

NO FEAR FAITH  
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Hebrews 11:27  
Soul Structuring Arts

May I read our text for today. It is only one verse. It may be life changing for some of us. As you turn to Hebrews 11 may I remind you about Soul Structuring Arts—tapes and supplemental tapes available on Moses' parents.

- SLIDE #1: Hebrews 11:27: By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.  
(The “he” is Moses. His age is 80 at the Exodus—“saw him who is invisible reveals the secret to fearlessness.)
- BUILD SLIDE #2A: Dealing with Fears Test from Pastoral Care Center: Are you a fearful person? You might be surprised at the places people struggle. Take out your insert and check the blocks. Sit back and think with me. This may take a minute.
- BUILD SLIDE #2B: Fear of death
- BUILD SLIDE #2C: Fear of Satan
- BUILD SLIDE #2D: Fear of failure
- BUILD SLIDE #2E: Fear of rejection by people
- BUILD SLIDE #2F: Fear of disapproval
- BUILD SLIDE #2G: Fear of financial problems
- BUILD SLIDE #3A: Fear of never getting married
- BUILD SLIDE #3B: Fear of becoming homosexual
- BUILD SLIDE #3C: Fear of the death of a loved one
- BUILD SLIDE #3D: Fear of going crazy
- BUILD SLIDE #3E: Fear of never being able to love or be loved by anyone
- BUILD SLIDE #4A: Fear of being a hopeless case
- BUILD SLIDE #4B: Fear of losing my salvation
- BUILD SLIDE #4C: Fear of having committed the unpardonable sin
- BUILD SLIDE #4D: Fear of pain
- BUILD SLIDE #4E: Fear of not being loved by God
- BUILD SLIDE #5A: Fear of embarrassment
- BUILD SLIDE #5B: Fear of being victimized
- BUILD SLIDE #5C: Fear of marriage
- BUILD SLIDE #5D: Fear of divorce
- BUILD SLIDE #5E: Add your own. We've only just begun.
- BUILD SLIDE #5F: What else can you think of?
- SLIDE #6: Hebrews 11:27: By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he

persevered because he saw him who is invisible.

What are you afraid of? What is your Pharaoh? Wouldn't it be nice to be free from your fears?

READ EXODUS 2:11-16: Kills Egyptian and flees from Pharaoh.

- The Three Periods Of Moses' 120-Year Life Are Usually Examined In The Following Way:
- BUILD SLIDE #7A: "Moses spent his first forty years thinking he was somebody. Great man in Egypt. Prince of Egypt. Last week's sermon. Pharaoh elect. Then he killed the Egyptian and fled into the desert.
- BUILD SLIDE #7B: He spent his second forty years learning he was a nobody. Tending sheep. Useless to God and man.
- BUILD SLIDE #7C: He spent his third forty years discovering what God can do with a nobody." Splits the Red Sea, leads people out of Egypt to the threshold of the Promised Land.

Moses' life is relevant because we are all in one of those three stages. We are either in the stage of thinking we are somebody, or in the stage of learning we are a nobody, or the stage of learning what God can do with a nobody. The best of the three, of course, is the last.

We make a profound mistake in attributing to Biblical men like Moses extraordinary qualities of courage and strength of body and soul.

In many ways, these men and women of the Bible were ordinary people in every way—just like us.

We would be surprised if we were to run into Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Jephthah, Barak Deborah, Peter, Mary, or Thomas on the sidewalk. They were all ordinary people.

However, they had one characteristic that lifted them above the level of the ordinary. At one point or other in life, they entered into an intimate relationship of faith with an extraordinary God.

Find a revealing insight to this in 1 Corinthians 1:26-27

- SLIDE #8: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-27: Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.
- SLIDE #9: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:28-29: He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things-- and the things that are not-- to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.

I used to look at the list of disciples and wonder why he picked those guys.

- SLIDE #10: I mean – Peter. If you were starting a worldwide operation would you have picked Peter? Here was a guy who had a tremendous ability to open his mouth, stick in both feet and wonder why he couldn't walk. Had original hoof-in-mouth disease.
- SLIDE #11: Then there was Thomas. How would you like for him to try to teach you how to walk in faith. Show him the donut and all he sees is the hole.
- SLIDE #12: Think of Phillip and Andrew – I don't mean to be too harsh on them, but here are two fellows who didn't seem to have a whole lot upstairs. I mean – just plain vanilla. Got in high-powered theological discussion and finally Phillip says, “ I'm all confused. I can't follow all this. Just show us the Father and that will suffice us.” May I remind you that the only persons in the gospels who ever brought anybody to Jesus were Phillip and Andrew? When the Greeks came to see Jesus to whom did they go? Peter and John – no! went to Phillip and Andrew. “You want to see Jesus? Sure, just come with us!”  
Let me remind you that it was Phillip and Andrew who had their noses in the little fellow's lunch pail to find out how many loaves and fishes he had.

Not an impressive one in the whole list – but then we get a clue. God chooses men and women, not on the basis of what they are, but rather on the basis of what they are to become.

Most of us miss this principle by a mile. We're always looking for the sharp people – whoever they are. God isn't looking for able people; He's looking for people available to relate with Him.

If I understand correctly, the lesson of Moses' life as it is often taught, goes like this:

- BUILD SLIDE #7A: God loves to look into the lives of people who think they are Somebody.
- BUILD SLIDE #7B: Then He carefully reveals to them that without Him they are really a Nobody.
- BUILD SLIDE #7C: So that He can demonstrate what He can do with Anybody.
- There Is Another Way To Look At Moses 120-Year Life:
  - SLIDE #13A: Moses spent the first 40 years in Egypt full of Self Reliance and Self Centered. He was Pharaoh elect and military leader. Senses desire to help his enslaved people. With the world centered on him, he takes matters into his own self reliant hands and kills Egyptian and at a precise moment in time the missionary becomes a murderer. Now filled with fear he flees Egypt.

- SLIDE #13B: Moses spent the next 40 years tending sheep in Midian. Useless to God and man—filled with Self Condemnation. You know that is true because at the age of 80 when God calls out of the burning bush, his response is, “God, I can’t do anything. I am not good for anything.

By the way, These three are what fallenness looks like.

- SLIDE #13C: Finally, after an intimate and dramatic encounter with the Father God, he enjoyed 40 years in what I will call, Sanctified Freedom—free from Self Reliance, Self Centeredness, and Self Condemnation:

- BUILD SLIDE #14A: Let me sum it up on the screen like this. Moses’ first 80 years look like this.

Self Reliant

Self centered

Self condemnation

What fallenness from Genesis 3 looks like.

- BUILD SLIDE #14B: Moses’ last 40 years looked like this.

~~Self Reliant~~ Reliant on God and Others

~~Self centered~~ Centered on God and Others

~~Self condemnation~~ Beloved by God and Others

By the way, this is what sanctification looks like: Sanctification is to be free from self reliance, self centeredness and self condemnation Self is totally out of the way.

Sanctification is not fasting, Bible study, worship, fellowship, prayer, meditation, etc. Those are spiritual disciplines that lead to sanctification.

True sanctification is when we are Reliant on God and Others; Centered on God and Others; Beloved by God and Others.

Now let’s talk about how fear relates to all of this.

- SLIDE #15: Abraham was afraid of what the men would think and so he lied about Sarah. Tell Story.

Self Reliant: He had a problem and he found his own solution.

Self centered: He was more concerned about his own welfare than his wife’s.

Self condemnation: Can you imagine how shamed he was to face Sarah when it was all over?

- SLIDE #16: Aaron was afraid of what the people would think and so he made the golden calf. Tell Story

Self Reliant: Concocted his own plan to fix the problem and took matters into his own hands.

Self centered: Afraid of what the people would do to him.

Self condemnation: Shame when he stood in front of Moses. Don't blame me. Just threw the gold into the fire and out jumped this calf.

•SLIDE #17: Peter was afraid of what the servant girl would think and so he denied that he knew Christ. Tell story.

Self Reliant: "All the other disciples will desert you but I will never desert you.

Self centered: All the focus at the fire was on him. Not even thinking of Christ.

Self condemnation: And then the cock crowed.

Who is your Pharaoh? What is your Golden Calf? Who is servant girl tormenting you?

Understanding the fear involved here is important because so much of our self reliance, self centeredness and self condemnation are driven by fear.

•BUILD SLIDE #19A: Self Reliant people are controllers.

What are they afraid of? "I am afraid that if I don't keep everything under control, it is not going to go the way I like. If I don't do it it's not going to get done, so I will fix it."

•BUILD SLIDE #19B: Self Centered people are takers.

What are they afraid of? "I am afraid that if I don't take I am not going to get it."

•BUILD SLIDE #19C: Self Condemned people live with unworthiness.

What are they afraid of? "I am afraid that no body likes me, I am not worth anything."

This is Moses' first 80 years of life. Filled with all sorts of fears.

Now at the age of 80, Standing before Pharaoh with the Rod of God in his hand calling down plagues on Egypt and leading the Exodus, he lived NO FEAR.

What happened?

One day, while tending sheep in the wilderness, the old shepherd saw a burning bush which seemed not to distinguish itself.

•SLIDE #21: And when he turned aside to look, the God inside the bush said, "Take off your shoes, you are on holy ground." And by the time the encounter was over, a relationship began that removed all fear out of his life.

•SLIDE #20: "He PERSEVERED because he saw him who is invisible."

I used to think that it was God's power behind him that took away the fear. Like the movie *Beethoven*.

VIDEO: *BEETHOVEN* CLIP

Power is fine but power does not take away fear. What if the power doesn't work. What if the One with the power decides not to use it? Still afraid that something might go wrong.

What takes away the fear?

•SLIDE #22: 1 John 4:18: "There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear.

Moses began to experience the dependable love of a God who loved him. The love of that relationship drove out the fear.

The great outstanding characteristic of Moses was the close intimacy of his relationship with God.

Deuteronomy 33:9-11: "The Lord spoke with Moses face to face..."

Numbers 12:7-8: "...and I will speak to Moses mouth to mouth."

To put it very simply, the secret of Moses' faith was that Moses knew God personally.

Moses had the faith that he had because he knew God the way that he did.

Let me show you what God gave Moses.

•BUILD SLIDE #23A: God replaced Self Reliant controlling with Humility.

READ 1 Peter 5:5.

•BUILD SLIDE #23B: God replaced Self Centered taking with Faith

Read Hebrews 11:6.

•BUILD SLIDE #23C: God replaced Self Condemnation—the deep sense of unworthiness with grateful receiving.

Read Romans 7:24-25.

•BUILD SLIDE #23D: Let me show you what sanctification looks like. I will draw a box around humility, faith, and grateful receiving.

Look for the burning bushes of life. Marker events. God moments in life. God wants to talk to you right there. He wants to free you from SR, SC and SC. He wants to work in relationship to replace them with humility, faith, and grateful receiving

MEDITATION on Disciples afraid in storm on Sea of Galilee: Here comes the person of Christ to take away their fears.

He replaced self reliance with humility (He can handle this.)

He replaced self centeredness (eyes off themselves and onto Him)

He replaced self condemnation with grateful receiving (They meant so much to Him that He was willing to rescue them.)