

Are You Available?

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Exodus 3:7-14

⁷ And the Lord said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.

⁸ So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.

⁹ Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.

¹⁰ Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

¹² So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

¹³ Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"

¹⁴ And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

The question is: How do we choose how to spend our time? Who and what gets our priority?

Hopefully your family gets some of your time. Hopefully your church family gets some of your time.

The fact is, in this day and age our schedules get filled up pretty quickly and it seems like the busier we get the less time we give to God.

When the truth is there is so much that God need's us to do, but most of us are too busy!

1. "Well we just work so much."
2. "We have all these practices."
3. "You know, Sundays are our only days to rest, Pastor."

God is looking for someone who is Available.

In Exodus chapter 3 we find the story of Moses. Hopefully everyone knows the story of Moses. Moses was tending the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law. He was shepherding a flock of sheep. It was a humble, hot, smelly job. But this wasn't always the case for Moses.

Remember that he had previously lived in Egypt. He had lived in luxury. He had a high position in the palace. He was a prince to the Pharaoh who was the king and ruler of all Egypt. Life couldn't get any better for Moses.

So why didn't God use Moses then? Moses had influence over the Egyptians. Moses had favor with pharaoh. Why didn't God use Moses at his highest position in life? Why did God wait until Moses was tending sheep? Why would He wait till he was at the lowest point in his life?

When he was a nobody, a loser. When he was someone who couldn't even talk plain. Someone who had no pull anymore. He was in no position to do anything.

So why did God wait? He waited because God is not moved by your positions.

God is looking for someone willing to be used; someone who is available.

Look at the story: Moses saw more of God in the dusty, hot, dirty desert than he ever saw in the palaces of Pharaoh.

I hear people say all the time when they get to very bottom, or when they lose everything, that's when they feel closer to God than ever.

"Pastor, when I was single I was so close to God." Why is that? Because nothing else mattered. You were at rock bottom, and you made yourself available.

You see too many times we get so caught up in the lies of the enemy, the lies that say we're not good enough for God to use; the lie that says that you are not educated enough; the Lie that says you're too young or you're too old for God to use; that we miss what God is wanting us to do

Too many of us get caught up in what others think of us that we can't walk in our calling. We place too much value on how others view us, how others treat us, that we are unavailable for God to use Because we're chasing what other people think of us. We place too much on how successful we are or how perfect of a life we've lived.

You see the problem with all that is, all that stuff can change just like it did for Moses. If you place your value on your achievements or how much money you make, the car you drive, or title behind your name. If something happens and you don't have that position anymore, or you don't have that vehicle anymore, or if your business goes under then your value will go down.

Some people don't feel good about themselves because of the mistakes they've made in their life. They're not where they thought they should be. So now they live insecure.

The problem with that is they're basing their value on their performance. That's not where our value comes from.

Church your value should be based solely on that

- **you are A child of the most high God.**
- **You're a son or daughter of the most high King.**
- **The Creator of the universe breathed His life into you.**

Let me tell you something this morning, how someone treats you or how others see you does not change your value. What someone says or does to you does not change who you are. The mistakes you've made does not decrease your value in the eyes of God.

That's what you did, that's not who you are. You can go out and buy a bigger house, you can drive a newer car, but that's not what makes you more valuable. That only increases your net worth, not your self-worth.

You were already valuable when you lived in that small apartment, when you was driving that old beat up car, eating roman noodles, so poor families in Africa were walking around with pictures of you in their pockets, poorer than Job's turkey.

Listen to me this morning – that big position may give you more influence, but it adds nothing to your value.

You can be a stay at home mom raising your children. You may not have the influence as a CEO of a mega corporation, but your value to God is still the same.

- **Your value comes from your creator.**
- **God breathed life into you.**
- **You have the DNA of the Almighty God.**
- **You have royalty in your blood.**

But the problem is the enemy works overtime trying to devalue us. He'd love for you to go through life letting what people say make you feel inferior. He loves it when you compare your life to someone else. He loves to tell you you'll feel good about yourself when you catch up to everyone else, or when you live in that neighborhood, when you drive that kind of car, when you dress that way.

But listen to me this morning, there's nothing you can do to make you more valuable to God – nothing you can achieve, nothing you can overcome.

You are valuable right now – in your mess, in your addictions, in your struggles, in your doubt.

God who created heaven and earth calls you a masterpiece. You are one of a kind. God made you unique. There will never be another you. Throw your shoulders back walk with confidence. You have been fearfully and wonderfully made.

Stop trying to improve your value on what you have or what you know. You got all that for free.

In Verses 7 through 9, God tells Moses that He knows what's been going on in Egypt. God knows the misery the Hebrew people are suffering. He has heard their prayers for deliverance and freedom. God is going to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and bring them to a land flowing with milk and honey.

Now look at **Exodus 3:10**:

¹⁰ Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

Why this so important today?

Point #1: There is a great need in the world.

People are hurting. There are so many people hurting in this world. There are broken relationships. There are broken marriages. There are so many people who are addicted to drugs and alcohol. There are people in bondage to sexual immorality. There are those confused if they are male or female.

If ever there was a need in this world for us to go and witness, it is now. If there was ever a time for the Church to start being the Church, it's now. God sees a great need in America. He sees a great need in your family. He sees a great need in your workplace. Just like He saw the need thousands of years ago

You see we want to look at people and judge them. We want to look at them and think they're less than us because they're hooked on drugs or they're messed up on alcohol. But God hears their cries. God sees their hearts. He sees what they could be.

Do you think it's an accident He placed you where you are? Do you think you are just there to draw a paycheck? No, God sent you there just like He sent Moses.

Matthew 5:13-14 says:

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

They are watching your life. You are all the Jesus they see. You are all the marriage counseling they have. Your life is supposed to reflect Christ. Just like thousands of years ago, people are still hurting. They are in bondage. They are slaves to sin.

But just like then, God hears the prayers of those in need, and He calls us to meet that need.

That is one of the great things about God. Think about it – if God wanted to, He could have just set the Israelites free. God didn't need Moses, but He chose to use Moses.

In the same way, God chooses to use people to do His work.

Point #2: God often chooses the unqualified to do His work.

Exodus 3:11 says:

¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

If you look closely you will see that Moses feels like a lot of feel when God asks us to do something for Him. He felt unqualified.

Who here ever felt unqualified? Who here feels like there's no way that I can do what God has called me to do?

I remember when I was called by God to become a pastor, I felt just like Moses. I felt unqualified. I had no seminary degree at that time. I didn't know a lot about the Bible. My life wasn't in order. I didn't have any sermons.

Satan tried to put doubts in my head:

- You don't have time for all that
- Look at your past
- Look at who you use to be
- If they only knew the real you
- You can't make yourself available for all those people

I know how Moses felt I know the fear that runs through your mind. I know how to come up with every excuse on why you can't. Moses tried all that too, but look what God said about that in Exodus 3:12:

¹² So He said, "I will certainly be with you..."

What are you afraid of; I will be with you!

All you have to do is make yourself available

God says, "I will be with you."

Ask yourself: Is God doing a work in me.

When we are available, God will use us!