

- Moses thought God was asking him to be the deliverer
- God was asking Moses to be an instrument in the delivery process

“Self-distrust is good, but only if it leads to trust in God.” – R. Alan Cole, *Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries*

2. Exchange number two:
What God says: “I will be with you...” (Vs 12)
 ... and give you a sign that I have sent you
 ... you’ll return to this very mountain and worship Me here
 - God was not asking Moses to go it alone
 - God promise Moses His presence
 - Then He assures Moses He will provide proof of His presence
 - The deliverance of the people of God will be proof of the presence of God
 - God proves Himself not on feeling, but on fact

What Moses says: “If I go...” (Vs 13)

- ... and say you have sent me
 ... and they ask me your name
 ... what should I say to them?
- Moses is saying: “I’m going to need answers!”
 - Moses had been gone from Egypt 40 years
 - God had been silent for over 400 years
 - The people of Israel had become Egyptianized
 - They were probably worshiping Egyptian gods
 - They had no relationship with Jehovah God
 - They were going to have questions

3. Exchange number three:
What God says: “I AM who I AM...” (Vs 14)
 ... Tell them “I AM has sent me to you”
 ... If they want to know the name of this god, tell them
 ... It is YAHWEH
 - “I AM who I AM”
 - In Hebrew it spells out the name YHWH
 - Contains each tense of the verb “to be”

... from leprous to restored
... then they may believe

- c) The Water to Blood - "Take some water from the Nile" (4:9)
... pour it out
... it will turn to blood
... this will convince them

What Moses says: "I am not very good with words!"

- ... never have been!
... I get tongue-tied and my words get tangled!
- Moses is saying: "I'm not a good speaker!"

"So Moses...was powerful in his words and deeds." – Acts 7:22

- God had just shown Moses His power
- But Moses was hung up on his own tools

"How many of the Lord's servants (and others who ought to be engaged in His service) regard this as a fatal defect. They suppose that the gift of oratory is a prime pre-requisite for effective ministry. Those who are being 'trained for the ministry' must have a course in rhetoric and elocution: as though men dead in sins can be quickened by the enticing words of men's wisdom; as though carnal weapons could have a place in spiritual warfare."
– Arthur W. Pink, *Gleanings in Exodus*

5. Exchange number five:

What God says: "I will be with you as you speak!" (4:12)

- ... I'll instruct you what to say
- God is not limited by our inabilities
- God's strength is revealed in our weaknesses

"My grace is enough for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." So then, I will boast most gladly about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may reside in me. Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, with insults, with troubles, with persecutions and difficulties, for the sake of Christ, for whenever

I am weak, then I am strong. – 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

What Moses says: “Send anyone else...!” – (4:13)

- Moses is saying: “I’m not qualified!”
- Let someone else do the job

“O Lord, please send someone else to do it.” – (NIV)

- Moses has “I” problems – it’s all about him
 - Who am I...
 - If I...
 - If they don’t believe what I say...
 - I am not eloquent...
 - Not me...

6. Exchange number six:

- God is angry now
- He has had enough of Moses’ excuses

What God says: “What about your brother, Aaron?” (4:14)

- ... He can speak very well...
- ... I will be with your mouth and his
- ... I will teach you both what you must do
- ... He will speak for you
- ... He will be your mouth
- God accommodated Moses’ desire
- Even in His anger, He shows mercy
- God gives Moses another sign of

confirmation

- On his way back to Egypt, Aaron would be on his way to meet him

B. Conversation Closed

- God had spoken
- Moses had argued
- Yet in the end, Moses obeyed

Q: Is God calling you to do something with Him?

Are you full of excuses?

Are you hung up on your lack of usefulness?

Do you understand that it is not about capability, but availability?

God does not need you to be ready, willing and able, just willing!



MIGHTY MEN

Mid-Week Bible Study – Living Life in 3D Week Four: “I Never Said It Would Be Easy!”

Do you ever ask yourself why living the Christian life seems to be so hard? Doesn't it seem like it would be a lot better if it were more enjoyable or, at least, a little less difficult to pull off? In the story of Moses, we have a picture of a man who is trying to obey God, but who finds the going extremely tough. His obedience did not ensure an easy road. In fact, God even told him that he would not meet with success initially. As you do your study this week, think about how you tend to view your own walk with the Lord. Do you get disappointed when the going gets tough? Do you get angry when you meet with opposition? Are you ever tempted to give up just because things don't seem to be going the way you expected them to? Remember that God is in control!

Day One

Read Exodus 4:18-20. What assurance does God give Moses that it was OK for him to return to Egypt? _____

Why do you think it was important for God to share this with Moses? _____

Read Exodus 4:2-5. Whose staff was Moses holding at this point? _____

In Exodus 4:20, whose staff does it say Moses took with him when he left? _____

The staff was a common tool that Moses already had. What do you think is significant about it now being called 'the staff of God'? _____

Day Two

Read Exodus 4:21-23. What does God tell Moses that Pharaoh's response will be? _____

How would you react if God told you that you were going to fail in what He has called you to do? _____

What does God threaten to do to Pharaoh for refusing to let the people go? _____

Day Three

Read Genesis 17:14 and then Exodus 4:24-26. According to Exodus 4:24, what does God intend to do to Moses? _____

Why do you think God would seek to kill the very one He just called? _____

What do you think was significant about the failure of Moses (Israel's 'deliverer') to circumcise his son? (see also Joshua 5:2-9) _____

Read Exodus 4:27-30. What in these verses that confirms the promise of God given to Moses in last week's study? (see Exodus 3:18) _____

Day Four

Read Exodus 5:1-5. What was Pharaoh's response to Moses' request? _____

Read Exodus 5:6-14. What happens as a result of Moses obeying God's command? _____

Day Five

Read Exodus 5:15-21. What do the Israelites do as a result of the increased oppression by Pharaoh? _____

What does Pharaoh accuse them of? _____

What kind of response do Moses and Aaron get from the people? _____

Read Exodus 5:22-23. What does this situation prompt Moses to do? _____

What are some wrong assumptions Moses made based on the current circumstances? _____

