

God uses Ordinary People like Us

“Lessons from the Life of Moses”

Moses was used by God so effectively because he lived a simple life following sound principles found in **Hebrews 11:24-28**

.... Be Yourself

Growing up Moses had an identity crisis. He was born Jewish but he was raised Egyptian. He had to decide who he was going to be.

Moses saw his people (*the Israelites*) being badly mistreated as slaves and he could not remain silent any longer. **vs 24:** *By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.*

Moses cut himself off from a promising career as a wealthy Egyptian and he chose to do what God desired him to do.

.... Take Responsibility for our Decisions

vs 25: *Moses chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time.*

God has given each of us freedom to choose what path our lives will take. Responsible people take ownership of their decisions.

In **vs 24** Moses made his life changing decision "*When he had grown up.*" One of the signs of maturity is accepting responsibility for our own decisions.

... Refuse to Compromise our Values.

Moses clarified his values and thought them through. He internalized his values. **vs 26:** *He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures in Egypt because he was looking ahead to his reward.*

Moses considered God's will for his life of greater value than all of the treasures of Egypt he could have had as Pharaoh. If we don't determine what's valuable to us - other people will do it for us.

There are three common values that society promotes...

Pleasure - Possessions - Power

- **Moses decided that God's purpose is more valuable than popularity.**
vs 24: *By faith, Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.*

Moses wasn't impressed with himself. He basically felt, "*He'd rather be a slave fulfilling God's purpose than be the king of Egypt.*"

- **People are more valuable than pleasures.**

vs 25: He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy his pleasures of sin for a short time.

Moses heard the cries of his people and he decided people are more important than pleasures. In order to do the right thing he chose discomfort over comfort.

- **God's peace is more valuable than possessions.**

vs 26a: He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as greater value than the treasures of Egypt...

Many people have so much to live on and so little to live for. Jesus said in **Luke 12:15** (nlt) "*Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.*" It's a matter of values. We **love** people and we **use** things.

...Keeping an eye on our future.

vs 26b ...because he was looking ahead to his reward.

Moses was continuously looking forward. *vs 27: By faith, he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger. He persevered because he saw him who is invisible.*

Moses never took his eye off the goal. Even when facing the huge and daunting obstacles in front of him. Obstacles are what we see when we take our eyes off the goal! See **2 Corinthians 4:16-17**

God's purpose for our life is always greater than the problems in our life.
2 Corinthians 4:18

Hebrews 11:27b *...he (Moses) left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger. He persevered because he saw him who is invisible.*

What did Moses have to endure? He had to learn to wait. When Moses was a young man, God said "*You are going to be the deliverer of an entire nation.*"

Moses waited eighty years before he was able to take his people right up to the edge of the Promised Land. Waiting is one of the greatest tests of faith.

God's delays are not His denials. He has every intention of fulfilling His promise. But He will do it in His time to stretch and to strengthen our faith.

We overcome discouragement by renewing our vision! **Hebrews 12:1-3**

God uses ordinary people like Moses and us, but it is our choice to respond!