

Why Me?

Exodus 5:3-5; 8-9

“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.”

⁴ But the king of Egypt said, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their labor? Get back to your work!” ⁵ Then Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now numerous, and you are stopping them from working.”

They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’ ⁹ Make the work harder for the people so that they keep working and pay no attention to lies.”

If It Weren't For You !!

Exodus 5:19-23

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.”²⁰ When they left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them,²¹ 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.”

²² Moses returned to the Lord and said, “Why, Lord, why have you brought trouble on this people? Is this why you sent me?²³ 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.”

https://youtu.be/9EIxGrIc_6g

Start at 2:04 – 4:13

Start again at 5:33 - 6:31

Exodus 6:1

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.”

Exodus 6:6-9

‘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. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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.’”

⁹ Moses reported this to the Israelites, but they did not listen to him because of their discouragement and harsh labor.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hX4eaMUiIw0&t=127s>

“Those who have a 'why' to live, can bear with almost any 'how'.”

Viktor Frankl

The Issue Is Focus

Personal Gratification

VS

Personal Meaning

Psalm 117

Praise the Lord, all you nations;

extol him, all you peoples.

² For great is his love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Praise the Lord.

Jesus calls us to focus on Him for meaning

This world is not your home – Abstain from sinful desires

Be an example by:

Submitting yourself to authorities

Living as God's slave

Showing respect to everyone

Loving the family of believers

Revering God

Enduring suffering because you are conscious of God

1 Peter 2:21-25

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

²⁴ “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” ²⁵ For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Romans 12:9-21

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Romans 12:9-21

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.