

Moses | Part 2 | Pastor Steve Wells | 01.19.2020
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Memory Verse: Philippians 3:7-8

"7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ."

Read Exodus 3:1-4:20

Sometimes we read a story from the Bible and think "that is so cool--but nothing like this could happen to me". Just because we may not lead and deliver God's people from a Pharaoh or see Him in a bush, doesn't mean we aren't leaders. We are all called to be leaders for Christ and the people who are lost and seeking God. The book "21 Laws Of Leadership In the Bible" by John C. Maxwell gives a few great examples how Moses was a leader but had to make great sacrifices to get there. Moses was only a great and effective leader because God molded him to be that way. If Moses did not surrender to God, make sacrifices in his own life to better the Kingdom of God, and allow himself to be used by God, he would not have been effective. Let's look at a few things that made Moses the leader God was calling him to be and how that relates to our lives today leading in various roles.

Moses was alone with God.

Moses was in Midian in exile when God came to him--40 years after leaving Egypt. Because of his time in exile, he was ready to hear and able to hear what God was telling him. As a leader in the workplace, your family, or among friends it is important to take the time to spend time alone with God. Often, we hear God when we are alone and in our own version of exile. We need to remember He wants to spend time with us always.

- Do you make time in your daily schedule for alone time with God? Weekly? Monthly? Ever?
- Do you make time in your daily or weekly schedule for alone time or time for other things you want to do? What is the difference?
- How do you spend time with God?
 - Where or what do you do that makes you feel closest to Him?
- What can you change to make more time to be alone with God?

Moses was honest with God.

Moses was humble when God came to him. He asked God "Who am I?" Moses has previously lived in Egypt as a prince--yet he felt unworthy to lead God's people. God was able to use Moses for His plan, but only when Moses had become humble. God can use us too. We cannot be arrogant and full of pride and still show God's glory and power. The Glory and Praise must all be for God--if we are prideful, the things we do will not be for His glory...but our own.

- Can you think of someone who could have been an excellent leader--but they were more concerned with their own glory and recognition than leading?
- Can you think of a great leader who was focused on leading and was humble throughout?
- What were the differences between the two people in your life?
 - Did the people under his/her leadership like and respect them?
 - Did they continue to succeed?
- Give a few examples of how someone can stay humble?

Moses was hungry for God.

- What does it mean to be hungry for God?
- "21 Laws Of Leadership In the Bible" says "A person can't be staunchly self-reliant and hungry for God at the same time."--Do you agree? What does this mean?
- Are you hungry for God?
 - How do you "feed" that hunger?
- Who do you know who is hungry for God?
- Why is it important for someone who is a leader to be hungry for God?
- How do you feel when your leader is hungry for God?

Moses was broken by God.

- "21 Laws Of Leadership In the Bible" says "Brokenness involved two things : removing inappropriate pride and self-reliance and building healthy God-reliance." How did God remove pride and self-reliance from Moses?
- What fears did Moses have?

The fears Moses had are the same fears we all have from time to time.

- Moses doubted his own value--Have you ever doubted your value?
 - What was God's response to Moses--What was His response to you?
- Moses had fears about who God really is. Have you ever wondered or felt like Moses did?
 - How did God respond to Moses? How did He respond to your fears?
- Another fear Moses had was fear how others would respond to him. Have you ever been afraid of how someone will respond to you either about Faith and God or in general (work, school, church, as a leader)?
 - How did God respond to Moses? How has God responded to your fears about acceptance?
- Moses had doubts and fears regarding his own abilities. Have you ever been concerned about your own abilities to lead? Do you have fears concerning leading a Small Group, leading a Bible Study at work or within a Church, leading a group at work, or leading your family?
 - How did God respond to the fear concerning the abilities of Moses?
 - God gave Moses a partner in his brother Aaron- has God given you a partner for your leadership roles? (Spouse-Co-leader at work or small groups) How did you feel knowing you had someone to help you?

Moses had to sacrifice his material possessions and his status as a prince in order to unknowingly prepare himself for the plans God had for his life. Later, he had to sacrifice the security and safety of the desert to return to Egypt. In order to lead effectively and lead for God, we have to make sacrifices. We often need to sacrifice our own desires, goals, and plans to achieve the better-greater plans God has in store for us.

- Have you sacrificed something in your past (or recently)--and this sacrifice brought you closer to God and where He needed you to be?
 - Is there something you felt you needed to sacrifice but you are still unsure why?
- Is there something you need to sacrifice now?
 - What would be hard for you to sacrifice?

"21 Laws Of Leadership In the Bible" says that to lead and be a great leader we need to "Keep growing and building your personal assets and hold lightly the things God gives you. And remember: You may need to sacrifice them at any time to answer his call." Sometimes the harder something is to sacrifice the more we should.

- How can you make steps to become willing to make the hard sacrifices?