

# The School of Hard Knocks: Part 1

EXODUS 2:11-15

LIVING  
FAITHFULLY  
IN A  
FOREIGN  
*Land*

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## LESSON 1: We cannot live faithfully for God trusting in our own \_\_\_\_\_ .

*One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people. He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. vv. 11-12*

## LESSON 2: We cannot live faithfully for God depending on our own \_\_\_\_\_ .

*When he went out the next day, behold, two Hebrews were struggling together. And he said to the man in the wrong, "Why do you strike your companion?" He answered, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid, and thought, "Surely the thing is known." vv. 13-14*

## LESSON 3: We cannot live faithfully for God running from our own \_\_\_\_\_ .

*When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and stayed in the land of Midian. And he sat down by a well. v. 15*

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## We find God at work at the end of \_\_\_\_\_ .

*But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. James 4:6-8*

Stop running from sin and draw near to God to find \_\_\_\_\_ .

Stop trusting in your own schemes and humbly trust God's \_\_\_\_\_ .

Stop depending on your own strength and submit yourself to God's \_\_\_\_\_ .

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## DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

# LIVING FAITHFULLY IN A FOREIGN Land

Before you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Read Exodus 2:11-15. What do you learn about Moses' character at this stage of his life so far?
2. What people and experiences did God use to equip Moses to this point?
3. What similarities and differences do you find between Exodus 2 and Matthew 2? Why did Jesus relive Israel's history leading toward the Exodus?
4. Why would discipline and suffering be a necessary part of God's plan for Moses, and for us?
5. List the behaviors and attitudes present in a strong-willed child. What is it that makes us so prone to demand our own way?
6. How do you see willfulness in the heart and actions of Moses? What were some of the consequences of his willful behavior?
7. What are some of the common signs of willfulness you've seen in your life? What negative consequences have you faced because of a willful decision you made, and what has God done to redeem the situation?
8. What is one area of your life where you need the prayers and support of your Home Group as you seek to submit to God's will rather than follow your own willfulness?

"Moses' desire to help his brethren was admirable, but his method was deplorable (v. 12; cf. Acts 7:23-29). He trusted in his own ability to liberate the Israelites, and he sought to bring this about by natural means. He even resorted to sinful means, and seized authority, rather than waiting for God to give it to him. Moses' faith is obvious in his desire to identify with God and His people (cf. Ruth). He probably struggled in his younger years with whether he could do more for the Israelites by working for them within the Egyptian hierarchy or from without. He chose to identify with the faithful, and relied on the power of God—eventually taking the role of a humble shepherd holding a staff, rather than on the power of an Egyptian prince holding a scepter."

TOM CONSTABLE

"Moses looked this way, and he looked that way. Isn't it interesting? He didn't look up, did he?"

CHARLES SWINDOLL

"The man who was 'mighty in word and deed' is now in the lonely pastures taking care of stubborn sheep, but that was just the kind of preparation he needed for leading a nation of stubborn people. Israel was God's special flock (Ps 100:3) and Moses His chosen shepherd. Like Joseph's thirteen years as a slave in Egypt and Paul's three years' hiatus after his conversion (Gal 1:16-17), Moses' forty years of waiting and working prepared him for a lifetime of faithful ministry. God doesn't lay hands suddenly on His servants but takes time to equip them for their work."

WARREN WIERSBE

### 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.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events).



**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 Christ Chapel.

**2025 MUSICAL INTEREST MEETING** This meeting is for anyone interested in getting involved in the upcoming musical—whether you want to join the cast, assist with the crew, or contribute in other ways. We'll share details on auditions, rehearsals, crew roles and more. Come meet the team, ask questions and learn how you can be part of this incredible REACH event! Learn more at [www.ccbcfamily.org/musicalinterest](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/musicalinterest).

**MAKE DISCIPLES IN WOMEN'S MINISTRY** Mentorship is a beautiful opportunity for women to share wisdom, support spiritual growth and help one another navigate their walk with Jesus. Whether through regular conversations, Bible study or simply walking alongside each other in life, you can play a crucial role in shaping and uplifting fellow sisters in Christ. If you want to learn more about becoming a mentor and stepping into this powerful calling, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/women](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/women).

**MENTOR WITH MEN'S MINISTRY** Just as you have been shaped and strengthened in your own walk with Jesus, you now have the opportunity to invest in the younger generation of men—guiding, encouraging, and helping them establish a strong foundation in Christ. Mentorship isn't just about teaching; it's about walking alongside them, sharing your experiences, and helping them become all that God has called them to be. To learn more about how you can become a mentor, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/men](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/men).

**WOMEN'S PRAYER RETREAT** We all need more time with the Lord, but life's distractions can pull us away. Our Spring Prayer Retreat is the perfect chance for Christ Chapel women to unplug and focus on one-on-one time with Jesus. With short messages on prayer, a personal testimony, fellowship and prayer guides, you'll have everything you need to deepen your connection with God. Bring your Bible, journal, favorite spiritual book and anything that helps you worship! Sign up at [www.ccbcfamily.org/prayerretreat](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/prayerretreat).

**FOSTER AND ADOPT MINISTRY** The Foster Adopt Ministry offers support to families and children involved in foster care and adoption. Many members of Christ Chapel also serve as CASA Advocates, speaking up for children in emergency foster care. Discover how you can make a meaningful impact by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/local](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/local).



**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.