

## REJECTED

Acts 7:33-39 (NIV),<sup>33</sup> “Then the Lord said to him, ‘Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.’<sup>34</sup> I have indeed seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their groaning and have come down to set them free. Now come, I will send you back to Egypt.’<sup>35</sup> “This is the same Moses they had rejected with the words, ‘Who made you ruler and judge?’ He was sent to be their ruler and deliverer by God himself, through the angel who appeared to him in the bush.<sup>36</sup> He led them out of Egypt and performed wonders and signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea and for forty years in the wilderness.<sup>37</sup> “This is the Moses who told the Israelites, ‘God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your own people.’<sup>38</sup> He was in the assembly in the wilderness, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors, and he received living words to pass on to us.<sup>39</sup> “But our ancestors refused to obey him. Instead, they rejected him and in their hearts turned back to Egypt.”

### 1. God Chose You

- John 15:16 (ESV),<sup>16</sup> “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, he may give it to you.”

### 2. Take a Risk

- Matthew 19:27-30 (MSG),<sup>27</sup> Then Peter chimed in, “We left everything and followed you. What do we get out of it?”<sup>28-30</sup> Jesus replied, “Yes, you have followed me. In the re-creation of the world, when the Son of Man will rule gloriously, you who have followed me will also rule, starting with the twelve tribes of Israel. And not only you, but anyone who sacrifices home, family, fields—whatever—because of me will get it all back a hundred times over, not to mention the considerable bonus of eternal life.

### 3. It’s Not About You

- Acts 7:34 (ESV),<sup>34</sup> ‘I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their groaning, and I have come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send you to Egypt.’

### 4. Don’t Get Attached

- Philippians 2:5-8 (MSG),<sup>5-8</sup> Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn’t think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn’t claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless,

*obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.*