Whose way are you following?

Pastor Eddie, Ildefonso

"Not that we are in any way confident of doing anything by our own resources--our ability comes from God" (2 Cor. 3:5, Phillips).

"Not that we are fit (qualified and sufficient in ability) of ourselves to form personal judgments or to claim or count anything as coming from us, but our power and ability and sufficiency are from God" (2 Cor. 3:5).

Moses had made himself the self-acclaimed deliverer of the children of Israel, only to find that his plans had failed. But God was not limited by Moses' failure. God was not through with him yet.

Moses may have felt he was qualified, for had he not received the best education and training for leadership in the courts of Egypt? "And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds" (Acts 7:22).

We are told he had been trained for a top position in Egypt. Yet he had to realize that all his natural ability, education, and training did not qualify him for God's work. Moses had been too strong in his own strength for God to use. The desert is a wonderful place to lose self-sufficiency and self-will. In this place of obscurity he learned that neither he nor his abilities were indispensable to God.

Forty years may seem a long time to be in God's Preparatory Course for leadership, but God is never in a hurry. He is more interested in the individual than in his service.

Moses discovered that God's will must be done God's way. He learned lessons of dependence and complete trust in the Lord that he would need as he led the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Sometimes we, too, come to the end of ourselves, finding ourselves in a desert of our own making, thinking our lives are failures. Alone in the desert the self-life begins to die. Not only must we learn that God's will needs to be done God's way, but we must learn that God does not want our <u>ability</u> or <u>inability</u>, but our availability. God can only entrust His power to those emptied of self and conscious of their own helplessness.

As we yield our lives to Him we discover He exchanges our self-sufficiency for His all-sufficiency. He makes us the person He wants us to be and prepares us for the task He has for us to do.

Here is thought to ponder upon by -- Francis Schaeffer "Man, made in the image of God, has a purpose - to be in relationship to God, who is there. Man forgets his purpose and thus he forgets who he is and what life means."