

CHOSEN TO REVEAL GOD'S POWER

After this presentation to Israel's leaders, Moses and Aaron went and spoke to Pharaoh. They told him, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: Let my people go so they may hold a festival in my honor in the wilderness."² "Is that so?" retorted Pharaoh. "And who is the Lord? Why should I listen to him and let Israel go? I don't know the Lord, and I will not let Israel go."
Exodus 5:1-2

What role does God's power play in times of discouragement?

1. Obedience to GOD'S CALL does not mean everything will be EASY.

But Aaron and Moses persisted. "The God of the Hebrews has met with us," they declared. "So let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness so we can offer sacrifices to the Lord our God. If we don't, he will kill us with a plague or with the sword."⁴ Pharaoh replied, "Moses and Aaron, why are you distracting the people from their tasks? Get back to work!"
Exodus 5:3-4

2. When Moses faced his TOUGHEST MOMENTS, he turned to God in PRAYER.

Then Moses went back to the Lord and protested, "Why have you brought all this trouble on your own people, Lord? Why did you send me?"²³ Ever since I came to Pharaoh as your spokesman, he has been even more brutal to your people. And you have done nothing to rescue them!"
Exodus 5:22-23

Lord, hear my prayer; listen to my plea for mercy. I call on You in the day of my distress, for You will answer me.
Psalms 86:6-7

3. Fight DISCOURAGEMENT with God's PROMISES.

Then the LORD told Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh. When he feels the force of my strong hand, he will let the people go. In fact, he will force them to leave his land!" And God said to Moses, "I am Yahweh – 'the Lord.'"
Exodus 6:1-2

God's Promises:

a. LIBERATION

"Therefore, say to the people of Israel: 'I am the Lord. I will free you from your oppression...'"
Exodus 6:5-6

b. REDEMPTION

"I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment..."
Exodus 6:6

c. ADOPTION

"I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God..."
Exodus 6:7

d. INHERITANCE

"I will bring you into the land I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I will give it to you as your very own possession...."
Exodus 6:8

"Tell Aaron everything I command you, and Aaron must command Pharaoh to let the people of Israel leave his country."³ But I will make Pharaoh's heart stubborn so I can multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in the land of Egypt.⁴ Even then Pharaoh will refuse to listen to you. So I will bring down my fist on Egypt. Then I will rescue my forces – my people, the Israelites – from the land of Egypt with great acts of judgment.⁵ When I raise my powerful hand and bring out the Israelites, the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord."
Exodus 7:2-5

4. The ten plagues are acts of JUSTICE meant to compel Pharaoh to humble himself and let Israel go free.

Water becomes blood (Ex. 7:14-25); **Frogs** (Exodus 8:1-15); **Gnats** (Exodus 8:16-19); **Flies** (Exodus 8:20-32); **Plague on Livestock** (Exodus 9:1-7); **Boils** (Exodus 9:8-12); **Hail** (Exodus 9:13-35); **Locusts** (Exodus 10:1-20); **Darkness** (Exodus 10:21-29); **Death of Firstborn** (Exodus 11:1-12:36)

5. When you recognize and rely on God's power, He will do great things THROUGH YOU.

It was by faith that Moses left the land of Egypt, not fearing the king's anger. He kept right on going because he kept his eyes on the one who is invisible.
Hebrews 11:27