

Lesson 6

Cross

Formed

Kids

**How did God prepare Moses for leadership?
God protected Moses from disaster and
spoke to him directly.**

Read aloud: Exodus 2:1-10

Recommended Illustration

Time for a little nostalgia. Remember playing with home made phones as a kid? Maybe you chatted it up with your friends through both ends of a water hose. Maybe you tied a couple cans to a string and had some fun that way. Use your creativity and make a homemade phone so that you can speak to your kids through it. The point is that only the person holding the other end can be part of this conversation. This is not a public broadcast. It's a personal conversation. In the same way, God chose to speak to Moses directly, since he was God's appointed representative and the object of His affection.

Helpful Insights

God acted in word and deed to protect Moses and show Him love because Moses was to be a leader and a caregiver (pro tip: connect the dots here with the Image of God: "rule and care") for God's people.

So far we've seen that when God loves someone, God speaks to that person and protects that person. This happened with both Abraham and Moses. We recognize that in Abraham God is creating a people who are identified by faith(fulness), and this people will be realized in Israel. However, at the time of Moses, this is not a fully realized promise. It is still off in the future, and in Moses, God is continuing His work of establishing a

people through His word and His mighty acts. These are the two instruments God utilizes in forming a people.

Consider creation: God created all things by His word. He simply spoke. Yet, we also have a picture of God's creative actions in actually "building" the human—word+deed. Similarly, in Abraham and Moses we see this word+deed pattern repeated.

The reader has to keep in mind that God's relationship with Moses has to do with far more than just Moses. Moses represents Israel before God and reflects God before Israel. His role as a ruler (divinely appointed leadership and governance over Israel) and a priest (mediatory role between God and Israel) continues the story line wherein God is at work creating a fully functioning humanity.

This role parallels exactly Adam's role, except whereas Adam was a "go-between" for God and creation, Moses fills that role between God and Israel. Eventually we'll learn that Israel is to fill that same role as rulers and priests between God and the nations. Moses is in this way an echo of the garden and a foretaste of a fully faithful Israel. Moses is not perfect in this, but God does use him in these ways, and He speaks to Moses and protects him just as He did with Adam and Abraham.

The Point

God uses the first 80 years of Moses' life to guide and protect him through difficulty and what seems at times to be unavoidable disaster, and finally speaks to Moses directly to help him prepare for the task of leading Israel. Because God loved Israel, God appointed Moses to lead them and care for them.

