

Dover Daily Devotionals:

Sunday's sermon focused on the early life of Moses and examined crucial moments that helped shape him into the leader he was destined to become. We discussed his impulsive decision to kill an Egyptian in defense of his Hebrew brethren. Although this act was motivated by compassion and a desire for justice, it led to unintended consequences and forced him into exile. However, this period of exile in Midian was not a punishment but a divine preparation. Moses learned humility, service, and the essence of true leadership under God's watchful eye. His encounter with the burning bush was a transformative moment that marked the beginning of his direct calling by God to deliver the Israelites from slavery. This story reminds us that God's preparation in our lives often comes in unexpected ways and that our actions, even when well-intentioned, must be guided by prayer and aligned with His will. As we navigate the injustices of our world, let us seek to act with wisdom, guided by a heart attuned to God's purpose and ready to say, "Here I am," when He calls.

Monday: Recognizing Injustice

Scripture Reading:

Exodus 2:11-12

Devotional:

In the moments that Moses witnessed the harsh treatment of his people, his heart was stirred with compassion and a sense of justice. This pivotal event in Moses' life teaches us about the importance of opening our eyes to the suffering around us, a crucial step before we can act righteously. It's a reminder that awareness is the first step toward change. Moses, despite his privileged position, could not remain indifferent once he truly saw the oppression his people faced.

However, this account also teaches us about the complexity of responding to injustice. Moses' immediate reaction, though well-intentioned, was impulsive and led to negative consequences. This serves as a

powerful lesson that our actions, even when aimed at correcting wrongs, need to be guided by wisdom and a seeking of God's will.

Reflecting on this passage encourages us to examine our own responses to injustice. Are we like Moses, quick to act but sometimes without sufficient thought for the repercussions? Or do we turn a blind eye, choosing comfort over confrontation with the harsh realities others face?

Discussion and Reflection Questions:

- 1. Have you ever witnessed injustice and felt compelled to act? What was your response?
- 2. How can we balance the urgency to act against injustice with the need for wisdom and discernment?
- 3. In what ways can we ensure our actions are in alignment with God's will?

Prayer:

Lord, open our eyes to the injustices around us, just as Moses was awakened to the suffering of his people. Grant us the courage to stand against wrongs, but guide us to respond in ways that reflect Your wisdom and righteousness. Help us to seek Your will in all we do, that our actions may bring about true change and glorify Your name. Amen.

Tuesday: The Mistake of Righteous Anger

Scripture Reading:

James 1:20

Devotional:

The account of Moses striking down the Egyptian is an illustration of how righteous anger can lead to misguided actions. Moses, moved by an understandable anger at the injustice before him, acted in a way that had far-reaching consequences for his life. This moment in Moses' journey highlights the critical distinction between the emotion driving us to act and the actions we choose to take.

James 1:20 reminds us that "the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God." Our challenge is to channel our righteous anger through the filter of God's wisdom and guidance, ensuring that our actions contribute to healing and justice, not further harm. It is always wise to pause and seek God's direction when we are confronted with situations that stir up anger within us. By submitting our reactions to God, we allow Him to shape them into responses that reflect His love and justice.

Discussion and Reflection Questions:

1. Can you recall a time when righteous anger led you to act hastily? What were the consequences?

- 2. How can we discern the difference between Godly anger and human anger?
- 3. What steps can you take to ensure that your actions in response to injustice are in line with God's righteousness?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, teach us to manage our anger in ways that honor You. Guide us, so our reactions to injustice reflect Your heart, leading to actions that are wise, just, and rooted in Your love. May our lives demonstrate the righteousness that comes from You alone. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Wednesday: Humility and Preparation in Midian

Scripture Reading:

Exodus 2:15-22

Devotional:

Moses' flight to Midian marks a significant turn in his life, shifting from a prince of Egypt to a humble shepherd. This period of Moses' life might seem like a step back, but in God's plan, it was a crucial time of preparation and growth. Moses learned lessons of humility, service, and leadership that would be essential for his future role.

This account invites us to reflect on our own "Midian" experiences—seasons of life that feel like detours or wilderness journeys (leading nowhere). These moments, although challenging, are often where God does His most profound work in us, shaping our character and preparing us for what lies ahead. Let us embrace our Midian moments, trusting that God is at work in our lives, teaching us through every experience, and preparing us for the roles He has called us to fulfill.

Discussion and Reflection Questions:

- 1. Can you identify a "Midian" period in your life? How did you see God working in that time?
- 2. What lessons have you learned in seasons of preparation that have been crucial for later stages in your life?
- 3. How can you cultivate humility and a heart for service in your current season?

Prayer:

Lord, help us to trust in Your divine timing and plan, especially during seasons that feel like wilderness journeys. Teach us humility, patience, and reliance on You as we wait for Your guidance and preparation. May we emerge from these times ready to serve You faithfully, in whatever capacity You call us to. Amen.

Thursday: The Call of Moses

Scripture Reading:

Exodus 3:1-6

Devotional:

The burning bush encounter is not just a miraculous moment in history; it's a vivid illustration of God's call and our response. Moses, amidst his ordinary duties, experiences the extraordinary presence of God. This moment transforms Moses' life, redirecting him towards God's purposes. His response to God's call, "Here I am," reflects a heart of readiness and submission. This account challenges us to consider how we respond to God's calling, whether it comes in dramatic moments or quiet whispers. Are we attentive and willing, like Moses, to step into the roles God has for us? Let this passage inspire us to seek sacred encounters with God in our daily lives, remaining open and responsive to His calling.

Discussion and Reflection Questions:

- 1. Have you experienced a "burning bush" moment, a time when God's presence and call were unmistakably clear? How did you respond?
- 2. What does saying "Here I am" to God mean for you in this season of your life?
- 3. How can you cultivate a lifestyle of attentiveness to God's voice?

Prayer:

God, thank You for calling us to be part of Your divine story. Help us to be attentive to Your voice and willing to respond, just like Moses, with a heart that says, "Here I am." Guide us into the fullness of Your plans for us, and may we serve You with joy and faithfulness. Amen.

Friday: God's Response to Suffering

Scripture Reading:

Exodus 3:7-10

Devotional:

God's words to Moses reveal His deep compassion and unwavering commitment to deliver His people from suffering. This passage is a powerful reminder that God is not distant or indifferent to our pain. He sees, He hears, and He knows. More than that, He acts to bring deliverance and healing.

As followers of Christ, we are called to reflect God's heart for the suffering. We are His hands and feet in a world filled with pain, tasked with bringing hope and relief to those in need. This mission is not easy, but it is a vital part of living out our faith.

Let us be inspired by God's response to the cries of the Israelites, seeking to emulate His compassion and action in our own lives. May we be attentive to the suffering around us and moved to be agents of God's love and justice in the world.

Discussion and Reflection Questions:

- 1. How does knowing that God sees and responds to our suffering affect your faith and how you approach God in prayer?
- 2. In what ways can you participate in God's work of bringing deliverance and hope to those who are suffering?
- 3. How can you cultivate a heart that is sensitive to the cries of those in need?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your compassion and action in response to our suffering. Stir in us a heart like Yours, one that sees the afflicted, hears their cries, and moves to act. Empower us to be Your instruments of healing and hope in this world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Saturday: Declaring God's Name in a Skeptical World

Scripture Reading:

Exodus 3:13-15

Devotional:

In revealing His name as "I AM WHO I AM," God communicates His eternal, unchanging, and self-sufficient nature to Moses—and to us. This profound declaration assures us of God's omnipresence and faithfulness across all generations.

As believers in a skeptical and often disbelieving world, we are called to stand firm in our faith, anchored in the knowledge of who God is. This involves not only trusting in God's character but also being prepared to declare His truth and faithfulness to those around us.

Let us draw encouragement from God's revelation to Moses, remembering that the same God who was with Moses is with us today. May we boldly declare His name and character in our conversations, actions, and lives, showing the world the reality of our unchanging God.

Discussion and Reflection Questions:

- 1. What does God's name "I AM WHO I AM" mean to you personally?
- 2. How can you better equip yourself to declare the truth of who God is in a world filled with skepticism?

Prayer:

Lord, we are grateful for the privilege of knowing You and declaring Your name to the world. Equip us to be bold witnesses of Your character, love, and faithfulness. May our lives reflect Your unchanging nature, drawing others closer to You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.