



## **Glorious**

July 17, 2022

*Exodus 14:10-17 (NRSV)*

### **Connect**

- Macklemore's *Glorious* was the Broadway member submitted song of focus for week two of our sermon series, "*Then Sings My Soul: Finding Sacred Hope in Secular Music.*" If you have familiarity with the song, speak to your memories of it. Pull up the song on the streaming source of your choosing and play it for the group. Share initial impressions. Name what sticks out to you and why.

### **Engage**

- Read *Exodus 14:10-17*. This is a snippet of a much larger story of persecution, oppression, plagues, escape and miraculous exodus. What do you see as the most amazing realities of this story? What parts do you struggle most to accept? Why?
- The Israelites are panicked in their fleeing and are angered at Moses for leading them out into the wilderness. It seems they preferred the bondage that came from living back in Egypt. Can you relate to them in any way? Have you ever made a change that came with great hardship and you wished you could go back to the old place/job/relationship because as hard as it was, at least you knew what you were in for?
- In answer to their complaints, Moses says, "*The Lord will fight for you. You only have to keep still.*" What's your interpretation of such an idea? Do you read this as a reasonable response? Why/why not?
- Some have said, "*Pray like it's all up to God. Work like it's all up to you.*" Is this in contrast to the previous statement? Discuss.
- Macklemore writes "*Glorious*" after coming through some struggling seasons of addiction. Skylar Grey sings in the hook of the chorus, "*I was born for this, born for this. It's who I am, how could I forget? I made it though the darkest part of the night and now I see the sunrise. Now I feel glorious, glorious!*" Is it possible to truly understand what feeling glorious is like unless you've been through trials of some kind? Even Jesus said, "*In the world you will have troubles.*" It's promised. Is glory only found in recovery/redemption/renewal?

### **Next Steps**

- Download *Glorious* and listen to it several times through. Each time, pull out words, phrases or ideas as you hear them and reflect further on what is being said. Feel the music and discern how it makes you feel.

### **Pray**

*"The sacred and secular dance together at all times, God. Thank you for moving through a lyric or a riff in a way that gets right to our souls. Music is so often the direct beat of our spirits. Keep us leaning in and living eyes and ears forward. You are everywhere, Lord, and it feels glorious! Amen."*