

Word notes Sunday 7/12/08 John Hummersone
Moses – God’s man for a crisis (Exodus 1 and 2)

Summary

Moses Story did not begin with his birth but some 400 years earlier when Joseph was sold into slavery in Egypt, his rise to a position of great responsibility and the settling of the nation of Israel in Egypt during a time of famine. By the time of Moses birth the Israelites had grown in numbers so much that they were a political threat to Egypt and so were oppressed cruelly – including a requirement for all male children to be thrown into the Nile (an early example of ethnic cleansing).

Moses mum had a plan – which coupled with her faith in God saw Moses rescued, raised in Pharaoh’s courts and eventually to be a leader for Israel to take her out of slavery.

We could say Moses was a man of his time – born into the right time and the right place to lead his people to freedom and reflect on our own lives and think of them as nowhere near as startling or timely. We may even feel we were born at the wrong time or in the wrong place but in truth God has a plan for each of us here and now and it’s to do great things for Him.

Moses did not have it all on a plate – well he did while in Pharaoh’s court, but his heritage broke through and he struck out in anger, killing a man and having to flee. God took decades to shape Moses character and even then he felt unable to speak to Pharaoh. And after leading the nation out of Egypt, taking them through the wilderness to the edge of the Promised Land he was not able to enter as a result of temper and disobedience.

Application

Discuss one or more of the following three areas:

Give each person some time to reflect and share how they view their life – do they feel in the right place and time or a bit lost, unsure of their role or wishing they were somewhere else. How would things be different? Is this due to “hindsight and wishful thinking” or is God leading you somewhere, giving you “foresight and wisdom”? How can we tell the difference?

What experiences have people had or are going through now that they see as preparation by God for service in the future (near or distant!)? Can the Cell help to see them through these times and if so how?

John encouraged us to look at our circumstances through the eyes of heaven in order to be able to overcome the most challenging of circumstances. How can we do that? Ask people to share what that means to them and how they go about “touching heaven, changing earth” either to overcome personal difficulties or to take ground for the King?

Witness:

The Christmas Celebration meeting is on Sun 21st Dec at 5pm –invite your friends.

We are sending a Christmas card and CD to the houses on Studlands – and need help delivering them on Wed 10th December – meet at NCC 7:30pm. Tell your Cell and ask if they would like to help then please speak to Jan.