



Sharing

Elijah Prayer Discipleship School

Becoming an instrument of prayer

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Building Fathers House

A Dwelling Place for God by the Spirit

(Discipleship=doing the will of God walking in submission to the authority of God so that you can become an instrument of authority)

Workshop no. 26 : “Instrument of prayer” - Moses as an instrument in the hands of God - trust in God for who He is.

Exodus 3:10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Purpose of this workshop: To consider God and His ability as we put our trust in Him.

Intended Goal: To encourage the believer through the life of Moses to adhere to the call not on basis of our own inability but in obedience to God as we trust in Him in the knowledge of who He is!

Scripture readings :

Ezekiel 22:25-30 There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof, like a roaring lion ravening the prey; they have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things; they have made her many widows in the midst thereof. Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they showed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them. Her princes in the midst thereof are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain. And her prophets have daubed them with untempered mortar, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, Thus saith the Lord GOD, when the LORD hath not spoken. The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy: yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully. **And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.**

*Isaiah 59:12-16 For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them; In transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. Yea, truth faileth; and he that **departeth from evil maketh himself a prey**: and the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment. **And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.***

*Isaiah 63:3-9 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. **And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me**; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth. I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.*

*Jeremiah 5:1-5 **Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it.** And though they say, The LORD liveth; surely they swear falsely. O LORD, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return. Therefore I said, Surely these are poor; they are foolish: for they know not the way of the LORD, nor the judgment of their God. I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, and the judgment of their God: but these have altogether broken the yoke, and burst the bonds.*

*Psalms 106:23 **Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them.***

Food for thought :

Before considering Moses as a servant, we must understand what is meant by a servant, **as required by God.** *Ezekiel 22:30 **And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.*** Based on the mentioned, we must acknowledge that being a servant is a **call from God** and thus is **based not on our own understanding but based on God's understanding.** God said He is looking for someone who is willing to build a wall of protection roundabout a lost community and to stand in the gap for them - so that God can come to set them free.

Being a servant is thus **preparing a way for God to do His will on earth**, reacting in obedience - (building a wall around then as we stand in the gap on behalf of the community asking for forgiveness of sins). John the Baptist was called by God to prepared the way for the coming of the Lord by calling a community to repentance. Servants are instruments in the hands of God, to stand in the gap between God and the community so that God can establish His Kingdom within that community. For the mentioned reason servants are required to become a living sacrifice, surrendering their own will to do the will of God.

God is love and that is His nature, but God is also Holy and His Holiness is like a consuming fire that burn up everything that is not purified, even the high priest was warned that he needed to seek repentance for himself before he entered the holiness of God, lest he died, that is not because of God's anger but because of God's love and the knowledge of His holiness. Likewise in Ezekiel we see the love of God for a community oppressed, but if God would intervene in His love, the community would be destroyed not because of His anger but because of His Holiness. That is why God is looking for someone to stand in the gap. Jesus as the Son of God is the ultimate example of God's love for the world, **Jesus did not only stand in the gap, He became the gap - the door.**

Moses as intercessor for God :

The Preparation :

Before Moses could answer the call of God, he had to be prepared in order to be called. This preparation started in Egypt by creating in him a love based on the heart of God for His own people. Moses's heart turned towards the people of God to the extent that he felt a compassion for them, a compassion greater than self-preservation. The mentioned compassion drove him to the point of intervention and he killed a man. The call came, but Moses reacted in his strength, resulting in his removal out of Egypt.

God is calling on us to have compassion, without intervention based upon our own understanding. When Jesus showed us His compassion, he said to the disciples, you feed them - this was a test. A test to see in who or in what do thy trust! But all He asked from the disciples was to trust in Him - to give whatever they had, for it is enough in the Hands of God.

Moses had to be **trained in being humble enough, not to turn to his own will nor his own strength in an effort to help God.** For it is when we turn to our own inability that the result is not to the glory of God. Moses, when he heard the call of the Lord, reacted in his own strength and understanding, resulting in the death of a Egyptian and the subsequent fleeing from Egypt.

The **greater the calling, the greater the training to undergo.** It was the humble life of a shepherd that prepared Moses for his calling (like David). He had to forsake his previous position in the kingdom of the world before he could took up his position within the kingdom of God, reminding us of *Hebrews 12:2* *looking to Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right of the throne of God.*

The Call :

The call came a second time, a time when Moses found himself humble enough, to become a instrument in the hands of God, so that God could do what He purposed to do. As God said to Moses, *Exodus 3:8-10 And I am coming down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, to bring them up out of that land, to a good land, a large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites and the Jebusites. And now behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me. And I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. And now go, and I will send you to Pharaoh, that you may bring forth My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt.*

The call is **not a call to a position, as some would suggest, being called as a prophet or a pastor, no, it is a call unto obedience.** A command not a position, we tend to think that the call is laid before us as a position which we can accept or reject. Paul said that we are chosen to do the will of the one who chose us *2 Timothy 2:3-4 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.* Being called is not about us, its about the one who called us, doing His will. God said to Moses in a way - now that you know why and for what purpose I called you (made you), go and do as I send you to do (do as I predestined you to do)! Reminding us of *Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

If we would start looking at our calling in terms of obedience rather than position, we would become united in Christ Jesus in the knowledge of who He is - the One who called us. Then we would walk in obedience as soldier of Christ Jesus with only one purpose to please Him who chosen us to be soldiers (instruments) in His hands.

The Instrument :

Moses when called (commanded) by God to go, God said unto Moses that He (God) will send him to Pharaoh that he might bring out the people of God. God is saying that in this call of Moses, God is in control and that Moses will only be the instrument to do God's will.

Being an instrument in the Hands of God is not about us accepting a position and performing, but it is walking in absolute and faithful obedience to God as He commanded in His Word and as He guides us.

When we consider Moses we can see that it is God who not only prepared, called and used Moses, but God even said that He will harden the heart of Pharaoh so that he (Pharaoh) will resist in order for God's plan to be fulfilled. **We must learn that to follow God as an obedient instrument, we should not allow nor can afford the opinion or reaction of other people to control our next move, we should and can only be moved as we are directed by God.** This is essential for a servant in order to be God's instrument. Sometimes God will use other people to build our faith in Him, so that we can learn to persevere in obedience to the call (command) of God.

God trained Moses to be an instrument in His hands, an instrument that could understand the heart of God, in order to become an intercessor in the presence of God for His people, as Moses did in *Exodus 32:7-13 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou*

*broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves: They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people: Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation. **And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand? Ex 32:12 Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever. And the LORD repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people. **Moses did not respond in his own understanding but just as God have revealed unto him earlier.** It seemed to reflect the Words of God in Ezekiel 22:30 **And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.*****

God is righteousness, and He is faithful in concerning His Word.

True stories :

Exodus 9:17-35 As yet exaltest thou thyself against my people, that thou wilt not let them go? Behold, to morrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as hath not been in Egypt since the foundation thereof even until now. Send therefore now, and gather thy cattle, and all that thou hast in the field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die. He that feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses: And he that regarded not the word of the LORD left his servants and his cattle in the field. And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, upon man, and upon beast, and upon every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt. And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt. So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. And the hail smote throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field. Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail. And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the LORD is righteous, and I and my people are wicked. Intreat the LORD (for it is enough) that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer. And Moses said unto him, As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread abroad my hands unto the LORD; and the thunder shall cease, neither shall there be any more hail; that thou mayest know how that the earth is the LORD'S. But as for thee and thy servants, I know that ye will not yet fear the LORD God. And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was balled. But the wheat and the rie were not smitten: for they were not grown up. And Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread abroad his hands unto the LORD: and the thunders

and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured upon the earth. And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants. And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, neither would he let the children of Israel go; as the LORD had spoken by Moses.

God's authority :

Joshua 24:15-18 **And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.** And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods; For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed: And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God.

2 Samuel 24:18-25 And Gad came that day to David, and said unto him, Go up, rear an altar unto the LORD in the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. And David, according to the saying of Gad, went up as the LORD commanded. And Araunah looked, and saw the king and his servants coming on toward him: and Araunah went out, and bowed himself before the king on his face upon the ground. And Araunah said, Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshing floor of thee, to build an altar unto the LORD, that the plague may be stayed from the people. And Araunah said unto David, Let my lord the king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him: behold, here be oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood. All these things did Araunah, as a king, give unto the king. And Araunah said unto the king, The LORD thy God accept thee. And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

Isaiah 7:15 Butter and honey shall he eat, **that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.**

Isaiah 56:4-5 For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and take hold of my covenant; Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls **a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name,** that shall not be cut off.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 **I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life,** that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

Matthew 11:11-12 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater

than he. And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if ye will receive it, this is Elijah, which was for to come. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. But whereunto shall I liken this generation? It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows, And saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented. For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil. The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children. Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not: Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.

1 Corinthians 7:20-24 **Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called.** Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather. For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant. Ye are bought with a price; **be not ye the servants of men.** Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.

Galatians 1:6-7 **I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:** Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

Conclusion :

From the beginning, God presented us as man with a will to choose between two options. The tree of life or the tree of knowledge of good and evil which translated in short would mean the tree of death. This choice God gave us, reflect our relationship toward God in terms of obedience (life) or disobedience (death).

To become a instrument is to continually choose life, not according to our understanding and knowledge of good and evil, but only in obedience to the call of God.

When Moses interceded on the mountain on behalf of Israel, he did not relay upon his own understanding but according to the call of God, the call God initially gave him. When we are called to become a instrument in the hands of God, we should not allow circumstance to influence our understanding of the call on the basis of the knowledge we gathered. For God who called us is also the one who create circumstance, God said to Moses that He will harden the heart of Pharaoh. **Likewise God know the heart of man, but if we adapt our calling based upon the reaction of people, then we become a snare to God's plan.**

When God called Moses, God did not consider a alternative plan. For He declared unto Moses the plan that must come to pass, and that He will be with Moses to make sure it will come to pass. The only requirement was obedience from Moses. *Exodus 3:9-12* *Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go*

*unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? And he said, **Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.***

God is a sovereign God, He does not plan, He acts, and in His acting He is calling on us to be part of what He is doing. Our calling as servant (intercessor) is based upon God's purpose and our participation within it. God already knows what the outcome is going to be for He initiated it, all that is required of us as participants, is obedience.

Questions to be answered :

1. What is a servant of The Lord called to do?
2. God is love, and God is?
3. What is the three stages of being called and explain each stage?
4. How many choices did God present unto us and what are they?
5. Explain God's planning process?