

God Calls Moses

Series: When God Calls

Exodus 3 (1813)

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June 24, 2018

The basic story line and what we can learn from the call of Moses

a. Then—The Israelites fall out of favor with Egypt

Now—Immigrants always tend to scare the people in power

Exodus 23:9 NIV ⁹ “Do not oppress a foreigner; you yourselves know how it feels to be foreigners, because you were foreigners in Egypt.

Ephesians 2:12-13 NIV ¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

b. Then—Moses tries to “fix” things on his own and fails miserably

Exodus 2:11-14a NLT ¹¹ Many years later, when Moses had grown up, he went out to visit his own people, the Hebrews, and he saw how hard they were forced to work. During his visit, he saw an Egyptian beating one of his fellow Hebrews. ¹² After looking in all directions to make sure no one was watching, Moses killed the Egyptian and hid the body in the sand. ¹³ The next day, when Moses went out to visit his people again, he saw two Hebrew men fighting. “Why are you beating up your friend?” Moses said to the one who had started the fight. ¹⁴ The man replied, “Who appointed you to be our prince and judge? Are you going to kill me as you killed that Egyptian yesterday?”

Exodus 2:14b-15 NLT Then Moses was afraid, thinking, “Everyone knows what I did.” ¹⁵ And sure enough, Pharaoh heard what had happened, and he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in the land of Midian.

Now—We will never truly solve spiritual problems with physical power

c. Then—God decides to act on behalf of the captive Israelites

Exodus 2:23-25 NLT ²³ Years passed, and the king of Egypt died. But the Israelites continued to groan under their burden of slavery. They cried out for help, and their cry rose up to God. ²⁴ God heard their groaning, and he remembered his covenant promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ²⁵ He looked down on the people of Israel and knew it was time to act.

Now—Eyes of faith require us to relinquish our individualistic mindset

Hebrews 11:39-40 TM Not one of these people, even though their lives of faith were exemplary, got their hands on what was promised. God had a better plan for us: that their faith and our faith would come together to make one completed whole, their lives of faith not complete apart from ours.

d. Then—God calls Moses at the burning bush

Exodus 3:10 NLT *I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt.*

Now—God burns his mission into the hearts of his disciples

e. Then—Moses passionately resists the call of God

Exodus 3:11 NLT *¹¹ But Moses protested to God, “Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?”*

Exodus 4:13-14 NLT *¹³ But Moses again pleaded, “Lord, please! Send anyone else.” ¹⁴ Then the Lord became angry with Moses. “All right,” he said. “What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he speaks well.*

Now—Nothing is ever gained by resisting the call of God

f. Then—God promises to provide all Moses will need to fulfill his calling

Exodus 3:12a NLT *¹² God answered, “I will be with you.”*

Now—God promises to provide all we will need to fulfill his calling