

## Slavery to Home: Exodus

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Exodus 3:1-15

September 23, 2018

### **Small Group Discussion Questions**

#### **The exodus from slavery to home is really about two journeys**

He wants to bring people out of external slavery, but he also wants to bring us Home to our true selves, who we were created to be.

\*How do you think these two journeys intersect? Can one be successful without the other?

#### **When you no longer have what you had, or do what you did, or have people say and think about you what they used to say and think, who are you?**

Moses experienced some of this when he was in exile from Egypt.

\*How does what you have, what you do, and what people say about you inform your identity?

\*When was a time you experienced a loss of knowing yourself when you've had to step away from some of these things? Who were you?

#### **Read and discuss**

Exodus 3:1-15 (NET)

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. <sup>3</sup> And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." <sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup> Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." <sup>6</sup> And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup> Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, <sup>8</sup> and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup> Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup> He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."<sup>[a]</sup> And he

said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" <sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The LORD,<sup>[b]</sup> the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

\*What does this passage tell us about how God responds to Moses' questioning?

\*How can we relate to these verses in our own lives? Do you see yourself here?

### **Moses asked about IDENTITY and God responds with DIGNITY**

We bear His image and have our unearned worth ascribed by Him.

\*How can this accepting of dignity define your identity?

### **God cares about the called as much as He cares about the cause**

Moses was more than a pawn; he was a soul that needed to find home too.

\*In what ways, externally or internally, have you tapped out of the journey?

\*Is there a place He is calling you off the sidelines or out of exile to find your way home?