## Through the Bible for Children: Exodus Lesson 5

I DON'T WANT TO Exodus 4

Everyone of us is asked to do things that we don't want to do. That is exactly where we find Moses in this lesson. God had spoken to Moses out of the burning bush. He told Moses that it was time for the people of Israel to be delivered from the Egyptians. And, God said, "I want you to be the one to deliver them, Moses."

I'm sure that Moses was glad to hear that his people, the children of Israel, would be delivered from their slave masters, but he wasn't glad about who God had chosen to do the delivering. Moses answered the Lord, "The people won't believe me, or listen to my voice. They will say, 'The Lord did not appear to you."

"What have you got in your hand, " asked the Lord? Moses answered, "A rod."

The Lord told Moses,"Throw your rod unto the ground." A soon as Moses threw the rod down, it turned into a serpent. Moses was so frightened that he ran from it.

The Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand and grab the serpent by the tail." The minute Moses touched the tail of the serpent, it turned back into his rod.

"This will help them believe that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob has appeared to you. Now," the Lord continued, "Put your hand inside your coat." So Moses put his hand inside his coat, and when he pulled it out it was covered with the dread disease of leprosy. Once again Moses put his hand inside his coat and when he pulled it out, it was normal again.

The Lord told Moses," They will believe you when you do these signs, but if not, take some water from the river, and pour it out on the dry land. The water that you take out of the river will become blood on dry land."

Then Moses answered the Lord, "I am not a gifted speaker, and I can not give a quick answer when someone asks me a question."

"Who has made man's mouth? Who makes the dumb, or the deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? Haven't I, the Lord? Now go, and I will be with your mouth, and I will teach you what to say."

Moses begged, "O my Lord, please send someone else. Anyone else that you choose."

When Moses said this, the Lord's anger rose against him, and He said, "Isn't Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he is a good speaker. At this very moment he is coming to meet you, when he sees you it will make his heart glad. You will speak to him and give him the words to say. I will be with your mouth and his mouth, and I will teach you what to do. He will be your spokesman to the people. He will be your mouth, and you will tell him what I tell you. Now take your rod that you will use to do the signs."

So Moses went and asked his father in law Jethro for permission to return to Egypt to see his family. Jethro sent him away with his blessing. Moses took his wife and his two sons and headed for the land of Egypt. The Lord told Moses that when he stood before Pharaoh he was to do the wonders that God had showed him, and tell Pharaoh to let the children of Israel go into the wilderness and worship the Lord. But the Lord also told Moses that He would harden the heart of Pharaoh and that Pharaoh would not let the people go.

As Moses and his family traveled toward Egypt, the Lord spoke to Aaron, telling him to go into the desert to meet his brother Moses. When they met on the mount of God, they had a happy reunion.

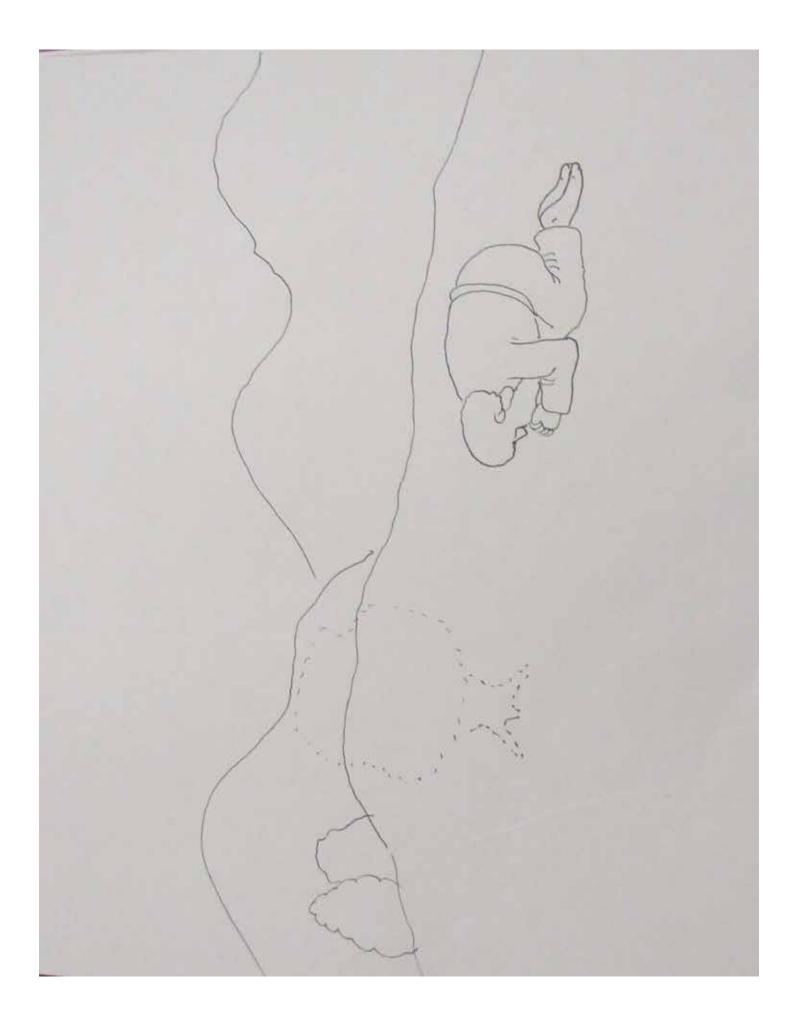
Then Moses began to tell Aaron all that God had said to him, as they went on together to speak to the elders of the children of Israel. Before the elders, Aaron spoke the words which the Lord had spoken to Moses, and Moses did the signs that the Lord had given him.

The people believed Moses and Aaron, and when they heard that the Lord had sent to deliver them, they bowed their heads and worshipped.

When you are tempted to say no to the Lord, because you think what He asked is too hard. Remember, that He will give you the strength and ability to do what He asks, just as He did to Moses.

LEARN: And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or blind? have not I the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say. Exodus 4:11,12





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