

**WHEN GOD
CALLS,
WHAT WERE
YOU DOING?**

Elder: Chad Sadaphal

Date: 05/19/2024

**Let's remember the
backstory for our story today**

**Exodus 3 is the story of Moses
and the burning bush**

**But what are the events
leading up to it?**

**WHAT WAS MOSES DOING
BEFORE THIS HAPPENED?**

Acts 7:20-22 King James Version

20 In which time Moses was born, and was exceeding fair, and nourished up in his father's house three months:

21 And when he was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son.

22 And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.

**Israel was in slavery in Egypt
during this time period**

**Moses grew up vastly different
than this brethren**

**Pharaoh's daughter adopted
him as one of her own**

- **Moses' life was one of privilege, comfort and ease**
- **He had political power, clout and influence**
- **He received a full Egyptian education**

Acts 7:23-29 King James Version

23 And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel. **24** And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian:

25 For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not.

26 And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?

27 But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

28 Wilt thou kill me, as thou diddest the Egyptian yesterday?

29 Then fled Moses at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Madian, where he begat two sons.

Fast forward to a 40 year old Moses

**The Bible clearly states that he had
a desire to return to his people**

**LET'S GIVE CREDIT TO MOSES FOR
NOT FORGETTING WHERE
HE CAME FROM!!!!**

**HOW EASY WOULD IT HAVE BEEN
FOR HIM TO STAY IN
THE LIFE OF LUXURY??**

Acts 7:24-28 King James Version

24 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian:

25 For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not.

26 And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying,

Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?

27 But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

28 Wilt thou kill me, as thou diddest the Egyptian yesterday?

Moses plan backfires

**His own people mock him
and want nothing to do with him**

**He runs to Midian,
and is there for 40 years**

**HOW MUCH TIME PASSED BEFORE
YOU THOUGHT GOD
HAD NO MORE USE FOR YOU?**

**Moses' backstory is no different
than yours or mine**

NOW THE REAL WORK BEGINS!

Exodus 3:1 King James Version

3 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

Moses is now 80 years old

**WHAT WAS MOSES DOING
WHEN GOD CALLS HIM??**

HE WAS BUSY WORKING!!!

**HE WAS BUSY TENDING A GREAT
FLOCK OF SHEEP!!!**

**GOD CALLED MOSES WHEN
HIS SCHEDULE WAS BUSY!!**

**HE ALWAYS CALLS WHEN
WE ARE BUSY!!!!**

**IS YOUR SCHEDULE TOO FULL
TO ANSWER GOD'S CALL??**

**Your “plans” are meaningless to
heaven because God is calling
on you to serve**

**What others examples do we have
in the Bible of people being busy
when God calls?**

1 Kings 19:19-21 (The call of Elisha)

19 So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him.

20 And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him,

Go back again: for what have I done to thee?

21 And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

**WHAT WAS ELISHA DOING
WHEN GOD CALLED HIM??**

HE WAS PLOWING!!!

Matthew 4:18-20 (KJV)

(The call of Peter and Andrew)

18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.

**WHAT WERE PETER AND ANDREW
DOING WHEN GOD CALLED THEM??**

THEY WERE FISHING!!!!

Judges 6:11-12 (KJV)

(The call of Gideon)

11 And there came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite:

and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.

12 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

**WHAT WAS GIDEON DOING WHEN
GOD CALLED HIM??**

HE WAS THRESHING WHEAT!!!

GOD CALLS WHEN WE ARE BUSY!!!

THE ENEMY CALLS WHEN WE ARE IDLE!!!

Exodus 3:2-6 (KJV)

2 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

4 And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of

the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy 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.

**God speaks directly to Moses
so there is no confusion**

Exodus 3:7 (KJV)

7 And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

**God called Moses when the
situation was bleak**

→ Cruel taskmasters, low morale

**40 years earlier, the situation
might've been different**

→ Moses had political power then

→ Now he's merely a shepard

**→ Moses thinks the obstacles are too
great at 80 years old to overcome**

**GOD DELIGHTS TO DELIVER
DURING DARK TIMES!!!**

THIS IS WHEN HE SHINES BRIGHTEST!!!

**GOD WILL CALL YOU WHEN
THINGS AREN'T GOING
GOOD IN YOUR LIFE!!!**

**Get comfortable
with being uncomfortable!**

Exodus 3:11 (KJV)

11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

**This is the first of Moses'
four objections**

Exodus 3:13 (KJV)

13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

Exodus 4:1 (KJV)

1 And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The Lord hath not appeared unto thee.

Exodus 4:10 (KJV)

10 And Moses said unto the Lord,
O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither
heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken
unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech,
and of a slow tongue.

Moses had no self confidence left

**He's hardly the only person
to object to God's calling at first**

Judges 6:15 (KJV)

15 And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.

Jeremiah 1:6 (KJV)

6 Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.

For Moses, the rejection he suffered all those years ago from his own people played a major role in his responses to God

**SO WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN THEN AND NOW???**

**WHY WOULD HE SUCCEED NOW
WHEN HE FAILED BEFORE???**

**WHY WOULDN'T YOU FAIL
JUST LIKE YOU DID
BEFORE SO MANY TIMES??**

**GOD'S TIME AND GOD'S
POWER IS THE ANSWER!!!!**

**Moses had been
high and mighty,
which lead to failure**

**Now he was meek and
humble, which will lead to
victory!!!!**

THOSE WHO WERE WEAK

THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED

THOSE WHO FEEL INADEQUATE

THOSE WHO HAVE NO SELF-CONFIDENCE

→ → → GOD CALLS ALL OF YOU!!!!

THOSE WHO FEEL EMBARRASSED

THOSE FEEL SHAME AND GUILT

**RESPOND TO GOD'S
CALL TODAY!!!**

**WHEN GOD CALLS, WHAT
WERE YOU DOING???**



**WHEN GOD
CALLS,
WHAT WERE
YOU DOING?**