



## A GREAT COMMISSION

If you haven't already, discuss your summer plans as a Life Group. Will you take a summer break? What day will be your last gathering? (There will be no Study Guides in July and August). What summer event(s) would your group like to do together to stay connected and continue to foster community? If someone hasn't shared their *Story of Faith* invite them to do that or share *Evidences of God's grace* with one another.

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### OPENING COMMENT

After fleeing Egypt Moses spent 40 years as a shepherd in Midian. God drew Moses to Horeb in order to reveal himself to him. Who is the "angel of the Lord" that Moses has this encounter with? The One appearing to him in the burning bush is later referred to as the Lord and speaks as God not simply for God. This encounter is a *theophany*: *an appearance of the invisible God*. No one in the OT experienced as many theophanies as Moses. Jesus is the ultimate theophany because God's self-revelation culminates in the incarnation of His Son. God continues to see and hear the cries of His people's affliction, He stoops to save them, and He continues to intervene by declaring to the church what He declared to Moses: "I will send you".

What big takeaway Truth from the Word stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

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### READ THE TEXT: Exodus 3:1-10

<sup>1</sup>Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. <sup>3</sup>And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup>Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals



off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." <sup>6</sup>And 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 at God. ... *continue reading to verse 10*

## I: GOD STOOPS TO SAVE

1. What can we learn about the nature of God from the way he reveals Himself to Moses in a burning bush? What does the calling of Moses show us about God's heart for his people?
2. God is sometimes perceived as a distant, out-there figure, removed from our daily encounters and not a personal, in your life kind of God. God called Moses by name, they exchanged names and met together. In grace, God calls us. Share what it was like when Jesus revealed Himself to you for the first time.
3. What did you realize about God's heart for you during this encounter? How would you describe your relationship with Jesus; does it feel personal or distant?

## II: GOD SENDS THE SAVED

1. What motivates God to act on behalf of people and what is His ultimate purpose? Take time to read Exodus 3:10 & Luke 4:18-19 together. What do these verses reveal about how God carries out his salvation plan in the world - locally & globally?
2. The primary calling of the Christian: Come to Jesus (union with Christ) and make disciples of all nations. Why do we as Christians often underestimate what God can do in us and through us? What stops many of us from fulfilling the Great Commission we are called to - "disciples making disciples"?
3. What does a "disciples making disciples" look like? Share some of your personal experiences: some of the challenges you have faced, your learning experiences and your "Give God the Glory" moments.

## CONCLUSION

God intervened in the lives of those crying out to Him because of their afflictions - by sending Moses.

God intervenes in the life of every person who genuinely cries out to Him in the midst of their affliction - proven by sending Jesus



God still hears the cries of those who call on Him - God still intervenes in the lives of the afflicted - and He still responds like He did with Moses: *I am sending you.*

## SHARE & PRAY

- Take time to pray together, asking God to whom He could be sending you this week or over the summer. Who in your life is crying out for freedom and needs an encounter with Jesus?
- Take some time to thank God for His provision, His preparation and His promises that you have experienced this past year.
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, the growth in grace you want to experience, and the needs among you.

