



the rescue.

stories from Exodus

March 16-

Reflect on Exodus 35-37 and pray this prayer:

Father God, I praise You because “Every good and every perfect gift (spiritual and material) comes from You (James 1:17). Thank you Father for entrusting us with talents, skills and special abilities in such great abundance. The Israelites willingly gave of the best of their substance and talents, more than enough to build the tabernacle. May I be a cheerful, generous giver, not in order to receive in return, but to do the work of the ministry, to bless others and to glorify God who gave us the best gift of all, Jesus Christ. I surrender back to You every gift. O Lord, take it and use it for Your glory. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

March 17-

Read Exodus 38-39

God gave Moses a God-sized task and promise: “...Have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them. Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you” (Exodus 25:8-9).

Moses shows himself a great leader in the building of the tabernacle. We, too, have the opportunity to lead in our families, our jobs, and our teams. We are all called to build something great: God’s kingdom on earth. We aren’t constructing a building, but by sharing the good news that Jesus paid for our sin we’re building the church. So, what lessons can we learn from Moses’ leadership as we carry out our God-sized task?

1. Follow God’s instructions.

Moses followed a particular pattern to make the tabernacle God wanted. He called in the people God asked him to call. He used the materials God asked him to use. He made each piece the size God required. God will lead us in the details of sharing the Gospel. Listen as He leads.



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2. Recognize the weight of the task.

Moses understood the job was too big for him. He didn't kill himself trying to do all the work himself. Sensitive to God's direction, Moses brought other people in. We are responsible to follow through when God asks us to do something, but God's purposes are too big to carry alone. We need the prayers, support, advice and often the physical work of others to finish well.

3. Realize and use the gifts of others.

The Bible compares the Church to a body. Each part has a specific role which causes the body to function as it should. Moses solicited the help of weavers, embroiderers, and designers. He recognized the importance of using people's God-given gifts. God surrounds us with people so we can accomplish more.

Cast the vision and give clear direction. Moses took all God had given him, the directions and understanding, and shared it with those helping. He encouraged them to give to the tabernacle by sharing their wealth and their skills. He clearly communicated what God wanted. Perhaps the most important part of leadership is the ability and willingness to share the passion and specifics God gives us.

Reflect:

What's one area where God has given you the opportunity to lead?

Are you seeking God's direction daily so you can lead well?

Who could you bring in to help accomplish what God has placed on your heart?



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March 19-

Reflect on Exodus 38-39 and pray through these prayer points:

1. Ask God to help you give your best worship to Him.
2. Like the women who gave up their ability to measure their own physical beauty to make the bronze basin for ceremonial washing, ask God to help you be more focused on Him than on yourself.
3. Like Ithamar, the priest, who oversaw the invaluable pieces of the Tabernacle, ask God to help you steward the material and spiritual resources that He has entrusted to you.

March 20-

Reflect on Exodus 38-39 and write down your own prayer for today.

March 21-

Read Exodus 40

In Exodus 40, God takes 34 verses to tell Moses how to prepare the tabernacle for worship. And Moses follows God's instructions exactly. But what about us? Thousands of years after Moses and the tabernacle, worship remains a command, not a suggestion. So how do we prepare our hearts for worship?

Here are five ways we can prepare for worship:

Pray that God will open our hearts to hear Him.

Perceive what Jesus has done for us through His sacrifice on the cross.



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Praise Jesus for our salvation and for the freedom to worship when and where we choose.

Present our tithes and offerings in response to God's grace on our lives.

Prepare to share what we have learned with the world, teaching others to follow Jesus step by step.

When Moses' work was done, a cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34). Israel had never experienced the presence of God like this before. When we prepare our hearts for worship, the same happens for us.

When we prepare our hearts for worship, the glory of the Lord doesn't just fill the church. It fills our hearts as well.

Reflect:

It is often hard to concentrate on God when the world and its cares try to take first place in our hearts. What gets in the way of your ability to focus on God and hear what He says?

What can you do to prepare your heart for worship?

What times stand out in your mind as "best worship" experiences?

March 22

Reflect on Exodus 40 and pray this prayer:

Father God, I praise You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit. Thank You that You never leave me nor forsake me. For forty years, Your Presence led Moses and the Israelites in their wilderness journey, in the form of a cloud by day and fire by night.

Thank You, Father, that Your Holy Spirit dwells with us, in us and abides forever (John 14:16,17). Lord, may I maintain a holy sanctuary for Your Presence to dwell. Fill me afresh with Your Spirit. Lead me and guide me. You are with me regardless of the circumstances that I face. Thank you for this hope, comfort and encouragement. Amen.