



## LIFE LESSONS FROM OLD TESTAMENT HEROES WEEK # 4 MOSES

A person with courageous faith...

- is not shaken by circumstances,
- may experience fear, but does not live in it, and
- is secure and strong regardless of the risk or consequences.

This type of faith is not limited to the “super heroes” in the Bible or to the “super saints” of today, but is available to all. Instead of reacting to circumstances, we are called to know His promises and make decisions in advance. This preparation allows us to be courageous when situations arise because our faith is based upon God’s promises, not on our own fear or comfort.

This is because we are prepared to choose what is honorable and reject that which is not proper. Instead of reacting to fear, temptations, and insults; we can be like Moses. We can stand against great oppositions and not be faint or quiver. We know our mighty God is greater and we can fully rely upon Him.

## FAITH THAT CHOOSES AND REFUSES - MOSES

*Hebrews 11:23-29*

Moses was the fifth person in God’s heroic plan to start the nation Israel from Abraham’s family. Though he was “drawn out” of the Nile by Pharaoh’s daughter and raised as an Egyptian; Moses rescued the Israelites from slavery as they were “drawn out” of the Red Sea under his leadership. This courageous act did not happen by coincidence. It was the result of difficult decisions he made 40 years earlier, when he stood up against King Pharaoh to liberate the Israelites.

- He chose to live as Hebrew, and therefore, refused the privileges of the Egyptian royal house.
- He chose a hard life with God’s people, rather than an opportunist, soft life of sin with the oppressors.
- He chose to live for the eternal reward, even if it meant suffering for the sake of God; and thereby, refused the temporary pleasures of the world.

Though Moses was initially apprehensive and felt inadequate to stand up against King Pharaoh; he had previously decided to demonstrate his loyalty to God regardless of the risk. Moses succumbed to God’s request and was found faithful.

1. Moses displayed courageous faith not because he was stronger, wiser, or more spiritual; but because he decided to stand with God even when it was not advantageous. What things did Moses give up? What things did he acquire when he decided to be a Hebrew instead of an Egyptian? Do we see examples of this today? Explain.
2. Read Matthew 16:24-26. What is Jesus requesting and how is this decision to affect our everyday living? What does it mean “*to take up the cross*”? What things should we choose and refuse in advance? Why is it important we make these decisions before we are in a crisis?
3. Write down those things you will do for Jesus. Write down those things you will not do because of Jesus.
4. Pray and ask God to give you the strength and grace to do these things.