



Spiritual
Lessons from
the life of
Moses

Lesson 2-
Moses and
the burning
bush

Exodus 3-4

<https://d3h6k4kfl8m9p0.cloudfront.net/stories/PIDbOjryanTSIM9gDRKhQw.jpg>

Moses Moves to Midian



Background

- Moses killed an Egyptian guard for beating a Hebrew slave.
- Due to Moses' action, Pharaoh wanted to kill Moses.
- Moses escaped from Egypt to Midian (part of Saudi Arabia today) (Exodus 2:15)

- (1) Moses married Zipporah, a Midianite, and had a son.
- (2) Moses tended to his father-in-law's flock for 40 years in the mountains of Midian.
- (3) One day, the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. The bush was not burnt by the fire. Moses went forward to inspect out of curiosity.

(4) Watch video 00:30-end, Chap 3, Bible Movie app.

<https://biblemovie.subspla.sh/fffe130>

Watch video start – 02:28, Chap 4, Bible Movie app.

<https://biblemovie.subspla.sh/693a732>

Please watch with discernment as the movie may be inaccurate.

(5) Question: Why was Moses reluctant to go to Pharaoh in Egypt?

(6) God’s purpose for appearing to Moses was to instruct Moses to rescue the Israelites out of slavery from Egypt. (Exod 3: 7-10).

	Moses	God	Comment
1.	“Who am I” (Exod 3:11)	“I will be with you” (Exod 3:12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses gave the excuse that he was insignificant and a ‘nobody’. • As a lowly shepherd, he thought he would not be able to accomplish the task.
2.	What is the name of God who sent me? (Exod 3:13)	“I AM that I AM” (Exod 3:14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God said that He would be with Moses. This meant that God would help Moses. • Spiritual Lessons: Moses was an ordinary man much like us. When faced with a difficult God-given task, we are reluctant to do it and will give excuses. • However, if it is God’s will, He will use us, weak as we may be, to accomplish great things for Him to His glory.

Meaning of “I AM THAT I AM”:

This is God’s name and the name signifies:

- He is self-existent.
- He is eternal and unchangeable, always the same yesterday, today and forever.
- He is incomprehensible. We cannot by searching, find Him out.
- He is faithful and true to all His promises.

-----Matthew Henry’s Concise Commentary-----

	Moses	God	Comment
3.	<p>What if the Israelites do not believe me. (Exod 4:1)</p>	<p>God instructed Moses to throw the staff and it changed to a snake. This is a sign that Moses was from God. (Exod 4:5)</p> <p>Afflicted Moses' hand with leprosy and healed it again. (Exod 4:7)</p> <p>Turned water to blood. (Exod 4:9)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses was still reluctant to go to Egypt. • God gave him power to perform miracles as a sign that he was sent by God. • Spiritual Lessons: Our God is a God of power and miracles. • He will use His power to help us to accomplish His objectives. • We do not have to fear obstacles, as God will overcome the obstacles in our path.

	Moses	God	Comment
4.	I am not eloquent (Exod 4:10)	I will help you speak well. (Exod 4:12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses continued to give excuses of not being able to speak well. • God told Moses He would send Aaron, Moses brother, to be Moses' spokesman. • Spiritual Lessons: God understood Moses' fear. He continued to assure Moses.
5.	Please send someone else. (Exod 4:13)	Aaron will be your spokesman. (Exod 4:14-16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not easy for us to overcome our fear. We are like Moses. • In the same way, God understands our fear and anxiety and if we go to Him, He will assure us through His Word. • Fearful as we are, we must go through with the task knowing that <i>God is with us</i> and that is sufficient.

- The fear may be due to:
 - (a) Health
 - (b) Work
 - (c) Personal needs
 - (d) Relationship problems
 - (e) Tasks we need to do (provide for the family, being a caregiver etc)
 - (f) Etc...

- God knows our fear.
- We need to go to God to overcome our fear by doing the following:
 - (i) bring our fear to God in prayer
 - (ii) ask Him to deliver us according to His will
 - (iii) repent of our sins (if any) and seek forgiveness
 - (iv) conduct our lives in righteousness

(6) Isaiah 41:10:

*¹⁰ Fear thou not; for I am
with thee: be not dismayed
[feel concern and distress];
for I am thy God: I will
strengthen thee; yea, I will
help thee; yea, I will uphold
thee with the right hand of
my righteousness.*

DO NOT FEAR

FOR I AM

with you

ISAIAH 41:10

	Bible	Comment
7.	God protected Moses from his enemies for 40 years in Midian (Exod 4:19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When Moses killed the Egyptian guard, Pharaoh wanted to kill Moses. God protected Moses by allowing him to escape to Midian.• From man's point of view, this was a setback in Moses' life. He had fallen from grace of a high Egyptian prince to become a lowly shepherd hiding in Midian.• But, Moses' time in Midian was God's will to protect and train Moses.

	Bible	Comment
7.	God protected Moses from his enemies for 40 years in Midian (Exod 4:19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spiritual Lesson: God protects us too. When we meet with disappointments in life, eg ill-health, bad boss or retrenchment, God is working to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) protect us(ii) strengthen us in our faith(iii) bring us to a new place

	Bible	Comment
7.	God protected Moses from his enemies for 40 years in Midian (Exod 4:19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal encounters:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Healing from serious illness(ii) God provided a new job after leaving without a job(ii) Troubles in company after leaving co.(iii) New job in NUS was God-given• If God is with you, do not be anxious when we meet setbacks in life.

	Bible	Comment
8.	God instructed Moses to perform all the miracles before Pharaoh to persuade Pharaoh to release the Israelites. But God would harden Pharaoh's heart. (Exod 4:21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• God instructed Moses each step of the way.• Spiritual Lesson: God will also guide us in our way.• We have to commit whatever we are doing to God in prayer and meditate on His Word.• We may meet failure, just as Moses met failure because God hardened Pharaoh's heart.• Our failure may be part of God's plan.• But we must not give up but continue to be faithful.• Remember the setbacks in Joseph's life.

	Bible	Comment
9.	On the way to Egypt, God wanted to kill Moses for failing to circumcise his son. (Exod 4:24)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1116 248 2219 401">• Moses sinned against God for not circumcising his son.<li data-bbox="1116 425 2354 1190">• Genesis 17: 11, 14: <i>11 And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.</i> <i>14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.</i>

	Bible	Comment
9.	On the way to Egypt, God wanted to kill Moses for failing to circumcise his son. (Exod 4:24)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spiritual Lesson: God takes a serious view of the violation of His laws.• We must be similarly minded and not sin and transgress God's laws.• If we tolerate our habitual sins, we may be afflicted by:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) ill-health(ii) adverse events(iii) other trials and tribulations• God afflicts us so that we may change for good. Hebrews 12:6-8.

	Bible	Comment
10.	Moses met Aaron.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• God had already prepared the hearts of the elders to listen and believe in what Moses had to say to them.• There was no doubt or disbelief that Moses was from God.• Recall in Exod 4:1. Moses protested to God that the Israelites might not believe in him.• Spiritual Lessons: We must not doubt God.• If God requires an action, we must do it.
11.	Moses and Aaron told the elders of the Israelites everything God said to Moses. The elders believed, bowed and worshipped in prayer. (Exod 4:29-31)	

Consider how God has helped you to overcome your fears and anxieties and was with you to complete a difficult task.