



Parkway Fellowship

Waze • Calculating Route • Exodus 3:1-4 • 02/18/2018

Main Point

God wants to direct our lives in the same way the app Waze helps direct us to a destination.

Introduction

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

God called Moses to lead the work of freeing His people from their enslavement to Pharaoh. Moses did not know where God was leading him or his people, but he trusted that God knew the way and the final destination.

Describe a time when you got lost trying to travel to a destination. Did you use a map or GPS? Were you sure of the destination? How does following the voice commands of a GPS app mimic following God?

Understanding

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

| Have a volunteer read Exodus 3:1-4.

At the close of Exodus 2, God saw and took notice of the misery of the Israelites. While God was preparing to do something about the Israelites' circumstances, Moses was just going through the motions of his daily routine, until God appeared to Moses in the bush that was not consumed by fire.

Moses was tending sheep which was just a part of his daily routine. Why is it important to understand the timing of God's appearance? What does this say about God?

God speaks to Moses from within the burning bush and he responds. What does this demonstrate about Moses?

Application

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

God communicated His covenant name to Moses so that Moses would know who sent him. In order for Moses to respond to God he had to be listening for God to speak. How can you be in a better posture to hear from God this week?

After God spoke, Moses obeyed. Obedience is the outcome that God desires for us in all areas of our lives. From the very little things up to the very big areas. Is there an area of your life that you not obeyed God in? What is preventing you from total obedience and surrender to God?

Pray

Pray that God will lead you by his Spirit this week to help yourself and others come to know Him better.

Commentary

| Exodus 3

3:1. Moses was born into the tribe of Levi in Egypt. When his parents could no longer hide him, his mother placed him in a watertight basket and floated the basket down the Nile River. One of Pharaoh's daughters found the baby and adopted him.

Later, when Moses was grown, he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew. Moses killed the Egyptian. The next day Moses tried to settle an argument between two Hebrews, and one of them revealed he had witnessed Moses' crime. Moses escaped to Midian [MID ih uhn] where he met Jethro [JETH roh](also called Reuel), a priest. Moses married Jethro's daughter and became a shepherd for his father-in-law (2:1-22).

Midian lay east of the Gulf of Aqaba [A kuh buh] in the northwestern corner of Arabia. One season as Moses traveled toward Egypt to find pastures for the sheep, he arrived at Horeb [HOH reb], another name for Mount Sinai, located in the south-central part of the Sinai peninsula. At Horeb God would call Moses to shepherd His people.

3:2. As Moses tended his flock, he noticed a flame of fire burning within a bush, but the branches and leaves were not turning to ash. The burning bush was no natural phenomenon but rather signaled the presence of the Angel of the Lord. God's appearance in the fire in the burning bush anticipated His later appearance in the fire on Mount Sinai (Ex. 19:18). The word translated "bush" also sounds similar to the name Sinai, another tie between Mount Sinai and God's revelation.

3:3. God used Moses' natural curiosity to draw him into His presence. Once God and Moses began their conversation, the bush no longer was the focus. The Bible does not reveal whether the bush burned up or the fire suddenly went out. The bush served only to draw Moses' attention so he could encounter God and receive God's call.

3:4. When Moses turned aside to examine the burning bush, God called out to him. In the ancient world, calling a person's name twice expressed particular affection and friendship. God wanted Moses to realize the love He had for His people and for Moses personally. Moses answered God in typical fashion, stating his willingness to hear (see Gen. 22:1; 46:2).