

Message Notes

A Reluctant Leader

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction - God's Amazing Provision!!

Review from last's week's message:

Objection #1 - Who am I?

Objection #2 - Who are you?

Today's Message:
A Reluctant Leader
Exodus 4:17

Objection #3 - Exodus 4:1

What is behind this objection?

Pushback to Objection #3 - Exodus 4:2-9

"What's that in your hand?"

Speaking of your hand, put in in your cloak

God is God over all!

Objection #4 - Exodus 4:10

What's behind this objection?

Pushback to Objection #4 - Exodus 4:11-12

Four Sarcastic Questions and One Command

Objection #5 - Exodus 4:13

What's behind this objection?

Pushback to Objection #5 - Exodus 4:14-17

A Concession and A Command

Gospel Implications

The Disobedience of God's People, especially leaders

Jonah

Book of Jonah (briefly!)

Paul

Philippians 3:1-11

Romans 6:1-14

Titus 2:11-14

Why Obey Jesus

LAW says "You SHOULD obey!"

GOSPEL says "You SHOULD obey! AND, Your legal requirement has been paid by the finished work of Jesus Christ. You GET TO obey!"

Gospel Application - What's God asking you to do for His Glory and your joy?

Exodus 4:1-17

¹Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The LORD did not appear to you'?"

²Then the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?"

"A staff," he replied.

³The LORD said, "Throw it on the ground."

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. ⁴Then the LORD said to him, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail." So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. ⁵"This," said the LORD, "is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you."

⁶Then the LORD said, "Put your hand inside your cloak." So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, the skin was leprous—it had become as white as snow.

⁷"Now put it back into your cloak," he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh.

⁸Then the LORD said, "If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second. ⁹But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground."

¹⁰Moses said to the LORD, "Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue."

¹¹The LORD said to him, "Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹²Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say."

¹³But Moses said, "Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else."

¹⁴Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. ¹⁵You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. ¹⁶He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. ¹⁷But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it."



Financial Report

Revenue
(\$ millions)

Net Income
(\$ millions)

How we ended 2017

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- Needed about \$400,000 - 475,000

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How we ended 2017

- Needed about \$400,000 - 475,000
 - \$491,000 came in December.
- Only ~\$1,000 short of giving to budget
 - ~\$140,000 under in expenses.
 - PRAISE GOD!

2018 Budget - \$2,261,501 (2.7% increase)

Avg. Weekly Need: \$42,800

We could meet this year's budget if people committed to filling one of these needs (here's just one way we could break it down, and we'd leave off the last two columns/bottom line):

<u># People</u>	<u>Monthly Giving</u>	<u>Total Months</u>	<u>Total Donation</u>
10	1500	12	180000
25	1000	12	300000
55	750	12	495000
100	500	12	600000
175	250	12	525000
95	100	12	114000
70	50	12	42000
50	10	12	6000
50	5	12	3000
TOTAL -			\$2,265,000.00

JANUARY GIVING UPDATE

Praise God for the partnership of so many people at Hope
in reaching our goals for 2018!

DONORS

In January alone,
approximately 433 donors gave to Hope.
A donor was recognized as "Outstanding," a
business organization, or provided
"help."



WEEKLY GIVING

Our average weekly giving this month
was \$42,776.70. This is
\$19.40 short of our weekly need
(\$42,796.10).



BUDGET

Our total giving YTD is \$1,700,000.00.
Comparing this amount to our YTD budgeted
need leaves us short of budget by \$177.00.
Our total giving so far covers the Outreach,
Development, and Office portions of our 2018
budget, which allows us to provide things like
outreach on Sunday mornings, a safe space for
women to learn about Jesus, and paper for your
little cards!



MINISTRY IMPACT

This January brought our Drive the City
Super Bowl outreach. We partnered with
Source Ministry to provide resources,
temporary housing, and care
for numerous women.
Additionally, many Hopesters donated food,
bedding, gift cards, time, and much more to
help make this possible.



OUR MISSION

To honor God by helping as many people
as possible become fully devoted
followers of Jesus Christ.





US Midwest

"We hosted our second annual conference this year ... platforming the wide diversity of our mission field"

NETWORK UPDATE

The US Midwest is comprised of massive urban centers that are featured in the media worldwide, and small places that are unknown except by those who call them "home." This year, we saw a concentrated effort at reaching both with the message of the Gospel of Jesus. In St. Louis and Detroit, Acts 29 churches are strategically partnering with other inner city churches to develop training, support, and infrastructure for urban church-planting.

In Iowa and North Dakota, indigenous planters are gearing up to start churches in beloved hometowns. Showing our commitment to the far-flung parts of our network, we hosted our second annual conference this year in Fargo, platforming the wide diversity of our mission field.

Noel Holkkonen
Network Director

The page is framed by a wide, ornate border of floral and foliate motifs in gold, blue, and red. The central text is set within a simple gold rectangular frame.

The Gospel
According to
GMoses
a study of exodus



The questions/objections begin (#1)

“Who am I?”

Exodus 3

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

The questions/objections begin (#1)

I will be with you

Exodus 3

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

¹²And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

The questions/objections begin (#1)

You're going to get a sign

Exodus 3

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

¹²And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

The questions/objections continue (#2)

Who are you?

Exodus 3

¹³Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

The questions/objections continue (#2)

“I AM” – a Generational Name

Exodus 3

¹⁴God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”

¹⁵God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you.’

“This is my name forever,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation.”

Moses' Job Description

Go and be my prophet and their leader

Exodus 3

¹⁶“Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt. ¹⁷And I have promised to bring you up out of your misery in Egypt into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites – a land flowing with milk and honey.’

Moses' Job Description

Go and confront Pharaoh!

Exodus 3

¹⁸“The elders of Israel will listen to you. Then you and the elders are to go to the king of Egypt and say to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. Let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God.’ “

Moses' Job Description

God will be glory through wonders and plunder

Exodus 3

¹⁹“But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless a mighty hand compels him. ²⁰So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go. ²¹And I will make the Egyptians favorably disposed toward this people, so that when you leave you will not go empty-handed. ²²Every woman is to ask her neighbor and any woman living in her house for articles of silver and gold and for clothing, which you will put on your sons and daughters. And so you will plunder the Egyptians.”

Today's Message:
A Reluctant Leader
Exodus 4:1-17

Objection #3

“What if they don’t believe me?”

Exodus 4:1

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A close-up photograph of a computer keyboard. The central focus is a bright red key with the word "Forbidden" printed in white, sans-serif font. The key is rectangular with rounded corners. Surrounding it are several dark grey keys with white symbols: curly braces and square brackets to the left, a double quote and comma to the left, a question mark and slash to the left, and an upward-pointing arrow and the word "SHIFT" to the right. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the keys and the vibrant color of the red key.

Forbidden

↑ SHIFT

Pushback to Objection #3

Three Signs given to Moses

Exodus 4:2-3

²Then the LORD said to him, “What is that in your hand?”

“A staff,” he replied.

³The LORD said, “Throw it on the ground.”

Pushback to Objection #3

Three Signs given to Moses

Exodus 4:3-5

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. ⁴Then the LORD said to him, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.” So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. ⁵“This,” said the LORD, “is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob — has appeared to you.”

A close-up photograph of a man wearing a tan fedora-style hat and a light-colored shirt. He has a serious, slightly annoyed expression and is looking off to the side. The image is a meme with white text overlaid on it.

SNAKES

**WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE
SNAKES**

Pushback to Objection #3

Three Signs given to Moses

Exodus 4:3-5

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. ⁴Then the LORD said to him, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.” So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. ⁵“This,” said the LORD, “is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob — has appeared to you.”

Pushback to Objection #3

Three Signs given to Moses

Exodus 4:6-7

⁶Then the LORD said, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, the skin was leprous – it had become as white as snow.

⁷“Now put it back into your cloak,” he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh.

Pushback to Objection #3

Three Signs given to Moses

Exodus 4:8-9

⁸Then the LORD said, “If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second. ⁹But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground.”

Hymn to Aton

Thou makest a Nile in the underworld,
Thou bringest it forth as thou desirest
To maintain the people (of Egypt) ...

All distant foreign countries, thou makest their life (also),
For thou hast set a Nile in heaven,
That it may descend for them and make waves upon the mountains,
Like the great green sea,
To water the fields in their towns.

How effective they are, thy plans, O Lord of eternity!
The Nile in heaven, it is for the foreign peoples
And for the beasts of every desert, that go upon (their) feet;
(While the true) Nile comes from the underworld for Egypt.

Objection #4

“I’m ain’t not a good talker...”

Exodus 4:10

¹⁰Moses said to the LORD, “Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.”



Pushback to Objection #4

Four Sarcastic Questions and One Command

Exodus 4:11-12

¹¹The LORD said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹²Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

Objection #3

“What if they don’t believe me?”

Exodus 4:13

¹³But Moses said, “Pardon your servant, Lord.
Please send someone else.”



Pushback to Objection #4


A Concession and (once again) a Command

Exodus 4:14-17

¹⁴Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. ¹⁵You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. ¹⁶He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. ¹⁷But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it."



FOR SALE
RUNS WELL

A red car is shown from a rear-three-quarter perspective, elevated on wooden blocks. The front end is severely damaged, with the hood and bumper area crumpled and partially missing. The windshield is intact but has a white sign with black lettering that reads "FOR SALE" on the top line and "RUNS WELL" on the bottom line. The car is parked on a paved surface in front of a light-colored building with horizontal siding.

Pushback to Objection #4

A Concession and (once again) a Command

Exodus 4:14-17

¹⁴Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. ¹⁵You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. ¹⁶He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. ¹⁷But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it."

Gospel Implications

Gospel Implications

**The Disobedience of God's People,
especially leaders**



DISOBEDIENCE

THE DARK SIDE OF FREE WILL



Pieter Lastman,
Jonah and the Whale,
1621, Oil on oak,
360 mm by 521 mm,
Museum Kunstpalast

Jonah 1:1-3, 17, 2:10

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”

³But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish...

Jonah 1:1-3, 17, 2:10

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¹⁷Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

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¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”

³But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish...

¹⁷Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

¹⁰And the LORD commanded the fish and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

Jonah 3:1-6, 10

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

³Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it.

⁴Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.”

Jonah 3:1-6, 10

⁵The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. ⁶When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust...

¹⁰When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Jonah 4:1-3, 10

¹But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD, “Isn’t this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

Jonah 4:1-3, 10

¹⁰But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

Jean Fouquet, *Saint Paul*, circa 1452-1460
illumination on parchment, 16.5 × 12 cm
Condé Museum



Philippians 3:4b-11

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

Philippians 3:4b-11

⁷But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Romans 6:1-14

¹What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ²By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Romans 6:1-14

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — ⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

Romans 6:1-14

⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

Romans 6:1-14

¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

Why Obey Jesus?

Why Obey Jesus?

LAW says “You SHOULD obey!”

Why Obey Jesus?

LAW says “You SHOULD obey!”

GOSPEL says “You SHOULD obey!

AND, Your legal requirement has been paid by the finished work of Jesus Christ. You GET TO obey!”

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹²It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope – the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.



Gospel Application:

Gospel Application:

*What is God asking you to do for
His Glory and your joy?*

Will you obey?