

# Living Water Fellowship

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023

COME TO JESUS

**OPENING SONGS:** Praise the Lord Oh My Soul (AT 429)  
O Breath of Life

**WELCOME & PRAYER:**

GROW IN HIS GRACE

**BIBLE READING:** Exodus 2:11-25

<sup>11</sup> Many years later, when Moses had grown up, he went out to visit his own people, the Hebrews, & he saw how hard they were forced to work. During his visit, he saw an Egyptian beating one of his fellow Hebrews. <sup>12</sup> After looking in all directions to make sure no one was watching, Moses killed the Egyptian & hid the body in the sand. <sup>13</sup> The next day, when Moses went out to visit his people again, he saw two Hebrew men fighting. “Why are you beating up your friend?” Moses said to the one who had started the fight. <sup>14</sup> The man replied, “Who appointed you to be our prince & judge? Are you going to kill me as you killed that Egyptian yesterday?” Then Moses was afraid, thinking, “Everyone knows what I did.” <sup>15</sup> And sure enough, Pharaoh heard what had happened, & he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh & went to live in the land of Midian. When Moses arrived in Midian, he sat down beside a well. <sup>16</sup> Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters who came as usual to draw water & fill the water troughs for their father’s flocks. <sup>17</sup> But some other shepherds came & chased them away. So Moses jumped up & rescued the girls from the shepherds. Then he drew water for their flocks. <sup>18</sup> When the girls returned to Reuel, their father, he asked, “Why are you back so soon today?” <sup>19</sup> “An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds,” they answered. “Then he drew water for us & watered our flocks.” <sup>20</sup> “Then where is he?” their father asked. “Why did you leave him there? Invite him to come & eat with us.” <sup>21</sup> Moses accepted the invitation, & he settled there with him. In time, Reuel gave Moses his daughter Zipporah to be his wife. <sup>22</sup> Later she gave birth to a son, & Moses named him Gershom, for he explained, “I have been a foreigner in a foreign land.” <sup>23</sup> Years passed, & the king of Egypt died. But the Israelites continued to groan under their burden of slavery. They cried out for help, & their cry rose up to God. <sup>24</sup> God heard their groaning, & he remembered his covenant promise to Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob. <sup>25</sup> He looked down on the people of Israel & knew it was time to act

**CHILDREN’S TIME:**

## Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Exodus 2:11-3:22. What strikes you as you read these verses? What questions come to mind?
2. In Ex 2:24–25, God is the subject of four successive verbs (“*God heard...God remembered...God saw...God knew*”). Why do you think the text repeats “God” as the subject here? What do you think it means for God to “remember” his covenant with the patriarchs? Why is it critical that the last verb, “knew,” implies an “obligation to help”?
3. Why was Moses in Midian? What does that say about the people God chooses to use as his agents of his will here on earth? What does that tell you about your ability to be used by God in wondrous ways?
4. In 3:5-6, how does God identify himself to Moses? Why is that crucial? What should it mean for Moses? In these early verses of Chapter 3, what is the focus of God’s concern? What is God going to do about that? What does that mean for Moses?
5. Throughout this first encounter with God, Moses is already being called to act as God’s representative both before Pharaoh & to God’s people. How does Moses respond to that call? How does God respond to Moses’ resistance?
6. To Moses’, “Who am I?” God says, “You’re the one who I am with.” How does that address Moses’ reluctance? To Moses’ “Who are you?” God gives Moses the divine name Yahweh & his covenant promise. How does knowing that you also are on the same intimate terms with God encourage you?
7. Moses asks the crucial question of human existence: *Who is God & what is God like?* How would you answer those questions if asked? To what evidence would you point to demonstrate the truth of your answer?
8. What do we learn about what will happen in the conflict between Pharaoh & God? How is that an important outcome? How is that similar to what God does through Jesus’ death & resurrection? What does that tell you about the full restoration God has planned for his creation on the last day? How is that an encouragement to you now?
9. God commits to Moses not only his presence in the here & now, but signs along the way as confirmations & reminders of who is truly at work in Moses’ circumstances among his people in Egypt. What “signs along the way” help you remember God is with you & is actively working for your good both now & eternally?
10. What does God call you to do having read these texts?

**BIBLE READING:** Exodus 3:1-22

<sup>1</sup> 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 & came to Sinai, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> "This is amazing," Moses said to himself. "Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go see it."

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> "Do not come any closer," the Lord warned. "Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground. <sup>6</sup> I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, & the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup> 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 know their suffering. <sup>8</sup> So I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians & lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile & spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk & honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, & Jebusites now live. <sup>9</sup> Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, & I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. <sup>10</sup> Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt."

<sup>11</sup> But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup> God answered, "I will be with you. 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."

<sup>13</sup> But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel & 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?" <sup>14</sup> God replied to Moses, "I am who I am. 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: Yahweh, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, & the God of Jacob—has sent me to you. This is my eternal name, my name to remember for all generations.

<sup>16</sup> "Now go & call together all the elders of Israel. Tell them, 'Yahweh, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob—has appeared to me. He told me, 'I have been watching closely, and I see how the Egyptians are treating you. <sup>17</sup> I have promised to rescue you from your oppression in Egypt. I will lead you to a land flowing with milk & honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, & Jebusites now live.'"

<sup>18</sup> "The elders of Israel will accept your message. Then you & the elders must go to the king of Egypt & tell him, 'The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. So please let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the Lord, our God.'

<sup>19</sup> "But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless a mighty hand forces him.

<sup>20</sup> So I will raise my hand & strike the Egyptians, performing all kinds of miracles among them. Then at last he will let you go. <sup>21</sup> I will cause the Egyptians to look favourably on you. They will give you gifts when you go so you will not leave empty-handed. <sup>22</sup> Every Israelite woman will ask for articles of silver & gold & fine clothing from her Egyptian neighbours & from the foreign women in their houses. You will dress your sons & daughters with these, stripping the Egyptians of their wealth."

**FAITH CHAT:**

1. When are you most likely to feel alone?
2. Who is someone who is present in your journey of faith who demonstrates Christ's presence? How might you learn from them to be Christ for someone else?

**THE MESSAGE:** *A JOURNEY OF PROMISE: THE PROMISE IN PERSON*

**OFFERING SONG:** Before the Throne of God Above

**PRAYERS:**

**THE COMMUNION:**

*The Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Worship during Communion:*

*VIDEO – TO THE TABLE (Zach Williams) - CCL Licence 384660*

*GO IN HIS POWER*

**THE BLESSING:**

**(Name), † child of God...**

***In Christ, God comes personally to draw you to himself to send you to your neighbour. Amen.***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SONG:**

Shout to the Lord (AT 369)

*SHOW HIS LOVE*