

## 6

# Resting on a Trustworthy God

Moses

*Hebrews 11:23-29;  
Exodus 12:21-36*

The young woman's voice shook with emotion as she spoke at her grandmother's funeral. "No matter what I was going through," she said, "I knew my grandmother was praying for me every day. But now I wonder who will take her place? Who will be as faithful to pray? Who will be my example of such trust in God?"

GROUP DISCUSSION. What has been the hardest or most challenging experience of your life? Who helped you through it?

PERSONAL REFLECTION. Who has been the most significant "nurturer" in your life in the ways of the Lord? How has that person influenced your personal development? How have you communicated your gratitude for their godly influence?

Moses, the next hero in the gallery of faith in Hebrews 11, was an example of faith to the Israelites. God used him to deliver the people of Israel from the oppression of slavery, and that work of liberation was an act of faith from beginning to end. Several times the writer of Hebrews uses the familiar words "by faith" to describe Moses' journey with the Lord. At each crucial step in the deliverance of his people, Moses put his trust in the God who will not fail. *Read Hebrews 11:23-29.*

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1. What aspects of Moses' story are you most familiar with?

Is there anything in this passage that is new or surprising to you? Explain.

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2. The initial step of faith did not come from Moses but from his parents (v. 23). Even though Scripture doesn't give us many clues, what factors can you think of that may have made them recognize that Moses was not an ordinary child?

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3. The second stage of Moses' faith journey involved identifying himself with his own people. There were two decisions involved in that identification (vv. 24-26). Explain the two decisions and the consequences of each.

4. What signs of success in our culture might God ask you to turn from as an expression of your confident trust in him?

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5. What reward was Moses looking forward to?

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6. Moses spent forty years in the wilderness of Midian, waiting for God's deliverance of the Israelites. How can we, like Moses, keep our eyes on God as we wait for his fulfillment of his promises?

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*Read Exodus 12:21-36.*

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7. What aspects of God's character are revealed in the account of the Passover?

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8. Do you find it difficult to trust in a God who deals so severely with those who oppose him? Why or why not?

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9. Why did it require faith for Moses and the Israelites to follow God's instructions about the lamb and the blood?

10. The final step of faith for Moses highlighted in Hebrews 11 is the crossing of the Red Sea (found in Exodus 14). How was that an act of faith for both Moses and the Israelites as a whole?

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11. Have you seen one person's faith influence a larger group today, the way Moses' did? If so, explain.

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12. What situation is your personal "Egypt," where you need to trust God for deliverance?

*Ask God to set you free from any spiritual bondage or oppression. Seek to live a life marked by faith wherever you are in the process of deliverance—stuck, leaving, waiting, set free.*

#### **Now or Later**

Moses' life fell into three forty-year periods: the time in Egypt when he was being raised, apart from God, as the son of Pharaoh's daughter; the time in Midian when he questioned God's call; and the time in the wilderness when he led God's people. Decide which of those phases you are in right now. What can you do to demonstrate confidence in God where you are today? Ask a trusted friend to help you evaluate your life's journey so far—and to hold you accountable to keep moving forward in a walk of faithfulness.