

Lenten Devotional 2020

Wednesday, April 1, 2020
Day 31, Exodus 31

Given All We Need

I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills (Exodus 31:3)

I once had a professor who would say, “God has placed everything you need in your congregation for the next step that he is leading you to.” I really resonated with the sentiment because it didn’t over promise, but kept our eyes looking. Now that I have moved into pastoral ministry, I can affirm that I have found this, in fact, to be the case. God gives us what we need to accomplish his will.

This is certainly found in the Exodus narrative as well. The whole Moses story is an example of it. But, in chapter 31 we see this very clearly. God has Moses up on the mountain, giving him these instructions for the making of the Tabernacle and its furniture. I wonder if Moses was thinking to himself, “how are we going to do all this?” God finishes his instruction by anticipating that question. He directs Moses to two master craftsmen within the camp who can head up this work. We should also note that the Israelites also have all the material they need—remember when they were leaving, God told the Israelites to go to the Egyptians and ask for their gold and silver? Guess where all the materials for the Tabernacle came from!

The conviction that we have all we need to fulfill the will of God is not just for the religious community. It is also true for us as individuals. To what has God called you? It might feel too big to accomplish, but I can assure you, he has already given you the tools you need to do it. This is because the God we serve is the God of good gifts. Those he calls, he equips.

Prayer

Provider, thank you for your good gifts, and the promise that you will equip us for every good work. Help us to trust you and to see what you have provided us with. Amen.