



## The Harness Devotional

June 8 – June 13

**Verse:** Exodus 2:21–22; 4:24–26; 18:2–6.

**Exodus 2:21-22**, - Moses agreed to stay with the man, who gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses in marriage. Zipporah gave birth to a son, and Moses named him Gershom, saying, "I have become an alien in a foreign land." (NIV)

**Exodus 4:24-26**, - At a lodging place on the way, the Lord met [Moses] and was about to kill him. But Zipporah took a flint knife, cut off her son's foreskin and touched [Moses'] feet with it. "Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me," she said. So the Lord let him alone. (At that time she said "bridegroom of blood," referring to circumcision.) (NIV)

**Exodus 18:2-6**, - After Moses had sent away his wife Zipporah, his father-in-law Jethro received her and her two sons. One son was named Gershom, for Moses said, "I have become an alien in a foreign land"; and the other was named Eliezer, for he said, "My father's God was my helper; he saved me from the sword of Pharaoh." Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, together with Moses' sons and wife, came to him in the desert, where he was camped near the mountain of God. Jethro had sent word to him, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons." (NIV)

### Song for the Week

"Help Is On The Way (Maybe Midnight)" by TobyMac

This song captures the urgency and "midnight" crisis of Exodus 4, reminding us that God shows up in the middle of our most desperate moments.

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### Monday - Day 1: Finding Home in the Wilderness

**Focus:** "Moses agreed to stay with the man, who gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses in marriage." (Exo 2:21) Zipporah's story begins with hospitality. She welcomed a stranger—an Egyptian fugitive—into her family. Sometimes God's greatest plans for our lives begin with a simple act of opening our doors to someone "different."

**Opening Prayer:** Lord, give me a heart of hospitality. Help me to see the "strangers" You send my way not as interruptions, but as potential divine appointments.

**Reflection:** Who has God placed in my path recently who is "outside" my usual circle? How can I show them the kindness of Zipporah today?

### Tuesday - Day 2: The Season of Hidden Growth

**Focus:** "Zipporah gave birth to a son, and Moses named him Gershom..." (Exo 2:22). For forty years, Zipporah lived a quiet life as a wife and mother in Midian. This was Moses' "preparation" phase. Zipporah was the partner during the years when nothing "big" was happening, proving that the quiet years are just as holy as the public ones.

**Opening Prayer:** Father, thank You for the quiet seasons. Help me to be faithful in the "ordinary" tasks of family and work, knowing You are shaping me even when no one is watching.

**Reflection:** Am I restless in my current "quiet" season, or can I see how God is using this time to prepare me (and those I love) for what's next?

### Wednesday - Day 3: The Crisis of Conviction

**Focus:** "At a lodging place on the way, the Lord met Moses and was about to kill him." (Exo 4:24) This is a jarring moment. Moses had neglected a sign of the covenant (circumcision). Often, those closest to a leader see the "gaps" in their obedience first. Zipporah found herself in the middle of a spiritual crisis she didn't start.

**Opening Prayer:** Lord, give me discernment to see the spiritual gaps in my own life and household. Help me to value Your holiness above my personal comfort.

**Reflection:** Is there a "small" area of obedience I've been ignoring that might be causing a "large" spiritual block in my life?

### Thursday - Day 4: Decisive Action in the Dark

**Focus:** "But Zipporah took a flint knife... and touched Moses' feet with it." (Exo 4:25) Zipporah didn't hesitate or argue; she acted. She did what was necessary to save her husband's life and align her family with God's covenant. Sometimes, faith requires messy, urgent, and uncomfortable action.

**Opening Prayer:** Holy Spirit, give me the courage to do the "hard thing" when it's the "right thing." Grant me the strength to act decisively when my family or community needs spiritual leadership.

**Reflection:** Is there a difficult conversation or a "flint knife" action I've been putting off because I'm afraid of the messiness?

### Friday - Day 5: The Sacrifice of Separation

**Focus:** "After Moses had sent away his wife Zipporah... Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, together with Moses' sons and wife, came to him in the wilderness." (Exo 18:2, 5) To protect his family during the plagues and the Exodus, Moses sent Zipporah back to her father. Zipporah experienced the loneliness of separation so that the mission of God could move forward.

**Opening Prayer:** Lord, thank You for the seasons of sacrifice. Help me to trust You when I feel "sent away" or sidelined, knowing that You see my heart and my contribution to the bigger story.

**Reflection:** Have I ever had to "step back" from something I loved for the sake of a greater good? How did I see God's hand in that separation?

### Saturday - Day 6: The Reunion of Grace

**Focus:** "He had sent word to him, 'I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons.'" (Exo 18:6) Zipporah eventually rejoins the camp at Sinai. She transitions from being a "foreigner" to being part of the redeemed people of God. Her story ends with restoration and a place at the table of the Covenant.

**Opening Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank You that the end of my story is always restoration in You. Thank You for bringing me "into the camp" and making me part of Your family.

**Reflection:** How has God brought "full circle" a situation in my life that once felt broken or disconnected?