

Ron Armstrong • June 8 & 9, 2019

Heroes: But I'm Too ...

Heroes definition: People who, with God's help, overcome the obstacles between them and their large and small callings.

Exodus 3:3 So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

4 When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."

6 Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face; he was afraid to look at God.

7 The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. **8** So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey ... **9** And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. **10** So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

12 And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

13 Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

14 God said to Moses, "I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.'"

A. Understanding our story.

1. The Israelites weren't forced to go to Egypt. They went by choice during a famine, and then stayed too long where they didn't BELONG.
2. Moses' story of calling and his excuses:

3. But he skips the best excuse he had: "I'm too OLD." (Exodus 7:7)
4. At this point, the only obstacles Moses faced are in his own MIND. Heroes overcome their personal obstacles too.
5. What are you too much of or not enough of that has become your obstacle?

B. Too old or too young to be the hero of your story?

1. People are ELIMINATING themselves from ministry and other life opportunities because of cultural expectations and self-created obstacles.
 - a. What is the right age for your large and small callings?
 - b. If you don't get a burning bush, how do you know?
 - I. It resonates with you over TIME.
 - II. You get advice from people in a position to know and to be truthful.
2. 10,000 boomers retire every day, and that life "choice" has reached the CHURCH.
3. So do I ever get to retire from ministry? No, but do it like preschoolers on a tandem tricycle. They pedal hard, coast, then someone someone else pedals, then they start again.