

**AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

Topic: The Life of Moses Part 2: His Ministry
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Text: Exodus - Numbers
Date: March 10th, 2021

Introduction:

The ministry of Moses is filled with many highs and lows. Although called by God to lead His people out of Egypt, he experienced many setbacks, disappointments, opposition, challenges as well as victories. In today's study, we examine key moments in the ministry of Moses and how we can learn from them to become more like Christ.

In looking at the totality of Moses' life, would you say he achieved purpose or not?

His Discouragement. Exodus 5:1-23

Moses obeyed God but yet faced discouraging times in the midst of obedience. As he became discouraged, he began to question his role in delivering the Israelites. He did what God asked him to do, and yet, the results were less than desirable. His obedience had a negative impact on the very ones he wanted to help.

Even when our obedience leads to unexpected or negative results, we must trust that God is still in control and that this is part of His plan for us. Learn to trust God in obedience, no matter the results. Obedience is always worth it.

Obedience requires listening to God, not our feelings. Obedience is evidence that we love God. *John 14:15*
There is always a blessing in obedience even if we do not see the reward immediately. *Deuteronomy 11:27.*

How might it have helped Moses if he remembered what God told him in Exodus 4:21?

Discouragement is an inevitable part of ministry and life. We will see successes and positive results, but we will also see failures and disappointments. Sometimes those failures are a result of our own self-effort. Other times, God uses them to remind us of our dependence on Him and His overall sovereignty in life.

His Challenges. Exodus 15:22-25. Exodus 16:2-8. Exodus 17:1-7

Life is always full of challenges. Just when we think that everything is going smoothly and according to God's plan, we are faced with a challenge, something that sometimes causes us to feel inadequate once again, something that causes us to seek His direction and strength.

How would you define grumbling? What is the root issue that causes someone to grumble?

God knows what your needs are and will provide in His way and in His timing. If you have seen God provide and care for you in the past, why would you doubt that He would do it again?

How does adversity affect you? If you are currently facing a difficult situation, are you grumbling and complaining or trusting His hand? Think back to specific situations that were tough at the time, but in retrospect, you can see God's hand in it for good. Our grumbling and complaining do not please God. Our trust and obedience do. How much of your day is spent grumbling and complaining? Do you tend to lose perspective in the midst of difficult times? Ask God to strengthen your faith, to keep your focus on Him and not on your circumstance.

How do you respond when you find yourself in need? What does your response show you about your faith and trust in God?
James 1:2-4 (TPT)

Grumbling and complaining can never accomplish anything, but trusting God and giving thanks in the midst of tough circumstances pleases Him and builds faith and character. When life gets tough, God wants us to turn to prayer instead of complaining. *Philippians 4:6-7 (TPT).*

His Growth as a Leader. Exodus 7:14-25

Initially we saw Moses beginning to doubt himself and question if he was the right person for the task God had given him. Now we see growth in Moses' life as he gained boldness and deepened his trust in God.

God is continually working in our lives. He wants us to trust Him, to allow Him to build into our lives, to bring us to spiritual maturity. That means we will go through hard times in the process, but those hard times are used to refine us and make us more like Him. 1 Peter 1:6-7.

Delegating: Exodus 18:1-27

God places people in your life for a season and for a specific purpose. Let God use them in your life. Beware of trying to do too many things and not focusing on what is priority. Learn to delegate. Are you doing too much? Are you too busy with your life? What do you need to do to cut back? How well do you delegate?

What are some warning signs that you are spreading yourself too thin and doing too much by yourself?

Appointing a successor. Numbers 27:15-20

We should always be building into someone's life in some way regardless of our life stage. It will look different for each one of us. Spending time with people, allowing them to see how you live life, is a crucial part of discipleship and mentoring.

His Humble Spirit. Numbers 12:1-13

Miriam is presumably the older sister who watched and protected Moses when he was placed into the Nile as a newborn baby. Aaron had been Moses' friend and partner, as well as brother, as they followed God's calling on their lives. However, they were jealous of Moses and criticized him. Sometimes, the ones we are closest to can hurt us the most deeply.

Humility is a quality that prevents us from "lording" it over anyone or avenging a wrong done to us. We are not only to pray for those who are easy to pray for, but also for those who have wronged us.

When significant people opposed him, Moses responded with meekness.

- *Exodus 6-12* - the ten plagues in Egypt - Moses held steady in the face of constant rejection by Pharaoh.
- When the people of Israel cried out in complaint against Moses, he held firm in his faith, pointing the people to God. *Exodus 14:13-14*.
- When Miriam and Aaron opposed Moses, he allowed God to defend himself. He even prayed for Miriam's healing. *Numbers 12:1-15*.
- When Korah, Dathan and Abiram rebelled against Moses (falsely accusing him), he allowed God to defend himself. He recognized the accusation as against the Lord not himself. *Numbers 16:1-11*.

His Relationship with God. Exodus 33: 1-23.

- [Exodus 3:3-6](#) - God reveals his power, holiness and name to Moses for the first time. Moses hid his face.
- [Exodus 33:9-11](#) - The Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.
- [Exodus 33:17](#) - Moses found favor with God, and God knew his name.
- [Exodus 33:18](#) - After all the wonders that Moses had seen from God, he still wanted more. He asked to see God's glory. [Exodus 24:9-11](#) Moses wanted more. He wanted an even more intimate relationship with God.
- [Exodus 33:19-23](#); [34:5-7](#) - God responds and shows Moses his back end, as well as revealing his name to Moses. Again, this is a sign of great closeness between God and Moses.

His Life Changing Mistake. Numbers 20:1-13

Our past does not determine the future. God wants to do great things through you.

Moses prayed, "Let the favor of the LORD our God be upon us". So, this tells us that it is possible to find favor even after you make a mistake. It's possible to still find joy, be glad, and rejoice. Since the hope of entering the Promised Land had been taken away, it would have been easy for the Israelites to lose their sense of purpose. But God still had important work for them to do; they were still part of His eternal plan for humanity. They needed to raise their children in the ways of the Lord in order to prepare them to enter the land. Their lives still had meaning and purpose.

Maybe you find yourself in a situation like Moses. You've made a big mistake, and there's no way to change it now. Know that your life is not over! God still has a future for you that's good, so you can rejoice and be glad. You are still important, and God can and will still use you. Forgive yourself and focus on moving forward allowing the Holy Spirit to guide you.