

Discipleship – the highest calling

Matthew 10:11

Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority...

Matthew 15:32

Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 'I have compassion for these people'

A journey of highs and lows

Exodus 2:10

When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Exodus 3:1

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness.

Excuses, Excuses!

Who am I? *Exodus 3:10-12*

The Lord said.... 'So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.' But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?' And God said, 'I will be with you'.

Who are you? *Exodus 3:13-15*

Moses said to God, 'Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you," and they ask me, "What is his name?" Then what shall I tell them?' God said to Moses, 'I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: "I am has sent me to you."' God also said to Moses, 'Say to the Israelites, "The Lord, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you."'

They will not listen *Exodus 4:1-2*

Moses answered, 'What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, "The Lord did not appear to you"?' Then the Lord said to him, 'What is that in your hand?'

I do not have the ability or gift *Exodus 4:10-12*

Moses said to the Lord, 'Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.' The Lord said to him, 'Who gave human beings their

mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? ...Is it not I, the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.'

Send someone else *Exodus 4:13-14*

But Moses said, 'Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.' Then the Lord's anger burned against Moses and he said, 'What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you.'

Consider your calling

1 Corinthians 1:26 – 2:5

Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose... And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling.... so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

Only by the grace of God

Ephesians 3:7

I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.

Numbers 12:3

Now the man Moses was very meek, more than all people who were on the face of the earth.

In Community Groups:

To consider –

What are the main things we can learn from Moses' own experience of God's call on his life?

How do we react when we hear the call to be disciples being preached, or we sense God speaking to us?

For action –

Share with each other any challenges you have faced now or in the past where you had difficulty in embracing the call to discipleship.

Pray for each other to receive God's grace and power anew to fulfil God's call on our lives.