Discovering Exodus: Finding prayer points, testimonies, reflection and journaling questions that will engage your heart with the Father.

Chapter 3:

**□ The Invitation**: Invite the Holy Spirit to show you something new as you read through the chapter. The Father desires to meet with you and share something with you today. You may find it in the reading or you may hear His Voice speaking to Your Spirit in the quiet of this moment.

**□ The Reading:** Read Exodus Chapter 3. Record any thoughts from the chapter, questions you have or verses that the Holy Spirit highlighted to you while reading.

**□ The Focus**: Today’s focus is a journaling question. Write your thoughts as you meet with the Father.

Moses has spent 40 years in the school of the wilderness when we arrive at chapter 3. In verse 1 we read that he was a shepherd, tending the flocks of his father-in-law. He had the flock at the far side of the desert and Moses noticed a bush on fire that was not burning up, so he moved nearer to the bush. In that moment of turning aside, God called to Moses from the flames of fire. God waited for Moses to turn aside before He spoke his name. God didn’t shout “Over here Moses”, but He waited for Moses to make a choice to turn aside. “*When the Lord saw that he (Moses) had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, ‘Moses! Moses!”* verse 4. This fiery encounter changed the trajectory of Moses’ life. He is never the same from this moment. Throughout the book of Exodus we will watch his life in God grow to greater intimacy. In this first encounter Moses wasn’t yet ready to go near. “*At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God,*” verse 6. Isn’t that true in your life too? I remember my first fiery encounter with God. It wasn’t an ordinary bush on fire but not burning up, but instead it was an ordinary living room that became a cloud of glory. I remember it like it was yesterday even though it was more than 30 years ago. I had gotten to the end of myself, 8 months pregnant, in a dead-end marriage (which God redeemed), disappointed in what my life had become. I got on my knees and put my face in the sofa cushions and cried out to God. I turned aside in repentance. In a moment everything changed. A cloud filled the room and moved my heart closer to the One who loved me more than anyone else. Peace, joy, love, hope swept over me. I left that encounter transformed and the trajectory of my life was never the same. In that quiet moment, I was overwhelmed with the holiness of God and felt, like Moses, that where I was kneeling was sacred ground.

Journaling question 1: Describe an encounter you have experienced with God? How did it mark you? In what ways did it change the trajectory of your life?

God commissioned Moses in this encounter to return to Egypt and free God’s people from oppression. “*So now go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring My people the Israelites out of Egypt*,” verse 11. God affirms Moses that He will be with him. Moses responds to God with questions. “*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?*’” verse 13. One of the commentaries had this to say about the Israelites asking the question about God’s Name: [[1]](#footnote-1)

“’Under what new title has God appeared to you?’ is equivalent to asking, ‘What revelation have you received from God?’ Normally, in patriarchal days, any new revelation of the ancestral God will be summed up in a new title for Him (Genesis 16:13) which will in future both record and recount a deeper knowledge of God’s saving activity.”

The Israelites would be expecting a new title for their God which would invoke a call to respond in faith to that new Name or title.

When we receive new revelation about God’s Nature or character, it is not merely theological truth, it is a call to respond by faith. His Name evokes a response from us. God desires that we know Him personally and experientially.

Journaling question 2: What revelation have you received about God’s Name, Nature or Character? How have you responded in faith to that revelation?

1. Exodus (Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries) by R.Alan Cole, page 76 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)