

Meet Moses

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 1
Exodus 1:1-22; 2:1-10

Introduction: The Bible makes this observation in John 1:17, *"The law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."* The Bible also says in Deuteronomy 34:10, *"No prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face."* Therefore, it should not surprise us that the Bible mentions Moses more than 700 times. If we think about it, it was Moses whom God used to bring about the greatest commandments of the law, the Ten Commandments. And it was God who used Moses to bring about the greatest nation, Israel. Both the Ten Commandments and the nation of Israel have influenced the world in huge ways.

The Life of Moses: We can divide the life of Moses into three sections of 40 years each. 40 years growing up. 40 years in the desert. And 40 years leading the Jews. D. L. Moody said Moses spent 40 years thinking he was a somebody, 40 years discovering he was a nobody, and the last 40 years learning how God could use a nobody to become a somebody for Him.

Setting the stage for the coming of Moses

Section 1 - The prosperity God sent to Israel. (1:1-7)

Section 2 - The pain that came upon Israel. (1:8-14)

Section 3 - The plan God blessed for Israel. (1:15-22)

The amazing story of a baby found in a basket who became the son of a princess (Exodus 2:1-10)

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

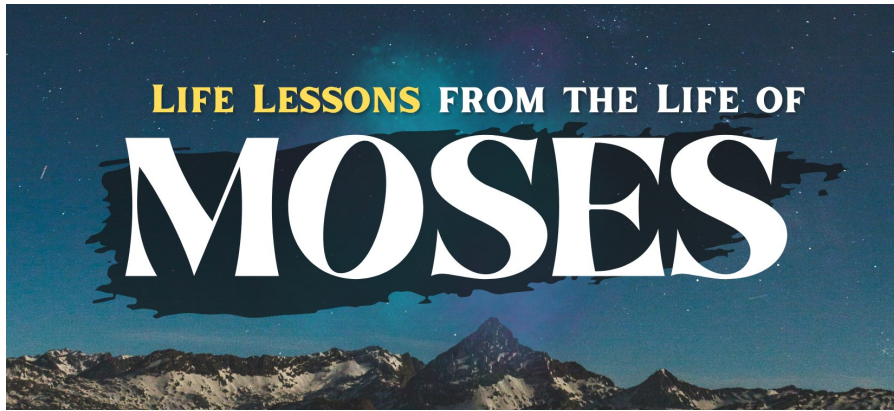
Truth #1 - We can find the fingerprints of God everywhere if we look for them.

Truth #2 - Hard times never escape God's notice nor erase God's promises.

Truth #3 - The Bible was "pro-life" and "pro-family" long before they ever became political terms.

Truth #4 - No matter how much we treasure how good things used to be, now are the times we have been given. This is our time and our watch to faithfully serve our God. We don't have time to be despairing when the world is dying for the hope we have.

Truth #5 - Nothing can prevent, change, delay, or defeat the plans of God.



God's Will My Way

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 2
Exodus 2:11-25

Introduction: Is it possible to want to do God's will but be bent on doing it our way? Is it possible to get ahead of God and take matters into our own hands and end up missing God's best for us? Is it possible to say something like this: "God, I know that You want to take care of this need in my life, but it's taking too long. So, let me take the steering wheel to do Your will my way."

Section #1 - Hidden sins never stay hidden.

(Exodus 2:11-14)

Section #2 - Mighty Moses becomes a man on the run.

(Exodus 2:15-22)

Section #3 - God turns His attention to the pain of Israel and His promises to them.

(Exodus 2:23-25)

→ **Note this:** Unlike our limited minds, the mind of God is all-knowing. In other words, God has never had a "senior moment" where He has forgotten something, and He never will. When the Bible says that God "remembered" something, it does not imply **FORGETFULNESS** - it is emphasizing **FAITHFULNESS**. That "God remembered" something is proof that God never forgets anything.

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - It is possible to get ahead of God and make a mess of what God wanted to bless.

→ **Note this:** When we are praying about something and it seems like "nothing happened again on this day," we can be tempted to become impatient and get ahead of God. But getting ahead of God instead of waiting on God will always bring unwanted consequences. I had written these words in the margin of Exodus chapter 2: "I think, 'What's best for me?' God thinks, 'What's best for me in the big picture of my life?' I should go with what God thinks."

Life Lesson #2 - We make our decisions and then our decisions make us. Always seek God before making decisions.

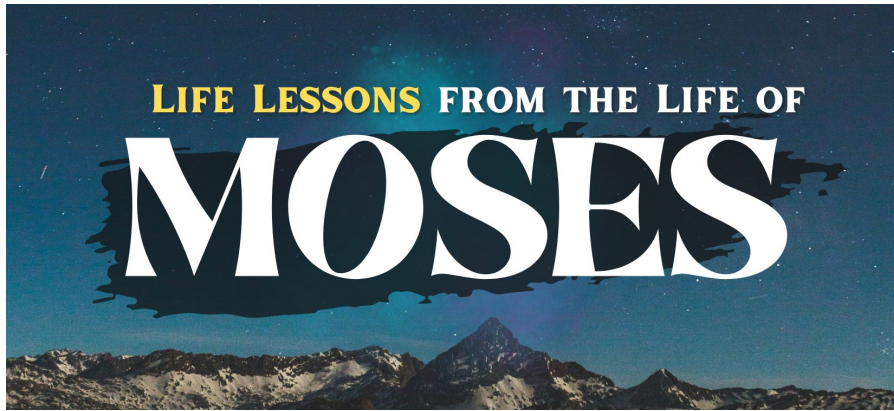
→ **Note this:** When making decisions, don't leave God out of the loop. Don't make going to God your last option - make going to God your first choice. Going to God and seeking His will in our decision-making will always keep our lives on track.

Life Lesson #3 - Waiting time is never wasted time when we are waiting on God.

→ **Note this:** It is said, "God is never early, never late. Always on time." But we must remember God doesn't keep time the way we do. When we feel worried because we don't see anything changing, we must remember that while we are waiting, God is working.

Life Lesson #4 - God waits for us to seek His counsel.

→ **Note this:** God not only plans what we are to do, but He has arranged the right time for us to do it. It is possible to do a right thing but at a wrong time. James 1:5 tells us, if we need wisdom, to ask God and He will give it to us. God wants us and waits for us to seek His counsel.



A Burning Bush And A Second Chance

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 3

Exodus 3:1-10

Section #1 - Moses sees a burning bush that doesn't stop burning and even starts talking. (Exodus 3:1-3)

Section #2 - From a burning bush, God speaks to Moses. (Exodus 3:4-6)

Section #3 - God gives a message and a mission to Moses. (Exodus 3:7-10)

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - God's delay does not mean denial.

→ **Note this:** We know God's timing is perfect even though we don't always understand what seems to be a delay. Our spiritual enemy, the devil, wants us to think differently about God's delays. When nothing seems to be changing, the devil suggests to us, *"God doesn't really care. If He did, He wouldn't leave you in this mess for so many months or longer. He is like a God who doesn't care and a God who*

isn't fair." However, the Bible tells us again and again that God's children can always trust the timing of our good God.

Life Lesson #2 - Don't miss something God wants to say or do in your life on the ordinary days of your life.

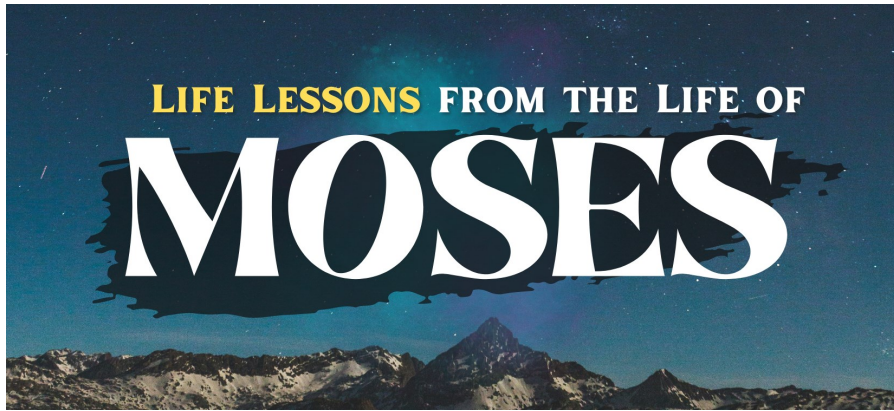
→ **Note this:** What was Moses doing before encountering God at the burning bush? Taking care of sheep. Feeding the sheep. Finding water for the sheep. And keeping wild animals away from the sheep. God's special word for Moses came on just another ordinary day in the desert. The same will be true for us. Don't miss something God wants to say or do in your life on the ordinary days of your life.

Life Lesson #3 - Not every unusual circumstance is a burning bush moment but it is a good idea to ask "Is God trying to say something to me at this time?"

→ **Note this:** Don't chalk up everything in life as a coincidence. When unusual circumstances happen, it's always good to ask "Is God trying to say something to me in this situation?" The question isn't "Does God have something to say?" The question is, "Am I listening?"

Life Lesson #4 - God's grace can take burned bridges and build new bridges because He is a God of second chances.

→ **Note this:** As we read this part of the story of Moses, we would say to him, "Moses, if you think God can't use you, think again. God's mercy is greater than our mistakes. Own what you have blown and know that God isn't finished with you because He is a God of second chances." Maybe we need to hear today our advice to Moses, "If you think God can't use you, think again." God knows how to use people who have made mistakes for His good purposes and plans.



God's Plan, Yes! God's Way, Maybe

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 4
Exodus 3:11-4:17

The five excuses of Moses as to why God had the right plan but the wrong man. (Exodus 3:11-4:17)

Excuse #1 - "I'm not qualified." Moses' first excuse and God's reply - Exodus 3:11-12.

Excuse #2 - "The Israelites won't know me so why would they trust me?" Moses' second excuse and God's reply - Exodus 3:13-22.

Excuse #3 - "I can't make them believe me." Moses' third excuse and God's reply - Exodus 4:1-9.

Excuse #4 - "I'm not good at speaking." Moses' fourth excuse and God's reply - Exodus 4:10-12.

Excuse #5 - "Anyone else is better to send than me." Moses' fifth excuse and God's reply - Exodus 4:13-17.

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - Because God is all-knowing, He never needs our advice.

→ **Note this:** Moses kept trying to give God his advice. God didn't need advice then, and God doesn't need advice now. Our all-knowing God has never asked anyone for advice. God has never had to call a consultant to provide Him with possible options for the best solution. Because God is all-knowing, He always knows what's best. This truth is another reason why we can fully trust Him (see Romans 11:34; Isaiah 55:8-9).

Life Lesson #2 - When facing life's circumstances, never leave out "the God-factor" - what God can do in this situation.

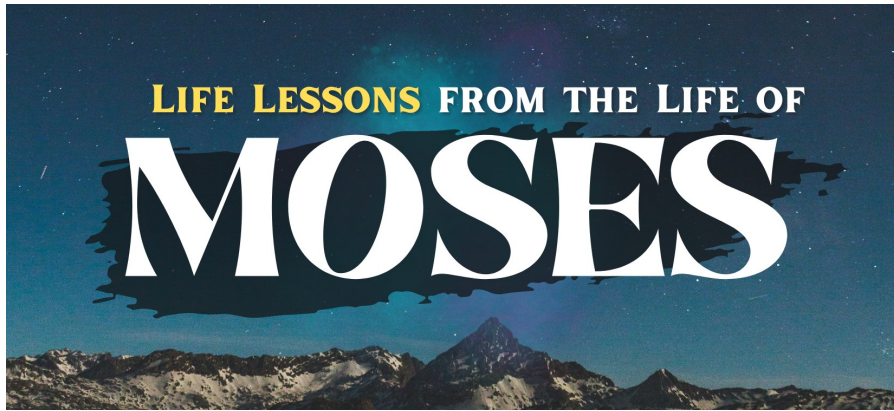
→ **Note this:** No matter what we think we can or cannot do when facing something in life, we need to always go to God first. Always put God into the equation. God promises His presence and His power every time we turn to and trust in Him.

Life Lesson #3 - God knows how to care for His children.

→ **Note this:** Included in the name "I AM" is the sense that God is whatever we need. I AM your strength, hope, deliverer, joy, wisdom, comfort, peace, and supply for whatever you need. According to His name, He is the all-sufficient God for every need in our lives. He knows how to care for His children.

Life Lesson #4 - God has a plan that covers all the details.

→ **Note this:** God said to Moses, "Go to the elders of Israel. Tell them what I told you. They will believe you. Next, go to Pharaoh. I'll work miracles. He will let My people go. Next, ask for gold and silver from the Egyptians on your way out. They will give it to you." In all of this, God was telling Moses not to worry about the future because He had a plan that covered all the details. The same is true for us today - God's got it covered including all the details!



Moses Makes His Way Back to Egypt

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 5
Exodus 4:18-31

Three lessons Moses needed to learn before returning to Egypt

Lesson #1 - A lesson about God's sovereignty. Because this is true we will do the hard thing. (Exodus 4:18-23)

Note this: When God allowed the hardening of Pharaoh's heart, He never did it against Pharaoh's will. Pharaoh never said, "I want to do what is good and right and let the people of Israel go" but God said, "No, I will harden your heart against you doing the right thing!" When God hardened Pharaoh's heart, it meant He allowed Pharaoh's heart to do what Pharaoh wanted to do.

If God hadn't allowed the hardening of Pharaoh's heart, the Israelites would not have gotten out of Egypt. The Israelites couldn't fight their way out of Egypt. Pharaoh would never agree to let them leave. Pharaoh would not have a crisis of conscience for enslaving the Israelites for hundreds of years and decide to let free slave labor go free.

So how did God harden Pharaoh's heart? By revealing himself to Pharaoh. Through the Ten Plagues, God revealed His power over Pharaoh and his gods. Each plague revealed the supremacy of the God of the Israelites and resulted in Pharaoh hardening his heart against their God and God's people.

Lesson #2 - A lesson about God's holiness. Because this is true we will do the right thing. (Exodus 4:24-26)

Lesson #3 - A lesson about God's faithfulness. Because this is true we will do the next right thing. (Exodus 4:27-31)

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - There are some things in life that may not seem like a big deal to us, but they are a big deal to God. Right living extends to the details of our life.

A Prayer: "God help me be concerned about any areas of my life where I have locked doors, under-the-rug trash, and hidden secrets. With Your help, help me clean out those areas of my life. What matters to you, I want it to matter to me."

1 John 1:8-9: "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Life Lesson #2 - Beware of the danger of neglect.

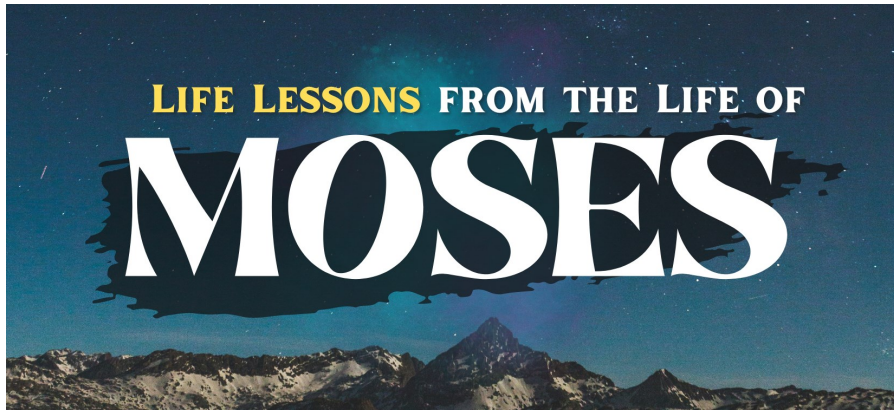
A Prayer: "God help me be aware of any areas of neglect in my life. Help me not to neglect You, Your Word, obeying You, and my responsibilities to others."

Psalm 139:23-24: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life."

Life Lesson #3 - God's plan done God's way brings God's best.

A Prayer: "God, help me to remember that when it comes to following Your plans for my life, You do not seek my advice, just my willingness to trust and obey. May I remember that every time I say 'yes' to You, obeying reaps rewards and allows me to experience Your best for me."

Psalm 32:8: The LORD says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you."



When Nothing Seems to Go Right

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 6
Exodus 5:1-23

Introduction: If we have walked with the Lord and been in His Word for any length of time, we would know that things will work out eventually, just not always the way we expected. Someone who would agree with that statement is Moses. And we will see why as we explore today the 5th chapter of Exodus.

Section 1 - Moses says "Let go," but Pharaoh says "Oh, No." (Exodus 5:1-3)

Section 2 - Instead of things getting better as Moses thought, things went from bad to worse. (Exodus 5:4-9)

Section 3 - Pharaoh's plan is put into practice which leads to things going bad for God's people. (Exodus 5:10-21)

Section 4 - There seems to be a problem with Your plan. (Exodus 5:22-23)

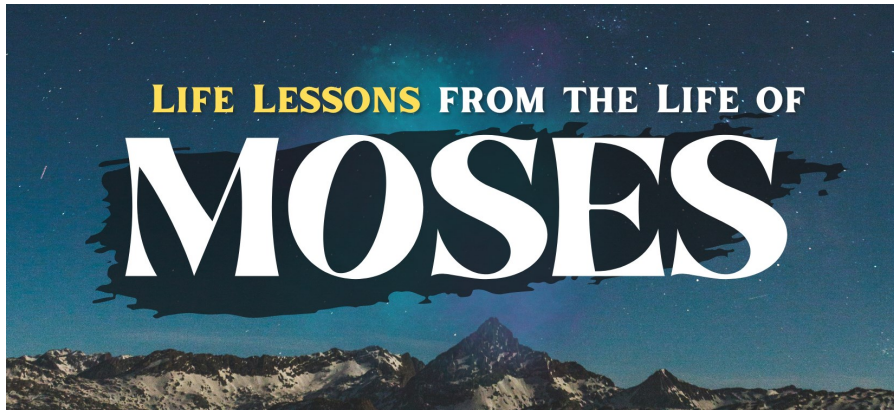
Conclusion: Exodus chapter 5 seems to be a chapter where NOTHING has gone right. However, EVERYTHING has happened according to God's big-picture plan. Moses was still God's man, and in God's time, He would still deliver God's people from Egypt. God knows exactly what He is doing in our lives. Just because we can't always see what God is doing doesn't mean He isn't working. We can know that while we are waiting - behind the scenes - God is always working.

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - When we know Who is running the show (who's in charge) we can face life with less worrying and more confidence.

Life Lesson #2 - God is fully trustworthy. Although we should never question God, it is fully okay to take our questions to God.

Life Lesson #3 - God has never said "Oops!" and never will.



When It Seems Like Nothing Is Changing

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 7

Exodus 6:1-30

Introduction: The Israelites who at first believed God would deliver them from their years of slavery through Moses (Exodus 4:29-31), now turned against Moses because he had angered Pharaoh which resulted in Pharaoh almost doubling their workload (Exodus 5:6-9). Clearly, it seemed to Moses that God's plan wasn't working! We concluded last week with Moses implying to God "There seems to be a problem with Your plan" (Exodus 5:22-23).

Section 1 - God tells Moses that Pharaoh will let His people go. (Exodus 6:1)

Section 2 - God reminds Moses He is a promise-keeping God. (Exodus 6:2-5)

Section 3 - The "I AM" says "I will." (Exodus 6:6-8)

Section 4 - Moses still struggles with problems from his past. (Exodus 6:9-13)

Section 5 - Moses and Aaron see that they were divinely born for such a time and purpose as this.
(Exodus 6:14-27)

Section 6 - Moses' walk of faith, at first, was two steps forward and one step backward. (Exodus 6:28-30)

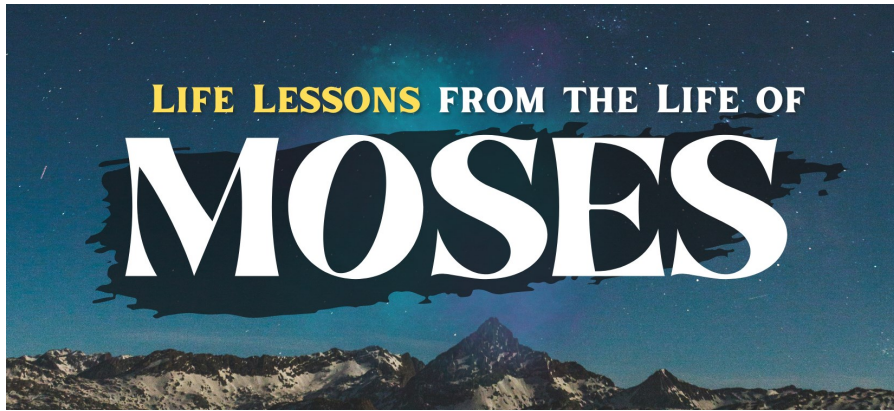
Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - What Moses needed to understand then, and what we need to understand today, is that God always knows what He is doing and we can trust that.

Life Lesson #2 - We want to see immediate results for the things we pray for. We want our problems to work out quickly. Waiting on God to work out circumstances is not always easy, but it always brings the best results.

Life Lesson #3 - When tragedy strikes or hard times come, we need a big God - a small version of God won't do. We need the big God revealed in the Bible.

Life Lesson #4 - When it seems like nothing is changing, God wants us to let go of trying to figure everything out and trust Him to do what He does best - help us and guide us.



Bow or Be Broken -

The Beginning of the Ten Plagues

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 8

Exodus 7:1-25

Two Important Facts About the Ten Plagues

Fact #1 - Something supernatural such as the plagues had to happen or Israel would never go free.

Fact #2 - Nothing in the story of the Ten Plagues makes sense apart from God.

→ **Note this:** God had a three-fold purpose in sending the ten plagues. One, to DEFEAT Pharaoh and the Egyptians. Two, to DISPLAY His power to both Israel and the Egyptians. And three, to DELIVER His people from slavery.

Exodus Chapter 7:1-25

Section 1 - God goes over His same unchanging plan with Moses again. (Exodus 7:1-7)

Section 2 - The devil is powerful, but God is all-powerful. (Exodus 7:8-13)

Section 3 - The First Plague - the water of the Nile turns to blood. (Exodus 7:14-21)

Section 4 - Pharaoh's response to the Lord's first plague. (Exodus 7:22-25)

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - Everything we worship in this world will fail us except God.

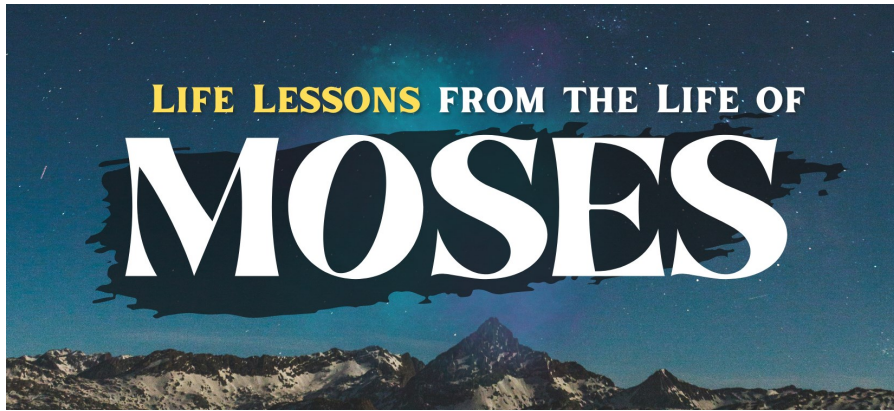
→ **Note this:** It has been said, "The human heart is a perpetual idol factory." Everyone worships something or someone. The choice we get is who or what we worship. If we live for God in this life we will not only be blessed in this life but we will be glad we trusted in Him 10,000 years from now and beyond!

Life Lesson #2 - What God creates Satan tries to counterfeit.

→ **Note this:** Satan's power can sometimes seem strong like God's power, although it never is. Satan's power at times can seem mighty, but remember, God is almighty. Satan's power is ALWAYS subject to God's power. In "the battle of the gods," there are no ties. There is a clear winner and a clear loser. Satan is the clear loser, and the Lord God Almighty is the clear winner!

Life Lesson #3 - Like Pharaoh, we can all struggle with stubbornness in our hearts to do what we know God wants us to do. May we pray, "God, I'm struggling with what I know You want me to do. Please change my want to."

→ **Note this:** When we are stubborn in "Thy will" and "My will" areas of our life, we don't like to admit our spiritual stubbornness. But many blessings can be blocked in our lives when we won't deal with a stubborn will. Ask God to heal any stubbornness in our life that is holding us back from fulfilling God's best for us.



Bow or Be Broken - Part 2

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 9
Exodus 7:1-25

Two Important Facts About the Ten Plagues

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Fact #2 - Nothing in the story of the Ten Plagues makes sense apart from God.

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A quick review of where we are in the story of Moses

(Exodus Chapter 7:1-21)

Section 1 - God goes over His unchanging plan with Moses again. (Exodus 7:1-7)

Section 2 - The devil is powerful but God is all-powerful. (Exodus 7:8-13)

Section 3 - The First Plague - the water of the Nile turns to blood. (Exodus 7:14-21)

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Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

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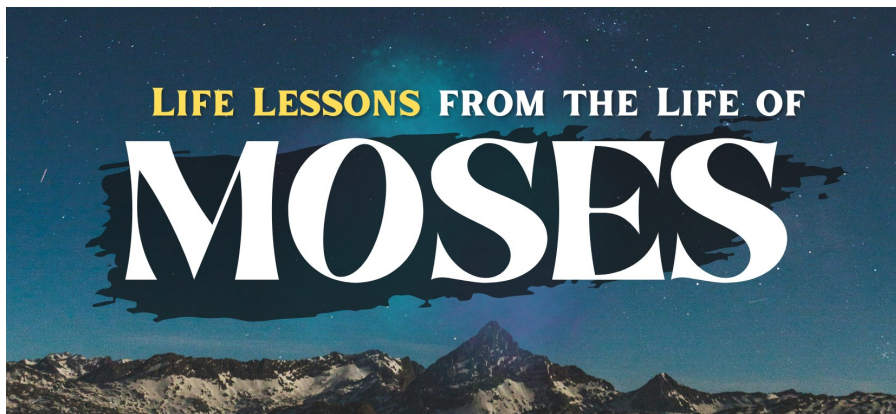
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Bow or Be Broken - Part 3

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 10
Exodus Chapters 7-12

The God of Israel vs. the gods of Egypt - the Ten Plagues

Plague #1 - Water to blood. (Exodus 7:14-25) **Key Verse:** Exodus 7:19

Plague #2 - Frogs. (Exodus 8:1-15) **Key Verses:** Exodus 8:2-4

Plague #3 - Gnats. (Exodus 8:16-19) **Key Verses:** Exodus 8:16-17

Plague #4 - Flies. (Exodus 8:20-32) **Key Verse:** Exodus 8:21

Plague #5 - Livestock. (Exodus 9:1-7) **Key Verses:** Exodus 9:1-4

Plague #6 - Boils. (Exodus 9:8-12) **Key Verses:** Exodus 9:8-9

Plague #7 - Hail. (Exodus 9:13-35) **Key Verses:** Exodus 9:13-16

Plague #8 - Locusts. (Exodus 10:1-20) **Key Verses:** Exodus 10:3-15

Plague #9 - Darkness. (10:21-29) **Key Verses:** Exodus 10:21-23

Plague #10 - Death of Firstborn. (11:1-10) **Key Verses:** Exodus 11:4-7

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - God is sovereign over ALL things.

Life Lesson #2 - All that God does is for the ultimate purpose of saving people and spending eternity with them in Heaven.

Life Lesson #3 - In the end, everyone chooses their God, and the God they choose will either save them or destroy them. It's the responsibility of every believer to point unbelievers to the God who can save them.

The Ten Plagues of Egypt



Waters Turn to Blood
Exodus 7:14-25



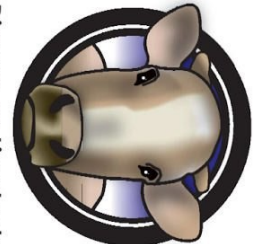
Amphibians (Frogs)
Exodus 7:26-8:11



Gnats (Lice)
Exodus 8:12-15



Flies
Exodus 8:16-28



Disease on Livestock
Exodus 9:1-7



Unhealable Boils
Exodus 9:8-12



Hail and Fire
Exodus 9:13-35



Locusts
Exodus 10:1-20

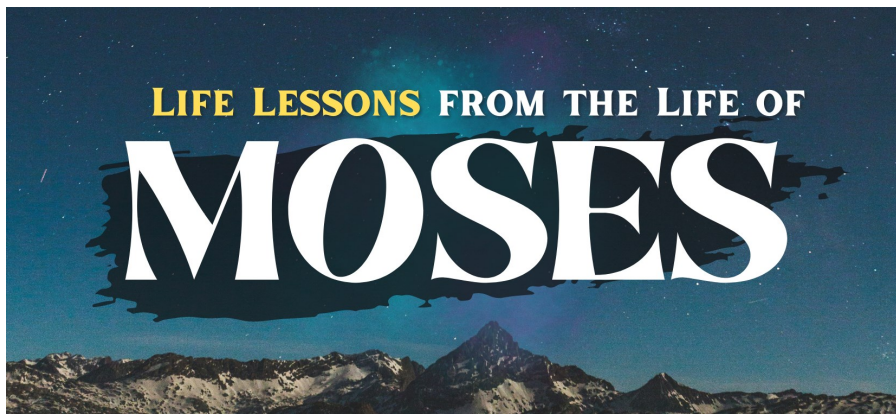


Darkness
Exodus 10:21-29



Death of First-Born
Exodus 11:1-12:36

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Smack Dab in The Middle of a Difficult Situation

Life Lessons from the Life of Moses Series - Week 11

Exodus Chapter 13:17-14:31

Story Summary: God had told Moses to go to Pharaoh, the King of Egypt, and tell him to let God's people, the Israelites, go free from their 400 years of slavery (Genesis 15:13). Through ten attempts to negotiate their freedom with Pharaoh - the Ten Plagues (Exodus 7-12) - he finally decided to let the Israelites go free with Moses. However, as soon as they did their exodus from Egypt, Pharaoh changed his mind and took his armies after them. In the distance, the Israelites heard what sounded like thunder, but it was actually the sound of more than 600 hundred horses and chariots coming their way. The Red Sea is in front of them. The mountains are around them. And Pharaoh's armies are coming toward them. The children of Israel are stuck smack dab in the middle of a difficult situation.

Section 1 - Israel's journey out of Egypt - a new start or a dead-end.

(Exodus 13:17-22)

Section 2 - Pharaoh hardens his heart and changes his mind in letting Israel

go. (Exodus 14:1-9)

Section 3 - A Predicament with a capital "P" for the Israelites at the Red Sea. (Exodus 14:10-12)

Section 4 - Always rely on the Lord to do the fighting.

(Exodus 14:13-18)

Section 5 - The waters of the Red Sea are parted, and the children of Israel cross over safely on dry ground.

(Exodus 14:19-22)

Section 6 - The waters of the Red Sea close, Israel is delivered, and the Lord gets the glory!

(Exodus 14:23-31)

Life Lessons from Today in God's Word

Life Lesson #1 - God can make a way even where there seems to be no way.

Life Lesson #2 - COMING to the Red Sea was just as much a part of God's plan as CROSSING the Red Sea.

Life Lesson #3 - When we are in sync with God, we will be in sync with God's plans.

Life Lesson #4 - Moses didn't know HOW God would help in the middle of his difficult situation, but he knew God certainly WOULD help. We can know this too.

Life Lesson #5 - When God delivers us from stuck smack dab in the middle of a difficult situation, always give Him the glory. God is to always get the glory for our Red Sea deliverance stories!