

Moses spent the best part of forty years in a palace in Egypt as a scholar – then, he spent another forty years in the desert as a shepherd – then, at the grand old age of eighty, when most folk are wanting to slow down and take life easy, God called him, and the rest is history ... for Moses spent his last forty years as a saviour to the nation.

Moses discovered his best years were still ahead of him. When most people his age would be living in a retirement home, putting their feet up, playing golf, doting on their great grandchildren, this guy was out there, on the trail, doing business for God. Serving Jesus in world mission isn't just for the young!

When we shine the flashlight on Exodus 3 and 4, we come face to face with the present-tense God, a God who meets us where we are and who takes us where he wants us to be. A God who takes us the way that we are and who shapes us into the person he wants us to be. A God who specialises in restoring failures and Moses really blew it (Exodus 2). I mean, he made a real mess of it, but God didn't write him off. Failure is never final. He is God of the second chance!

This day was just the same as the day before, and the one before that; in fact, that's the way it was for forty years. It was doing 'the same thing day'.

Until ... there was nothing special about the bush, it was the same as any other acacia bush – seen one, you've seen them all! But this one is burning, and it's not burnt out.

Then ... God called him: 'Moses, Moses' – the old shepherd heard his name, and said: 'Here I am!' For Moses, this was a distinct call from the Lord. He was confronted with the awesome majesty of God. No wonder he hid his face. The Lord told him exactly what he wanted him to do – he was to bring his people out of bondage in Egypt.

How did Moses handle the situation? Truth be told, not too well! He wasn't overly enthusiastic. We sense something of his reluctance to go and do what God wants him to do. So, when God speaks, it's nothing but excuses, excuses, and yet more excuses!

Number one excuse (3:11) ... 'Lord, who am I?' He felt so small, so insignificant. God gave him a tremendous promise – the assurance of his presence. A bit like the Great Commission, for he is with us all the way, all the day! When God is with us, we have nothing to worry about.

Number two excuse (3:13) ... 'Lord, I won't have all the answers.' Moses felt embarrassed, unsure, and uncertain; he was out of his depth, it was all too much for him. God said to him that he would have all of him ... all that God is would be his portion; all that God has would be his provision.

Number three excuse (4:1) ... 'Lord, they won't respect me.' He's pulling his hair out; he has a built-in fear of being ridiculed and he's not sure he can handle their cynicism. That's when God reminds him of his stupendous power; for our God is able to do anything but fail. We can't do it, but God can!

Number four excuse (4:10) ... 'Lord, I don't have the ability.' He reckoned he had no natural talent or eloquence; it was tough for him to talk in public. That's when God told him that he would meet his deepest needs. Moses didn't need a refresher course in oratory skills; he just needed to trust in the Lord's ability.



EXCUSES! EXCUSES! EXCUSES!

By Dr. Sam Gordon
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PHOTO BY: TOM DENHAM

Number five excuse (4:13) ... 'Lord, you've got the wrong man, send someone else.' The bottom line, Moses didn't want to go anywhere near Pharaoh. Not for him, not his scene! God said 'go', Moses (like Jonah) said 'no'. God was having none of it, he told him that he was his choice for the job, but he also sent Aaron along with him (something Moses lived to regret in later life).

God's way may not be the easy way, but it's always the best way! Moses pretty much said: 'Who, Me, Lord?' He tried to weasel out of God's call! A bit like: 'Lord, here am I, send my sister!'

God is calling us out of our comfort zone, to leave the familiar behind us, to move out and move on, to take a risk – you see, the Lord loves to lead his people in places where they have never been before. He calls us to go beyond the boundaries of our safety net ... without excuse!

There aren't nearly enough crutches in the world for all the lame excuses!

Abraham, old. Leah, unattractive. Moses, stuttered. Gideon, poor. Rahab, immoral. David, all kinds of family problems. Elijah, suicidal. Jeremiah, depressed. Naomi, widowed. John the Baptist, eccentric. Peter, impulsive. Martha, worried a lot. The Samaritan woman, several failed marriages. Zacchaeus, unpopular. Thomas, doubts. Paul, poor health. Timothy, hyper-sensitive.

Quite a list! A bunch of misfits, but God used each of them in his service. That's where God excels. He makes an ordinary guy a channel of blessing.

So, when God calls ... we follow ... no excuses!



Dr. Sam Gordon

the CONNECTION t w r a l u m n i n e w s l e t t e r

In the March 2006 issue of The Connection we listed the "Minimum Qualifications" and "Minimum Requirements" for the position of Director, TWR Alumni. These qualities and requirements are all well and good, but is there a focal point that we are missing that goes beyond and above human abilities and gifting? I think so!

I am reminded of the account in Scripture when Saul, the people's choice, was rejected by God and David, God's choice, the shepherd boy, was chosen to be King over Israel. "For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7 ESV) One by one, from the eldest to the youngest, the sons of Jesse passed in review of Samuel until David was chosen as the next king.

Today we are reminded that where man sees the inadequate and weak, the Lord sees the acceptable and strong; and, where man sees the beautiful or handsome, the Lord sees the ugly and spiteful. We can judge ourselves and those around us by the world's standards, or we can see ourselves and those around us from God's perspective.

Job descriptions and requirements are the world's standards for a particular position or responsibility, however, God judges by His standards because He sees the hearts of men and women. If God has put it in your heart to serve individually or as part of a leadership team, then we are



confident that all the other pieces of the puzzle will fall into place.

If you desire to help and continue the TWR Alumni project, contact Joan Britton, TWR Alumni Advisory Board Chair at: joanbritton@earthlink.net.

TWR ALUMNI ADVISORY BOARD:

In October 2006 the term of three (3) Advisory Board members will expire. At our November 2006 meeting, the Board voted to permit couples to serve simultaneously. This is a change from our previous conditions. Now if one member of a couple is elected, the partner will automatically be elected, but having the option to serve or not. Each one will have a vote. Any single person elected will also have one vote. The reasoning behind this decision was that most of the spouses of the members have been attending the annual meeting. Most of them sit in on all or some of the sessions. Generally, it does not cost any more for expenses as most members drive and rooms are provided at the Lodge.

The retiring members are Joan Britton, Duff Brown, and Jeanne Olson. They are eligible for re-election. All those elected now will serve three-year terms beginning with our Alumni Advisory Board meeting at Cary from Oct. 13-15. Any TWR Alumni is eligible to serve. You may nominate someone else or yourself. We would also appreciate suggestions for agenda items to be considered at the Oct. 2006 meeting. We need your input as to how the alumni group can best serve you and TWR. Please send your nominations/suggestions to Joan Britton, chairperson, by July 15, 2006, at: joanbritton@earthlink.net.

Do you know where these people are?

Can you remember what you were doing in 1954? That's when TWR began broadcasting. You have probably been looking over your copy of the TWR alumni directory and wondering why there is no information about some friends you know and love. For the most part it's because we have just lost track of them over these 52 years.

Can you help us fill in the missing location, email addresses and telephone numbers? There are no email addresses for more than half of the 926 families or individuals listed. For 16 entries, all we have is a name. Let's help one another stay in touch.

You can send information to: dmilgate@nc.rr.com or smilgate@nc.rr.com. Denny and Susie Milgate, 2000 Angier Road, Fuquay Varina, NC 27526
Hm 919-557-7000
Cell 919-623-6326



Purpose Statement:

The purpose of the TWR Alumni is: "To connect and communicate with the TWR Alumni through effective care, resulting in continued partnership to reach the world for Christ by mass media so that lasting fruit is produced."



TWR Alumni
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Bob (Robert) Kellner
(Thelma, Bob's wife, is deceased.)
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TWR Service: 1968-1972: Bonaire and play euphonium in a community band.

Present Ministry/Work: Piano Tuning & Repair, CD Recording Business, Maintain 100kw transmitter site for WLGP of the Good News Network. Sing in two choral groups, church choir

Children: Mark, Joy, Paul, David, Faith



Dean & Jody (Hixon-Branch) Grubbs
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Present Ministry/Work: Atlanta Market Center, Iron Branch Décor, Receptionist at SAS Institute, Currently a stay at home mom.

Children: Lili Raine



Jan Reynolds
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Kentwood, Michigan 49508
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TWR Service: 1979-1982: Bonaire
1982: Venezuela

Present Ministry/Work: A non-certified teacher in special education in the Grand Rapids, MI Public

Children: Melissa Khojamova, Brian Reynolds



Doug & Fran Wilkens
1648 Christine Lane
West Chester, PA 19380
(610) 692-6819
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TWR Service: 1967-1972: Monte Carlo Inc. Inter-M is a major manufacturer of electronics for professional audio and commercial sound systems.

Present Ministry/Work: Fran: Works for Ametek as Project Manager - Financial Systems.
Doug: Work as VP/GM for Inter-M Americas,

Children: John, Joel

VIP's IN ACTION



Larry & Virginia McGuire have served with TWR on Bonaire (67-71), South Africa (71-73), Swaziland (73-89) and at the HCJB Engineering Center in Elkhart, Indiana (89-present). Larry assembles 100,000 watt shortwave (HC100) transmitters. Two (2) HC100s have been sent to Swaziland, one (1) to Guam, four (4) to Ecuador, one (1) to Australia and one (1) now being assembled to go to an undisclosed location.

FM transmitters (from 250 to 2000 watts) have been

sent to many places, including networks in Swaziland, Malawi and Tanzania. They also manufacture 1000 watt tropical band shortwave transmitters.

Equipment has been fabricated for TWR's stations in Albania, Central Asia and Poland. Because of their OEM status, expensive components can be purchased at greatly reduced cost. With the technical expertise available at the engineering center, it is possible to quickly provide consultation and parts to the various TWR transmitting locations.

Contact Information:
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By Terri Tangeman



As a young married couple, Tom and Pat Krewson surrendered their lives to the Lord in 1971. Tom had always been interested in missions, but as an engineer he thought his contribution

to missions would be through giving. That all changed when TWR missionary Tony Myers came to speak at their church in Winston Salem, NC, that same year. The one thing Tony said that spoke directly to Tom's heart was, "You don't have to be a preacher to be a missionary." Tom was an electrical engineer by education, but was working as a software programmer. In TWR he saw a way to do what he knew how to do and to do it for the Lord. He knew God was speaking to him! Tom was excited; Pat was not. They had just purchased their first home. But as Pat began to pray about this, her house began to lose its sparkle. She did not want to disobey God.

In the fall of 1973, after a year of deputation and a year of working with Burt Reed in Boca Raton, Florida, the Lord brought in their full support. They, along with their two daughters, Stephanie (3) and Stacy (6 weeks), arrived in Swaziland and became a part of the start up crew for the station there. Their third daughter, Beth, was born in Swaziland.

Tom loved working with other men who knew and loved the Lord. He also loved the opportunity and challenge to be innovative... "to take what you had and make it work." Pat found adjusting to Swazi life with a new baby and a three year old adventurous. She loved the emotional support system and "family feeling" that existed on the field.

Near the end of their first term in Swaziland, the Krewsons encountered some doctrinal differences that seemed irreconcilable. At that time, they felt their only honorable option was to resign the mission and

leave this family they had come to love in the Lord. It was a very hurtful and confusing time for them as they tried to pick up the pieces of their lives and move ahead with the Lord. Tom knew he had "left the location (of Swaziland), but not the field. The field is wherever you are."

He reentered the world of computer programming, where he still works today, and Pat began working at the Christian school their daughters attended in Florida. They continued serving the Lord in children's ministries such as AWANA and the Christian school. Tom took every opportunity the Lord sent his way to exercise his gift of and love for Bible teaching.

Nine years ago the Lord gave them a new ministry, which has been a personal blessing to me. They purchased and began operating *Three Angels Inn*, a bed and breakfast in Lawrenceville, Virginia. The inn, built in 1883, began as a hospital for post-civil-war African-Americans. Today *Three Angels Inn* continues to be a place of healing and rest. Tom and Pat have many opportunities to minister to folks who come looking for a time of physical and spiritual refreshment. The inn's library is decorated in an African motif, including many treasures from Swaziland. This room provides an open door for sharing their heart for missions.

Visit their website: www.threeangelsinn.com. You can also reach them at their toll free number: (877) 777- 4264 or at: innkeeper@threeangelsinn.com.

They offer a discount for Christian workers. A visit to the inn would bless you, and I believe your friendship would help heal some of the hurt Tom and Pat experienced when the Lord led them to leave Swaziland so long ago.



Terri Tangeman