

EXODUS 5:1-23

When Faithfulness Doesn't Produce Results

I. Moses was _____ in bringing God's request to Pharaoh.

Afterward Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.'" v. 1

II. Pharaoh was _____ and vengeful in response to the request.

But Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and moreover, I will not let Israel go. ... Let heavier work be laid on the men that they may labor at it and pay no regard to lying words." ... vv. 2-14

III. The Israelites were confused and _____ in light of their treatment.

Then the foremen of the people of Israel came and cried to Pharaoh, "Why do you treat your servants like this? No straw is given to your servants, yet they say to us, 'Make bricks!' And behold, your servants are beaten" ... They met Moses and Aaron, who were waiting for them, as they came out from Pharaoh; and they said to them, "The Lord look on you and judge, because you have made us stink in the sight of Pharaoh and his servants, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us." vv. 15-21

IV. Moses was _____ in spite of his faithfulness.

Then Moses turned to the Lord and said, "O Lord, why have you done evil to this people? Why did you ever send me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has done evil to this people, and you have not delivered your people at all." vv. 22-23

WHEN DISAPPOINTMENT BECOMES DEFEATING

_____ and faithfully face your disappointments.

_____ to the Lord with your honest doubts.

_____ your expectations to what is promised for a follower of Jesus.

HOME GROUP STUDY & DEVOTIONAL

1. Read Exodus 5:1-23. What is Pharaoh's view of the sincerity of Moses and Aaron's request? Why does he respond the way he does to this irritation?

2. Chapter 5 marks the beginning of a “battle” where God shows Himself supreme over the gods of Egypt. Skim over Job 1:1—2:10. Notice that Job can’t see behind the scenes and doesn’t know the greater purpose of his circumstances—just as Moses didn’t. Even if you can’t know the unseen factors in your own situation, how does this reminder of God’s sovereignty encourage you?

3. In talking to Pharaoh, the Israelite foremen refer to themselves as “your servants.” How would the Lord respond to that, and why?

4. What accusations do the people level at Moses and Aaron? To what degree are they accurate?

5. The people of Israel persistently complained about God's will and criticized His leaders. Why are these such common sins among God's people? How can we become more aware of this error, and what should we do about it?

6. Of what does Moses accuse God? How are you assuming the wrong thing about God's character in your own experience?

7. How does the Lord deal with Moses' complaint (see 6:1)? What does that response tell you about Him?

8. How do circumstances that seemingly turn against us force us to depend on God? How has that been true in your life?

9. Which of the applications from the sermon do you need to remember and utilize when you feel disappointment in the Lord's ways?

The major theme of Exodus 5 focuses on the question, "Who will serve whom?" The players and their commitments are center stage: Aaron and Moses, the Pharaoh and his servants, and the Israelite foremen caught in between. The conflict that begins here will not be resolved until Exodus 12:31-33.

JAMES BRUCKNER

Chapter 5 begins the contest with Pharaoh. The plagues are leveled against the idolatry of Egypt. It is actually a battle of God with the gods of Egypt. ... Pharaoh refused to let Israel go, and this opened the struggle between God and the gods of Egypt. ... Pharaoh asked the question, "Who is the Lord? I do not know Him, and I do not intend to let Israel go." So God introduced Himself and did it by bringing plagues on the land of Egypt.

J. VERNON MCGEE

So many times you and I miss the opportunity to watch the Lord work in mighty and miraculous ways. Why? Because instead of “standing still” and watching Him pull off our deliverance, we seek out the carnal alternative. We look for the back door, the fleshly shortcut. ... In that weak moment, we hear the tempter’s voice and take matters into our own hands instead of staying with the Lord’s plan and waiting for Him to work. But after we take that shortcut, that temporary escape route so close at hand, there’s hell to pay (for real!). And life really does descend from bad to worse. ... Until your eyes are fixed on the Lord, you will not be able to endure those days that go from bad to worse. There is no substitute that replaces this. Fix your eyes on the Lord! Do it once. Do it daily. Do it ten thousand times ten thousand times. Do it constantly. When your prospects thin, when your hope burns low, when people disappoint you, when events turn against you, when dreams die, when the walls close in, when the prognosis seems grim, when your heart breaks, look at the Lord, and keep on looking at Him.

CHARLES SWINDOLL

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)

2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)

3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)

4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.cbcfamily.org/events. That's a great spot to see what's coming up!

REACH WITH DISASTER RELIEF Here at Christ Chapel, we want to offer hope and healing in Jesus' name to those experiencing the impact of natural disasters. Through this ministry, we respond quickly and compassionately to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those impacted. Whether it's clearing debris, providing essential supplies, offering prayer or simply being a comforting presence, we are committed to showing Christ's love in tangible ways. Learn more about how you can reach with us at ccbcfamily.org/local.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER We believe prayer has the power to transform hearts, restore lives and impact entire communities—because we're bringing our needs to the God who has the power to change everything. That's why we're excited to join together for the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 1. Details can be found at ccbcfamily.org/ndop.

MONDAYS WITH THE MASTER Start your week with Mondays with the Master—a dedicated time of prayer where we gather to seek God's heart and lift up the needs of our church, our city, our nation and the world. Each week, we come together in humility and expectation, believing that when we call on the name of Jesus, He hears us and moves in ways only He can. Whether you've been praying for years or are just beginning to grow in your prayer life, this is a space where you can connect with others and draw near to God. Learn more at ccbcfamily.org/mondays.

ADULT BIBLE FELLOWSHIP Adult Bible Fellowships are more than just classes; they're spaces designed for a deeper connection with God and with others. These gatherings, woven into our Sunday worship rhythm, offer a meaningful opportunity to grow in your understanding of God's Word while building authentic Christian community. Find details today on how to be a part at ccbcfamily.org/abf.

MUSICAMP IS COMING SOON Get ready—MusiCamp is just around the corner! Mark your calendars for July 7-12 as children in grades 1-6 take center stage in an unforgettable week of music, movement and fun. In just five days, kids will learn an entire musical with catchy songs, choreography and lots of excitement. It's a joyful, high-energy experience where creativity and community come together. Sign up at ccbcfamily.org/musicamp



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Chapel.



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—scan the QR Code to start.