

Dreams!

Scripture used: [Exodus 3:1-4 & 11-12 \(NLT\)](#)

OVERVIEW

Pastor Hurmon kicked off 2019 with the first sermon of a new series "[Reset](#)." Over the next four weeks, we will look at the opportunity of starting fresh - realizing that each day is the first day of the rest of our lives, and the beginning of the year is a particularly good time to take inventory of our priorities and choices. This first week of the series, we looked at a reset for our dreams, and Pastor Hurmon began with the story of Moses. Moses was chosen by God to fulfill the dream of liberating the Hebrew people in Egypt, but his anger caused him to end up exiled in Midian. But then God spoke to Moses from the burning bush. Ultimately, Moses chose to trust God and return to Egypt. This "reset" decision led to freedom for the Jewish people, which was Moses' childhood dream!

KEY POINTS

- 1) **Moses was a complex person who had left his childhood faith, very similar to many people in Silicon Valley today.** Moses was Hebrew, but raised as Egyptian royalty. He was well-educated, sophisticated, wealthy, and proud. His biological parents were devout Jews, but Egyptians of that time worshipped many gods. Like many of us, Moses probably considered himself "spiritual, but not religious." Moses' story should help us see that God meets us no matter where we are in our spiritual journey. We can take a next step in our relationship with God no matter what our context is right now!
- 2) **Moses had a God dream, but was driven off track by his righteous anger.** Despite his privileged life, Moses knew something was wrong. We learn in [Exodus 2:11 \(NLT\)](#) that he began to identify with the Hebrews, who were an oppressed people. At the same time, Moses was on track to become a military and political leader, meaning he would be in charge of oppressing his own people! This situation created a righteous anger in Moses, which resulted in the murder of an Egyptian slave master. His righteous cause - helping the Hebrew people - was undermined by this unrighteous act.
- 3) **God helped Moses reset his life.** Moses had to leave Egypt or be killed for his crime. He traveled to Midian and stayed there for decades as a shepherd. The old dream of freeing the Hebrews from bondage appeared to be off-course. Midian for Moses, like for many of us, represents a place where we lose hope or passion for our dream. There didn't seem to be any way to set things right, but God gave Moses another chance. In [Exodus 3:1-4 \(NLT\)](#), Moses chose to answer "Here I am!" to God. Even then, Moses still didn't believe he was the right person. So God made him a promise that he would return triumphant to Mount Sinai in [Exodus 3:11-12 \(NLT\)](#). Now Moses was back on track to fulfill his God dream!
- 4) **We can learn two valuable lessons from Moses.**
 - a. **Begin with the end in mind.** God clearly told Moses that he would return to Mount Sinai after completing his difficult task. God showed Moses the destination first, so he would be ready for the stressful journey. The ending to all our lives is the same. We will stand before Jesus and review our lives with Him. Even though they came before Him in worldly time, Moses and Elijah both stood before Jesus as described in [Matthew 17:1-3 \(NLT\)](#). We will make different choices if we constantly remind ourselves that we'll end up in front of Jesus!
 - b. **Spiritual work is not separate from other work.** Accountants can glorify God as much as preachers. We only need to ask ourselves "Can I honor God with my work and my time?" If the answer is "Yes!" then we need to start explaining that motivation to the people around us as we live faithfully as commanded in [1 Peter 3:15 \(NLT\)](#).

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - One of the powerful questions we were asked this week was, "Am I living life without a dream?" Reflect on this question. What is your honest answer? If you do have a dream, describe it. What makes it a God dream?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - This sermon series is all about resetting our lives. Before we reset, though, we need to be convinced that all the work will be worth it. Pastor Hurmon asked us to begin with the end in mind. That means picturing ourselves in front of Jesus, justifying our lives. What will He think? Are your dreams and goals worth of His attention?
- 3) **DO** - The new year is a fantastic opportunity. We each can assess our lives and start living a richer life. Pastor Hurmon will guide us through this process, but it's up to us to commit. Take ownership of your life by responding to the message "I will reset my dreams for 2019!"