From Reluctance to Purpose | September 10, 2023

Summary

This week Walter Kim, president of the National Association of Evangelicals, is our speaker. Just as God saw Moses, He sees us in our need — even when we are not aware of it.

Scripture

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight — why the bush does not burn up."

When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

And Moses said, "Here I am."

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey — the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you-will worship God on this mountain." -Exodus 3:1-12 (NIV)

Let's Start

Pastor Walter Kim shared portions of Moses' story in his sermon. Thinking about Moses' life, what do you find most interesting or inspiring about him?

Gratitude and Prayer

How has God worked in your life since the last time we were together?

Let's Talk

- 1. Moses moved from youth, luxury and power in Egypt to a place of loss, weakness and dependency in Midian. What thoughts and feelings would you experience with such a radical loss? Are there certain fears that would be evoked?
- 2. Describe an event, experience or set of circumstances that was a "burning bush" namely, when God was seeking to get your attention. How did you respond? What did you learn?
- 3. God said to Moses, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering" (Exod. 3:7). A major theme of Pastor Walter's sermon focused on God seeing us in our need, even when we are not aware of it. What other passages in Scripture or stories about Jesus help you understand that God sees you?
- 4. As you think about Moses' journey, how would you describe your spiritual education at this point (in the wilderness, palace, clarity, obscurity, etc.)?
- 5. In what ways do you need a better spiritual education before you are ready for the next major phase of service to God?

Let's Act

s there some step of faith that you believe God may be asking of you? What do you need to keep in mind about who God is and what He wants? How can others be praying for you?	