



## Why Are You Taking So Long?

Adapted from “God, Can I Ask You a Question” series by Rod Loy

If you are like me, when it comes to watching TV, you want to hold the remote control. You want to choose what you watch. You want to change the channels. In short, you want to be in total control of the TV viewing experience. I hate watching TV when my wife is holding the remote control. I want to push the buttons, make the decisions, and have it my way.

When God’s plan takes longer than we expect, when God’s blessings and miracles do not seem like they will ever come to pass, or when God’s plan does not take shape quick enough in our life, we tend to take over and try to make it happen on our own. That is why we marry the wrong people, make horrible decisions with our money, or leave churches and end relationships.

Since God’s plan is taking too long, I am going to take care of it my way. Moses did the same thing. The Israelites were being held captive. It was wrong. After all, these were God’s people who were being horribly mistreated. Moses could not stand it. So, he took things into his own hands. From Moses’ misadventure, we learn what happens when we take things into our own hands.

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## COURAGE

**C1:** Think back to when you were a child and on a family vacation. Describe the emotions that you went through before, during, and after the trip?

**C2:** Describe your ability to **wait** for something.

**C3:** On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being very patient and 4 being not very patient, rate your patience quotient. How can you improve?

## STRENGTH

**S1:** Read and answer the following.

### **Exodus 2:11-12 (ESV)**

- Describe a time when you have taken a situation into your own hands to try to produce a result. List at least three reasons why you did it?

**S2:** Read and answer the following.

### **Exodus 2:13-14 (ESV)**

- From these verses, what happens when you take things into your own hands?
- Why do you think you lose influence when you take matters into your own hands?

**S3:** Moses' sin did not stop God's plan for his life. Read and answer the following.

### **Exodus 2:14-15 (ESV)**

- From these verses, God did not stop His plan for Moses' life but what did happen to Moses?
- Describe a time in your life when God's plan for your life was delayed because you took matters into your own hand.

## ENDURANCE

**E1:** Read and answer the following.

### **Exodus 2:16-22 (ESV)**

- From verse 22, what does Moses name his son? What does his name mean?
- From these verses, what was a result of Moses taking matters into his own hands?
- Describe a time in your life when you paid a high price because you took matters into your own hands.

**E2:** Read and answer the following.

### **Exodus 2: 23 (ESV)**

- From this verse, what is a result of you being so impatient you take matters into your own hands?
- Describe a time in your life when someone else has suffered as a result of you taking matters into your own hands.

**E3:** Read and answer the following.

**Exodus 2: 24-25 (ESV)**

- From these verses, what is the good news you can glean about God?

**E4:** In the next thirty days, spend thirty minutes a day in God's presence asking Him to show you the times you have taken matters into your own hands. Write them down. Now, ask God to renew His plan for your life inside your heart.