

**Episode:** Servant of God Series No. 3

**Narrator:** Moses

**Primary Scriptures:** Exodus 3

**Story Summary:** Using the resources God has provided you

**Location:** Israel

**Time:** 1500 BC

**Suggested Memory Scriptures:** Exodus 17:12-13

One of the quickest ways to choose how you can serve God is to clearly ascertain the resources God has already provided you, and be imaginative in the ways they can be used.

Some of God's resources are common to everyone: twenty-four hours every day, the Bible, churches, prayer, and an unending number of people who have a wide variety of needs. Other resources are available to almost everyone in most countries: safe travel, the Internet, social media, food and water, reliable mail systems and public schools. If you had only these types of resources, you would never run out of ways to serve God and the people around you.

You have another bundle of resources specific to you. Only you have your experiences, talents, relationships, sleep patterns, knowledge and emotions. These qualify you to serve God and people in ways only you can do.

It's easy to look at the major cast of characters in the Bible and conclude God typically chooses special people with special resources to serve him. But, if you look carefully, you will see there are many more people in the Bible who served God with little fanfare. Look at the end of the book of *Romans*, in Chapter 16, to see just some of the people that Paul points out as his co-servants of God: Phoebe, Priscilla, Aquila, Epenetus, Mary, Andronicus, Junia, , Ampliatus, Urbanus, Stachys, Apelles, Aristobulus, Herodion, Narcissus, Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis, and eleven others listed by name.

In Exodus 3, at the burning bush God reveals himself to Moses. He also reveals his grandiose plans for Moses to lead the Hebrews out of slavery in Egypt. Exodus 4 opens with Moses being skeptical of God's plans, the expected responses of the Hebrews, and maybe of God himself. God's response is to bring a most common object to Moses' attention...his staff. Everyone had a walking staff, they were nothing special. But God turns the staff of Moses into a Staff of God<sup>1</sup> that would be used to bring people to follow God.

It's reasonable to conclude God would not ask you to do something he has not resourced you to do. Matthew 25:31-46 is the Parable of the Sheep and Goats. In this parable Jesus praises those who feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, are hospitable, clothe the naked and look after the sick and prisoners. God has certainly resourced most of us to do some of things with little effort or sacrifice.

God has given you an enormous number of resources. You can use them to serve yourself or to serve him and others.

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<sup>1</sup> Exodus 4:20