

OUTLAWS

MESSAGE NEXT STEPS

MOSES

MARCH 17

In life, we all go through trials and tribulations that may seem impossible to get through. Moses, a man whose life is chronicled in the Bible, had many such difficult situations. But we learn through his experience that we're faced with a choice of whether we will act out of fear or whether we will trust God. When times get tough, will you cry out to God, or will you trust in your own limited abilities?

Work through the following questions and Scriptures on your own, and get together with your running partner, life group, or friends and family to talk through what you are learning.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Would you describe yourself as a trusting person? Why or why not?
2. Can you think of a time in your life when you have waited a long time for what you felt God had for you? Were you patient in the waiting? What tools did you use to help improve your trust?
3. Have you ever been in a situation where you were crying out to God for help and deliverance from some bad situation, but it seemed like God wasn't listening? What made you feel that way? How did you handle it?
4. God is not bound by "one-dimensional" time like we are because He knows the future. How does knowing that God can see the future and that He has your best interest at heart give you hope?
5. **Read Exodus 4:10-12.** Moses didn't feel qualified to speak to Pharaoh on behalf of his people because he had a speech impediment. Have you experienced a time when you felt God was prompting you to do something that you didn't feel qualified or equipped to do? Were you able to overcome those insecurities? If so, how were you able to overcome?
6. **Read Exodus 16:28.** Through Moses' life, we see God give opportunity after opportunity for Moses to stop trying to do things by his own might and will and to instead trust God to provide and do what's best. God offers us the same opportunity. Have you learned to trust God with everything in your life? This week, pray and ask God to help develop tools to trust Him more. Ask yourself, "If I truly believe God is who He says He is, shouldn't I trust Him to do all He says He will do, even when things don't seem to be happening on *my* timeline?" As you begin to make more of an effort to keep all of this in mind, share the results with family, friends, your life group, or your running partners.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Exodus 4:10-12 – Moses said to the Lord, “Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.” The Lord said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

Exodus 16:28 – Then the Lord said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep my commands and my instructions?”

DIGGING DEEPER

As you look to dig deeper into the topics of this week’s message, consider checking out the Trust God outcome on Gateway’s Spiritual Growth Path. Here’s an excerpt:

Common perception is that a follower of Christ is someone who believes in the existence of God and believes in the deity of Christ. Simply believe that God exists and that he sent his son, and you are considered a Christ-follower. Such thinking, though, is flawed. It misses the critical distinction between belief and trust. A person might believe an airplane can fly but not be willing to trust in the airplane by actually boarding it and experiencing flight. Scripture not only calls us to a belief in the existence of God, but we are exhorted to entrust our lives and well-being to God through Christ....even enemies of God believe God exists and that he sent his son. Abraham was called a friend of God, not because he believed God exists, but because he entrusted his life to God. Humanity looks to many things other than God for security, purpose, and well-being, effectively making these things their god. Most common, possibly, is an unbridled trust in money. Money is important and plays a critical role in our lives, but we understand without explanation when Scripture commands those who are rich to “not put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God” (1 Timothy 6:17). There are many things we can trust in with the kind of ultimate trust that should only be put in God: social status, vocational advancement, beauty, marriage, family, politics, and more. These, and others, are often both good and necessary aspects of life, but we make a critical distinction when we internalize the truth that they make lousy gods of ultimate trust.

To complete the Trust God outcome in its entirety, head to gatewaychurch.com/spiritual_outcomes/trust-god

SPIRITUAL OUTCOMES—
gatewaychurch.com/spiritual_outcomes/trust-god