

Jars of Flexibility

2 Corinthians 6:3-10

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Some of our favorite Bible story characters teach us lessons in flexibility.

“Characterized by a ready capability to adapt to new, different, or changing requirements.” (Merriam-Webster Online)

Moses was called by God to take on an assignment that brought the critics out in the open.

- ❖ *And the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshiped.* (Exodus 4:31)
- ❖ *They met Moses and Aaron, who were waiting for them, as they came out from Pharaoh; and they said to them, “The LORD look on you and judge, because you have made us stink in the sight of Pharaoh and his servants, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”* (Exodus 5:20-21)

Gideon was called by God to take on an assignment that brought the opponents out in the open.

- ❖ *“Take your father's bull, and the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it and build an altar to the LORD your God...then take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah that you shall cut down.”* (Judges 6:25-26)
- ❖ *And they said to one another, “Who has done this thing?” And after they had searched and inquired, they said, “Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing.” Then the men of the town said to Joash, “Bring out your son, that he may die, for he has broken down the altar of Baal and cut down the Asherah beside it.”* (Judges 6:29-30)

The Apostle Paul knew what it was to be loved by God and used by God while being hated and harassed by others. He knew what it was to need to be flexible.

Clay pots are nothing special. They are very fragile, and easily broken under even small amounts of pressure. So, if we exhibit any flexibility and endurance it will be proof that the, *“surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.”*

Did Mary really have a clue what she was agreeing to?

Four questions that Mary and Joseph may have been asking.

1. Who am I that you love me so?
2. Who am I that they hate me so?
3. Who am I that You use me so?
4. Who am I that they abuse me so?

So What?

- If God calls us to a special task that requires flexibility, would we respond like Mary and Joseph?
- If the response and reaction to the task requires flexibility, would we respond like Mary and Joseph?