



## Sermon Notes from 24 March

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### A Shaky Start (*Exodus 4:18-31*)

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Exo. 4:18-31 – Moses now takes the step of faith and embarks on his God called journey.

#### 4 Stages of Moses' Journey

##### **1) Doubt Revealed (Exo. 4:18)**

In order to follow God, it is good to make sure you know exactly what God has asked you to do. God's call for Moses was to deliver His people out of Egypt (Exo. 3:10). Moses sought the blessing and permission from his father-in-law (Jethro) to go on his journey. In a state of doubt, he changed his reason and story (v18). God still showed Moses compassion and enabled him to carry on with his mission.

##### **2) Faith Renewed (Exo. 4:19-22)**

The cure for weak faith is not the boosting of self-confidence; it is seeing how big God is. God shifts Moses' focus on himself to Him.

#### 4 Attributes About Himself God Revealed to Moses

##### #1 Comprehensive Protection (v19)

Despite Pharaoh's numerous attempts to kill Moses, he remained alive because of God's protection. Because of eternal life through Christ Jesus, death itself cannot touch us!

##### #2 Divine Authority (v20)

In ancient culture, a staff is considered an essential personal item. It acted as a weapon, identification, and a symbol of power. Moses was carrying the staff of **God** which signifies that he had God's protection, identity and power. Wherever God is calling us to go, remember that we are going with His divine authority!

##### #3 Absolute Power (v21)

In Egyptian religious text, a hardened heart is seen as a sinful heart. An Egyptian Pharaoh considers himself as a god with a pure heart. God's act of hardening Pharaoh's heart shows His power and authority over everything. When you step out in obedience towards

God, His power will be unleashed in your life!

#### #4 Intimate relationship with His people (v22)

This is the first time in the bible God revealed the heart of a Father in referring to His people as 'my firstborn son'. In ancient Jewish culture, the firstborn son has a special status in the family. He would receive majority, if not all of his family's inheritance. Rom. 8:15 – In the face of fear & doubt, what matters is how big your God is, not how intense your feeling is. As Christians, we belong to God, and He will never let us out of His sight!

##### **3) Covenant Restored (Exo. 4:24-26)**

Gen. 17:9-11 – Circumcision was used as a sign of a covenant between God and man. Inside the covenant of God, there is life and forgiveness; but outside there is death and judgement. God's threat to kill was His act of correcting Moses' disobedience and restoring him back into His covenant. Because of Jesus' death on the cross, a new covenant was made. We are now brought into the covenant with God through the circumcision of Christ (Col. 2:11). As God's covenanted people, let us correct our delayed disobedience and repent of our willful disobedience.

##### **4) Worship Redirected (Exo. 4:27-31)**

The many miraculous signs and wonders God did through Moses and Aaron pointed them to God's power. By revealing His care and closeness towards His people, it led them to worship Him. The power of God is unleashed when you step out in faith and obedience!

God knows and hears our afflictions. He wants to free us from the slavery of sin. Stop serving fake masters and start following the one true Master – God our Father!