' in v.1 has become a command 'sing' in v.21. This tells us that God's people should keep singing the song of victory, to move their hearts afresh.

The song should inspire worship and hope in our hearts too. This God is our God today, through Jesus Christ! It also acts as a model for our own songs recounting Christ's greater victory over the devil and sin at the cross and in his resurrection. Though the Psalms and other songs in Scripture teach us to sing in a variety of ways – e.g. lament and petition – we should keep returning to the song of victory.

- 1) When God saves, his people sing. That is one of the things this passage teaches us. Do God's saving deeds make you want to sing? Why/why not?
- 2) How does this song stir up our hearts to worship the God of Israel?
- 3) How does this song give us hope for the future, given that the complete fulfilment of vv.13-18 are still in the future, in the new Jerusalem of Revelation 21-22?
- 4) What does this song teach us about the value of retelling God's victories in song – not least at the Cross?
- 5) Are there ways that you could build more regular singing about Christ's victory into your lives individually or as a homegroup?