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# Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

### Introduction

In Exodus 3, God instructs Moses to remove his sandals, reminding us that worship precedes service and acknowledging God's holiness transforms our lives. Reflect on how God often meets us in unexpected places, testing us with smaller tasks before entrusting us with greater responsibilities. Consider your own life: where is God inviting you to take off your sandals and recognize His presence? 1 Peter 3 reminds us His holiness is lifetransforming, and we should be ready to give the reason for the transforming hope we have.

### **Disciple Measure**

**Spirit-led Follower:** How does your time with the Lord impact your work for the Lord?

#### Notes:

# **Discussion Questions**

#### God desires Worship before Work

#### **HIGHLIGHT**

Have someone read aloud...

1 Peter 3:15 and Exodus 3:1-6

#### **EXPLAIN**

Discuss the following questions...

**Opening Question:** Have you ever considered how God might be using your current circumstances to prepare you for something greater?

- 1. How does the encounter between Moses and God at the burning bush illustrate the concept of holiness, and what does it teach us about God's presence?
- 2. Why is it significant that God chose to speak to Moses from a burning thorn bush, and how does this relate to the theme of God meeting us in our brokenness?
- 3. How does the instruction to remove sandals on holy ground serve as a reminder of respect and recognition of God's holiness and our humanity?
- 4. What lessons can be drawn from Moses's 40 years in the wilderness as a shepherd, and how did that prepare him for his future leadership role?
- 5. How does time in the presence of God's holiness transform us and prepare us for God's calling in our lives?

# Application Questions Notes:

#### **APPLY**

Have someone read aloud Romans 12:1-2.

Discuss the following questions...

- 1. How can you identify seemingly mundane "burning bush" moments in your life where God might be trying to capture your attention?
- 2. What practices can you implement in everyday life to remind yourself of God's holiness and foster a mindset of worship and reverence?
- 3. How can you cultivate a childlike sense of wonder in your faith journey, ensuring it leads you to worship and humility rather than pride and criticism?
- 4. What steps can you take to prioritize worship in your daily routine before service or work?

#### **RESPOND**

Force for Good: How might you encourage or guide someone who feels distant from God to recognize His presence even in the difficult trials and suffering of their life?

#### **Prayer:**

Spend time sharing what about God you are most thankful for, and then pray to thank God for those things and for His presence in our lives. Ask for His help in prioritizing worship over work.

# Questions for Families

Here are some questions you can discuss with the whole family.

#### 1 Peter 3:15 and Exodus 3:1-7

#### What do you think makes the ground in this passage special when God talks to Moses?

Guide younger children by exploring the idea of "holy ground" and why God might make a place special. For older kids, discuss how God's presence changes our understanding of places and spaces.

#### Why do you think God chose a burning bush to speak to Moses instead of something bigger?

Encourage younger children to think about how God can use little things to do big things. For older students, delve into the symbolism of God appearing in simple, unexpected ways and how He meets us in our everyday lives.

### How do you think Moses felt when God spoke to him, and how would you feel if God called you by name?

With younger children, focus on feelings of surprise and awe. For older students, consider discussing the importance of recognizing God's voice in our lives and how we respond to His call with respect and worship.

# NT 260

#### **WEEK: 35**

- 2 Peter 3
- John 1
- John 2
- John 3
- John 4

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 6:31-32

## Resources

#### Resources to Listen to

### BEMA Discipleship Podcast -**Creating Space**



Marty Solomon takes a look at the book of Exodus and what is means to make space to hear from God. (68 min)

### BEMA Discipleship Podcast - 1 Peter Living Stones and a Spiritual House



Marty Solomon takes a look at the book of 1 Peter. (17 min)

#### **Resources to Watch**

#### Bible Project Guide - The Book of 1 Peter



See a collection of videos and articles to guide you through the book of 1 Peter. (20 min)

#### Bible Project Guide - The Book of 2 Peter



See a collection of videos and articles to guide you through the book of 2 Peter. (20 min)

## Life Group Resources

We have a variety of resources and are continually adding new ones. Some of our resources include group launch guides, on-demand training modules, and curriculum resources. To request a resource, reach out to us at groups@longhollow.com.

### **D-Group Resources**

If you or someone you know would like to start a D-group, we have everything you need, including reading plans, journals, and a launch guide to walk you through the first four meetings.





# Commentary

#### Notes:

#### What's Going On?

In the passage from Exodus 3, we witness a pivotal moment in the Bible where Moses encounters God through a burning bush. This is not just an unusual sight; it's a turning point in a profound journey for Moses and the people of Israel. The burning bush appears in a remote, quiet part of the wilderness, emphasizing the theme that God can appear in our everyday lives, especially when we least expect it. As Moses approaches the bush, God calls to him by name, which is a sign of intimate connection and purpose. God instructs Moses to remove his sandals, highlighting the holy nature of the ground.

The passage shows that God's presence transforms ordinary places into sacred spaces. It's a moment that invites worship and reverence before action. Through this encounter, Moses recognizes God's holiness and receives his mission to lead Israel out of Egypt. This passage from Exodus emphasizes themes like God's sovereignty, Moses's destiny, and the importance of worship before service.

Biblical Timeline

Creation

Bush

**Exodus 3 - The Burning** 

The Exodus from Egypt

#### A Bit of Background

The historical background of this passage sheds light on Moses's life and the circumstances of the Israelites. Moses's life was divided into three phases. He spent his first 40 years as a prince in Egypt, living in luxury and power. Then, after a life-changing turn of events, he fled to the wilderness of Midian, where he spent the next 40 years as a humble shepherd. This role, though seemingly insignificant, was crucial for developing his character and preparing him for the great task ahead. The Israelites, meanwhile, were suffering under harsh Egyptian slavery, desperately crying out for deliverance.

They had long lost sight of their promised future due to their suffering. Historically, this encounter is God responding to their cries, preparing to deliver the Israelites through Moses. This context shows us that God often prepares His people through unexpected ways and people. God's timing and environment for contacting Moses underline that even in desolate or humble beginnings, significant divine purposes can arise. Moses, once a powerful prince and then a lowly shepherd, would become a leader equipped to guide his people to freedom, showing God's power to use anyone willing to listen and obey.

1 Peter written - Approx. 63-64 bc

Notes:

Birth of Christ Crucification and Resurection

**Book of Revelation** 

# Sermon Notes

#### Exodus 3:1-6 CSB

Meanwhile, Moses was shepherding the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. Then the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire within a bush. As Moses looked, he saw that the bush was on fire but was not consumed. So Moses thought, "I must go over and look at this remarkable sight. Why isn't the bush burning up?" When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses, Moses!" "Here I am," he answered. "Do not come closer," he said. "Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Then he continued, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.

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# Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

daily, anchoring their lives to God's Word and obediently following the Holy Spirit where He leads.

A disciple who is always looking for ways to care for others and meet their needs. This is a practical way to be present in the lives of those around us.

every opportunity to help people take their next step ::

closer to Jesus. This is someone who is constantly looking
for opportunities to have Gospel conversations and speak
truth into someone's life.

When a disciple lives out their Godgiven calling, they naturally become a force for good where they live, work, and play. This type of person is looking for opportunities to meet needs, heal brokenness, and bring tangible hope to the people in their life and in their community.

