

Wednesday September 3, 2025 Franklinton Baptist Church rchildress

What God Can Do with a Desert!

Shaping God's Servant

Scripture: Acts 7:30; Exodus 2:11

I. Introduction: God Uses the Desert

- Acts 7:30 — Moses meets God at the burning bush after 40 years in the desert.
- Most of us won't encounter burning bushes, but we do walk through deserts—seasons of isolation, waiting, and uncertainty.
- Key Truth: God is always at work—even in barren places. The desert is not wasted time; it's preparation.

II. Act I: Leaving Egypt — Letting Go of the Past

Exodus 2:11–15

- Moses kills an Egyptian, tries to mediate a fight, and is rejected:
"Who made you ruler and judge over us?"
- Pharaoh seeks to kill him; Moses flees to Midian and sits by a well.

Lessons:

- You must leave your past before God can use it.
- God can reclaim even the messy parts—but not until you surrender them.
- The well becomes a place of reflection and readiness.

III. Act II: Learning in the Desert — Growing in Obscurity

Exodus 2:16–22

- Moses defends seven daughters from shepherds and waters their flock.
- Reuel invites him to dinner; Moses marries Zipporah ("birdie") and names his son Gershom ("stranger here").

Three Principles Moses Learns:

1. Serve without superiority

No longer acting like a hero—just humbly helping.

2. Rescue without recognition

No applause needed; just faithful service.

3. Prepare by being patient

God shapes us in quiet seasons.

The desert is not punishment—it's protection and preparation.

IV. Act III: The Cry of God's People — God Responds

Exodus 2:23–25

- After 40 years, the Israelites finally cry out in prayer.
- God responds with compassion and action.

Key Verbs:

- God heard
- God remembered
- God looked
- God was concerned

Lessons:

- Even delayed prayers reach God.
- God is faithful to His covenant.
- He sees, hears, and acts with love.

V. Final Reflection: God Is Shaping You

- God was shaping Moses while preparing His people.
- You may feel stuck—but God is still working.
- The question is:

Will you let Him shape you? Will you be ready and responsive?