



## Facing Opportunity in Light of a Checkered Past

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

August 21, 2022

*Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go ... Exodus 3:10-11*

### Key Insights ...

1. Moses comes face to face with the opportunity he wanted 40 years ago, but 40 years later, he is \_\_\_\_\_ for what is about to happen ...
  - a. Time has a way of healing the wounds of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Time also has a way of transitioning failure and rejection from an act to a \_\_\_\_\_.

### Moses and his Excuses ... Exodus 3:11-4:17

- I. Moses was \_\_\_\_\_ ... (vs. 3:11,12)  
Life Principle ... God is \_\_\_\_\_ us.
- II. Moses had no \_\_\_\_\_ ... (vs. 3:13-22)  
Life Principle ... God has a \_\_\_\_\_ for us, thus providing all the \_\_\_\_\_ we need.
- III. Moses had no \_\_\_\_\_ ... (vs. 4:1-9)  
Life Principle ... God excels in taking the \_\_\_\_\_ to bring about the \_\_\_\_\_.
- IV. Moses had no \_\_\_\_\_ ... (vs. 4:11-17)  
Life Principle ... God uses even our \_\_\_\_\_ to bring about His \_\_\_\_\_.

### My Takeaway ...

1. God desires to use \_\_\_\_\_, in spite of our weaknesses.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of our weaknesses is to move us from self-confidence to Faith in God Alone
3. God desires to use our Weaknesses to \_\_\_\_\_ us for Greater Service

## Truth for Life

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(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Have you ever encountered a difficult or painful situation? In the moment, did life seem hopeless or empty? How did you come out of that painful situation? Have you seen any part of that experience where it was beneficial for your personal growth? If so, explain.
2. Read James 1:2 in a few translations. Is there any difference between James' admonition to "considering it pure joy" and our efforts to work up or have a "positive attitude"? If so, explain.
3. Choosing to not "squirm out" and short circuit the growth process can be no small challenge, especially when it seems like God is absent or simply not doing anything now to help the situation. How can the following verses help you stick with it and affirm God is more involved than you realize?
 

Jeremiah 32:40-41	John 10:27-30	John 14:15-17
Philippians 1:6	John 16:33	Isaiah 41:10

How do God's promises help us when God seems absent or when we feel alone in a difficult situation?
4. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
  - a. Why is it important to affirm God's loving sovereignty over all our trials? What is lost if we deny this?
  - b. Has a time of suffering ever caused you to doubt God's love? How can you fight this in your next trial?
  - c. Since it is not always God's will to deliver us from trials, is it wrong to pray for deliverance? What else should we pray for?
  - d. Why doesn't the Lord protect those who are seeking to serve Him from difficult trials?

### Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

"complete / whole"- in an unbroken or undamaged state. Free of wound or injury. Restored. The antonyms for "complete / whole": incomplete, broken, deficient, unfinished. *2 Corinthians 13:9b, 11 We pray that [you] be made complete ... become complete.* Pray for each other, that we may BE MADE complete, and that we may do the work to BECOME complete.



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### Key Insights ...

1. Moses comes face to face with the opportunity he wanted 40 years ago, but 40 years later, he is **not ready** for what is about to happen ...
  - a. Time has a way of healing the wounds of **failure** and **rejection**.
  - b. Time also has a way of transitioning failure and rejection from an act to a **character trait**.

### Moses and his Excuses ... Exodus 3:11-4:17

- I. Moses was **Unqualified** ... (vs. 3:11,12)

Life Principle ... God is **For** us.

- II. Moses had no **Leverage** ... (vs. 3:13-22)

Life Principle ... God has a **Plan** for us, thus providing all the **Authority** we need.

- III. Moses had no **Credibility** ... (vs. 4:1-9)

Life Principle ... God excels in taking the **ordinary** to bring about the **extraordinary**.

- IV. Moses had no **Confidence** ... (vs. 4:11-17)

Life Principle ... God uses even our **weaknesses** to bring about His **Purposes**.

### My Takeaway ...

1. God desires to use **All of us**, in spite of our weaknesses.
2. The **Benefit** of our weaknesses is to move us from self-confidence to Faith in God Alone
3. God desires to use our Weaknesses to **Prepare** us for Greater Service

## Truth for Life

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