

Begin with Prayer - Are there any prayer requests today?

thank you Jesus for the Bible and for the freedom we have to open it and learn more about you - the whole Bible points us to you Jesus and we are so blessed that we get to know you better and love you more.

Today we will remember how you Guided Moses and how amazing it was that you spoke to him through a bush that burned but was not consumed or destroyed by the fire.

You are so powerful Jesus, we are in awe of how unbelievable you are, and yet you still care about all the details of our lives, you love it when we pray, you care about all the things we say to you Jesus.

What an awesome daddy you are.

Please help us learn a very important lesson today. Let us not just hear this lesson today, but please allow the miracle of studying your Bible change our lives, help us walk away from church with more wisdom and let it all be to glorify you and let our light shine better for you Jesus.

We ask all these things because we love you - please only give us the things that you know are best for us. Please bless us and help us do the next right thing for you.

IN your powerful and loving name, amen

Character Study - Here I am Lord

Goal: Understand that because God knows and Loves us - He will help us do what he asks

When have you seen something unusual?

- some unusual things have natural explanations behind them.

In today's Bible lesson, In today's Bible lesson, a very unusual thing happened that was a miracle sent from God

show awesome videos.

For 40 years - **hummmm**, the number 40..... does the number 40 keep popping up in the Bible? Does that sound familiar to you?

- **The phrase "40 years" is explicitly mentioned in the Bible 17 times. The number 40 itself, in various contexts like 40 days, is mentioned around 157 times. The number 40 often symbolizes a period of testing, trial, or probation. Historical Examples:**
- **Moses and the Israelites:** The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years after their exodus from Egypt, a period of testing and hardship.
- **Noah's Flood:** The rain fell for 40 days and 40 nights during the time of Noah's Flood, symbolizing a period of divine judgment.
- **Moses and the Ten Commandments:** Moses received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai after fasting and praying for 40 days and nights.
- **Jesus' Temptation in the Wilderness:** Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness before his ministry, demonstrating his reliance on God.

Well, for 40 years, Moses had a job working as a shepherd in the desert.

One day he was on a mountain and he saw something surrounded by fire but it wasn't burning up!



Exodus 3:4-5 - read this

4 So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!"

And he said, "Here I am."

5 Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground."

Who called Moses?

Exodus 3:6-7

6 Moreover 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 upon God.

7 And the Lord said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.

What is a slave?

they had no rights, no ability to make their own choices, they simply had to obey and do everything their masters told them to do. They could be beaten or killed if they refused or even if they made a mistake. It was horrible to be a slave

Long ago, God had chosen the Israelites to be His people.
When did that happen?
in Genesis 15 - a visual covenant with God, where God
promised Abraham a multitude of descendants and the land
of Canaan

**Come now, therefore, and I will send you to
Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the
children of Israel, out of Egypt."**

If you were Moses, what would you have said? But Moses
said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I
should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"
So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a
sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the
people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

First Moses says that he is nervous talking to Pharaoh, then
he says he is nervous speaking with the Israelite Leaders.

Who should I say sent me?

Exodus 3:14

And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus
you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to
you.' "

now Moses knew God's Promise, God's name AND God's plan.
wouldn't he be ready to go obey God now?
nope, Moses doubted God again and doubted himself.
What if? He stammered.
what if they don't believe me?
God then gave Moses 3 amazing ways in which he would
reveal His power to the Egyptians.

Exodus 4:2-5

² So the Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?"
He said, "A rod."
³ And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the
ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it. ⁴
Then the Lord said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take
it by the tail" (and he reached out his hand and caught it,
and it became a rod in his hand), ⁵ "that they may believe
that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the
God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

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Exodus 4:6-7

6 Furthermore the Lord said to him, "Now put your hand in your bosom." And he put his hand in his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous, like snow.

7 And He said, "Put your hand in your bosom again." So he put his hand in his bosom again, and drew it out of his bosom, and behold, it was restored like his other flesh.

And it shall be, if they do not believe even these two signs, or listen to your voice, that you shall take water from the river and pour it on the dry land. The water which you take from the river will become blood on the dry land."

Exodus 4:9

The Egyptians believed that the Nile River was a god. If by God's power, Moses changed the water of this river into blood, it would show Pharaoh and the rest of the Egyptians as well as the Israelites that Moses' God was more powerful than their gods.

Isn't it interesting that all gods that are made by man are created from the stuff in nature that our God created. If only everyone could know and love our Creator God of the heavens and all that exists within - amen.

Now Moses knew God's promise - He **MUST** be ready to go obey.

what do you think? how many say he is ready to go.

NOPE! you're right

He starts blubbering. what is the silliest word you can think of that means nothing.

Okay, thanks for asking and doing ALLL that cool stuff and sharing your power with me. You are awesome and powerful but I forgot about this one thing. I can't speak well. Yeah, i stumble over my words and I kinda have a lisp.

Plus, I never know the right things to say - in fact, what I am saying right now is a perfect example of my objection.

Exodus 4:11-12

So the Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the Lord? 12 Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."

Now Moses knew God's promise - He **MUST** be ready to go obey.

what do you think? how many say he is ready to go.

NOPE! you're right

Can't you send someone else? He asks...

How many times did Moses make excuses to God ??
5 times!!!!.

is God patient or not patient?

How many times can you make excuses to your
parents before they start getting frustrated?

Exodus	Moses' Questions/Concerns	God's Response
3:11,12	Who am I?	I will be with you
3:13,14	What do I say your name is?	I am Who I am
4:1-9	What if they don't believe me?	Signs and wonders with staff and hand (like Jesus' miracles)
4:10-12	I'm not good at speaking	I will help you (Act 7:22 says he was "powerful in speech")
4:13-17	Please send someone else	You can have Aaron to help (God already had Aaron on the way)

After the 5th excuse - God got upset with Moses. Did Moses have free will? Was God operating Moses like a computer? Or did Moses have a choice?

God had chosen Moses for this awesome task because He created Moses and knew that Moses was the perfect person for this. He solved this problem too. He told Moses he could bring his brother Aaron, and he would help him.

Do you have a brother or sister who helps you with tasks that are too big for you to achieve?

Now did Moses listen? Yes! finally!!!

Exodus 4:29-31

Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel.

30 And Aaron spoke all the words which the Lord had spoken to Moses. Then he did the signs in the sight of the people.

31 So the people believed; and when they heard that the Lord had visited the children of Israel and that He had looked on their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshiped.

Play Song from Psalm 139



God knows everything, better, wiser and more than we could ever imagine because He is Creator God. He knows the thoughts and intent of our hearts.

Can we pretend with God?

If you are good at something is it because you are awesome or is it because GOd is awesome and He created those skills in you?

if You ever get complimented - **who should the glory go to?**

Will God ever ask you to do something you can't do?

With God's Help we know that we can do the hardest task - as long as we are certain the task came from God.

How can you know if something is from God?

1. Align with God's Word:

Check against Scripture:

Does the idea or opportunity align with biblical principles and values? God's Word is a reliable guide.

Consider the source:

Where did the idea or opportunity come from?

Was it a burning bush that didn't burn?

Seek Guidance and Counsel:

Pray and ask God:

Ask for discernment and guidance in making decisions,

Seek counsel from wise and mature believers:

Listen to advice from those with a proven track record of faith,

Trust in the Holy Spirit:

Pay attention to inner promptings:

Listen for a sense of peace, conviction, or assurance that something is from God,

Consider the overall picture:

Does it glorify God? Is it something that would bring honor and praise to God?

Does it bring you closer to God? Is it leading you towards a deeper relationship with Him?

Does it move you to love and bless others? Is it something that promotes kindness, compassion, and service to others?

5. Put God first:

Make God your primary focus: When you prioritize God's will, your desires will naturally fall more in line with His

as you are growing and learning, you will discover more of the special abilities that God has given you. God made you unique and special - there is no one like you, never was, and never is.

this is how God shows His great love for you. He promises to be with the members of His family. He will never leave you or forsake you.

Just like He promised to be with Moses, God will help you with your skills and abilities - this is a promise and a blessing.

Pray - Dear Lord, what a blessing and an honor it is to serve you. You are the ONE TRUE GOD and you have saved us with the Greatest display of love of all time. You died on the cross to take away our sins. Thank you for taking the punishment of my sin for me and for offering me eternal life with you in Heaven. I love you Jesus and I am so thankful that you have blessed all of us with the free gift of Salvation.

Thank you for the skills and abilities you have given us. We are all so unique and special and exactly how you created us to be. We should never compare or desire skills that other people have, that we don't have Father, because they were given to us with your Divine Wisdom and power.

You created us all so differently so that we could compliment one another and make such a beautiful picture for you Lord. Help us to never stop trying to do good for you.

If my ears were jealous of my eyes and only wanted to see then I would never be able to hear the wonderful songs that the birds sing. Let us remember that each skill we have is unique and special and so important. We should remember to encourage one another and build one another up in love and good deeds.

Thank you for Moses, thank you for reminding us how patient and loving you are. You are never surprised by anything - You know the thoughts and intents of our hearts. Please help us when we doubt, help us remember that it is important to trust you in all things, big and small and to come to you and talk to you because you are the best Father.

We love you Jesus, we will worship you and praise you for all that you are. Thank you for this day. Thank you for the Mission church, and for the leaders we have. Please build them up, and pour out your Holy Spirit on them. Please give us courage, wisdom and strength to do the next right thing for you Jesus.

Thank you for these children that you are building up to be disciples for you Lord. Please protect them, guide them and help them to love you their whole lives through. In Jesus name, amen.

What does Psalm 139:1-3, 3-16 say God knows about us

He knows everything about us, and he knew us before we were even born

What are some things that you are good at and enjoy doing? Is there someone in your family that is really good at something that you do not enjoy doing? Are you thankful for all the different skills you can see in your own family?

What's something you've learned to do better than you used to be able to do?

What is your attitude like when you are learning to do something? Does your attitude make a difference when you do something?

What are some ways you can find out what your abilities are?

Is it important to try new things? What if you never tried to learn to ride a bike? or never tried to learn to swim? or even never tried to learn to speak???

How can you get better at something? How can you help others improve their skills?

How can you let God know that you are thankful for your skills?

Think about an ability that you have that you can use to glorify God, **what is that skill or ability and how can you apply that to each day to show God how much you love him?**

Remember, that loving Jesus should look similar to how you love your parents - we should always talk to God, tell God that we love him and we are so thankful for Him, we need to do the 2 commandments he told us to do - love him above all things and love others the way we love him.