



# Near and Now

*When I Don't Think I Have What It Takes To Live Into My Calling? – Moses*

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## Warm-up Question

When was a time in your life where you felt intimidated to speak to an authority figure?  
How did you go about it?

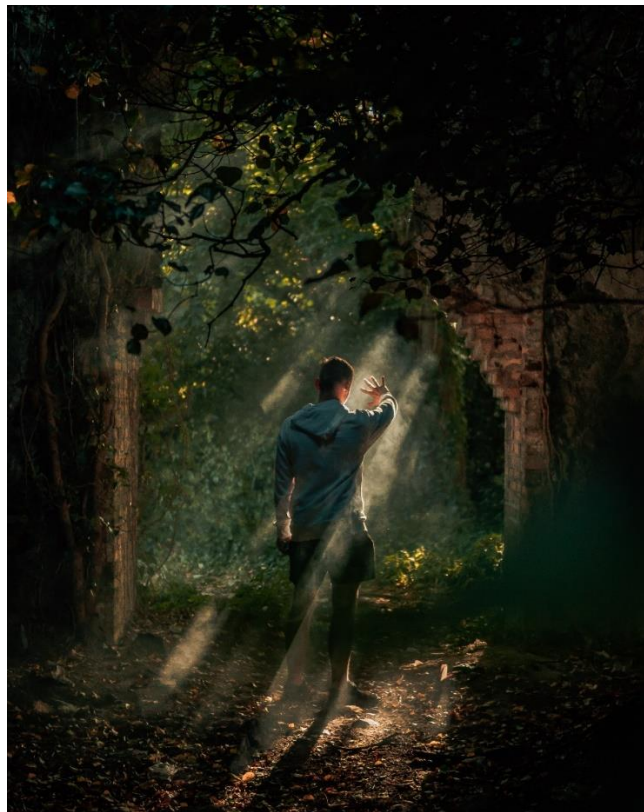


Photo by Majestic Lukas on [Unsplash](#)

## Discussion Questions

1. What do you see in this image?
2. What do you feel looking at this image?
3. What stories from your own life does this image bring to mind?
4. What stories of the world does this image bring to mind?

## Who Am I That I Should Go?

Read [Exodus 3:1-22](#)

### Bible Story Reflection

“Why would God call me to this?” I have a feeling this is what Moses was probably thinking when we received his call from God to be a leader in freeing the Israelites from slavery. Moses, who earlier fled Egypt to escape a murder sentence, was being called back to Egypt. Not only that! God wanted Moses to approach and reproach the most powerful person in the known world, the Pharaoh. This is an intimidating call and Moses did not feel he was the right person for it! He asks God, “Who am I that I should go?”

God didn’t quite answer Moses’ question. Rather, God’s response beckons us to wonder “who is our God?” The divine encounter at the burning bush brings plenty of answers to meditate on! Our God is with us. Our God is liberator. Our God is savior. Our God is protector of generations. Our God *is who God is*. In fact, as Moses discovers, our God who “is” Godself (I am who I am) is the very name of the divine creator.

In this Exodus 3 and in the following chapter, Moses is concerned about his ability, courage, and strength to carry out his calling to confront Pharaoh to free his people from slavery. God breaks through Moses’ concern by reminding him again and again that God will provide. Where Moses lacks ability, God will provide signs and miracles. Where Moses lacks courage, God will be his rock. Where Moses lacks strength, Almighty God will split open the sea!

When we’re unsure about the vocation and call God has placed on us, we too might not receive the answer to question “why me, God?” But we can pray and lean into faith, trusting that God will provide for the call we are sent on.

### Discussion Questions

1. How do you feel (physically, emotionally, spiritually) when you know you have to have a difficult or intimidating conversation?
2. How do you prepare yourself for those difficult and intimidating conversations?
3. How do you think Moses would tell his own story?
4. God names Godself as “I am who I am.” What does that name mean to you?
5. Where have you seen God provide in your daily life?
6. Where have you seen God provide when you needed God’s help?
7. Moses was charged by God to speak truth to power for the liberation of the oppressed. Where do you think that energy is needed today?
8. What does it mean to you to know that God is with you? How does that knowledge impact your own calling?

### **Activity Suggestions**

When we are not intentionally looking, it can be easy to miss the blessings God provides daily. Keep a physical journal or notepad on your computer to daily write where you have seen God provide in your life or calling.

Imagine as if you were Moses approaching the Pharaoh to demand to let God's people go. What would you say? In a group or with a partner, take turns acting out the scene.

What if your calling or vocation was announced to you through a burning bush like Moses? With a piece of paper and a writing utensil, draw a picture of the burning bush. Either around the drawing or incorporated in the drawing, write what you image God would say to you to strengthen you for the journey ahead.

### **Prayer Concerns**

For activists and others who speak truth to power, for the continuing work of abolition across the globe, for all who lean on God for provision.

### **Closing Prayer**

When your call upon my life seems more than I can do, O God, be with me and strengthen me. In the name of +Jesus, Amen.

