

JUNE 14, 2020

BEING PRESENT TO WHAT GOD'S UP TO

Exodus 3:1-4



The Big Idea: Fulfilling our God-given calling involves faithfulness, obedience, and sacrifice. We must learn to recognize the God-given opportunities in front of us every day.

4 Steps to Being Present to What God's Up To

- 1. Start Where You Are** - Moses was doing what he knew to do—tending sheep for his father-in-law. Before we can expect to do what we believe God is ultimately calling us to, we have to be faithful with where he's already placed us. Be faithful there even though it may not be exactly your ultimate goal. There's great power in doing what you do well. It causes people to take notice and sets you up for the future.
- 2. Don't Stay There, Join the Action** - Moses was tending sheep, but when he saw the burning bush, he went towards it. Following God means we recognize when he's speaking and where he's working and we join him there. It may not be a burning bush, but we should still press in when we feel him calling. Sure, we'll be uncomfortable at times, but when we see a need or see him working, it's always worth pressing in.
- 3. Be Aware! Where is God at Work?** All Christians have a general call to be light to our neighborhood and world. We all have a call to live a life of purpose, but we also have a specific call. We have specific gifts and passions that God wants us to use for him at a place in which he's preparing for us. Sure, this call can change, but we have to continue to seek that place.
- 4. Join God** - We must learn to recognize the God-given opportunities in front of us every day. Are you recognizing the opportunities around you? What can you do now to move toward your call?

Daily Practices for Being Present

- 1. Pray for the will and desire to listen to God and respond.**
- 2. Listen to God in every way you can.** *Read Scripture* - first and foremost, pray, talk with Christian friends, look at circumstance of your life, spend time with God in silence, meditation, and read scripture.
- 3. Use interruptions to practice obedience.**
- 4. Remember the teachings of Jesus who taught us how to love.** The giving and receiving of love is at the heart of God's plan and purpose for each of us.
- 5. At the end of each day, review the day and your actions.**
- 6. Rinse and repeat.** Try again tomorrow. Place your hope in God alone.

LifeGroup Worksheet

JUNE 14, 2020

This sheet is to be completed DURING your LifeGroup session

Scripture Reference – **Exodus 3:1-4**

1. Reflect- *How has God been working in your life? How has He provided, comforted, answered, reconciled or guided you? Be open to sharing both your successes and struggles.*

2. Read- *Exodus 3:1-4 carefully several times, both with your group and alone.*

3. Engage and Explore- *What do you think God was communicating to his people when this was first written? Try to answer at least one questions below.*

- a. What are some of the reasons people do not take on certain challenges? What about you?
- b. How have difficult challenges helped your personal growth and character?
- c. Moses was curious (v.1-3). How is curiosity a positive?
- d. Read Hebrews 1:1, John 14:26, John 16:13-14 and John 8:47. What does this say about God speaking?
- e. A burning bush is not something most of us see. The way we will know the voice of God when God speaks is out of an intimate relationship with God (a relationship that is real and personal). What does it take for us to develop greater intimacy with God? What are some things you can work on?

4. Connect- *how this passage applies to you and your relationship to Jesus and others. How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you through this passage? Try to answer at least one question.*

- a. Why is it easy to make excuses? Read 3:1-12. Moses has a big assignment, what is his excuse? In verse 12, what is God's promise? The scriptural principle here is that when God calls you to something he will equip you and work through your obedience.
- b. When is it easiest to make excuses for not trying something new?
- c. What are the benefits of obeying God? Moses brough people out of slavery. What will you do in your calling from God? How have the issues in our country made you sense God was speaking to you?
- d. In what ways do we lose when we disobey God?
- e. Most people are not like Moses – they are not willing to stop and seek the meaning of spiritual things. The Lord was appearing to Moses and Moses stopped and sought the meaning of the Lord's appearance. What are the risks you face when you take on a difficult challenge?
- f. What difficult challenge do you need to face courageously this week? Where are you "taking your foot off the gas?" What are you needing to believe about God so you can adjust your life to God's will?
- g. What is a practical way you can depend on God instead of making excuses?

5. Silent Meditation- *You may want to move away from the group to a quiet spot. Silently read the scripture several more times. Write down the words/passage you want to focus on this week and how you plan to apply God's truth to your life.*

6. Share- *Key insights with your group from question #5.*

7. Close in Prayer- *Try using different prayer models found in the LifeGroup Leader Handbook.*