

Answering God's Call!

Navigating Life's Journey, Pt. 2

Exodus 3-4

August 14, 2016

Exodus 3:7, *The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of My people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. ⁹And now the cry of the Israelites has reached Me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring My people the Israelites out of Egypt."*

Key Thought: While effort and good works are not involved in our salvation, they are involved in growing our faith and obedience to God's call!

Ephesians 2:8, *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's*

handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Four Keys To Answering God's Call:

1. God Commands Our ATTENTION

Exodus 3:3, *So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." ⁴ ... God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."*

How Does God Get Our Attention?

- Through Unusual **CIRCUMSTANCES**
- Through Real **STRUGGLES**
- Through **OTHERS**
- Through Your Natural Abilities And **GIFTEDNESS**

2. God Deserves Our RESPECT

Exodus 3:5, *"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy*

ground.” ⁶ Then He said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

Matthew 22:36-39: Love God And Love Others

3. God Expects Our OBEDIENCE

Exodus 3:10, “So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring My people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

Five Common Excuses For Not Obeying God:

- **Poor SELF-ESTEEM**

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

- **Lack Of KNOWLEDGE**

Exodus 3:13, Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is His name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

- **Fear Of FAILURE**

Exodus 4:1, Moses answered, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, ‘The LORD did not appear to you’?”

- **Fear Of The PUBLIC EYE**

Exodus 4:10, Moses said to the LORD, “Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since. You have spoken to Your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.”

- **Lack Of DESIRE**

Exodus 4:13, But Moses said, “Pardon Your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.” ¹⁴Then the LORD’s anger burned against Moses...

4. We Make Adjustments In Our Lives And FOLLOW HIM!

Exodus 3:12, And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

Matthew 5:16, *In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

Cottonwood Challenge - Questions To Help You Towards Leading For God:

- Ask God, “What do You want me to do to build Your kingdom?”
- Acknowledge and confess your past excuses for not serving and obeying God.
- Commit that this time will be different; make adjustments in your life and follow God in faith.
- Every Thursday, for the next 4 weeks from 12:00p – 1:00p, we will have a time for fasting and prayer in the Game Plan Center. If you can’t come, follow my social media page and pray through the scriptures at home or at the office.