

Sermon Reflections

Service Preparation: How can God equip you for service, and even salvation? (Exodus 2:11-25)

Summary: He must first strip you of your self-reliance, so that your faith would be only in Him.

1. Find your failings and weaknesses. (vv. 11-15)

- Read Hebrews 11:24-26.
 - What was going on in Moses' heart when he looked upon the suffering of God's people and decided to side with them and take a stand against the Egyptian?
 - Consider what it must have been like living as the "son of Pharaoh's daughter". What evidence from this passage in Hebrews suggest that Moses is repenting from the lifestyle he has enjoyed for so long?
- Moses' faith stirs him to action; but God first uncovers failures in him, namely his self-reliance, hypocrisy, and fear of man. How do these failures emerge in the passage?
- List scripture references that make it clear that every spiritual endeavor (and even battle against sin) will fail apart from God's help. Give an example of a situation where you relied on your own strength to affect spiritual progress on something but failed. How did God use that failure to make you more effective in service to Him?
- What lure is your flesh often drawn to? How do you practically rely on God's strength, and not merely your own, to avoid failing in this area?

2. Find faithfulness in the "small" stuff. (vv. 16-22)

- Over Moses' 40 year stay in Midian (Acts 7:29-30) God gives him two sons and makes him a shepherd (Ex 3:1).
 - How do you suspect this new life: 1) Better equips Moses for service to Him in the future; 2) Causes him to rely less on himself and more on God; and 3) Helps develop him into a faithful and patient leader?
- Describe an instance in your life where God provided an opportunity to practice consistent faithfulness while waiting for His timing for bigger and better opportunities. What were some challenges along the journey? How did this experience increase your trust in God and His timing?

3. Find faith in a patient God. (vv. 23-25)

- As God was preparing Moses, He was also preparing His people for delivery. Describe the actions of the Israelites as they suffered under tyrannous oppression in Egypt. What does God's response reveal about His character?
- Consider the fact that we, as believers in Christ, are God's people and that He has rescued us by His sovereign grace and mercy. How does this truth, combined with God's attentiveness and compassion shown here in Exodus, provide you with comfort when faced with adversity?