

When God calls your name...

Exodus 3:1-4:17

Moses, the burning bush..., maybe you've heard of it. What comes to your mind?

It's the story of God calling Moses to deliver Israelites from the slavery. Moses, standing on a holy ground, where God was speaking to him, was just shepherding the flock. Why did God call Moses? Moses didn't want the responsibility of leading Israelites out of Egypt. He had plenty of excuses. He didn't see himself worthy enough of such a big task – “who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh...” (3:11). He was fearful of rejection – “what if they do not believe me or listen to me...” (4:1). He didn't feel confident of his abilities – “I have never been eloquent,...I am slow of speech and tongue” (4:10). When none of those excuses worked, he plainly said “please send someone else to do it”, meaning “I don't want to do it.”

After all, why should Moses do the work of God? He didn't want to do it, and he didn't feel adequate to do it. Did I mention that he was a murderer (read Exodus 2)?

Have you heard God calling your name? Maybe you felt the nudge from God, calling you to serve God in certain ways. How did you respond to Him? Maybe you said the same things as Moses did – “I am not good enough..., I don't have the skills to do it..., what if I fail...,” or simply “I don't want to do it. Let someone else do it”. Maybe you questioned the call because of your past. After all why would God use a murderer, persecutor of faith (i.e. Paul), adulterer (i.e. David), liar and denier (i.e. Peter), etc?

Psalms 103:11-12 states, “for as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.” God's call is not about your past but it's about the future. As far as the east is from the west, our past is gone. What a great news! And, God's call is not about you, but it's about Him. In other words, God's calling you not because He thinks you are great, but because He has great works to be done and has chosen you for the task. I'm sure we can come up with many excuses. But, all we need is what Moses heard – “I will be with you”. That's the promise of God, same promise that Joshua heard, and same promise for us today through the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). We will never be good enough, or be fully prepared to the work of God. Instead of trusting in our own abilities, we must trust in God who called us, if we want His work done right. All we need to know is not how inadequate we are, but we just need to know that God will be with us as we go and do the work, fulfilling the mission that God has for us. So, when God calls your name, what would you say? All you need to hear is that He will be with you, and with God nothing is impossible.