“God Cares and Calls”

*Exodus 3*

Opening Question(s) – choose (a) or (b)

1. What does it take to get you up in the morning? On Monday mornings, what is “business as usual” for you?
2. Where have you had your most unusual or significant experience with God?

Discussion Questions

1. **Read Exodus 3:1-10.** Why do you think God used “flames of fire from within a bush” to get Moses’ attention? How else does God get people’s attention in the Bible?
2. How could an ordinary place where sheep graze be “holy ground” (v.5)? What response does God tell Moses to take (v.5) and why?[[1]](#footnote-1)
3. What has God seen and heard about his people in Egypt?

What plan does he have in mind? How do you think Moses felt about God’s feelings and plan given his own response to the plight of “one of his own people” (211) earlier?

1. **Read Exodus 3:11-22.** How does Moses respond to his part in God’s plan, and why (vv.11-13)?
2. Have you ever felt called by God to a particular task or role? What task/role? How did you respond, and why?
3. What reassurance(s) does God give Moses (vv.12-22)? Does Moses find these reassuring? Why or why not?
4. Who is responsible for carrying out God’s plan (vv.16-22)? What part is played: by God? By Moses? The elders of Israel? The king of Egypt? The Hebrew women?
5. Chapters 1-2 focused on the “behind the scenes” work of God. What should Moses expect going forward? Why the difference?
6. How would you describe your relationship with God right now?

* A burning bush - a flickering shrub
* A few warm coals from the past - Ashes in the wind
* Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. How can this group support you in prayer this week?

**Exodus 3** – NIV

1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2**There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. **3**So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

**4**When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!”

And Moses said, “Here I am.”

**5**“Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” **6**Then he said, “I am the God of your father,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+3&version=NIV#fen-NIV-1586a)] the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

**7**The Lord said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. **8**So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. **9**And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. **10**So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

**11**But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

**12**And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+3&version=NIV#fen-NIV-1592b)] will worship God on this mountain.”

**13**Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

**14**God said to Moses, “I am who I am.[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+3&version=NIV#fen-NIV-1594c)] This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

**15**God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord,[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+3&version=NIV#fen-NIV-1595d)] 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,   the name you shall call me  from generation to generation.

**16**“Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt. **17**And I have promised to bring you up out of your misery in Egypt into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites—a land flowing with milk and honey.’

**18**“The elders of Israel will listen to you. Then you and the elders are to go to the king of Egypt and say to him, ‘The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. Let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the Lord our God.’ **19**But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless a mighty hand compels him. **20**So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go.

**21**“And I will make the Egyptians favorably disposed toward this people, so that when you leave you will not go empty-handed. **22**Every woman is to ask her neighbor and any woman living in her house for articles of silver and gold and for clothing, which you will put on your sons and daughters. And so you will plunder the Egyptians.”

1. See the Bible Project video on Holiness: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9vn5UvsHvM&ab_channel=BibleProject> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)