50+ Class – All Saints Presbyterian Church Winter-Spring 2021 The Life of Moses

Week 4 – Lessons in Midian

Introduction

Preparation is a Process

Psalm 119

⁶⁷Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word. ...

Your failure can encourage your obedience (v67) and teachability (v71).

Lessons from Failure

Exodus 2

15 ... Moses fled from Pharaoh and stayed in the land of Midian. And he sat down by a well.

Spiritual/Godly ends aren't had by carnal means.

God's timing flows towards results. Man's timing forces and frustrates.

Spiritual leadership is <u>led</u> by <u>the Spirit</u>, not <u>earned</u> by <u>the flesh</u>.

Exodus 2

¹⁶ Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters, and they came and drew water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. ¹⁷ The shepherds came and drove them away, but Moses stood up and **saved them**, and **watered their flock**.

Spiritual maturity includes a **servant**'s heart.

Exodus 2

¹⁸ When they came home to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come home so soon today?" ¹⁹ They said, "An Egyptian *delivered us* out of the hand of the shepherds and even drew water for us and watered the flock." ²⁰ He said to his daughters, "Then *where is he?* Why have you left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread." ²¹ And Moses was *content to dwell with the man*, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah. ²² She gave birth to a son, and he called his name *Gershom*, for he said, "I have been a sojourner^[d] in a foreign land."

Spiritual maturity includes being content with obscurity.

⁷¹ It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.

Exodus 2

23 During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. 24 And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. ²⁵ God **saw** the people of Israel—and God **knew**.

Spiritual maturity rests and relies on God.

Psalm 103

¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. ¹⁴ For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

The Desert

Deuteronomy 32

10 "<u>He</u> found <u>him</u> in a **desert land**, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; <u>he</u> **encircled** <u>him</u>, <u>he</u> **cared** for <u>him</u>, <u>he</u> **kept** <u>him</u> as the apple of <u>his</u> eye. 11 Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that flutters over its young, spreading out its wings, catching them, bearing them on its pinions. ¹² the LORD alone **guided** him, no foreign god was with him.

Deuteronomy 8

² And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your **God has led you these forty** *years* in the wilderness, that he might *humble you*, *testing you* to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.

God brings us to the desert to refine us, not to ruin us.

Acts 7

²⁸ Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' ²⁹ At this retort *Moses fled and* became an exile in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons. 30 "Now when forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush.

Q & A / Discussion

Next Week: Holy Horeb! Burning Bushes! – Exodus 3