

**West View Methodist Church**  
**DAILY DEVOTIONS: LENT WEEK 3**



**MOSES**

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**WORDS OF LIFE AND FREEDOM**

Much of this week's devotions' content was sourced from a book by Robb, Susan. *Remember*. Cokesbury, United Methodist Publishing House - CoreSource Plus, 2023.

## MONDAY – The Mosaic Covenant



**Exodus 19: 5 (NIV)** *Now if you obey Me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession.*

As we will be looking at the Mosaic Covenant this week, let's start by delving shortly into a little of its history.

The Mosaic Covenant was a conditional covenant made between God and the nation of Israel at Mount Sinai. It is sometimes called the Sinai Covenant but is also referred to as the Mosaic Covenant, as Moses was God's chosen leader of Israel at the time. The pattern of the covenant is similar to other covenants of that time as it is between God and the Israeli nation.

In this covenant, God reminded the people of their obligation to be obedient to His law and the people agreed to the covenant when they said, "...*We will do everything the Lord has said....*" (Exodus 18: 8 (NIV)). This covenant would

serve to set the nation of Israel apart from all other nations as God's chosen people. It is, however, very significant that God, in His wisdom, subsequently chose to bless the world with a New Covenant through His son - Jesus Christ.

The Old Covenant can be seen as a code of moral demands, but the New Covenant gives us – through Jesus Christ - God's power to live for Him. God gives the same moral instructions in both covenants – but in the new covenant, He provides His Holy Spirit to supply the motivation and the power to fulfil those instructions.

**Reflection:** Am I living my life according to the example set for me by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ?



**Prayer:** Dear Lord and Heavenly Father Help me to always remember the words of Jesus – "*I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you*". AMEN

## TUESDAY – The Crossing of the Red Sea



**Exodus 14: 22 & 23 (NIV)** *and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea.*

We don't know much about Israel's faith during their four hundred years of exile in Egypt, but, they must surely have been "in awe" at their ultimate redemption by God, through perhaps one of the most significant events in their history – The Crossing of the Red Sea.

After Israel had freely left Egypt, the Pharaoh changed his mind and sent his army to force them to return. The people of Israel were (in the meantime) facing the uncrossable Red Sea. With the Egyptian army approaching, Moses and his followers were faced with a seemingly impossible situation that only the power of God could deliver them from. So God parted the Red Sea and all of Israel passed through on dry ground. And then, as Israel watched from the "dry side" the

Pharaoh's army was destroyed when God brought the water back over them.

And so, after four hundred years of silence from God, Israel, while witnessing the destruction of the Egyptian army, must have been wondering "Who is this God, that has done this for us?"

We know that this is the same God who sent His son Jesus Christ as our saviour, and who reminds us in John 14: 6 *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me"*.

**Reflection:** Are you living your life through Jesus and not looking to the world for the answers you seek?



**Prayer:** Touch me, O Lord, and fill me with Your light and Your hope. AMEN

## WEDNESDAY – Red Sea Moments



**Exodus 14: 21** *Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back ....”.*

Johnny came home from Sunday School excited to tell the family about what he had learnt that day.

Johnny opened his account by describing the flight of Israel from Egypt, pursued by the well-trained and better-equipped Egyptian army. On reaching the Red Sea, the Israel army (under General Moses) constructed a “bailey” bridge in order to reach the other side, hotly pursued by the Egyptian forces. With the Israel army safely on the other side, the Israel Corps of Engineers, having set demolition charges on the support structure of the bridge, blew it up. The Egyptian forces were thrown into the water and all drowned, leaving the Israel army safe and victorious on the other side.

Utterly shocked, Johnny’s mother asked incredulously if that was indeed the story that had been told to the Sunday School class. After

some thought, Johnny admitted that it wasn’t, but added “You wouldn’t have believed the story they told us either”.

But we do believe the Bible story of the deliverance of the Israel people. God carved a path on dry land for His people to walk through. And once they were safely across, He crashed the waters back together, destroying Egypt’s entire army and saving His people.

Our lives are marked with similar Red Sea moments—times when God carried us through an obstacle we deemed insurmountable. Each time He does this, our faith is deepened and our view of God and His goodness and power is broadened.

**Reflection:** What “Red Sea moments” are you presently facing?



**Prayer:** Dear Lord, as I step into this new day, I ask that You let Your grace be my shielding armour. AMEN

## Thursday – Humble Beginnings



**Zechariah 4: 10 (The Message):** *Does anyone dare despise this day of small beginnings?....”*

We first meet Moses in the second chapter of the book of Exodus. In fact, I believe that it is here that the foundation of how God teaches us the ways of life here on earth is laid.

Before the birth of Moses, a great revolution had taken place in the rulership of the land of Israel. Suddenly, after a time of blessing, new taskmasters (the Egyptians) ruled over the people and made sinister plans for the killing of all their male children. It was into this world that Moses was born.

When we come into this world, we have no choice in what we are exposed to. Sometimes, through no fault of our own, we are faced with either difficult or challenging situations. Some of us have good families that we are born into, but

others are not so fortunate. However, this in reality does not matter at all, simply because we believe that God is fully in control at all times!

God is the Chief Orchestrator of everything that goes on in our world and so difficulties and problems should never determine the outcome of our lives.

Today let God open your heart and deal with your past and the mindset the past has deposited deep within you. Ask the Father to set you free to walk into a fresh and renewing journey with God today and in the future.

**Reflection:** Do I ask God to open my heart in such a way as to be able to deal with the hurts and difficulties of the past?



**Prayer:** Lord, please help me to simply let go of all the fears, worries, problems, doubts, guilt and disappointments that sometimes tend to overwhelm my very existence. AMEN

## FRIDAY – Reaffirming Our Commitment



**Joshua 1: 16-18 (NIV):** *Then they answered Joshua, "Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. Just as we fully obeyed Moses, so we will obey you. Only may the Lord your God be with you as He was with Moses.*

Historians serve an important role in our society. While historians might not save lives or arrest criminals, they play a key role in our current and future success. Historians remind us of our past. They explain how people and societies came to be. They remind us of efforts that led to great success and others that resulted in devastating failure.

History played an important role for God's people as well, which is why Moses spent time retelling the past. In a renewal of the covenant, Moses began by reminding them that their history proved God's faithfulness and power, including the signs and wonders God had performed on their behalf in Egypt and their ultimate liberation from bondage. God had provided for them, guided them during the

wilderness years and gave them victories east of the Jordan River.

In the narratives, God's promises, many dating back to the patriarchs, were about to be fulfilled and these were solemn and sacred occasions. For Israel, the covenant responsibilities of obedience and worship had to be taken seriously.

Today when we read and review Israel's history, we are aware of some troubling (and probably embarrassing) personal memories. In the light of these memories, it is always good for us, like Moses, to constantly review and reaffirm our own commitment to serve God.

**Reflection:** Do we spend time on a regular basis reviewing and renewing our commitment to God?



**Prayer:** Lord, I pray that I may yield to Your instructions at all times and make You first in all that I do. AMEN.