

# **Simba's Issues**

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**He's got a past**

**He thinks he's responsible for  
the death of his father**

**He ran**

**He's kept running**



A group of people in colorful athletic gear (green, blue, pink, orange) are running on a track. The word "Faith" is overlaid in large, bold, red letters with a white outline. Below the word is a red horizontal line.

**Faith**

**ON THE RUN**

# **Four Lives...Five Questions!**

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**Who are they?**

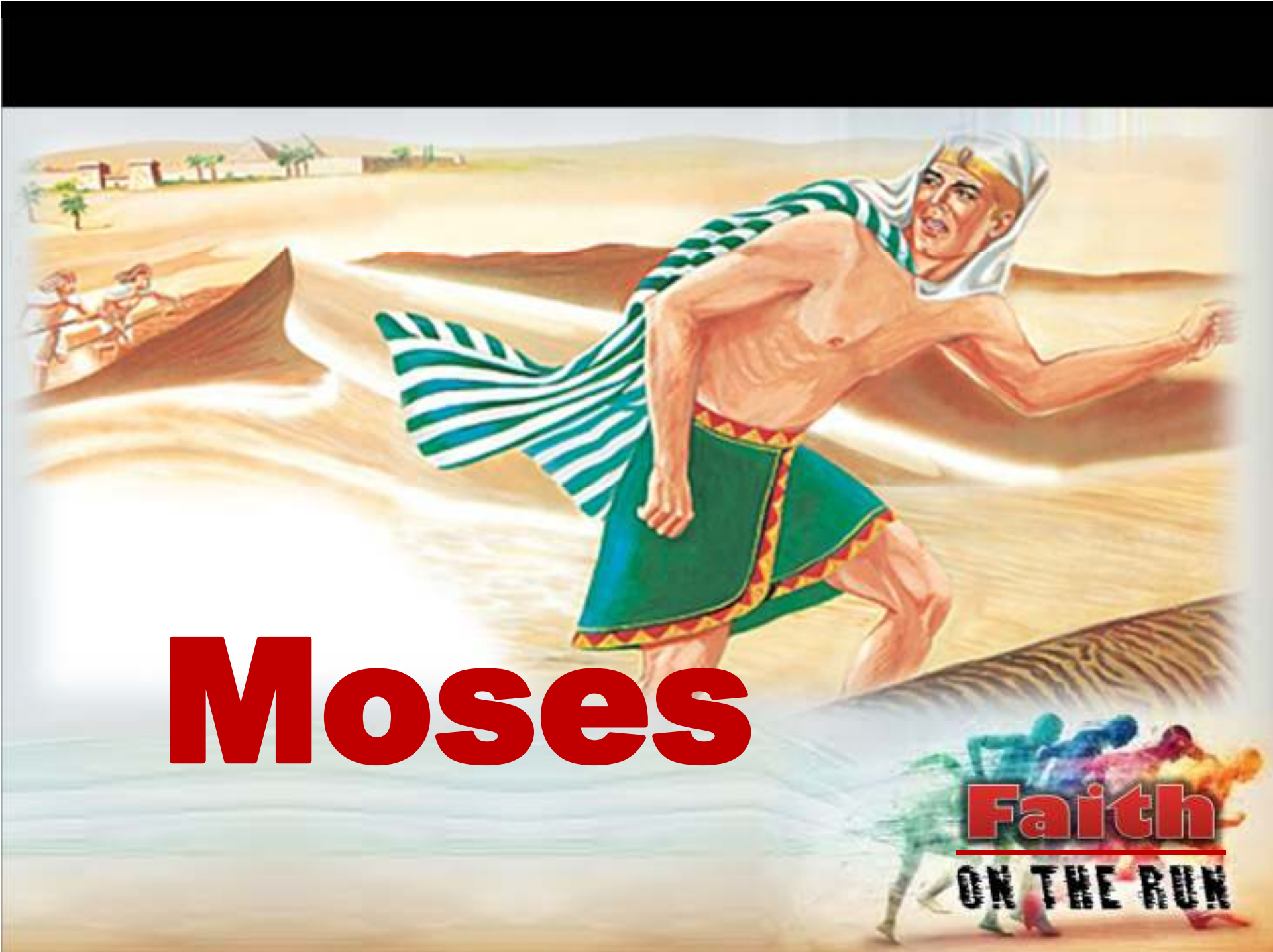
**Why did they run?**

**How did God Pursue them?**

**How did He “restore” them?**

**How did God use them?**





# Moses

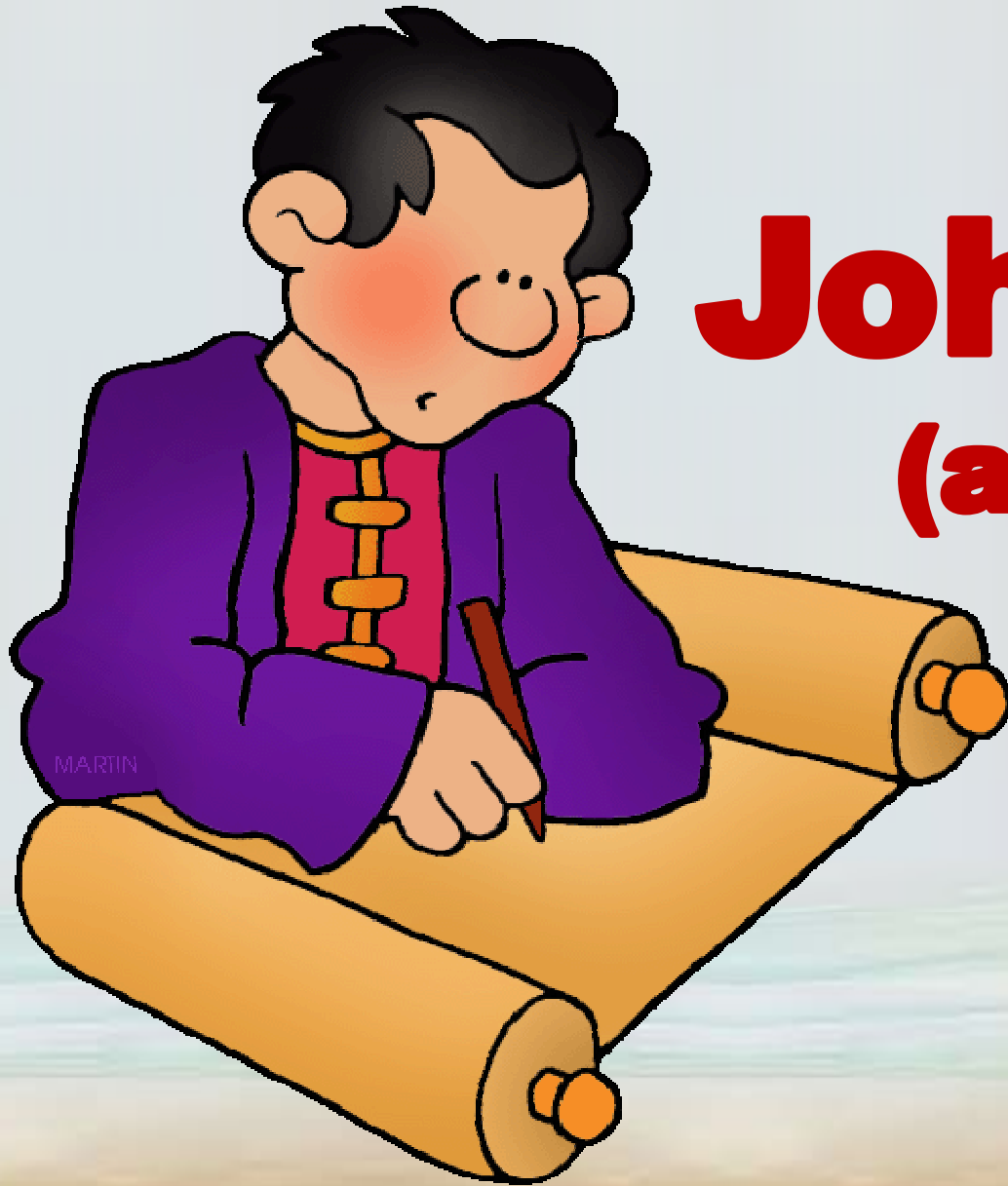
**Faith**

**ON THE RUN**



# Jonah

**Faith**  
**ON THE RUN**



# John Mark

(aka Mark)

MARTIN



# Who is He?

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**Best known are the writer of the  
Gospel of Mark**

**He was an early part of the church  
his Mother's name was Mary**

**He was a protégé of Peter  
(1 Peter 5:13)**



# Who is He?

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**Mark was part of the first missionary team that went with Paul and Barnabas**

**Acts 12:25**

**Acts 13:5**

**Colossians 4:10**





# **Didn't Deal Well with Adversity**

## **Mark 14:51-52**

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**A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus. When they seized him, he fled naked, leaving his garment behind.**



# **Why Did He Run?**

**Acts 13:13**

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**From Paphos, Paul and his companions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia, where John left them to return to Jerusalem.**



# **Why Did He Run?**

**Acts 13:13**

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**This really does not seem that bad!**

**By itself it looks like a fork in the road, the trip went one way and Mark went another.**

**But there is more  
to the story**



# Why Did He Run?

**Acts 15:37-38**

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**Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work.**



# **Why Did He Run?**

**Acts 15:37-38**

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**This sounds a little more harsh**

**Mark deserted them.**

**We don't know what happened**



# **How did God Pursue Him? (Acts 15:37-41)**

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**Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.” Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not**



# **How did God Pursue Him? (Acts 15:37-41)**

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**continued with them in the work. They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord. He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.**



# **How did God Pursue Him? (Acts 15:37-41)**

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**When Moses ran God used a burning bush to call him back**

**When Jonah ran God pursued with...  
a Storm, a Fish, a Voice from heaven,  
a Plant, a Worm, a Desert Storm**

**Barnabas  
(a fellow Christian)**





# **How did God Pursue Him? (Acts 15:37-41)**

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**He wanted to give Mark a second chance**

**Remember Barnabas was on  
that first trip also**

**He fought for him (with Paul)**

**He decided to part ways with  
Paul in order to give Mark a  
second chance**



# **Barnabas' Influence**

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**Reminded him of what's inside him**

**Reminded him who he is**

**Reminded him of his responsibility**

**Helped learn from his mistake**

**Put in on the road running to  
God instead of from God**



# **How did God restore him?**

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**He went**

**Knowing the difficulties**

**Knowing the reputation he had**

**Knowing the work it would take to win the  
trust of others.**

**Sometimes that's all we can do,  
learn from our past instead of  
wallowing in it**



# **How did God use him?**

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**The obvious answer is the Gospel of Mark**

**The obvious focus would be his  
ministry with Peter**

**But remember Paul that changed also...**

**Philemon 1:23-24**

**2 Timothy 4:11**



# Stop Running...

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**You can give up on  
God, but God does not  
give up on you.**

