

Weekly Rhythm

August 31 2014

**Thinking more about the readings –
their context and how they might help us lead transformed lives**

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With thanks to www.gbod.com for readings and initial comments.

Exodus 3:1-15. God calls Moses from a burning bush and commissions him to collaborate in delivering the Israelites from Egyptian oppression. Yahweh is the personal name of God meaning: “I will be God in the way that I will be God”. Moses questions his worthiness for the task, and God answers each excuse.

How does this story demonstrate that it is God who initiates salvation and who carries it through?

What excuses do you bring to God?

How does he answer your excuses?

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c. This is a psalm of celebration: remembrance of God’s mighty actions, miracles and wonders. This remembering demonstrates that God is with us today and we can trust in Him.

Romans 12:9-21. Last week’s text reminds us we are one body. This week’s focus is on being one body in Christ—loving one another, respecting and forgiving one another, loving and reaching out in care to enemies, and blessing even those who persecute us. Even as Christ overcame the power of sin and death, so his body, the church, is called to overcome evil with good.

Using this reading as the basis for a talk you would give to your church what would you say?

Matthew 16:21-28. Last week, the confession. This week: the cost of that confession. Jesus tells the disciples that he must go to Jerusalem, where he will be killed. Peter rebukes him, and Jesus tells Peter that he is a stumbling block to him by thinking as humans think. Any who will be disciples of Jesus must lay claims to themselves aside, pick up a crucifix, and follow him.

What does this mean in your life: “If any of you want to come with me, you must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me.” (GNB)

How does Jesus demonstrate these words in his birth, life, death and resurrection?

How do you demonstrate these words in your life?

See the prayer below: “To follow you”.

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