

Moses: A Journey to Remember

Week 4 – January 23, 2022

Scripture: Exodus 1:7-10; 12:31-42; 13:18-27; and 1 Peter 4:10-11

Grab your Bible and a few people to connect with. Look up the verses below and share your thoughts. It's that easy!

Share: If time and money are not barriers, what would be your next life adventure?

Read the scripture from Exodus 1:7-10; Exodus 12:31-42; Exodus 13:18-27 and 1 Peter 4:10-11 together: Take turns reading if you prefer. Enjoy the different Bible translations we each read.

Discuss the following context:

When God used Moses to change Pharaoh's mind about letting Israel leave Egypt, it was just the beginning of what would be a long and challenging trip. The number of Israelites is estimated to be as high as 2.3 million. This was a journey that required everyone to play a part. From the Egyptians donating clothes and supplies to the Israelites before they left Egypt, to the decentralization of responsibility when Moses was on the brink of burnout; a great journey requires great participation.

No one is left out. God decides who is capable for what tasks. He gives us skill, passion and gifts. There are no spectators in Jesus' work. None are excluded. And all contributions are to be equally valued. The power of the church is not spectating, but in participating. *Am I along for the ride or do I have an important part to play?*

Share your thoughts about the following questions:

1. Genesis 2:14 says, "The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." The first human beings, formed in the image of God, were invited to engage in the world, to engage in life. How do we benefit from participating in something, versus just observing it?
2. Read Exodus 12:31-42. Preparing for the journey out of Egypt was no small task. "The Lord caused the Egyptians to look favorably on the Israelites" (Exodus 12:35-36) and provided for their quick departure. This work of God was miraculous, but it required human participation. God could easily have simply dropped the resources in their laps, but that is not how God operates. Can you think of a time in your own life when God asked you to prepare for a journey? How did it play out? What thoughts do you have reflecting on it now?
3. Read Exodus 13:18-27. As Israel makes its way farther from Egypt, Moses began to buckle under the strain of leadership. He needed to share the load with men who were capable. Many others had hidden, unused and squandered talent. God puts talent in people, but human plans and systems can keep people idle and unengaged. Can you think of a place in your own life where you are invited to use your talents? Are you using them now? Why or why not?

Pray together: Ask each other to share what is on your heart today. Thank you, God, for giving us skills, passions, and gifts. No one is left out. We praise you Father because you place us just where you want us, and our contributions are valuable. Thank you for your Word:

¹⁸ But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. ¹⁹ How strange a body would be if it had only one part! ²⁰ Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. ²¹ The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you."

1 Corinthians 12:18-21