



**Deciding to Investigate the Flame
(The Power of Healthy Curiosity)**

August 10-11, 2019

Big Question: Are you curious enough?

Text: Exodus 3:1–6

- Now **Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert**, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed.
- 3 Then Moses said, **“I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.”**
- 4 So **when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look**, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” 5 Then He said, “Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.” 6 Moreover 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 upon God. (NKJV)

I. The Day of Discovery

1. **Moses was using the gift he currently had** not the one he dreamed of having. There is no mention of him ever moaning about what he did wrong or what he lost
2. **Moses was curious** enough to investigate the flame
3. **Moses was standing** in a place he did not realize would launch him to a new place

II. The Day of Challenge

Moses got temporarily stuck in his own insecurities (Exodus 3:9–12)

- Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. 10 **Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh** that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”
- 11 But Moses said to God, **“Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh**, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”
- 12 So He said, **“I will certainly be with you.** And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.” (NKJV)

Question: Do you complain about what you will not help repair?



III. The Day of Confrontation

Moses tried to move forward with unresolved baggage (circumcision) (Exodus 4:24-26)

- 24 And it came to pass on the way, at the encampment, that the LORD met him and sought to kill him. 25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone and cut off the foreskin of her son and cast *it* at *Moses'* feet, and said, "Surely you *are* a husband of blood to me!" 26 So He let him go. Then she said, "*You are* a husband of blood!"—because of the circumcision.

IV. The Day of Harvest

Note: Numbers 20:7–13 (NKJV):

- 7 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 8 "**Take the rod**; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. **Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water**; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals." 9 So Moses took the rod from before the Lord as He commanded him.
- 10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock; and **he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?"** 11 **Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod**; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.
- 12 Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, "**Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them.**"
- 13 This was the water of Meribah, because the children of Israel contended with the Lord, and He was hallowed among them.

1. **Moses put out his own flame** because he refused to surrender a behavior
2. **Moses had to watch others go into the promise land** he dreams of and worked for forty years

Closing Question:

1. Are you in a place God can speak to you?
2. Are you curious enough to take action?
3. Are you going to put out your own flame?

Next Time: Deciding to Re-ignite the Flame (The Power of Tenacity)

Big Question: Have you ever decided to give up and never look back?