

Deliverance Delayed

Insights on Exodus 5:1-23

Pastor Dave Nichols, Grace Point Church, October 23, 2016

When Deliverance is Delayed...

We need to recognize:

(Exodus 5:1-23, Jonah 1, 1 Peter 4:12-19)

- **Problems are not always an indication that**

- **God doesn't have to work** _____

- **Which way we have** _____

We need to remember:

(Exodus 5:1-23, Mark 5:21-43, Romans 8:31-39)

1. **God's timing...**

2. **God is still...**

3. **When God is active...**

4. **Trust God...**

Often Times...

This weeks discussion guide:

Welcome to week 7 of our Small Group Session!

I pray that your journey through the book of Exodus has been one of great learning and fruit in your life. This quarter our groups will meet for 10 weeks wrapping up the week of November 13th (the week before Thanksgiving).

Getting Started:

1. We have all experienced delays in our lives. Our flights can be delayed due to weather, the births of our children can be delayed, or the pizza delivery man! Tell a story of a time you were delayed for something, but because of your delay either something great or something bad happened because of the delay. If it was a problem how was it resolved?

2. Reading through Exodus chapter 5 we see that even through Moses and Aaron were leading the Israelites to freedom, there was great tribulation along the way. Pharaoh made their lives more difficult by making them gather their own straw and keeping the quota of bricks the same. Tell of a time in your life where God was leading you to do something, but as you were being obedient there were great trials along the way. How did you keep persevering? What did you learn along the way?

Quick Review: Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Digging Deeper:

1. In our 3YD readings we have been reading through the book of Job. One of the things clear from the book of Job is that Job's friends believe more in karma than they do in God. Continually they accuse him of doing something wrong to have the kind of tragedy Job has experienced to befall him.

Often times it is easy for us to think that when hardships come we are somehow outside of the will of God. Look at these passages below about hardships.

- Jonah 1
- 2 Corinthians 1:3-11
- 1 Peter 4:12-19

As you read these passages is there a difference in the causes of the hardships we face? If so what are those differences? How do these passages encourage us to face hardships?

2. When hardships come the natural human tendency is to run. This happened in the garden when Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, and it has been happening ever since.

Peter is a great example of an authentic person trying to follow Jesus. He is the great spokesman for the disciples, but sometimes when he is pressed he has a desire to run. Look at these passages about Peter's life:

- Luke 22:31-34
- Luke 22:54-62
- John 21:15-19

What can we learn from Peter with regards to his successes and failures? How can his life be an encouragement to our life?

3. This story in Exodus 5 is a great example of how walking in God's will does not guarantee a life free from hardships. Often times walking in God's will is full of hardships. Through these hardships, it is easy to become discouraged and feel as if God somehow has abandoned you.

In Biblical times a name often reflected the person's character. God also does this with the revelations of His name, thus showing us his character. Take the time to read Isaiah 7:10-14. What does God reveal His name to be in this passage? How can this revelation of His name be an encouragement to you in times of hardships?

4. On Sunday Dave's final point was, "Often times there is a cross before the crown." Jesus was a great example of this life principle. How have you seen this in your life? How can knowing this principle bring perspective to your life and ministry?

Wrapping Up:

Based on last week's message and our discussion, is there any specific application that God might be prompting you to live out?

Take a few moments to take some prayer request and spend some time praying for the other members in your group.

