

# Bible Stories for Adults

## The Call of Moses

Exodus 3 - 4

### Opening

- Gathering: When have you felt inadequate to do God's work but found it easy when you let God lead.
- Today's Focus: God uses ordinary people, like you and me, to do His extraordinary work.
- Key Verses: *We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us.* 2 Corinthians 6:20
- You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit.* John 15:16
- So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.* Isaiah 41:10

Opening Prayer

### Lesson

Moses' Story According to Stephen (Acts 7:17-36)

According to Stephen, were the Israelites saved at a random time?

Acts 7:17-19 = *As the time drew near for God to fulfill His promise*

According to Paul, were the new Israelites saved at a random time?

Galatians 4:4-5 = *When the time had fully come ...*

How did God prepare Moses for his calling? = Well-versed in Egyptian ways

Acts 7:20-22 = Educated in Egyptian wisdom, powerful in speech & action

How old was Moses when he left Pharaoh's house? = 40 signifies generation, change of life

Acts 7:23-29 = 40 yrs old, Killed Egyptian, Moved to Midian, 40 yrs learning to lead a nation

Who were the Midianites?

Genesis 25:1-2 = Midian was son of Abraham's 2nd wife, Keturah (after Sarah died)

What was significant about Moses' father-in-law?

Exodus 18:1 = He was high priest of Midian, probably worshipped true God

How old was Moses when God called him from the bush? = 40 yrs around Mount Sinai

Acts 7:30-34 = 80 yrs old, 40 yrs learning to be one of God's people and to lead God's people

How old was Moses when the Israelites reached the Promised Land?

Acts 7:36 = 120 yrs old - sustained by God 40 yrs in wilderness

What had the Israelite asked Moses when he tried to settle a dispute?

Acts 7:27 = *Who made you ruler and judge over us?*

How did Stephen answer this question?

Acts 7:35 = *sent to be their ruler and deliverer by God Himself*

Horeb, the Mountain of God (Exodus 3:1) = Horeb is one of 3 peaks on Mt Sinai

Where did Moses lead his father-in-law's flock? = Sinai is in wilderness of Sin

Exodus 3:1 = *to Horeb, the mountain of God* (also called Sinai)

Where did Moses lead his Heavenly Father's flock? = Deuteronomy 5:2 calls it Horeb

Exodus 19:1-2 = After 3 months, Israelites camped at Mount Sinai

What special event happened at Horeb?

Exodus 19:3; 20:2-3; 21:1 = God gave 10 Commandments & Civil, Moral & Ceremonial Laws

# Bible Stories for Adults

## The Call of Moses

Page 2

### God's Holy Ground (*Exodus 3:5*)

What did God say that foretold what would later happen at Horeb?

Exodus 3:5 = Take off your sandals, you're standing on holy ground

What other land was called *holy ground*? = Remove sandals so dust won't defile

Joshua 5:13-15 = The Promised Land - West of Jordan, near Jericho

What *holy ground* will Jesus help us see?

Revelation 21:2 = Our promised land, heaven

### God In the Fire (*Exodus 3:2-3*)

How did God appear to Moses on Sinai?

Exodus 3:2-3 = Flames of fire within a bush that didn't burn up

What other ways did God use fire in His Story? = Don't read, ask for answers, then review

Exodus 13:21 = God led Israelites in pillar of fire at night

Genesis 15:17-18 = God as firepot & torch in blood covenant with Abram

Genesis 19:24 = God destroyed Sodom & Gomorrah with fire from heaven

1 Kings 18:22-26, 33, 38 = God sent fire to Elijah's sacrifice, none from Baal

2 Kings 2:11 = Elijah taken to heaven with horses & chariot of fire

Daniel 3:22-27 = Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego protected by angel in fiery furnace

Acts 2:1-4 = Tongues of fire on disciples filled with Holy Spirit

2 Thessalonians 1:7b = Jesus will be revealed from heaven in blazing fire

Revelation 20:14-15 = Death, Hades & unsaved are destroyed in lake of fire

How does God reveal Himself to us today? = Don't read, ask for answers, then review

2 Timothy 3:16 = Through the Scripture

Galatians 1:15-16 = Through each other

Ephesians 3:4-5 = Through His apostles & prophets (chosen leaders)

Luke 2:28-32; John 17:6 = Through His Son, Jesus Christ

John 14:26 = Through His Counselor, the Holy Spirit

Acts 19:5-6 = Through Baptism

1 Corinthians 11:26, 29 = Through The Lord's Supper

### God Calls Moses (*Exodus 3:4-10*)

Why did God decide to come to Moses at this time?

Exodus 2:23-25 = God heard Israel's cries, brought His covenant to mind, concerned

How did God introduce Himself to Moses? = Every true prophet was called by God, none chose job

Exodus 3:4-6 = I am the God of your fathers Abraham, Isaac & Jacob

What did God tell Moses that He was going to do?

Exodus 3:7-10 = Rescue His people through Moses & take to Promised Land

How does God call us to rescue His people & take them to the Promised Land?

Matthew 28:19 = *Go and make disciples of all nations* – key word is *GO*

# Bible Stories for Adults

## The Call of Moses

Page 3

### Moses' First Excuse (*Exodus 3:11-12*)

What was Moses' first excuse why God shouldn't send him?

Exodus 3:11 = *Who am I?* I'm a nobody. I can't go up against Pharaoh

What was God's answer to Moses' excuse? = Discuss: What would God's promise mean to Moses?

Exodus 3:12 = *I will be with you.* You will return with people to this mountain

What is God's answer to our excuse that we are unable to go ourselves?

Matthew 28:20 = *Surely I am with you always* (added to our command to GO)

Romans 8:31 = *If God is for us, who can be against us?*

### Moses' Second Excuse (*Exodus 3:13-22*)

What was Moses' second excuse why God shouldn't send him?

Exodus 3:13 = What if the Israelites ask who sent me?

What was God's answer to Moses' excuse? = See NIV footnotes for v 14-15

Exodus 3:14-15 = Tell them I sent you

Note: Hebrew name for God, Yahweh, means *He is* or *He will be*

Who should we say sends us?

Luke 10:2-3 = The Lord of the harvest, Jesus said, *Go, I am sending you out ...*

What did God tell Moses to say to the Israelite elders?

Exodus 3:16-17 = God sent me to rescue you & take you to the Promised Land

What did God tell Moses to say to Pharaoh?

Exodus 3:18 = Let God's people go for 3 days to worship Him

How did God say Pharaoh would respond?

Exodus 3:19-22 = He'd say no. God would send plagues & Israel will leave with plunder

What message does God give us to speak?

1 Corinthians 2:6-7 = A message of God's secret wisdom, His Plan

### Moses' Third Excuse (*Exodus 4:1-9*)

What was Moses' third excuse why God shouldn't send him?

Exodus 4:1 = *What if they don't believe me?*

What was God's answer to Moses' excuse?

Exodus 4:2-5 = Gave him the miraculous sign of staff turning to a snake

What if that didn't convince them?

Exodus 4:6-8 = Gave a second sign of hand turning leprous, then clean

What if that didn't work?

Exodus 4:9 = Gave a third sign of water turning to blood

What does God give us to help others believe the message we bring?

1 Corinthians 12:1, 11 = Spiritual gifts

# Bible Stories for Adults

## The Call of Moses

Page 4

### Moses' Fourth Excuse (*Exodus 4:10-12*)

What was Moses' fourth excuse why God shouldn't send him?

*Exodus 4:10* = I can't speak, I'm not eloquent

Was this a valid excuse?

*Acts 7:22* = No, he was trained to be powerful in speech and action

What was God's answer to Moses' excuse?

*Exodus 4:11-12* = I will give you the words to say

How do we know what to say to others about our faith?

*1 Corinthians 2:13* = In words given by the Spirit

What did Paul claim about the eloquence of his testimony? = Came in weakness, fear, much trembling

*1 Corinthians 2:1-5* = Words not mine, but a demonstration of the Spirit's power

### Moses' Fifth Excuse (*Exodus 4:13-17*)

What was the last excuse Moses was able to come up with?

*Exodus 4:13* = PLEASE pick someone else!

What was God's answer to Moses' excuse? = God became frustrated with Moses' weak faith

*Exodus 4:14-17* = I will make your brother Aaron your assistant

What does Jesus promise about the power of doing God's work with others?

*Matthew 18:19-20* = *Where 2 or 3 come together in my name, there I am with them*

### Moses Returns to Egypt (*Exodus 4:18-31*)

How did Moses finally respond to his call from God?

*Exodus 4:18-20* = He went, God encouraged him

How much did God reveal to Moses about what would happen in Egypt?

*Exodus 4:21-23* = Show wonders, Pharaoh would refuse, God would kill his firstborn son

What had Moses forgotten before leaving to lead the Israelites?

*Exodus 4:24-26* = To circumcise his son – Required of God's chosen people (*Genesis 17*)

Who did Moses meet en-route to Egypt?

*Exodus 4:27-28* = His brother Aaron, God sent him as promised

How was Moses received by the elders of the Israelites?

*Exodus 4:29-31* = They believed and were encouraged that God was concerned about them

Closing Prayer

## Response

1. How has God prepared me for doing His work?  
(*Exodus 3:1; Acts 7:22; Genesis 45:5; Acts 22:1-21; 1 Corinthians 2:9; 2 Timothy 1:5-6*)
2. Do I ever feel like I'm not worthy to present God's message to someone else?  
(*Exodus 3:11; Isaiah 6:5-8; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 10:15; 2 Timothy 1:7-8; 2 Thessalonians 1:11*)
3. Do I openly acknowledge before others the one who sends me?  
(*Exodus 3:13; Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:8-10; 2 Timothy 1:8, 11-12*)
4. Do I hesitate sharing the gospel because I am afraid of being rejected?  
(*Exodus 4:1; Matthew 10:14-15, 22, 28, 32-33; Luke 10:16; John 12:47-48*)
5. Am I afraid that I won't know what to say when I have an opportunity to share the gospel?  
(*Exodus 4:10-12; Luke 12:12; 21:15; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, 13; Galatians 1:11-12*)