

The Call of Moses

Exodus 2:11 - 4:20

How could a burning bush be part of God's promise?

Are you sometimes afraid?

Why was Moses afraid?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we know Your promises and that You never fail to keep them. Please help us to hear You and never be afraid to do Your calling. In Your holy name we pray. Amen



The Story - Exodus 2:11 - 4:20

Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. {12} So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. {13} And when he went out the second day, behold, two Hebrew men were fighting, and he said to the one who did the wrong, "Why are you striking your companion?"

{14} Then he said, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" So Moses feared and said, "Surely this thing is known!"

{15} When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well. {16} Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. And they came and drew water, and they filled the troughs to water their father's flock. {17} Then the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.

{18} When they came to Reuel their father, he said, "How is it that you have come so soon today?"

{19} And they said, "An Egyptian delivered us

from the hand of the shepherds, and he also drew enough water for us and watered the flock."

{20} So he said to his daughters, "And where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread."

{21} Then Moses was content to live with the man, and he gave Zipporah his daughter to Moses. {22} And she bore him a son, and he called his name Gershom; for he said, "I have been a stranger in a foreign land."

{23} Now it happened in the process of time that the king of Egypt died. Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry came up to God because of the bondage. {24} So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. {25} And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God acknowledged them.

(Exodus 3) Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. {2} And the Angel of the



LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. {3} Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

{4} So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!"

And he said, "Here I am."

{5} Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." {6} Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father; the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

{7} And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. {8} "So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. {9} "Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. {10} "Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

{11} But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

{12} So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

{13} Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"

{14} And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

{15} Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.

This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'

{16} "Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, "I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt; {17} "and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.'"

{18} "Then they will heed your voice; and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt; and you shall say to him, 'The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.' {19} "But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. {20} "So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go.

{21} "And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed. {22} "But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians."

(Exodus 4) Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.'"

{2} So the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?"

He said, "A rod."

{3} And He said, "Cast it on the ground."

So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it. {4} Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail" (and he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand), {5} "that they may believe that the LORD God of their

fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

{6} Furthermore the LORD said to him, "Now put your hand in your bosom." And he put his hand in his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous, like snow.

{7} And He said, "Put your hand in your bosom again." So he put his hand in his bosom again, and drew it out of his bosom, and behold, it was restored like his other flesh.

{8} "Then it will be, if they do not believe you, nor heed the message of the first sign, that they may believe the message of the latter sign. {9} "And it shall be, if they do not believe even these two signs, or listen to your voice, that you shall take water from the river and pour it on the dry land. And the water which you take from the river will become blood on the dry land."

{10} Then Moses said to the LORD, "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."

{11} So the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD? {12} "Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."

{13} But he said, "O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send."

{14} So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and He said: "Is not Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he can speak well. And look, he is also coming out to meet you. When he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. {15} "Now you shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth. And I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and I will teach you what you shall do. {16} "So he shall be your spokesman to the people. And he himself shall be as a mouth for you, and you shall be to him as God. {17} "And you shall take this rod in your hand, with which you shall do the signs."

{18} So Moses went and returned to Jethro his father-in-law, and said to him, "Please let me go and return to my brethren who are in Egypt, and see whether they are still alive."

And Jethro said to Moses, "Go in peace." {19} And the LORD said to Moses in Midian, "Go, return to Egypt; for all the men who sought your life are dead." {20} Then Moses took his wife and his sons and set them on a donkey, and he returned to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the rod of God in his hand.

Outer Aim - Moses received a special call from God.

What the Story Tells Us - Retell the story in 6 sentences.

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

For Discussion - Discuss the Inner Aim above and the following questions.

Do we ever receive a special call from God?

How can we know when this happens?

What are some of the special attributes you may have that will help you?

Can weaknesses be overcome and help you?

Why are we sometimes afraid to act for God?

What God's Word Tells Us - Read and discuss the Bible verses from Hebrews 11.

Hebrews 11:24-27 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, {25} choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, {26} esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. {27} By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

Passages

1 Samuel 12:20 "Do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart."

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.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Hymn - TLH 416 Consider your strengths and weaknesses. How can this hymn help you?

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Thy Word and make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget Thy way, restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in Thy commands — 'tis a delightful road —
Nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God. Amen

Prayer

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