

Study Guide for Oct. 7th, 2012. Encounter with God. Exodus 3:1-6

Introduction: When do you recall God taking the initiative to encounter you? How did you respond? How have you changed as you look back on that experience?

I. An Unusual Sight: (vs. 1-3)

- A. What is Moses doing? How would Moses adapt to this occupation? (Gen 46:34)
- B. Where is Moses when this encounter takes place?
- C. What do you, the reader, know (that Moses does not know) about . . .
 - 1) . . . the situation for the Hebrew people in Egypt? (Ex. 2:23)
 - 2) . . . God's plan in the light of Israel's plight? (Ex. 2:24-25)
 - 3) . . . God's plan for this particular place? (Ex. 18:5)
- D. What does text say that Moses saw? (Set aside the images you've seen in movies)
- E. Why does God manifest his presence with **fire**? (Gen. 15:17, Ex. 19:18, Heb. 12:29)
- F. We are told Moses' thoughts in vs.3. What words describe him at this time?
- G. Who takes the initiative in this encounter? Read Heb. 11:6. What can we learn?

II. A Personal Address: (vs. 4-6)

- A. When does the Lord call to Moses? How do you think this happened?
- B. How does the Lord address Moses? (Gen. 22:11, I Sam. 3:10, Lk. 22:31, Acts 9:4)
- C. How does Moses respond to the Lord's address? What does his statement imply?
- D. Why does God prohibit Moses advance? What does God tell Moses to do?
- E. Compare this encounter with the one Joshua has recorded in Josh. 5:13-15.
- F. What makes the ground Moses is standing on **holy**? Is that place still **holy** today?
- G. How does God identify himself to Moses? Why is this important? (Ex. 2:24)
- H. How does Jesus use this text in his debate with the Jews? (Matt. 22:23-33)
- I. How does Moses respond to God's personal address? (Gen. 16:13, 32:30, Ex. 33:20)
- J. Read Luke 2:8-15 with Ex. 3:1-6. What can we learn about encounters with God?