

Moses Becomes a Leader

Exodus 2:23-4:23; Acts 7:30-35

Moses lives the life of a shepherd. Year after year he walks through the desert wilderness finding the best places to feed his sheep and give them water.

One day, Moses is passing through the far side of the desert, by the mountain of Sinai. Suddenly he stops walking and stares hard. In the distance, he sees a bramble bush. It is on fire but is not burning up!

Moses turns out of his way. He will go and see this strange sight. But all at once, the voice of the Lord calls to him from the flames of fire.

“Moses! I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”

When Moses hears who is speaking to him from this special fire, he trembles and looks away. He is just a person; how can he speak to the great God of heaven?

“Take your shoes off your feet,” the Lord tells Moses, “for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”

And now the Lord has a wonderful message for Moses. God has heard the groaning of his people, He has seen their sad lives as slaves, and it is time to deliver the children of Israel, time to rescue them from Pharaoh.

But who will bring the message to Pharaoh? Who will lead God’s people to a new land, a promised land? “Come now,” the



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Lord says to Moses. “I will send you to Pharaoh so that you may lead my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

But Moses is afraid. What if Pharaoh doesn’t listen to him? Moses cannot speak very well... Or what if his people don’t want to follow him? Can’t the Lord send someone else to do this work?

No. The Lord has chosen Moses, and He will help him. God gives Moses a sign to do in front of Pharaoh and the people. He also gives Moses a helper to speak for him: his brother Aaron.

And so—at last—Moses goes. See him gather his belongings, his wife, and his children. Moses says good-bye to

the shepherd family in Midian. He has been chosen, and the Lord will help him.

1. What did Moses see by the mountain of Sinai?
2. Did the fire burn the bush right up so the branches were gone?
3. Why was Moses afraid when the Lord talked to him?
(Psalm 8:3-4; Isaiah 40:25, 22)
4. Moses took off his shoes when the Lord spoke. God also speaks to us when the Bible is read (Psalm 119:11).
How should we listen? (Nehemiah 8:2-3)
5. Moses cannot speak very well. Who will the Lord send to help him? Who can help us do difficult things? Read Isaiah 41:10 and tell what God says He will do.