

Heroes of Faith: Moses
How Spiritual Leaders are Made
Mosaic Rockford - Dave Spooner – Feb. 26th

Tom with the Gideon's

Intro:

- Heroes of faith series – where are looking to the lives and the times of our biblical ancestors to learn truth and principles which we can apply to our lives in our time.
- So far in this series, we have looked at Noah (what to do in a world gone mad), Abraham (how to keep moving forward in your life and faith), and Jacob (how to win with both God and man).
- This morning we are looking at the early life of Moses to learn how spiritual leaders are made and gain insight that will help us in our lives and our leadership and help us to develop others in spiritual leadership as well.
- So, when you think of Moses, what comes to mind? (Ten commandments, 10 plagues, parting of the red sea, seeing God face to face, Pillar of Cloud and fire, building the tabernacle, setting up laws, writing of the first 5 books of the bible, etc. . . .) this is who he became, but this is not how he started.

A difficult start in life

- Moses was a slave (Ex. 1:13-14) – part of a persecuted people / genocide
- Moses was adopted (Ex. 2:10) – thank the lord for parents who want better for their kids
- Moses was a murderer (Ex. 2:12) – it was to defend a victim, he could of dealt with it differently
- Moses was a deceiver (Ex. 2:12) – he hid what he had done, he knew it was wrong
- Moses was a fugitive (Ex. 2:15) – he was on the run from the law
- Moses was an immigrant (Ex. 2:22) – probably illegal, even though he was a good person in the new country he might have been on top of the deportation list.

God can call anyone

- There is hope for everyone – no one is beyond the reach of God.
- Often God calls those who are the least in the world to be the greatest in His kingdom.

1 Cor 1:26-30 NIV

Brothers, 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. 27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 28 He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things — and the things that are not — to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast before him.

- Ill. of my own life (poor family, crooked teeth, pimple faced, skinny, insecure, divorced parents, girl chaser, stealer, convict step father who committed suicide, etc.)
- When you are called to be a spiritual leader, and we all are in some degree or another, also know that God will train you for the task.

God will train you for the task He gives you

- He knew Hebrew life (Ex. 2:9-10) - he was one of them and had understanding and empathy
- He knew Egyptian life (Ex. 2:10) – he knew how they thought and what to do and say – he could relate

- He knew how to survive and what to expect in the desert (Ex. 3:1) – God led him back through the same area
- He knew how to take care of a flock (Ex. 3:1) he was taking care of sheep – learned the skills to care of people
- **What God brings you through he brings you to**
 - How can God use what you have gone through to bring hope and help to others . . .
- When he gives you a task, he will make sure you are equipped and he promises to be with you

God will be with you

Ex 3:11-12a ESV

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" 12 He said, "But I will be with you"

- Number one command is “fear not” and the reason that he tells us this is because he promises “to be with us”)
- You are not, nor will you ever be alone
 - Immanuel – God with us, he will be with us to the end of the age, set us the Holy Spirit to be with us . . . He will never leave you or forsake you – trust and hope in Him.

God will give you what you need, when you need it

- He gave him a calling (Ex. 3:10 - 12)
 - The first time he tried to “deliver the people” He had the desire – but not the maturity, disposition or equipping – when God called him to deliver the people, he had the skills and the character (humility) to complete the task
- He gave him authority (Ex. 3:13-14) – the right to do something I AM who I AM sent me
- He gave him a plan (Ex. 3:15-22) – he knew the steps to take
- He gave him a goal (Ex. 3:15-22) – go to the promise land, to know him, set up a nation
- He gave him abilities (Ex. 4:1-9) - staff to snake / hand to leprosy / water to blood
- He gave him a voice – (Ex. 4:10-12) – I will be your mouth and teach you what you shall speak – and also Arron, even though God was not happy about it – because of Moses request to send someone else because of his insecurities.

Conclusion

- Remember, God can call anyone from any background, God will train you for you task he gives you, He will be with you and will give you what you need when you need it

Questions for the ride home:

1. What have you been through that can benefit other people?
2. In what ways has God equipped and trained you?
3. How can you use these things right now to help and lead others?