

# Eight Essential Bible Stories Living the Message 2024-2025 Oct 2024 Study Guide

## October

Exodus 3 – *God is revealed by what God does* with Pastor Lose Click here to watch the video. Or vimeo.com/1012552203

## **Opening Prayer**

Dear God, bless each one who comes to this study. Open our ears, hearts, and minds so that we may come to know you more deeply through studying these essential Bible stories shared with us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# **Focus Statement**

When you think of the Exodus story – whether as recorded in the Bible of one of Hollywood's numerous renditions – you likely think of the confrontation between Moses and Pharaoh, multiple plagues, the Passover, and more. And all that is indeed there. But... before any of that happens, there is God's encounter with Moses which reveals something essential both about God and about our relationship with God. As we discover through this story, it's a real relationship, including God's empathy for the Israelites, Moses' nervousness about following God's lead, God's resistance to being "boxed in," and finally God's invitation to Moses – and by extension the Israelites and all of us – to get to know God by getting out of our seats and "getting in the game." As it turns out, the only way to know who God is is to pay attention to what God does!

Reading: Exodus 3

### Questions

- 1. What was one of your initial takeaways from Pastor Lose's presentation?
- 2. Getting to Exodus 3: What are some words you would use to describe the <u>first two</u> chapters of Exodus that Pastor Lose reviewed?
- 3. Talk/think about the difference between asking "What is God?" and "Who is God?" What does that mean to you?
- 4. Read Exodus 3. What stands out to you? What do you notice?



- 5. "Who, me?" ~ Moses. Can you relate to the doubts Moses had when God called him? How so?
- 6. Talk/think about the importance of names. What does your name reveal about you or your history?
- 7. What do you think of the Lord's response of "I am who I am"? How does this response reveal who God is to Moses—and to you?

## **Closing Prayer**

Dear God, thank you for being so invested in us and for inviting us to enter into a genuine relationship with you and with each other. Amen.

#### **Next Month**

**Exodus 20: What Does God Want From/For Us?** 

In-person: Tuesday, November 12\*, 6:30-7:30pm, West Campus Rehearsal Hall

\*One week later due to Nov 5 Election Day

Video will still be emailed out Monday, November 4

Across the centuries, various people and cultures have shared their sense of God (or gods) via myths, commandments, prohibitions, ceremonial celebrations, and more. In this regard, the story of the Ten Commandments feels like many other attempts to describe God's will for God's people. At the same time, and by looking a little more closely, you discover a God very different from what other communities have imagined... and maybe different from what we imagine! Come to discover a God unlike all others!

Questions?

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