

Study Guide

Suggested Prayer before You Begin:

Dear Lord, keep me alert as I study your Word. Help me hear what You are saying to me personally. As I observe Moses and his lack of self-confidence, I am amazed You were able to do so much with him. My own inadequacy looms big in my eyes at times. Forgive me! Fill me with your power!

Read & Reflect: Begin by reading **Exodus 5 and 6** straight through, as you would the chapters of any book. Then, consider the study questions as you reflect upon what you read.

1. How did Pharaoh view the God of Israel? As far as he was concerned, who did the Hebrew people answer to? (**verses 2 & 15**)
2. What did Pharaoh accuse Moses and Aaron of trying to do? Describe Pharaoh's new work policy. What do you think he intended to accomplish with this strategy?
3. Did Pharaoh's strategy work? How and in what way?
4. How had the Lord prepared Moses for this disappointment (**Exodus 3:18-19**)?
5. **Read Exodus 5:15–23.** Moses did everything the Lord told him to do. After the favorable response from the Hebrew leaders and others (**Exodus 4:31**) what kind of response do you think he might have expected from the Hebrew foremen? How did the Hebrew foremen actually respond to Moses?
6. The Bible doesn't say, but it's likely that the foremen were part of the community that witnessed the miraculous signs and initially supported Moses. So what would account for their angry response toward Moses now?

7. How did Moses feel about God's call when he saw the new miseries of Israel (**verses 22-23**)? Does his response surprise you? Why or why not?

8. To whom did Moses turn in his frustration (**verse 22**)?

9. When do you ask God "why?"

10. What can we learn from Moses that will help us cope with doubt concerning God's plan and His love and wisdom?

11. **Exodus 6: 2-7** repeat what God told Moses when He appeared to him in the burning bush (**Exodus 3:6-12**). Why do you think that previous experience was not enough to sustain Moses' faith at this point?

12. How did God show patience with Moses?

13. How does God show patience with you?

14. In **Exodus 6:28-30** Moses mentioned, for a third time, how inadequate he felt about his speaking skills. This wasn't an obstacle as far as God was concerned, but for Moses it was a recurring issue. What assurance had God already given Moses? (**See Exodus 4:12, 15**)

Like Moses, we can go to the Lord in distress. He will listen. And He makes a way through what we call impassible and impossible. He did it for Moses. Not by telling Moses who he was—but by reminding Moses who HE is. God never sends us off to face battles alone.

Read and reflect upon **Psalm 94:18-19**, **Psalm 138:7-8**, and **Philippians 4:8** and remember that God's Word is our greatest weapon to evict unruly thoughts and keep our mind set on Him.