

Why we say, "no", to God's "go!"

Exodus- Part 3 Exodus 1:1-15
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1. Moses: "There must be some mistake"

It's no surprise from the details of Moses' life to this point that he's reluctant to believe that he is right man for this job. Like Moses we often forget that the qualifications God is looking for might not be the ones we are looking for.

Exodus 3:11 "But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

"Quite possibly what fuels Moses' self-doubts on this occasion are very vivid and profound memories of failed efforts many years earlier to come to the rescue of his people [Exodus 2:11-15]. Past defeats and humiliations tend to dog us more than past victories. Time does not always heal all wounds. On occasion the passing of time exacerbates them." -Exodus by Victor P Hamilton, pg. 58.

2. Our Confidence

God knows you and He is with you. So wherever He sends you, He knows what you need and how and when to provide it for you. Confidence in life is not about our ability, but about reliance and trust in God's sufficiency.

Exodus 37:10 I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians ¹⁰ So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

God's in ANE were not known by their real names, only titles to keep people at arms length. Not this God, Yahweh, rather than hiding His name and maintaining a measure of distance, invites Moses into His council. He and the Hebrews are welcome to address Him directly.

They're on a first name basis. -Bearing God's Name, Carmen Joy Imes, pg. 27

3. Moses' Mission & Ours

We carry God's name (reputation) to the world we live in. It was Moses' and his families calling, and it's yours today!

Deuteronomy 4:5-7 I have taught you decrees... observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." ⁷ What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the Lord our God is near us"

Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



Community Group Questions:

1. What did you hear? What hit home from the message? How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
2. "God does not reveal himself to Moses so spectacularly when Moses is praying, or fasting, or meditating, or engaging in some profound metaphysical thought. It happens while he is alone, working, and it's probably unexciting menial work at that." (From: Exodus, by Victor P Hamilton, pg. 45). Can you think of a time(s) when God has been most real to you?
3. The "sign" that God gives Moses is, "you will worship God on this mountain". God's motive is not just freedom from Egypt but freedom to worship Him. What did God have in mind for them? What does "worship" look like to you?

Notes:
