



God Raises Moses to Lead Israel

Exodus 3–4



LESSON GOAL

Students will fear and praise God's holiness.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to

- Describe how God revealed Himself to Moses.
- Tell what God revealed about Himself to Moses.
- Explain how and why God was going to deliver Israel.
- Describe Moses' response to God's news.

KEY VERSE

"The LORD said, 'I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows'" (Exodus 3:7).

APPLICATION

- Fear and obey God because He is holy.
- Praise and obey God because He is eternal.
- Trust God because His plans cannot be stopped.

NEXT WEEK

God Sends Plagues on Egypt
Read Exodus 7–10.

Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children” (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

God sovereignly allowed the Israelites to be oppressed more than they could bear. After suffering approximately four centuries of cruel bondage, they finally cried out to the Lord, the God of their fathers (Deut. 26:7). God heard their groaning and remembered His covenant with Abraham (Ex. 2:24). Egypt had been a place of tremendous growth for Israel, but the 400 years of affliction were coming to an end (Gen. 15:13). It was time for God to judge Egypt and to make Israel into a holy nation. As He often has done throughout human history, God chose to glorify Himself by using a weak human instrument to accomplish His will. But before God would use Moses, Moses had much to learn about God.

When Moses left the courts of Egypt, he was 40 years old (Acts 7:23). He believed that God would use him as the instrument of Israel’s deliverance (7:25). But instead of delivering the people, Moses ended up fleeing Egypt alone, trying to save his own life. While God waited for Israel to cry out to Him, He had prepared for Moses a home in the land of Midian, a wife named Zipporah, and a job tending his father-in-law’s sheep.

The Lord Gets Moses’ Attention

Exodus 3:1 picks up with “Moses tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law.” (Jethro was also named Reuel in Exodus 2:18.) But what is not immediately obvious is the fact that 40 years had passed between Moses’ fleeing Egypt and his seeing the burning bush (Acts 7:30). Moses is seldom portrayed as an 80-year-old man watching sheep in the wilderness, much less one still working for his father-in-law! It is tempting to imagine what Moses was like during these 40 years, but Scripture reveals very little. Hebrews 11:25 makes clear that when he left Egypt, he forsook the pleasures of sin and the treasure belonging to royalty. But as to his spiritual state during his wilderness tenure, Scripture reveals only that he had failed to circumcise his son Gershom, an omission that nearly cost Moses his life (Ex. 4:24–26).

Moses’ encounter with God in the wilderness began when he noticed a burning bush on Mount Horeb. Mount Horeb, located in the southern part of the Sinai Peninsula, is better known as Mount Sinai, the same mountain on which God later gave Moses the Ten Commandments. Moses, the author of Exodus, calls it the “mountain of God,” not because it had a religious significance at that time, but because of its future importance to the people of Israel. Few places outside the Promised Land would have more significance to the Israelites than Mount Horeb, the mountain where God would make His covenant with them.

Moses went to see the strange sight of the burning bush. Unknown to him, he was actually seeing the angel of the Lord. When the angel of the Lord, which literally means the “messenger of Yahweh,” called to Moses, Exodus 3:4 says that “God called to him.” Throughout the Old Testament, the angel of the Lord spoke about

Additional Reference Materials

Moses and the Gods of Egypt: Studies in Exodus
by John J. Davis

The MacArthur Study Bible by John MacArthur

God in the third person; but at other times, as in this passage, he is directly identified as God. The voice of the angel is the voice of God. It is best to understand the angel of the Lord as the preincarnate Christ. The angel of the Lord, God Himself, was present in that bush.

Having heard the call of God, Moses answered, "Here I am" (Ex. 3:4). But he must not have been aware that he was speaking to God or of God's holiness. God quickly warned him, even before identifying Himself, to not come any closer and to take off his sandals (3:5). Bare feet were an expression of reverence for God and humility before Him. Also, it was a matter of life and death if an unholy man found himself in the presence of the holy God. The presence of the angel of the Lord made the ground holy. Although God is gracious, it is a serious thing to be in His presence. His holiness must not be disregarded.

The Lord's Revelation

After the Lord warned Moses about His holiness, He revealed Himself as "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob" (Ex. 3:6). That name spoke volumes to Moses. This was the God who had called Abram, who had given Abram a son in his old age, who had promised him descendants as numerous as the stars, and who had given to his descendants the land of Canaan as their inheritance. This was the God who gave Isaac twin sons and Jacob his 12 children, who gave Joseph favor with Pharaoh, and who multiplied the descendants of Israel. This was not just an ancient god, but the one true God. Moses responded just as any sinful man would; he "hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God" (3:6).

The Lord revealed Himself to Moses as a God who watches and who saw the oppression of His people (Ex. 3:7). He is a God of compassion who knew the sorrow of the Israelite slaves (3:7). The Lord is the deliverer of His people and the one who would faithfully bring Israel to a land promised long ago. He is a provider who would cause the land to flow with milk and honey, a phrase describing the fertile abundance of the land (3:8). The Lord also revealed that Moses would be used to deliver God's people out of Egypt (3:10).

Moses must have been shocked. He was an 80-year-old man lying with his face in the dust and hearing the God of Abraham speak. And what a message of good news! God had been watching and listening! God was faithful; He would bring Israel out of Egypt and give them the Promised Land. But God wanted to use him! When Moses was younger, he was eager to lead Israel. But now he was concerned about God's choice.

The Lord's First Response

Moses asked God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" (Ex. 3:11). Moses displayed a righteous attitude. Anyone called to God's service should likewise ask, "Who am I?" Moses saw nothing in himself to make him fit for God's service. He was a shepherd 40 years removed from the courts of Egypt.

God did not rebuke Moses for his humble question. Neither did He assure Moses that he was the man for the job. Rather, God exalted His own sufficiency and His power to accomplish His will. He promised Moses, "I will certainly be with you." He gave Moses a sign: "When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain" (Ex. 3:12). The sign given to comfort Moses was God's own promise. As certainly as Moses was there worshiping God, one day he would worship God with the people he had brought from Egypt. No stronger assurance could have been given to Moses than God's presence and promise.

The Lord's Second Response

Moses' next question was for more assurance not for himself, but for the children of Israel. He wanted God to tell him how to respond when they asked Moses, "What is His name?" (Ex. 3:13). Moses expected that the Israelites would want to know more about Yahweh. He knew their question would not be, "Who is this Yahweh?" The Israelites knew that it was Yahweh who had called Abraham and knew the promises God had given. But Moses expected them to ask, "What is His name?" meaning, "What is Yahweh like? What are His characteristics?"

In response, God described Himself to Moses as "I AM WHO I AM" (Ex. 3:14), perhaps best translated "I am the one who is and will be." The title captures God's self-sufficiency. God described Himself as the one whose existence is certain; time has no effect on Him. At any time, God is always the one who is and the one who will be. Moses was told to reveal God to the Israelites as the "I AM," a Hebrew verb very closely connected with God's name *Yahweh*. It was not a new revelation of God's character to the Israelites as much as the affirmation that He is constant. Moses was also told to describe God as "the LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob" (3:15). The character of God is unchanging. Since God always is and always will be, He continually remains the God of Abraham. What was true of God in Israel's past was true of God in Israel's present. The God of Abraham always is the true God. What comfort there is in God's unchanging nature, which spans generations and even eternity!

Moses saw the unchanging nature of God's character not only in His past actions toward the fathers, but also in His future providence. God prepared Moses by telling him what to say to the elders of Israel (Ex. 3:16–17) and to the king of Egypt (3:18). But even more significant, He told Moses what would happen. Yes, God was the God of the past, but He was also the God of the future. He told Moses of the elders' reception (3:18), of the king's rejection (3:19), of the judgment upon Egypt (3:20), of the release of the Israelites (3:20), and even of how God would allow Israel to plunder the Egyptians (3:22). Moses had no reason to doubt or worry. "I AM WHO I AM" had arranged the future for the deliverance of His people.

The Lord's Third Response

Although he was standing on holy ground, Moses began to forget to whom he was speaking. God promised Moses that the Israelites would heed him, but Moses had the audacity to ask, "What if?" He asked the Lord what he should do if the people did not believe him (Ex. 4:1). But the God of unlimited power did not punish Moses for his foolishness. Instead, God patiently gave Moses three signs that he could give the Israelites to validate his call. The first was changing the shepherd's rod into a snake and then turning it back again (4:3–5). The second was making his hand leprous (or inflicted with some other skin disease) and then healing it (4:6–8). The third, which was not performed on the mountain, was changing water into blood (4:9). Moses saw God's power revealed in an unsettling way as wood was changed to animal and healthy skin to rotten flesh. If God said Israel would listen, they certainly would.

The Lord's Fourth Response

Moses' unwillingness to obey God's will became clear as he continued to make excuses for why God should send someone else. Moses claimed to be not eloquent but "slow of speech and slow of tongue" (Ex. 4:10). Although he once was mighty in words (Acts 7:22), Moses felt inadequate for the task before him. Having seen God change his rod into a snake should have settled those fears. But

Moses was looking for an escape. The Lord responded to Moses, “Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing or the blind? Have not I, the LORD?” (Ex. 4:11). God quickly put an end to Moses’ argument. A man’s worth or ability would not be God’s standard for calling Moses. God is sovereign; He not only can make people however He wishes, but He also can use them for whatever purpose He has decided. The Lord was patient with Moses and promised to be with his mouth and to teach him what to say (4:12).

The Lord’s Last Response

But Moses still was not willing to obey. He simply asked God to send someone else (Ex. 4:13). “The anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses” (4:14). Moses had gone too far, and finally the patient Lord was tired of Moses’ lack of faith. But God still acted mercifully. He had pity on Moses’ speech problem and provided his brother, Aaron, who spoke well, to be his “spokesman to the people” (4:16). The Lord sovereignly directed Aaron to meet Moses on Mount Horeb (4:27). Although Moses had objected, God’s will was unmovable. He would do what He wished with Moses. Nothing could stop the plans of I AM WHO I AM.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

*“Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth”
(Psalm 78:1).*

This section includes questions to review last week’s lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week’s lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Review Questions

Use these questions to review and reinforce key truths.

What is the book of Exodus about?
God making His own special nation.

What is a nation?
A large group of people who share the same land, the same rules, and the same ruler.

Did God make Israel into a large group of people?
Yes, they grew from 70 people to more than two million.

What did the new pharaoh do?
He had all the newborn baby boys killed.

Whom did God protect?
Moses.

What did the Israelites finally do?
They cried out to God for help.

Did God hear them?
Yes. He already had a plan to help them.

Does God do what He says?
Yes, He always fulfills His promises.

Does God hear our prayers?
Yes; when we cry out to God, He hears us.

Can we trust God when bad things happen?
Yes; He always has a good plan.



Double Take

Have you ever been walking along and seen something strange or interesting? Did you pause and go closer for a better look? [Allow students to share a few stories.] Something like this happened to a shepherd in today's Bible lesson, and his story tops them all!



Some Things Never Change

Some things seem to never change. Bring in examples of things that take a long time to change, such as rocks and metal objects. Also bring in things that change easily, such as Play Doh, water, or even paper. Talk about what it takes to make these things change. In today's lesson, we are going to learn about one person who never changes—God. God tells Moses His name. The name is "I AM." It means that God always was, always is, and always will be. God never changes, and His plans never change. In today's lesson, we will see that God's plan to fulfill His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob was one step closer.



Phone Call from the President

Ask students what they would do if they got a call from the governor or the president. If he asked them to do something, would they do it? It would be a very strange thing for most of us to get a call from the president. In today's lesson, we will learn about a call that was much more amazing than a phone call from the president.



Big Bush

Cut a large (knee- to waist-high) bush or branch without foliage. "Plant" it in a coffee can with dirt and rocks. Bring it to class and let the students add tissue-paper flames to the "bush." Use this flaming bush as a prop for acting out today's Bible story.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

"Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done" (Psalm 78:4).

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included to use during worship time. Use the lesson questions to check the students' understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

Reading of the Text

Read Exodus 3.

Introduction

When you think of God, what comes to your mind? What is He like? How would you describe God to someone who does not know Him? What is God's name? In today's lesson, we will learn the answers to these questions. We will look back in time and see how God introduced Himself to Moses and how He described Himself. In addition, we will learn about the mission God gave to Moses.



Leadoff Questions

LOQ: What was Moses doing at the beginning of Exodus 3?

Answer: He was pasturing the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law.

LOQ: What is a flock?

Answer: A flock is a group of sheep or goats.

LOQ: What do you call the person who cares for the sheep?

Answer: A shepherd. Moses used to live in the house of Pharaoh. He was trained in all the ways of the Egyptians. He was trained in their best schools. He was a privileged person. But then he became just a shepherd who cared for someone else's sheep. The life of a shepherd is a very humble life. Most time is spent away from other people because the shepherd is with his sheep, searching for food and water and also protecting the sheep from predators. It is not a glamorous life.

LOQ: Where was Moses leading the flock?

Answer: To Horeb, the mountain of God

LOQ: How did the angel of the Lord appear to Moses?

Answer: In a flame of fire coming from a bush.

LOQ: What drew Moses' attention to the bush?

Answer: The bush had fire coming from it, but it did not burn. God revealed Himself to Moses from the midst of the burning bush. The burning bush showed the presence of God. It meant that God was present.

LOQ: Who spoke to Moses from the midst of the burning bush?

Answer: The Lord, who is God.

LOQ: What did God say to Moses from the midst of the bush?

Answer: God told Moses not to come near.

LOQ: Why did God command Moses to remove his sandals?

Answer: The place where Moses was standing was holy ground. The first revealed characteristic of God is that He is holy.

LOQ: What does *holy* mean?

Answer: It means “separate from, set apart from something or someone else.” God is separate from evil and sin. He is pure, without sin, perfect. There is no evil in God, and there is no sin in Him.

LOQ: Are humans pure, perfect, and without sin?

Answer: No; we are evil and sinful in our hearts. We are impure. God is perfectly pure.

LOQ: What did God do as a result of verse 7?

Answer: He came down to deliver the Israelites from the power of the Egyptians. The second characteristic revealed of God is that He is caring and compassionate. God cared for His people. He came to deliver them from Egypt and slavery.

LOQ: Where did God promise to take His people?

Answer: “To a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites” (Ex. 3:8). In Genesis 17:1–8, hundreds of years before the time of Moses, God made the promise to Abraham. He promised to him the land of the Canaanites. God is showing here that He is one who keeps His promises.

LOQ: What do you call someone who keeps his promises?

Answer: Faithful. So then, God is showing that He is faithful. He can be trusted to do what He says He will. The third characteristic of God revealed to Moses is that God is faithful. He can be trusted. Can you be trusted? Are you always faithful? Have you ever broken your promise? God never has and never will break one of His promises because He is faithful.

LOQ: What did God do in verse 10?

Answer: He sent Moses away on a mission.

LOQ: To whom did God send Moses?

Answer: Pharaoh.

LOQ: Was Pharaoh a friend or an enemy of Moses and God’s people?

Answer: He was an enemy. Pharaoh continued to make the people of Israel his slaves. He was a harsh and cruel master.

LOQ: Why would God send Moses to Pharaoh? What was the purpose of this mission?

Answer: So that Moses might bring God’s people, the of Israel, out of Egypt.

Moses' mission was to go to Pharaoh and rescue God's people from slavery. God protected Moses as a baby, as a child, and as a shepherd so that he could go back to Egypt and deliver Israel from slavery. Moses did not rescue God's people. God did. God used Moses to deliver His people, and Moses was successful only because this was God's plan.

LOQ: What were Moses' responses to the Lord?

Answer: First, Moses asked, "Who am I that I should go?" Then he asked, "Whom should I say is sending me?" Then he asked, "What if they do not believe me?"

LOQ: How did the Lord respond?

Answer: First, the Lord comforted Moses by telling him that He would be with him. Next, He responded by telling Moses the same name that Abraham knew: "I AM" or "Yahweh." This was an awesome name. It means that God always was, always is, and always will be. In the last response, God told Moses to give three signs. The first was that his staff would turn into a snake. The second was that God would make Moses' hand turn leprous and then be restored to normal. He also told Moses to pour water out from a pot and that it would turn to blood. These promises would help the Israelites know that I AM really sent Moses.

Summary

God revealed Himself to Moses from the midst of the burning bush. He also revealed that He was holy, caring, and faithful. God told Moses that He was going to use him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

Application

God is holy. He is separate from sin and hates sin. Because He is holy, we should fear Him. Fearing God should lead us to confess our sins, to obey, and to be humble. Moses recognized that he was a sinner and fell on his face before God. This showed his fear and his humility. You need to humble yourself before God and obey Him by obeying His Word and your parents. God appeared to Moses to tell him that He was going to redeem Israel from Egypt. God cared for Israel, and He shows His care for us through Jesus Christ. Jesus died to pay the penalty for sin and then rose from the dead. You must confess your sins to the Holy God and trust Christ for forgiveness. God also showed that He is faithful. He promised to deliver Israel and told Moses about His plan. God is faithful to us too. We must thank Him for being faithful to give us all we need, including a Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Presentation Ideas



A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



Betty Lukens Flannelgraph

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces with the lesson.

Words on Fire

Act out the Bible lesson, using the dialogue between Moses and the Lord (speaking from the burning bush) to help students remember the story.

Praise and Worship

Go Down, Moses
Great Is the Lord
Holy, Holy
Holy, Holy, Holy
O God, Our Help in Ages Past
O-B-E-D-I-E-N-C-E
There Is a Redeemer
Trust and Obey
We Will Glorify

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

“That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments” (Psalm 78:7).

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



Flaming Answers

Divide the class into two teams. Give one team a handful of flames cut from yellow construction paper and the other team a handful of flames cut from orange construction paper. (If you have a large class, add one more team, using flames cut from red construction paper.) Read the following statements. When a student fills in the blank, let him tape his flame on the burning bush. The team with the most flames on the bush at the end of the game wins.

1. Moses was tending Jethro's _____ when he saw a strange sight.
2. Moses saw a _____ that was on fire but did not burn up.
3. God told Moses to take off his _____.
4. God would bring His people to a land flowing with _____ and _____.
5. The Lord promised that Moses would return to worship Him on this _____.
6. The name of the God who was sending Moses was _____.
7. Moses was to ask Pharaoh to let the people go to the desert for _____ days to worship.
8. God told Moses to throw his _____ on the ground.
9. When Moses threw his staff on the ground, it became a _____.
10. When Moses took his _____ out of his cloak, it was leprous.
11. If the Israelites did not believe, Moses was to pour some _____ from the Nile on the ground.
12. God said, “Who gave man his _____?”
13. God also said, “Who makes him _____ or mute?”
14. “Who gives his sight or makes him _____? Is it not I, the LORD?”
15. Moses put his wife and sons on a _____ and started back to Egypt.
16. God would harden Pharaoh's _____.



Burning Bush

Cover small twigs with “flames” made from one- or two-inch tissue-paper squares. Choose bright, fire-like colors such as red, orange, and yellow. To make each flame, press a pencil eraser into the center of the tissue square. Pull the edges of the tissue up around the eraser end of a pencil and hold firmly. Apply glue to this end of the tissue, and stick it somewhere on the branch. Gently twist the pencil out of the tissue, leaving the square pinched in your fingers. Continue until the branch is covered with tissue-paper flames of various colors. Gently insert the bottom of the branch into the bottom of an upside-down foam cup so that the cup becomes the stand for the branch. Then paste a strip with the words “God called Moses—God calls me” around the bottom of the cup. Glue the rim of the cup on a quarter sheet of construction paper, and glue down the key verse.



Moses Leads God’s People Chain

Cut a sheet of 8.5 x 11 paper in half lengthwise. Fold half of this paper into six accordion folds about one inch wide. Cut out a figure to make five or six people when opened up. Draw faces on each and glue on simple fabric robes. Add a cotton-ball beard to the first one for Moses, and glue or tape a brown chenille wire shaped like a cane to his hand.



Making Moses Memories

If your students are making the scrapbook discussed in the first lesson, reduce a coloring sheet to about 4 x 6 inches. Make enough copies for the class. Have each student color the picture, cut it out, and use photo corners or a glue stick to attach it to the second page of his scrapbook.



“God Appears to Moses”

Use this work sheet to reinforce the truths of today’s lesson. The work sheet is located at the back of the lesson.



Journal Page: “God Is Holy”

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. The students can work on the page individually, in small groups, or at home.

Coloring Pages

Give each student a copy of the coloring sheets at the back of this lesson. The students can color the pages in class or at home.



MEMORY VERSE

“You shall not make for yourself a carved image” (Exodus 20:4).



Second Commandment

If you have decided to assemble the Ten Commandments as you go through them, post the second commandment, Exodus 20:4, and help the students to memorize it. The Egyptians worshiped Pharaoh as a god. You might say he was a living idol. Did he have the power of the God named “I AM”?

God Appears to Moses



Exodus 3

Name _____

1. Who appeared to Moses in Exodus 3:2? _____

2. The Lord appeared to Moses in a _____ bush (Ex. 3:2).

3. The Lord told Moses to take off his sandals because he was standing on _____ ground (Ex. 3:5).

4. In Exodus 3:6, the Lord said He was the God of _____. (Circle the correct answers.)

Anthony

Abraham

Isaac

Jason

Jacob

Joseph

5. God told Moses that He would deliver Israel out of the hand of the _____ (Ex. 3:8).

Egyptians

Canaanites

Amalekites

6. God was going to bring Moses to a _____ land (Ex. 3:8).

bad and small

good and large

7. God wanted Moses to bring the children of Israel out of _____ (Ex. 3:10).

GOD IS HOLY

“Then He said, ‘Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for this place is holy ground’” (Ex. 3:5).

Do you know what holy means and why God called the place where Moses was standing “holy ground”? Holy means set apart, pure, without sin, separate from sinners. That is what God is—holy—and He was there, so the place where Moses was standing was holy ground. Imagine Moses, a sinner, standing in the presence of holy God!

To find out how Moses felt, unscramble the underlined word below.

Moses was FARIDA.

To see why Moses had fear in his heart, unscramble the underlined word below.

Moses had fear in his heart because he knew he was a NINERS standing in God’s holy presence.

Sinners are afraid in God’s holy presence because God judges sin. In the space below, draw a picture of Moses standing near the burning bush.

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God is exalted and lifted up; no one is like Him. Moses took off his sandals to show respect to God's holiness, and David wrote in Psalm 99:5, "Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool—He is holy." How do you respond to God's holiness?

I respond to God's holiness by _____

Peter reminds Christians that God wants them to be holy in all their conduct because God is holy (1 Peter 1:15–17). How will you show holiness in your conduct this week?

I will show holiness in my conduct this week by _____

In the space below write a song, poem, verse, or prayer to God, exalting Him for His holiness.

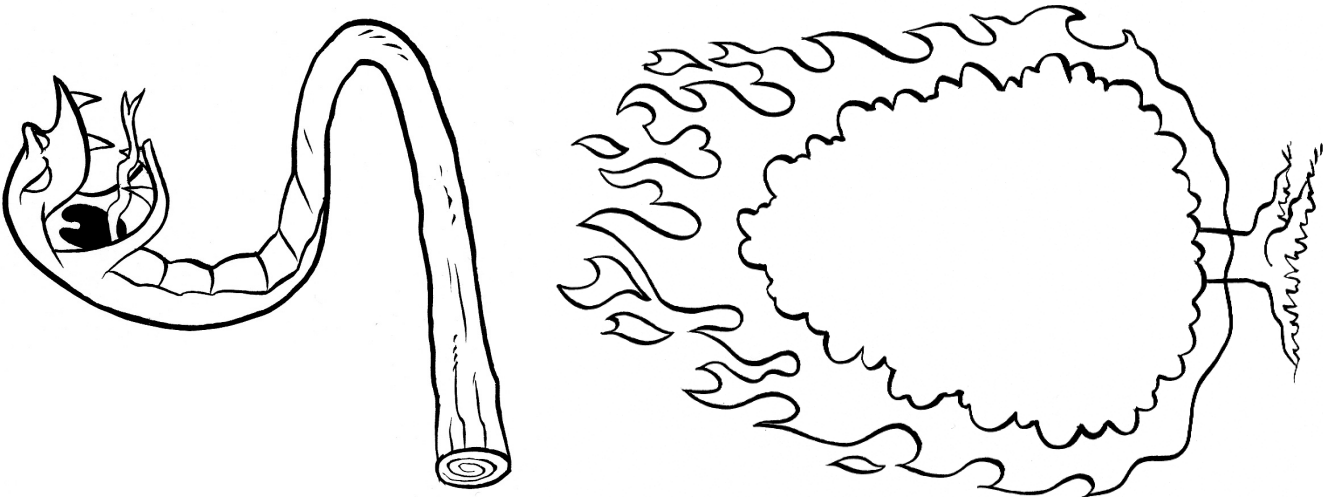
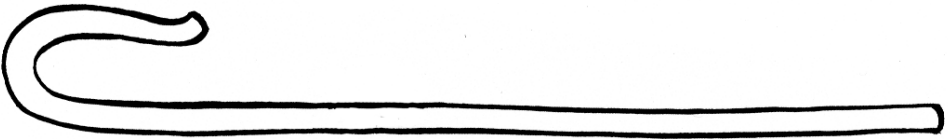
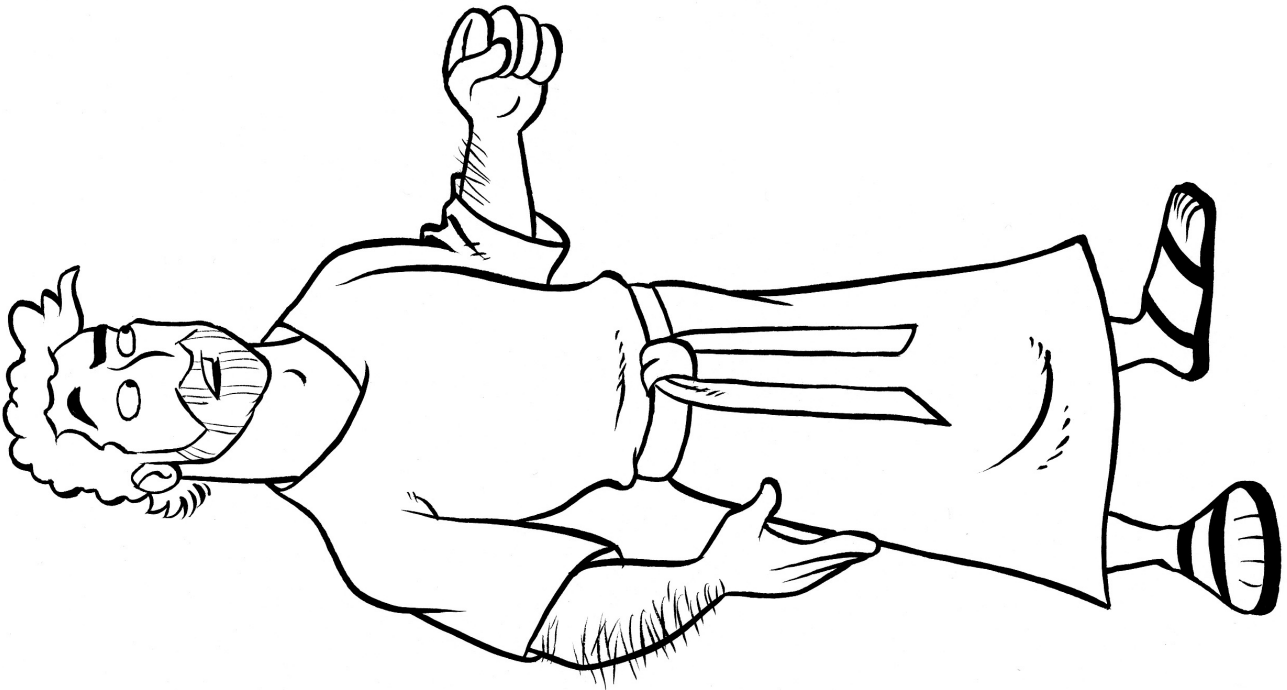
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“And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed” (Exodus 3:2).



“So the LORD said to him, ‘What is that in your hand?’ He said, ‘A rod.’ And He said, ‘Cast it on the ground.’ So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it” (Exodus 4:2–3).

