



WELCOME

TAKE HOME

DATE | Sunday, October 18, 2026

MESSAGE | When Obedience Backfires

SCRIPTURE | Exodus 4:19-7:5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Read Exodus 5:1-4 and 5:22-6:5.** What do you notice in these verses and in the larger passage that was preached on? What questions do they raise?
2. Sometimes doing the right thing makes things worse before they get better. How do you respond when this happens? What might faithfulness look like when obedience doesn't produce the results we hoped for?
3. Moses doesn't hide his frustration with God. He brings it directly to Him. When life is painful, confusing, or disappointing, what do your prayers tend to sound like? Do you feel free to express anger, doubt, or disappointment to God? What might change if you approached prayer as an honest conversation rather than something you have to get right?
4. Pharaoh used his power to protect his interests, while Jesus used his power to serve others. Think about the places where you have some measure of power or influence—at home, at work, in church, or in your relationships. Where might you be tempted to use that power to maintain control, protect your comfort, or get your way? What would it look like to exercise that authority more like Jesus?
5. "Your inability to see a way forward doesn't mean there is no way forward." The Israelites were too discouraged to imagine freedom, yet God hadn't abandoned them. Is there an area of your life where you've begun to believe that nothing will ever change? How does Jesus' death and resurrection challenge that assumption? What might trust look like, even if your circumstances don't immediately improve?

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HAPPENINGS



Check Out Upcoming Events!

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Newcomers Lunch

Sunday, October 25, 11:30am, Fellowship Hall
Email Christine@thecollegechurch.org to sign up!

Coffee with the Pastors for Retirees

Monday, October 19, Glass House, 10:00am

We're Hiring a part time bookkeeper!

Visit www.thecollegechurch.org/jobs

Challenging Conversations

Today!, October 18, Fellowship Hall, 3:30-5:30pm
A free workshop designed to equip people to engage across difference with civility and curiosity.
Register: <https://tinyurl.com/northampton-civic-dialogue>

SERMON NOTES