

- Ever hear the phrase, "Bit of more than he can chew"?
- Overestimate your ability / underestimate the task.
- God calls his people to God-sized jobs for God-sized purposes.
- When you try do God-sized jobs with human-sized power you bite off more than you can chew. That's what Moses does in today's message. Let's learn with Moses this morning- PRAYER

¹⁰ When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son.

- Moses lives in the palace. Best food, Best Education, Best everything. Moses doesn't know it, but God is preparing him for something big. Like Jesus is both God and Man, Moses will be both Egyptian and Israelite.

¹¹ One day, after Moses had grown up, (Grown up? How grown up?) - Before Stephen is stoned to death, in his speech he says this (Acts 7:22-23) ²² *Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.* ²³ *"When Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his own people, the Israelites.* So, Moses is 40 when these next events in Exodus.

¹¹ One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. ¹² Looking this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

- Hebrews 11:24-26 gives us some insight into what Moses is thinking here. ²⁴ *By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.* ²⁵ *He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.* ²⁶ *He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.*
- So, Moses chooses to leave the Palace, goes to his people and in his flesh and with his earthly power and status and authority and wisdom decides to avenge this Israelite.

POINT TO JESUS – Jesus humbled Himself, taking the nature of man to save us.

Philippians 2 ⁵ *In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:* ⁶ *Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;* ⁷ *rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.* ⁸ *And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!*

It says, *He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people.* ¹² *Looking this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.* heart seems to be in the right place. He wants justice. He's trying to fix a wrong, but he's doing it without God, so he does is wrong. He sins.

- Good intentions don't make what you do right, and Moses knows this isn't right. He looks both ways. You don't look both ways unless you think what you are doing is wrong and want to make sure nobody's watchin'.
- Then after he kills the Egyptian, he looks down to bury him in the sand. The one place Moses didn't look is up! Moses is looking every direction but up.
- Acts 7:23-25, Stephen gives us insight into why Moses' killed this Egyptian. Acts 7:23-25 ²³ *"When Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his own people, the Israelites.* ²⁴ *He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian.* ²⁵ *Moses thought that his own people would realize that God was using him to rescue them, but they did not.*
- At 40 years old, Moses wants to deliver the Israelites, he acts in his own earthly status, power, wisdom and authority.
- ¹³ *The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, "Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?"* Moses determined who was right and wrong ¹⁴ *The man said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?"* Then Moses was afraid and thought, *"What I did must have become known."*

POINT TO JESUS – Jesus was not well received as His people's Prince of Peace and Judge.

- Why is Moses disliked by his own people? Why don't they accept him as their prince and judge?
 1. Moses has been living in the lap of luxury for 40 years.
 2. Moses hasn't paid his dues.
 3. Moses may identify with them, but they don't identify with him Moses.
 4. Lack of trust for anyone who looks Egyptian. What are your motives?
 5. Moses has inadvertently brought worse punishment on the Hebrews.
 - a. Egyptian slave master is missing. Will be investigation if not already started. They know the Israelites will be blamed for the murder and there will be Hebrew consequences.

POINT TO JESUS – Even in lowering himself, his people did not recognize him.

- Not only is Moses not welcome among the Hebrews, but he can't go back to the palace either.
- ¹⁵ *When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well.*
- Pharaoh can't have rouge vigilante Hebrews raise as Egyptians in Egyptian clothing killing Egyptian supervisors.
- This is Pharaoh's operation and Moses acted in defiance of it. Moses is resisting the very thing Pharaoh has ordered. Moses picked his side.
- There's a warrant out for Moses. Find Moses so we can kill him.

POINT TO JESUS - They tried to kill Jesus in His earlier ministry before He delivered his people on the cross.

- Moses had good intentions. He wanted to do God's work. He wanted to save God's people but He made a mistake and now it looks like its going to cost him his ministry.
- He's probably thinking, "God isn't going to use me now. I blew my chance." *but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well.*

POINT TO JESUS – Like Moses spent 40 years in Midian, Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness before beginning His public ministry.

- Moses can't go to Syria or Canaan because of an extradition treaty with Pharaoh, so He goes to Midian.
- Midianites are descendants of Abraham's 4th son through second wife Keturah. Both sides of the Reed Sea in both Saudia Arabia and Egypt today
- Moses is on the Lamb runnin' from the Cops and the FBI and the CIA & in hiding in a foreign land and he will be on the Lamb for 40 years.

His actual ministry of delivering the Hebrews from Egyptian slavery won't happen until this 40-year-old is 80! And some of you think your ministry years are past. Some of you, God just now got you ready. It took this long for God to get to you a place where He will do the big thing you were created for.

- I can imagine Moses thinking, "I stepped out to serve you God, and it blew up in my face! That's it. I'm done!"

Maybe that's you. Maybe you've tried to serve God. Maybe you tried the right thing and all it did was bite you.

- *And so, some people become Christians, get involved at church and then something happens, they get hurt, they get humbled, they feel unwanted, they aren't received like they anticipated, and they run and say, "I tried, but I'm done. I still believe in you, but I'm done with your people"*
- *Or we say, "I blew it. I missed my chance. I can't go back to that church. I can't go back to those people. I have my pride. I'll just escape."*

No matter where you are or what you've done, God manages to use our failures to prepare us for His work in us.

- Moses bit off more than he could chew. But it wasn't because of the size of the job. I bit off more than I could chew when I ordered that omelet.
- Biting off more than you can chew isn't always bad. In fact, that's what faith calls us to do.

We are only to bite off more than we can chew when God tells us to order it and God promises to eat it with us.