



Moses and the Burning Bush

God calls unlikely leaders!

Story #13 | Ages 4–10 | Exodus 3



Just a Regular Day



Moses was NOT a prince anymore.

He was **NOT** rich.

He was **NOT** famous.

He was a **SHEPHERD**.

For FORTY years, he cared for sheep.

Hot days. Cold nights. Smelly animals.

He had run away from Egypt long ago.

He had a wife named **Zipporah**.

He had a son named **Gershom**.

Moses thought his BIG days were over.

He was just... **ordinary**.

"Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro." — Exodus 3:1



Ordinary You!

What do you do every day that feels ordinary? (Brush teeth? Walk the dog?)

God can use ORDINARY people to do EXTRAORDINARY things!



The Mountain of God



One day, Moses led the sheep to a faraway place.

It was the edge of the **wilderness**.

Rocky cliffs. Dry ground. Wind howling.

This mountain was called **Horeb** — the mountain of God.

Moses didn't know it yet, but...

God had been **WAITING** for him there.

God had great plans for this ordinary shepherd.

When God has a job to do, He doesn't always pick the **strongest** or the **richest**.

He picks someone with a **heart** that listens.

And Moses didn't know it yet — but he was about to **HEAR** from God!



Tiny Truth

God doesn't need you to be SPECIAL. He just needs you to be **AVAILABLE**. He can use ANY ordinary day!



Name Your Mountain

Draw a mountain. On it, write one place where GOD might want to meet you: your room? Your school?

🔥 A Strange Fire



Suddenly — Moses saw something **WEIRD**.

A **BUSH** was on FIRE!

Orange flames leaped into the air!

Bright sparks crackled!

But the bush was **NOT** burning up!

The leaves stayed green.

The branches didn't turn black.

The fire just... stayed. And stayed. And **STAYED**.

Moses rubbed his eyes. "What in the world?"

He had seen **wildfires** before.

This was **NO** ordinary fire.

This was **GOD'S** fire!

👤 MOSES SAYS:

"I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned."

🔥 Fire Science!

Ask an adult to light a candle. Watch the flame.

What does fire usually do? It **burns** things up!

God's power doesn't **destroy** — it **transforms**!

👣 Holy Ground



As Moses got closer, a **VOICE** called out:

☀️ GOD SAYS:

"MOSES! MOSES!"

Moses jumped! "Here I am!" he answered.

God said something surprising:

☀️ GOD SAYS:

"Do not come near. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place you are standing is **HOLY GROUND**."

Moses quickly **KICKED** off his sandals.

He fell to his knees. He covered his face.

He was shaking!

This was not a dream. This was **REAL**!

The God who made mountains, stars, and oceans...

was talking to a **SHEPHERD**!

"When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him." — Exodus 3:4

💡 Tiny Truth

When God speaks, we should **STOP** and **LISTEN**. Even ordinary ground becomes **holy** when God is there!

👣 Take Off Your Shoes!

In your house, try walking barefoot in one room.

Say: "This is holy ground because God is **HERE**."

I Have Heard Their Cry!



God began to tell Moses a story.
It was a story of HIS people in Egypt.

GOD SAYS:

"I have SEEN the affliction of My people who are in Egypt. I have HEARD their cry."

God saw every whip. Every tear. Every brick.
Heard every prayer. Every groan. Every tired sigh.
"I know their **SUFFERING**," God said.
And then God said the **BEST** words:

GOD SAYS:

"I have COME DOWN to deliver them!"

God was not far away. He had NOT forgotten.
He saw. He heard. He **CARED**.
And He had a PLAN.
A GOOD plan. A **GREAT** plan!

God Hears YOU Too!

Have you ever felt like nobody noticed your sadness?
God **SEES**. God **HEARS**. He never misses a single tear!

Time to Go!



Then came the **BIG** news.
The news that changed **EVERYTHING**.

GOD SAYS:

"So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring My people out of Egypt."

Moses' mouth fell **OPEN**.
His knees wobbled.
He pointed at his own chest.

MOSES SAYS:

"ME?! You want ME to talk to PHARAOH?!"

Moses was just a shepherd!
He had a stutter.
He wasn't brave.
He was hiding in the desert!
But God said: "**I am sending YOU.**"
God didn't send a superhero.
He sent a scared shepherd.
Because God doesn't need our strength.
He needs **our YES**.

Tiny Truth

God doesn't call the **qualified**. He **qualifies** the called. He chooses unlikely leaders!

Practice Your Mission

God told Moses to say something BIG. What is one BIG thing **YOU** could say to help someone?

? Too Small, Too Scared



Moses had a **LOT** of questions.

"Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh?"

"What if the people don't believe me?"

"What if I mess up the words?"

He felt **scared**. He felt **small**.

He felt like the **WRONG** person.

But God gave him the **BEST** answer ever:

☀ **GOD SAYS:**

"I will be with you."

That was all Moses really needed!

Not bigger muscles. Not fancier words.

Just **GOD** going with him!

👉 Your "I Will Be With You" Promise

Write on your hand with a marker: "I AM with you."

Every time you see it, remember — God goes **WITH** you!

✨ I AM!



Then Moses asked something very important:

"What is Your NAME? What should I tell them?"

And God said something **MYSTERIOUS** and **WONDERFUL**:

☀ **GOD SAYS:**

"I AM WHO I AM. Tell them I AM has sent you."

I AM!

That means God **ALWAYS WAS**.

God **IS** right now.

God **ALWAYS WILL BE**.

He is the God who **NEVER** changes.

He is the God who is **ALWAYS** here.

From the beginning of time to the end of forever —

I AM!

And this GREAT God... chose **MOSES**.

He would go with him every step.

And He goes with **YOU**, too!

"God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.'" — Exodus 3:14

🔥 The Burning Bush Secret

Like the bush that burned but was NOT destroyed, when God calls us, He doesn't burn us up. He **fills us up** with His fire!

🌿 I AM Reflection

The bush burned but was NOT consumed. How is God's love like that? It keeps going and going and going — **FOREVER!**

 Build a Burning Bush That Never Burns Up

1. Take a small brown paper bag or toilet paper tube for the "bush."
2. Twist strips of green tissue paper or crepe paper and tape them to the sides like branches and leaves.
3. Crumple red, orange and yellow tissue paper into flame shapes.
4. Tuck the "flames" into the bush but let them stick up!
5. Shine a flashlight behind it in a dark room — it glows!
6. Say: "God's fire keeps going — and so does His love!"

 Your "I AM" Shield

1. Cut a shield or badge shape from cardboard.
2. Color the top half blue and the bottom half orange-gold.
3. Write "I AM WITH YOU" in the middle with big bold letters.
4. Decorate with stickers, glitter, or markers.
5. Punch a hole and hang it on your door or above your bed.
6. When you feel scared, touch it and remember: GOD IS WITH ME!

Memory Verse Song (Tune: "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"):

*"Moses kept the sheep all day,
By a bush he stopped to pray!
Flames were dancing, leaves were green,
God was somewhere in between!
'I AM, I AM!' the voice did say,
'Go to Pharaoh right away!'"*

**Family Discussion Time**

1. Moses was just a shepherd with sheep — very ordinary. What is something ordinary about you? Can God use it?
2. The bush burned but was NOT consumed. What do you think that says about God's power?
3. God told Moses to take off his shoes because it was "holy ground." How do we show respect and reverence for God?
4. God said, "I have heard their cry." Have you ever prayed and felt like God heard you? What happened?
5. God said His name is "I AM." What does that mean — that He was, He is, and He always will be?
6. Moses made lots of excuses why he couldn't do the job. What excuses do WE make? How does "I will be with you" change everything?

Story #13 of the Biblical Adventure Series. Faith-building visual storytelling for family discipleship.

Next Story Preview: Let My People Go! — God gives us courage to speak up! (Exodus 4-6)

God Calls

Unlikely Leaders!

You don't have to be the strongest,
You don't have to be the best,
You don't have to be the loudest,
Or outshine all the rest.
God just needs your **willing heart**,
And He will do the rest. 🔥✨

📖 Next in this Series:

Let My People Go!

God gives us courage to speak up!

Story #14 Coming Soon

Scripture quotations from the ESV® Bible.
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