

# Talk About It

Small Group Discussion Guide

## God Encounters

The Life of Moses

June 1-4, 2023

### Start Talking

Share a time when you have had an awkward or memorable encounter with someone... maybe someone you knew, or perhaps it was a stranger.

### Main Idea

Pastor Ken kicked off our brand-new summer series, God Encounters. Each week we will look at stories of people in the Bible who had life-changing experiences with God. Many people encounter God, but not everyone has a life-changing experience with Him. This week we looked at the life of Moses.

### Personalize It

1. Moses grew up in the Pharaoh's palace, but he was humbly serving his father-in-law when he encountered God. Sometimes an encounter with God seems like it must be a big, grand gesture or event, but often it happens amid our daily routine when we are humbly and willingly serving. How have you found this to be true in your own life? Remember, Gideon was threshing wheat (Judges 6:11) and Elisha was plowing a field (1 Kings 19:19) when they encountered God. Why are humility and a willingness to usually serve the prerequisites to being used by God?
2. Moses took steps to investigate and experience more of God at the burning bush. While we are not in total control, we influence the level of God encounters we experience. Spend some time thinking and talking about what this means and how it applies to you. What do you consistently do to experience God every day?
3. Moses' faithfulness in the moment allowed him to be an eyewitness and a participant in a miraculous movement. Pastor Ken said that your consistent obedience today often opens the door to tomorrow's blessing. What do you need to do or focus on this week to be more willing to say yes to God's purpose for you? When you do this, do you experience more joy and peace? Why do you think this is so?
4. Moses' questions at the burning bush eventually led him to deeper convictions. We were reminded that it is okay to ask God our questions. What questions do you have for God? What were Moses' questions? As you discuss this, remember Pastor Ken shared that the key to the entire story of Moses is found in God's answer to Moses' questions, "I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you both in what to do." From that point, Moses marched to Egypt and fulfilled his purpose. Where in your life is it time to make a spiritual commitment and go to a place you've never been before?

**LET'S DO IT! Commit to a step and live it out this week.**

Spend some time answering these questions and think about your next steps.

1. Am I humbly and faithfully serving today?
2. Am I doing my part to encounter God?
3. Am I confident that God is with me and instructing me as I live out His plan for my life?

### **Pray**

God, we thank you so much for who you are and your deep desire to meet with every one of us. We pray that you would make yourself known to each one of us and that we would also be willing to put in the work to encounter you: to have open eyes and hearts, to set aside time for you, and to be faithful, humble, and obedient.

### **Key Scriptures**

“One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the middle of a bush. Moses stared in amazement. Though the bush was engulfed in flames, it didn't burn up. “This is amazing,” Moses said to himself. “Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go see it.” When the LORD saw Moses coming to take a closer look, God called to him from the middle of the bush, “Moses! Moses!” “Here I am!” Moses replied. “Do not come any closer,” the LORD warned. “Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD told him, “I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile and spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk and honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites now live. Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt.” But Moses protested to God, “Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?” God answered, “I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain.” But Moses protested, “If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ they will ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what should I tell them?” God replied to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. Say this to the people of Israel: I AM has sent me to you.” God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: Yahweh, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.” **Exodus 3:1-15 NLT**

“...I will be with both of you as you speak, and I will instruct you both in what to do.” **Exodus 4:15 NLT**