

Four Spiritual Secrets

Chapter 12

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson twelve



Objective: To learn the secrets God shared with Moses and how Moses responded to God's call and how we can apply them to our lives today.



Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.

—Exodus 3:11-12

God's secret for being the instrument of deliverance can be summed up in one statement: "You're not the deliverer – I am. On your own, you cannot deliver anybody. But I can, and I am with you." This secret is not only true of Moses; it is true for us as well.

Moses raised several objections when God called him to go to Egypt. God was remarkably patient, only getting angry when Moses asked Him to send someone else. What was important to God was not Moses' skills and talents, but his availability. In the work of God, the greatest ability is availability.



An important truth God taught Moses can be summarized in what we call "The Four Spiritual Secrets:"

I am not, but He is and He is with me.

I cannot, but He can and He is with me.

I do not want to, but He wants to and He is with me.

I did not, but He did because He was with me.

We need to learn to apply these four spiritual secrets to our lives like Moses did so that we might be instruments God can use to deliver others from the bondage of sin.



Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or false? The dynamics of your life are designed by God.
2. True or false? Moses' status and great speaking ability made him the right man for the job of deliverer.
3. True or false? God kept all of His promises to Moses.
4. How would you respond if God called you to go to a hostile nation and demand deliverance for its people? (choose one best answer)
 - a. I would tell God He chose the wrong person.
 - b. I would obey God, but I would be really afraid.
 - c. I would obey God and be very dependent on Him.
 - d. I would obey God and thank Him for noticing my talents.
5. How did Moses respond when God called him to go to Egypt?
 - a. He was delighted.
 - b. He was afraid.
 - c. He was angry.
 - d. He knew he was the best man for the job.
6. What made Moses an unlikely candidate to deliver the Hebrews? (check all that apply)
 - a. He was not eloquent.
 - b. He was not charismatic.
 - c. He had little confidence.
 - d. He was a shepherd, which Egyptians hated.
 - e. He was a murderer and wanted by the Egyptian law.

7. How did God demonstrate to Moses that He would be with him? (check all that apply)
- He told Moses to lay his rod down, and then turned it into a snake.
 - He gave Moses the ability to speak eloquently.
 - He filled Moses with courage.
 - He told Moses to put his hand inside his garment, turning it leprous and then healing it.
8. When Moses successfully delivered the Israelites, who got most of the credit?
- Pharaoh
 - Moses
 - the Hebrew people
 - God
9. Read “The Four Spiritual Secrets” below. Then circle the one that you believe can help you the most today.
- I am not, but He is and He is with me.
 - I cannot, but He can and He is with me.
 - I do not want to, but He wants to and He is with me.
 - I did not, but He did because He was with me.



Has God ever led you to do something you did not want to do? Is He leading you to do something like that now? What do you think you should say to Him instead of resisting Him?



Praise God, for He is God and always keeps His Word. Ask God to teach you the “Four Spiritual Secrets” in your life. Thank God that He desires to use you as an instrument of deliverance as He used Moses. Ask God to show you if there is something in your life that needs to be removed, and then ask God to remove it so He can use you to deliver others from the bondage of sin.



Going Deeper

1. How can you relate your needs to these four spiritual secrets that Moses learned at the burning bush?

2. Relate the ways it should encourage you to know that whatever God is calling you to be and do for Him is not a matter of who or what you are, but of Who and what He is; not a matter of what you can or cannot do, but a matter of what He can do; and it is not a matter of what you want, but of what He wants. _____

3. Being consistent with this perspective, explain and apply what we mean when we say that the greatest ability we can possibly offer to God is our availability. _____

4. What was God saying to Moses when He healed his leprous hand and turned his rod into a snake, after He told him to lay it down? Why did he tell him to pick it up again? Why was the rod a symbol of the miracles of Moses, such as the parting of the Red Sea? _____

5. Did God know about the inadequacy of Moses as a speaker? What was God telling Moses when He asked him who had made his mouth? _____

6. Is God more or less glorified when the worker of His miracles is more or less gifted? _____

7. Does God delight in doing extraordinary things through ordinary people, or extraordinary things through extraordinary people, or both? Why? _____
