

STORY

The Call of Moses - Exodus 2:11 - 4:31

TEACHER PRAYER

Lord God, I thank You that You have called me into Your kingdom and poured out Your blessings of forgiving love in Christ Jesus upon me. Now, as Your disciple devoted to You I desire to serve You with

my whole heart. Be with me, oh, Lord, as I serve You in leading the little children to You who have been placed into my charge as a teacher in Your kingdom of grace. Give me Your Spirit that I may serve You well in helping them to see You as their loving Savior and Lord. In the name of Jesus Christ my Savior. Amen

VOCABULARY

rod - shepherd's staff.

Angel of the Lord - Some believe this refers to the second person of the Trinity, the Son

I AM THAT I AM - The name given to God by Himself - the one unchangeable, ever-living and eternal God of heaven and earth.

OUTER AIM

Moses receives a special call from God.

INNER AIM

The Lord calls human instruments to carry out the work of His kingdom.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References, Vol. 1, pp. 152-156)

Moses grew up in the palace of the Pharaoh. He was cared for like a son of Pharaoh's daughter. There he grew up amidst the gorgeous surroundings and atmosphere of princely living. He was given what was considered to be the best education available. Egyptian history, culture and religion was to be part of the life of Moses. He learned of the worship of false gods such as the sun god Ra and other deities that were invented by the Egyptians. We can only imagine the deep conflict which must have existed between what he was learning as an Egyptian and what his mother had taught him as a child. 2:11-15

Although he must have been aware of the situation under which his fellow Hebrews labored, yet we are told that when he was forty years of age (Acts 7:23) he observed the especially cruel treatment of one of the children of Israel. He became enraged by the beating which he observed and killed the Egyptian. When Moses became aware that Pharaoh heard of it, he left Egypt and fled for his life to Midian. Midian lies in Arabia near the northeastern arm of the Red Sea. Was Moses right in committing this murder? Certainly not. Even though coming to the aid of his people was evidently very strong in his mind and heart, he was approaching the matter, not according to the will of God but according to his own plan of action. (Acts 7:25) 2:16 - 22



Moses, who grew up in luxury, now found himself in the rural desert land of Midian. There he became a shepherd of the flocks of Reuel (also called Jethro 3:1; 4:18; Numbers 10:29) the priest of Midian and eventually married his daughter Zipporah.2:23 - 3:10. Forty years had passed (Acts 7:30) since Moses had left Egypt. He was now eighty years of age and continued as a shepherd. His shepherding led him southward as far as Mt. Horeb (Mt. Sinai). There God choose to speak to Moses out of a burning bush with one request: "I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." (Ex. 3:10) (3:11 - 4:17)

Moses had four serious considerations:

1. "Who am I?"
2. "What is His name?" ("Who shall I say has sent me?")
3. "They will not believe me."
4. "I am slow of speech." (Ex. 4:18 - 31)

Finally, Moses returns to Egypt as deliverer of the children of Israel according to the will of God. The people bow their heads and worship their gracious God.

STUDENT PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I thank You for calling me into Your kingdom and blessing me with Your forgiveness and love. I pray that You will fill me with Your Spirit that I may gladly serve You in any way I can that Your name may be glorified and Your kingdom come to many. In Your holy name I pray.

PRESENTATION

From the birth of Moses and his discovery in the reeds by the Princess to his calling as deliverer of the Children of Israel the Lord God guides, leads and brings about happenings according to His will. Yet, Moses was not like a puppet on a string. He had his weaknesses as well as his strengths. Nevertheless, the Lord God used him to accomplish what He willed in His own way and time.

To accomplish His purpose God used others who would aid Moses in carrying out His plan. The mother of Moses apparently taught him all about the one true God and the promises of the Messiah. God used Aaron, the brother of Moses, to be the "spokesman to the people" on behalf of Moses.

God's hand in the life of Moses was obviously operative in accomplishing His plan for His people and finally His plan of salvation for the whole world.

APPLICATIONS

What do the questions of Moses found in Ex. 3:11 and 4:17 reveal about this man who has now arrived at the age of 80 years?

Consider such attributes as confidence, courage and faith in the life of a Christian. Discuss the significance of the name God gives to Himself, I AM.

All of us have weaknesses as well as strengths. God uses us just as we are for the work of His kingdom. Discuss abilities that God has given each of us and how we might use them to glorify and praise God.

How does God overcome weaknesses in each of us?

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Isaiah 49:15 - *Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you.*

Peter 5:5b - *God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*

Isaiah 41:10 - *Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.*

Middle any of the above and...

Acts 7:22 - *And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds.*

Upper any of the above and...

Hebrews 11:24-25 - *By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,*

HYMN CHOICES

"Take My Life and Let It Be" (TLH #400)

"Oh, That The Lord Would Guide My Ways" (TLH #416)

"The King Of Love" (TLH #431)

"What Is The World To Me" (TLH #430)