

JOURNEY - SERMON NOTES

“FACE TO FACE” - MOSES - 12.7.14

READ: Exodus 3:1-14, 4:1-12

For many of us, we have knowledge of God, but not much experience with God. We desire for everyone to have an experience with God, and an encounter with Him that changes lives and encourages faith in Jesus. You never know how your decisions to obey God will affect your life and benefit those around you.

Moses is a well known biblical character. During a time of enslavement for the people of Israel in Egypt, God used Moses to lead Israel to freedom. His encounter with God through a burning bush definitely got his attention. God used this encounter to help Moses live and lead well as a man called by God.

Like Moses, God desires to get our attention, draw us into a holy moment where He can speak to us and help us understand Him more clearly. Because Moses was willing, millions of men, women and children were set free from slavery and history changed forever. Let us ask God to help us move through our excuses so He can use us as well.

DISCUSSION:

1. **Excuse #1: Who am I?** Moses knew his sin and shortcomings. He wasn't a perfect person. But God reminded Moses that it wasn't about his character, but God's character. God chooses people, not based on having it all together, but being available. What excuses do you use to downplay who you are to others, even God?
2. **Excuse #2: Who are you?** Moses wasn't sure. But God reminded Moses that He is the "I Am". This statement conveys that God is sufficient and nothing is too difficult for Him. What excuse do you use to downplay who God is or could be in your life?
3. **Excuse #3: What if they?** Moses wasn't sure if people will listen, follow or believe him. His fear of others and their response to him gripped his response of obedience. No matter how others response, God calls us to be unashamed of Him. What excuse do you use to downplay your leadership ability in the lives of others? When have you ever lived "ashamed" of God?
4. **Excuse #4: I have never.** Moses did not have the experience he thought was necessary to lead at the level required by a holy God. But God reminds him that all He asks is that Moses join Him where He is working. God will be with us and work everything for the good of those who love Him, but are willing to demonstrate it. What excuse do you use to downplay your experience, knowledge or skills to make yourself look unworthy for God to use you? If God is all He says He is, and you are all He says you are, what would you dare dream for God to do with you and through you?

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