

The Life of Moses:

The Burning Bush

The “Mountain of God”

- ✓ Also known as Horeb or Sinai
- ✓ God formalized His covenant relationship with Israel (Exodus 19,20)
- ✓ Israelites set out for the Promised Land (Deuteronomy 1)
- ✓ Elijah received instruction to anoint the kings of Syria and Israel and named Elisha as his successor (I Kings 19)

The “Mountain of God”

- ✓ Had deep theological significance for the Israel as a Holy place (Judges 5:5; Nehemiah 9:13; Psalm 68:8)
- ✓ Paul uses Sinai as a reference to the legal righteousness of Israel (Galatians 4:24; Hebrews 12:18-29)
- ✓ Acts 7 – Stephen refers to the experiences of Moses and the Children of Israel at Sinai

The “Mountain of God”

- ✓ Was considered to be a place of *Theophany*
- ✓ *theos* = of or relating to God
- ✓ *phaino* = to shine or be seen
- ✓ Theophany = a moment or place where God appears, a place of divine manifestation

God’s Purpose for Your Life

- ✓ God has a plan and perfect purpose for your life (Jeremiah 29:11)
- ✓ He is waiting on you (John 4:4)
- ✓ You have to reach a point where you are seeking and ready to surrender to His will
- ✓ God often has to divert your attention to gain your devotion

How does God arrest our attention and set us on the path of our purpose?

3 Ways God gets us to search for His will for our lives

- ✓ Blessing us with *favor*
 - ✓ Breaking us with trials
 - ✓ Binding us with mercy
- Sometimes God grabs your attention and devotion by keeping you through an extraordinary event that should have destroyed you but instead made you stronger

“Then Moses said, ‘I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.’” Exodus 3:3

Burning Bush Experiences

- ✓ So extra-ordinary that it is difficult to explain to someone else
- ✓ The normal rules don’t apply – what should have happened did not happen
- ✓ In wrestling to understand you began to discern the voice and the call of God
- ✓ It was a major turning point in your life and you could not walk away the same

The Bushes God Uses

- ✓ God has a habit of using ordinary things/people for extraordinary assignments – don't cancel someone out because of what you think you know about them
- ✓ Whatever God ordains, He also sustains – God gives provision to His vision
- ✓ God wants to use you a vessel for His voice to speak to others
- ✓ You must have a fire for God to be an effective tool in the Kingdom

How Satan tries to quench our fire

- ✓ Lack of appreciation and recognition
- ✓ Unrepentant sin and iniquity
- ✓ Trouble that causes us to doubt God
- ✓ Confusing our devotion with our duty

3 Common Mistakes

- ✓ *Intensity*: Running out before we've been sent by God only to find that God has not opened the doors yet
- ✓ *Insecurity*: Experiencing failures along the way that discourage our commitment
- ✓ *Inferiority*: Excusing ourselves because we feel we have nothing to offer that God can use

Remember

- ✓ Sometimes you have to wait on God to move first. God's ways: No, Grow, Slow, Go
- ✓ Failure is a learning tool in God's hand. God never said you had to be successful just faithful
- ✓ The only ability God looks for is: AVAILABILITY