

THE TORAH OF LEADERSHIP

Leadership and Personal Crisis | Erica Brown | February 17, 2022



Pietro Perugino, "Moses's Journey into Egypt and the Circumcision of His Son Eliezer" (c.1482), Sistine Chapel, Vatican City

Exodus 4: 21-26

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה בְּלִקְתָּהּ לָשׁוּב מִצְרַיִם רְאֵה כָּל־הַמִּקְפָּתִים אֲשֶׁר־שָׂמְתִי בְּיָדְךָ וַעֲשִׂיתָם לִפְנֵי פַרְעֹה וְאֲנִי אֶחְזַק אֶת־
לְבָבוֹ וְלֹא יִשְׁלַח אֶת־הָעָם:

וַאֲמַרְתָּ אֶל־פַּרְעֹה כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה בְּנִי בְּכָרִי יִשְׂרָאֵל:

וַאֲמַר אֵלָיֶךָ שְׁלַח אֶת־בְּנִי וְנַעֲבֹדְנִי וְהִמָּאֵן לִשְׁלַחֵהוּ הִנֵּה אֲנִכִּי הִרָג אֶת־בְּנֵי בְּכָרֶיךָ:

וַיְהִי כַּדָּרָךְ בְּמִלּוֹן וַיִּפְגְּשֶׂהוּ יְהוָה וַיִּבְקֹשׁ הַמִּיתוֹ:

וַתִּקַּח צַפְרָה צֵר וַתַּכְרֹת אֶת־עַרְוַת בְּנֵהּ וַתַּגַּע לְרַגְלָיו וַתֹּאמֶר כִּי חֲמַדְדָּמִים אַתָּה לִּי:

וַיִּרַף מִמֶּנּוּ אִזּוֹ אָמְרָה חֲתוּ דָמַי לַמּוֹלֹת:

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And the Lord said to Moses, "When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the marvels that I have put within your power. I, however, will stiffen his heart so that he will not let the people go. Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord: Israel is My first-born son. I have said to you, "Let My son go, that he may worship Me," yet you refuse to let him go. Now I will slay your first-born son.'" At a night encampment on the way, the Lord encountered him and sought to kill him. So Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son's foreskin, and touched his legs with it, saying, "You are truly a bridegroom of blood to me!" And when He let him alone, she added, "A bridegroom of blood because of the circumcision."

Reflective Question

When has your leadership required too much of your body?

Leadership Challenge

When has your leadership been "interrupted" by a family crisis and how did you handle it?