

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE



Exodus 4:18-31--August 25th, 2024

Sermon Recap:

Signs of Faith

There is an expectation that there will be signs of faith.

I. Going with God

At the end of Exodus four, the encounter with the burning bush is over; the questions have been answered, the objections have been shut down, the excuses have been dismissed, and now Moses' faith must produce action.

a. Respect Authority

- V.18a-This is an 80 year old Moses, former prince of Egypt going to the patriarch of the family, his wife's father, asking for permission to leave. Why does Moses do this? He respects authority.

b. Commitment to the Call

- Luke 14:26- Moses models Jesus' words. He could have chosen his life, his family, and his comfort. But he didn't. He left it all and he followed the call of God. This is a sign of true faith.

c. Commitment to the Cross

- V.19-20- Moses takes the staff as a sign of God's authority

We fulfill our calling by going with the cross. This is the only message and sign we are to preach today (1 Cor. 1:22-24).

II. Children of God

- Responsibility of Man-vs- Sovereignty of God
 - Pharaoh-vs-God
 - Pharaoh's heart and the choice he made was his responsibility. He was accountable for his actions.
 - But ultimately, it is God's providence that is governing Pharaoh's heart.
 - God is hardening his heart, prolonging their captivity so that he may unleash the plagues, revealing his power and glory, even instituting the Passover, v.22-23.
 - Pharaoh-vs-Israel
 - Israel has been sovereignly chosen/elected by God to be his firstborn child. On what basis? Gen. 15:6.
 - Pharaoh did not respond in faith and his heart was hardened.

III. Obeying God

a. Obedience

- V.24-"him"= Moses- God sought to kill Moses for his sin.
 - Moses's son was uncircumcised.
 - Moses' wife had to step in and lead where Moses failed.
 - Moses lacked credibility, attempting to lead Israel to be obedient when he wasn't leading his family in obedience.

b. Disobedience

- V.27-31- Everything went according to plan. They have spent generations in slavery; lifetimes in affliction, but when the Word of the Lord came to them "they bowed their heads and worshiped." This is a true sign of faith.

Discussion Questions:

- What was the significance of Moses approaching Jethro?
- What can we learn from his example?
- What is the sign and message of our calling today?
- How can we balance the responsibility of man and sovereignty of God?
- What is the responsibility of man?
- Why did Moses seek to kill Moses?
- What message was Zipporah sending Moses?
- What do verses 27-31 teach us about God?

Application:

- What is the world's approach to authority?
- What is your approach?
- In what way do you preach the message of the cross? to whom?
- Ponder the responsibility of man and sovereignty of God? How is God providentially working in your life right now? Your family? Your church? How are you responsible for responding?
- What signs of faith are present in your life right now? What are lacking?
- Are there way that you are hardening your own heart?

