

Growth Group Agenda

Week of October 1

Workin' on a Dream

Our Scripture: Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

Sermon Fill-Ins

God is _____ of surprises.

God is _____ in calling us.

Don't be surprised by the _____ of God.

Ice Breaker

When/how has God surprised you?

(opt) What do God's surprises look like?

Quick review

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Digging Deeper

Read Exodus 2:1-22.

- How does this story help us understand the character and personality of Moses?
- The name “Moses” means “to pull out/draw out [of water].” How is this name fitting in Moses’ call story?
- What is Moses afraid of?

Read Exodus 3:13-4:9.

- What does Moses want from God?
- What does God want from Moses?
- How does God deal with Moses’ reluctance to do what God asked him to do?

Read Exodus 3:5-6

- What does God ask Moses to do because the place is holy?
- How do we set apart something that is holy?
- Is there anyplace that is not holy?

Media Mix -- (2 options and a book recommendation)

Family Friendly Movie of the story of Moses: “The Prince of Egypt.” If you don’t have time to watch the whole movie, take a look at this clip: <https://youtu.be/6ds9y3lJGig> Share with each other, your kids or grandkids.

“God Down, Moses” This spiritual is based on the story of Moses. How does the song communicate God’s persistence to calling Moses? <https://youtu.be/vf6jBP4YXwo>

Book Recommendation: Diana Butler Bass: “Grounded: Finding God in the World”. Or Malala Yousafzai: “I Am Malala”.

Bringing It Home

1. Do you think that God knew how Moses would respond?
2. Why do you think that God works to convince Moses rather than give up and find someone new?
3. How has God surprised you?
4. Tell about a time when God worked to convince you of something He wanted you to do.

Prayer Time (A guided meditation)

Sit comfortably and take a couple of deep breaths. Relax your arms and legs and focus for a moment on your breathing.

Picture yourself sitting outside in a peaceful place on a warm day. Beautiful fluffy clouds are floating overhead. Imagine the clouds representing events of your life as you remember.

As one cloud passes by, it represents a good memory and it makes you smile. Think about that for a few quiet moments.

Now another cloud appears and you recall an episode in your life that was a surprise call from God. Picture God with you. Did what God was asking seem crazy? How did God persist in calling you? How did God work to convince you of what He wanted you to do?

Now let the sun break through again and realize that God will continue to surprise us with what He calls us to, but He will always help us to carry out that call.

Take a deep breath and reenter the present moment. Thank God for both surprising us by what He calls us to as well as for helping us to do what He calls us to - just as He did with Moses.



Housekeeping

1. Welcome everyone to this second week of Fall Growth Groups. Remind them that this is week 1 of a 3 week trial period at which point anyone can opt out guilt free OR covenant for the remainder of this 8 week series.

2. Did you hear the sermon this week? It is available online at our website only as a podcast (not a video). We think this will make it easier to access. People could listen on their commute, for example. Let us know what you think.
3. Who is bringing the refreshments next time?
4. If there are new people in your group, how did this experience go? What might we do to make our group more comfortable and welcoming?
5. Who do you know that you could invite to your group? Please invite people if there are less than 14 members in your group. Especially remember to invite those who are not part of Atonement.