



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis
January 15, 2012
"The God You Long For"

desert breeze community church

Exodus 3:1-15 **"Encounter w/ God"**

Moses believed in God but it wasn't until this encounter that God became a living reality to him.

When do Encounters w/ God happen (bush)?

- Disappointments can be Divine appointments if we take time to reflect. (Ex1-2; vv3-4; John 3, 4; Luke 6:43-45; Matt.5:3-6)

What does it mean to Encounter God (fire)?

- God is not someone we shape but someone who shapes us. (Vv2, 14; Gen 15:17; Ex19:18; Ex.40:38; Matt. 3:11; Heb. 10)
- God shapes us because He is both Holy (vv5-6) & Loving (vv7-9). (1Pet.1:15-16; 1John 4:8)
- Perceivably irreconcilable tension: Are the blessings of God conditional or unconditional? YES! (Jer.31:31-34)

Why is it Possible to Encounter God (angel)?

- On the Cross Jesus Christ absolutely fulfilled the conditions of the law (Holy God) so that God could love us absolutely unconditionally (Loving God). (v2; Rom. 4; Heb. 11; John 3:16, 14:6; 2Cor.5:21)

How do you Know You've Encountered God (call)?

- Humble Confidence: I am more sinful than I ever dared to think (vv5-6), but I'm more loved than I ever dared to dream (vv7-9).

- Unconditional obedience: I don't obey Him to get His blessing I have His blessing therefore I obey Him. (Vv10-12)
- Radical Generosity: I leverage my time, talents & treasure for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (Vv13-15)



Growing

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- 1) Moses believed in God but it wasn't until this encounter that God became a living spiritual reality to him. What is the difference between knowing God as a concept and knowing God as a reality?

- 2) Read Exodus 3:1-15. Most people will say that their big encounters with God were because life had become a disappointment. Explain. How is this true for Moses (Ex2:11-15)?

- 3) A Divine appointment (burning bush) is to find in yourself a desire that no experience in this world can satisfy. What does that mean? Why is it important to turn aside from our ordinary busyness to think & reflect about what is happening (v4)?

- 4) When it comes to encountering God He is not someone we shape but someone who shapes us. Explain as it relates to God being like fire (v2) & His name (v14 I am who I am). Why is it important to maintain the balance between God being both holy (demands punishment for sin) and loving (Seeks our forgiveness)?

- 5) Are the blessings of God conditional or unconditional? Who is the Angel of the Lord and why is it possible for any of us to encounter God? What are the three characteristics of those who have encountered God and why are they significant? Pray that DB would be place where people encounter God.