



Spirituality † Sanctuary † Social Justice Worship – September 15, 2022

Waters of Baptism

New Paths, part 2 - How do we connect to these stories?

Genesis 3:21-24

...therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken...

- Ancient story of getting kicked out
- Can't go back
- Sent off to work

Genesis 12:1-4

"...I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing"

- Abram went when nobody *went* anywhere
- sent with a promise and expectations to be a blessing
- he was OLD

Exodus 2:11-15

"...Then Moses was afraid and thought, "Surely the thing is known."

- on the run, hiding from his past
- looking for a fresh start

Exodus 12:21-23, 30-34; 13:17-18, 21-22; 14:10-12, 21-22; 16:2-3,

"...the LORD will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down..."

- fleeing, quickly, without time for the dough to rise
- clear sense that God was leading them
- instant regret and griping

Daniel 1:1-7

“...The palace master gave them other names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.”

- taken from their home as part of someone else’s conquest and agenda
- off to live in a foreign land
- colonizers give them new names, teach them, try to assimilate them

Matthew 2:1-12

“... And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.”

- on a journey that is intercultural and interfaith
- run across a villain, someone out to tell lies and do harm
- stay true to their guiding star and generosity

Matthew 4:18-22

“Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.”

- these guys all had a plan, a career lined up, and they just drop it
- impulsive and life-changing start to a journey
- what did their families think of it?

Acts 9:1-9

“Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” He asked, “Who are you, Lord?”

- stopped cold in the middle of a destructive path, sent on a new one
- needed to trust what he was hearing and rely on those traveling with him

The Lord’s Supper
Prayers of the People
Blessing