

Week 11  
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**Transforming Daily**  
*“... a pillar of fire to give them light ...”*  
*Exodus 13:21*

One of the most emotionally expressive stories I ever heard sung is the story about a captain of a ship in the ocean who engages with what he thinks is another oncoming craft. The captain of the ship attempts to hail the captain of what he believes to be an oncoming craft by requesting him to adjust his course. A voice replies to the captain by telling him to adjust his course. The conversation begins to escalate when the captain of the ship calls back and pulls rank by identifying himself as the captain of the approaching vessel, and once again requests that the craft adjust its course. The voice on the radio responds calmly, and the one speaking identifies himself as a private first class, and countermands the captain's request for him to adjust his course. The captain of the ship, now agitated by the lack of cooperation aggressively states that he is the captain of a United States battleship, so big and so strong with a certain amount of weight and power; this in an attempt to intimidate the craft that the battleship is now dangerously close to. And with a clear resonating voice the private first class cries out, "I AM THE LIGHTHOUSE!" He then tells the captain of the battleship to redirect his course or else the outcome will be perilous.

Lighthouses exist for the single purpose to mark dangerous and perilous shores. The light from the house doesn't shine so that the captain of the vessel can see the shore necessarily, but to indicate by marker and reminder what is the bigger picture of the journey. God provided for Israel such a light by a pillar of fire to indicate what path they should travel. Israel had just been delivered from Egypt and was in fact still fleeing from their captivity. The cloud by day and the pillar by night were reminders of the bigger picture of God's protection and provision.

For the Christian, our Savior, Jesus Christ, supplied for us a comforter to lead us according to the bigger picture of not only our salvation, but also our sanctification and ultimate glorification. John 16:13 tells us that the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth. In Acts 2:3, while the disciples waited on the Lord as commanded, the Holy Spirit came "as of fire" and endowed the disciples from on high to guide them to be witnesses for Christ in the work of the ministry. We share in that same endowment. The Holy Spirit leads, guides, and directs every believer with the light of Christ.