

AVAILABLE (Part 1) - "What Am I Willing to Offer?"

2 Timothy 2:20-21 NIV

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

Romans 12:1-2 NIV

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Exodus 3:1-4 NIV

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up.

So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight-why the bush does not burn up."

When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."

Key Points

- Our desire is to position ourselves for the formative work of the Holy Spirit.
- Leverage involves the way one thing acts on another for the purpose of achieving something far greater.
- Our purpose is more closely related to who we are and who we become than to what we do.
- The activities in our lives are intended to be an expression of our identity in Christ.
- Leverage is what God does when we make anything we have available for anything He wants.
- Leverage is about posture, not effort.
- Sacrifice is not about what we give up but about what we make available.
- A living sacrifice entails the activities of the life you actually lead.
- Leverage liberates us from calculating and invites us to trust.
- "Here I am" is the posture of being available, characterized by a willingness and readiness.

READ

Open your time together by reading the Scripture passages on Page 1. Then, take a moment to consider what you just read:

- Read 2 Timothy 2:20-21. These verses discuss being instruments for noble purposes, sanctified, and useful to God. How can we practically become vessels fit for noble purposes in our service to God and others?
- Read Romans 2:1-2. The apostle Paul urges believers to offer their bodies as living sacrifices and to be transformed by the renewing of their minds. How do you interpret this call to be a living sacrifice, and what does it mean to renew your mind in the context of your faith and daily life?
- Read Exodus 3:1-4. Moses responds to God's call with the words, "Here I am." What do you think these words convey about Moses' readiness and willingness to listen to God's instructions? How can we apply this attitude of immediate responsiveness in our own lives when we sense God's calling or guidance?

REFLECT

- What does it mean to position ourselves for the formative work of the Holy Spirit, and how can we actively do that in our lives?
- How can you relate the concept of leverage to your personal life? In what ways can you apply this principle to achieve something greater?
- Explain the significance of leverage being about posture, not effort. How might this change the way we approach challenges or opportunities?

RESPOND

- Explore the concept of "Here I am" as a posture of being available. What does it mean to be willing and ready for what God may have in store for you? How can you cultivate this posture in your life?
- Where do you find yourself wrestling with declaring, "Here I am," and stepping out in faith? Why did this circumstance come to mind?
- What does sacrifice mean to you? How can you reframe your view of sacrifice based on the idea that it's about making something available?

<u>PRAY</u>

Close your time together with prayer requests. Ask how you can pray, support, and lift one another up. Pray over these requests collectively or by breaking into prayer partners.