

## Moses: The Burning Bush Exodus 3

The path to obedience is made possible when we trust in God's presence, promise and power. The story of Moses helps us to understand that God sees our circumstances, God knows our inadequacies, yet God acts to use us anyway.

### Pop Theology

“God showed up...”

- It demeans the work of God in preparation
- It assumes that God was busy elsewhere
- It decries the fact that God is always near, always working, always providing according to His plan

### Background

- After four hundred years, their current slavery, and the disappearance of Moses, the Hebrews had to believe that God had left them...
- After killing a man, fleeing to the wilderness, and spending forty years as a shepherd, Moses had to believe that God had left him...

Exodus 2:23-25

“During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.”

Exodus 3:1-6

“<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And Moses said, ‘I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.’ <sup>4</sup>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.’ <sup>5</sup>Then he said, ‘Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.’ <sup>6</sup>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.”

### Moses' Excuses

- “I’m Unimportant”  
God’s Response: I Am Present
- “I’m Uninformed”  
God’s Response: It’s My Promise
- “I’m Unqualified”  
God’s Response: I am Powerful
- “But I’m Unwilling”  
God’s Response: Now I am Perturbed

## **Application**

- God Sees  
Rest in Him
- God Knows  
Respond to Him
- God Acts  
Trust in Him