

Part 4: Moses Meets God

Exodus 3:1-22

SERMON SERIES: EXODUS - FINDING FREEDOM **Moses Meets God Exodus 3:1-22**

Devotion Emphasis: Proceed with Caution: Knowing God

MONDAY – God Invites Moses To Meet Him

Exodus 3:1-12 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. **3** And Moses said, “I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.” **4** When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” **5** Then he said, “Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” **6** And he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. **7** Then the Lord said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, **8** and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. **9** And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. **10** Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.” **11** But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?” **12** He said, “But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

What would your response be if God began speaking to you through a burning bush? Would you have a sense of amazement? Fear and awe? Would you have some choice words saved up for Him? When God revealed Himself as the eternal God, Moses was afraid and hid his face because He recognized the enormous power of the Lord. The salvation Jesus offers gives us full access to God so the question we must regularly ask ourselves is, “How am I responding to God?” Imagine being invited to meet and be in the presence of a King or ruler of a nation. Meeting someone with that much power requires an attitude of respect! We must be careful to engage God with the respect He deserves because He is the highest of all Kings and still invites us to meet Him!

Worship Challenge: Do you remember when you realized God was inviting you to meet Him for the first time? Have you actually ever met God through a relationship with Jesus? A real encounter with God is unlike meeting anyone else and requires a special response on our part. Spend some time reflecting on how you met God and think about if your attitude toward Him is one that appropriately reflects being invited into the presence of the King.

TUESDAY – God Invites Moses To Know Him

Exodus 3:13-15 13 Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” 14 God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I am has sent me to you.’” 15 God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations. 16 Go and gather the elders of Israel together and say to them, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, has appeared to me, saying, “I have observed you and what has been done to you in Egypt, 17 and I promise that I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, a land flowing with milk and honey.”’” 18 And they will listen to your voice, and you and the elders of Israel shall go to the king of Egypt and say to him, ‘The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us; and now, please let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God.’ 19 But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless compelled by a mighty hand. 20 So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all the wonders that I will do in it; after that he will let you go. 21 And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and when you go, you shall not go empty, 22 but each woman shall ask of her neighbor, and any woman who lives in her house, for silver and gold jewelry, and for clothing. You shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians.”

Relationships are truly a strange thing. Think about the friendships you have. Can you even track exactly how you became close to your friends? What were the defining moments that brought you together? It can be a tough thing to pinpoint how our friendships develop! One consistent defining factor in developing closeness with others is being invited to do so. We have all the relationships we have because we have been personally invited by them to know them. Close relationships can only develop if we invite one another into our lives. This makes our ability to communicate with and be close to God extremely significant! The Lord of the universe has invited us into His life. He has invited us to be close to Him! There is no greater invitation we could ever receive and God makes Himself readily available to us at all times.

Discipleship Challenge: You have been invited to intimately know God. What are you doing to develop that relationship? It takes a lot of work to get to know someone! We could spend every second of everyday learning more about God and we still wouldn't know everything about Him at the end of our lives. Write down some things you don't know about God and ask someone trustworthy to help you figure them out!

WEDNESDAY – God Speaks to Us

2 Timothy 3:16-17 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

If you turn on the T.V. and flip to any self-proclaimed “Christian” channel, you may be unfortunate enough to see one of the many heretical false prophets of the world claiming to have a new and special message from God. Many fake churches deceive hundreds of thousands of people daily by claiming they have special knowledge from God that has been given as a special gift only to them. It is a ridiculous and heretical idea to follow or believe the words of anyone who claims to have knowledge or messages from God that come from outside the Bible. The Lord graciously and miraculously speaks directly to us through His word, the Bible. We don't have to look for God's hidden messages because they don't exist. God has given us everything we need in order for us to know Him and follow Him. All we have to do is listen to God by reading His word.

Discipleship Challenge: What do you believe about God's word? The Bible reveals itself and has been validated throughout history as the word of God. If you believe this to be true, a response is demanded from your life! How much of God's word do you know? How much of God's word have you internalized and live by? Prioritize God's word and spend time in it daily. You will find that the more you come to know God through His word, the better you will be able to follow Him in your life.

THURSDAY – The Heavens Reveal God

Psalm 19:1-6 1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. 2 Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. 3 They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. 4 Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. 5 It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. 6 It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

The world is truly a spectacular place. The heavens are even more incredible! The universe God has created is so expansive that scientists will continue making new discoveries about it until Jesus comes back. Some people regularly ask the questions, “Why does all this exist? What’s the point?” The Bible gives us the answer. All the amazing things God has created have been created to point to His existence and glory! There is no possible way all this stuff exists by chance. It all had to be created by someone and that someone is the same God who invites us to know Him!

Worship Challenge: What are some of your favorite things about the world or outer space? Spend some time alone with God today enjoying His creation. Take some time just to look at some of the amazing things God has made and ask the question, “What does this say about who God is?” Everything God has created says something unique about Him; we just have to take the time to see what it is all saying!

FRIDAY – Invite Others To Know Him.

1 Timothy 2:1-6 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

The same God who invited Moses to know Him and invites us to know Him desires for us to lead others to Him. There is no exclusive club when it comes to having access to God. All people have been given the same opportunity to know God and to receive salvation through Christ. For those of us who do know Him, we have been given the amazing blessing of being chosen by God to help others know Him! There is truly no greater joy in the Christian life than being able to lead someone in accepting Jesus. Far too often evangelism is looked at as something only pastors are supposed to do. If

someone has been saved by Jesus, they have been chosen and empowered to share Jesus with others.

Evangelism Challenge: Think about all the people you know who do not believe in Jesus. Spend some time today praying for them, asking Jesus to soften their hearts and to make Himself known to them. Now, go and invite them to church this week!

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