

— FOR EVERYONE · CHAPTERS 4–7

Four Portraits

Four people God formed in hidden seasons, each in a different way. Read each portrait, then answer its question for your own life.

— FORMATION THROUGH OBSCURITY

Moses

CHAPTER 4

| **40 Years in Egypt.** Power, identity, and influence — everything that looked like preparation.

| **40 Years in the Wilderness.** Hidden, unknown, removed — the season most overlook.

| **40 Years Leading Israel.** Public leadership and the weight of a nation.

Most people focus on the third season. God focused on the second — because what Moses would carry publicly required what he learned privately.

Which of Moses' three seasons feels most like mine, and what might God be forming in it?

— FORMATION THROUGH DELAY

David

CHAPTER 5

| **Restraint.** He learned not to seize what God had promised.

| **Trust.** He learned to wait without manipulating outcomes.

| **Integrity.** He refused to act outside of God's process.

| **Dependence.** He learned to rely on God in unstable circumstances.

This kind of formation cannot be developed in immediate success. It requires waiting.

Which of these four do I most need God to form in me while I wait?

— FORMATION THROUGH CONTRADICTION

Joseph

CHAPTER 6

| Favored son — clothed in his father's love and the dreams God gave him

| Rejected by his brothers, stripped of the coat, thrown into a pit

| Sold into slavery and carried down to Egypt

| A trusted servant in Potiphar's house — then falsely accused

| Imprisoned, forgotten, further from the throne than ever

Where am I on Joseph's road, and what promise am I still holding?

— FORMATION THROUGH ISOLATION

Elijah

CHAPTER 7

The Brook Cherith. Sent into hiding, fed by ravens — daily dependence in a place unknown and unseen.

The Brook Dries Up. Even the God-ordained place expires, so he learns to depend on God, not the place.

The Widow at Zarephath. Provision comes through someone with almost nothing — deeper humility and trust.

Return to Public Ministry. Sent back to Ahab carrying an authority built entirely in private.

God did not lose Elijah. He led him into isolation — and what was built there was revealed in public.

What has God provided for a season that is now drying up, and what is He teaching me through it?
