

## Journey into Freedom

Lesson 3

Exodus 4:18-31, 5:1-21, 5:22-6:12, 6:13-25 (read only), 7:1-7

<b>Bible Text</b> New International Version	<b>Observations</b> What does the text say?	<b>Interpretation &amp; Questions</b> What does it mean to all Christians?
<p><b>Exodus 4:18-31</b></p> <p><b>Moses Returns to Egypt</b></p> <p><sup>18</sup> Then Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Let me return to my own people in Egypt to see if any of them are still alive.” Jethro said, “Go, and I wish you well.”</p> <p><sup>19</sup> Now the LORD had said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all those who wanted to kill you are dead.” <sup>20</sup> So Moses took his wife and sons, put them on a donkey and started back to Egypt. And he took the staff of God in his hand.</p> <p><sup>21</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go. <sup>22</sup> Then say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, <sup>23</sup> and I told you, “Let my son go, so he may worship me.” But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.’”</p> <p><sup>24</sup> At a lodging place on the way, the LORD met Moses<sup>[a]</sup> and was about to kill him.<sup>25</sup> But Zipporah took a flint knife, cut off her son’s foreskin and touched Moses’ feet with it.<sup>[b]</sup> “Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me,” she said. <sup>26</sup> So the LORD let him alone. (At that time she said “bridegroom of blood,” referring to circumcision.)</p> <p><sup>27</sup> The LORD said to Aaron, “Go into the wilderness to meet Moses.” So he met Moses at the mountain of God and kissed him. <sup>28</sup> Then Moses told Aaron everything the LORD had sent him to say, and also about all the signs he had commanded him to perform.</p> <p><sup>29</sup> Moses and Aaron brought together all the elders of the Israelites, <sup>30</sup> and Aaron told them everything the LORD had said to Moses. He also performed the signs before the people, <sup>31</sup> and they believed. And when they heard that the LORD was concerned about them and had seen their misery, they bowed down and worshiped.</p>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; text-align: center; padding: 10px; margin-top: 20px;"> <b>Application</b>                      What does it mean to me?                 </div>	
<p><b>Footnotes:</b></p> <p>a. Exodus 4:24 Hebrew <i>him</i></p> <p>b. Exodus 4:25 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain.</p>		
<p><b>Summary:</b></p>		

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<p><b>Exodus 5:1-21</b></p> <p><b>Bricks Without Straw</b></p> <p><sup>1</sup> Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.’”</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD and I will not let Israel go.”</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Now let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, or he may strike us with plagues or with the sword.”</p> <p><sup>4</sup> But the king of Egypt said, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their labor? Get back to your work!” <sup>5</sup> Then Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now numerous, and you are stopping them from working.”</p> <p><sup>6</sup> That same day Pharaoh gave this order to the slave drivers and overseers in charge of the people: <sup>7</sup> “You are no longer to supply the people with straw for making bricks; let them go and gather their own straw. <sup>8</sup> But require them to make the same number of bricks as before; don’t reduce the quota. They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’ <sup>9</sup> Make the work harder for the people so that they keep working and pay no attention to lies.”</p> <p><sup>10</sup> Then the slave drivers and the overseers went out and said to the people, “This is what Pharaoh says: ‘I will not give you any more straw. <sup>11</sup> Go and get your own straw wherever you can find it, but your work will not be reduced at all.’” <sup>12</sup> So the people scattered all over Egypt to gather stubble to use for straw. <sup>13</sup> The slave drivers kept pressing them, saying, “Complete the work required of you for each day, just as when you had straw.” <sup>14</sup> And Pharaoh’s slave drivers beat the Israelite overseers they had appointed, demanding, “Why haven’t you met your quota of bricks yesterday or today, as before?”</p> <p><sup>15</sup> Then the Israelite overseers went and appealed to Pharaoh: “Why have you treated your servants this way? <sup>16</sup> Your servants are given no straw, yet we are told, ‘Make bricks!’ Your servants are being beaten, but the fault is with your own people.”</p>		

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Exodus 4:18-31, 5:1-21, 5:22-6:12, 6:13-25 (read only), 7:1-7

<b>Bible Text</b> New International Version	<b>Observations</b> What does the text say?	<b>Interpretation &amp; Questions</b> What does it mean to all Christians?
<p><sup>17</sup> Pharaoh said, “Lazy, that’s what you are—lazy! That is why you keep saying, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.’ <sup>18</sup> Now get to work. You will not be given any straw, yet you must produce your full quota of bricks.”</p> <p><sup>19</sup> The Israelite overseers realized they were in trouble when they were told, “You are not to reduce the number of bricks required of you for each day.” <sup>20</sup> When they left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them, <sup>21</sup> and they said, “May the LORD look on you and judge you! You have made us obnoxious to Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”</p>		
<b>Application</b> What does it mean to me?		
<b>Summary:</b>		
<p><b>Exodus 5:22-6:12</b></p> <p><b>God Promises Deliverance</b></p> <p><sup>22</sup> Moses returned to the LORD and said, “Why, Lord, why have you brought trouble on this people? Is this why you sent me? <sup>23</sup> Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble on this people, and you have not rescued your people at all.”</p> <p><b>6</b> Then the LORD said to Moses, “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: Because of my mighty hand he will let them go; because of my mighty hand he will drive them out of his country.”</p> <p><sup>2</sup> God also said to Moses, “I am the LORD. <sup>3</sup> I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob as God Almighty, <sup>[a]</sup> but by my name the LORD I did not make myself fully known to them. <sup>4</sup> I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, where they resided as foreigners. <sup>5</sup> Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are enslaving, and I have remembered my covenant.</p>		

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<p><sup>6</sup> “Therefore, say to the Israelites: ‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. <sup>7</sup> I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. <sup>8</sup> And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the LORD.’”</p> <p><sup>9</sup> Moses reported this to the Israelites, but they did not listen to him because of their discouragement and harsh labor.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, <sup>11</sup> “Go, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the Israelites go out of his country.”</p> <p><sup>12</sup> But Moses said to the LORD, “If the Israelites will not listen to me, why would Pharaoh listen to me, since I speak with faltering lips<sup>[b]</sup>?”</p>		
<p><b>Application</b> What does it mean to me?</p>		
<p><b>Footnotes:</b></p> <p>a. Exodus 6:3 Hebrew <i>El-Shaddai</i></p> <p>b. Exodus 6:12 Hebrew <i>I am uncircumcised of lips</i>; also in verse 30</p>		
<p><b>Summary:</b></p>		
<p><b>READ ONLY:</b></p> <p><b>Exodus 6:13-25</b></p>		
<p><b>Exodus 7:1-7</b></p> <p><sup>1</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet. <sup>2</sup> You are to say everything I command you, and your brother Aaron is to tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go out of his country. <sup>3</sup> But I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in Egypt, <sup>4</sup> he will not listen to you.</p>		

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<b>Bible Text</b> New International Version	<b>Observations</b> What does the text say?	<b>Interpretation &amp; Questions</b> What does it mean to all Christians?
<p>Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites.<sup>5</sup> And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded them. <sup>7</sup> Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh.</p>		
	<b>Application</b> What does it mean to me?	
<b>Summary:</b>		

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## Moses' Obedience and God's Reassurance

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### Scriptures:

Psalm 103:20-22

Romans 8:28

### Question:

When have you been challenged to lead yourself or others in a new direction and faced circumstances or “push-back”? How did you respond?

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Lecture Notes

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Prayer Requests

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