



**Educate
+ Engage**



SUMMER
BREAK



The promise
of the future

OVERVIEW

As summer approaches, there is a sense of anticipation for what lies ahead, similar to the Israelites who held onto the promise of where God was leading them. It's easy to find hope in the future because there is a vision for what is to come.

Scripture Passage

Exodus 3:1–10 (KJV)

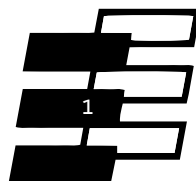
Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy 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.

And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

EDUCATE

Point 1: Moses killed the Egyptian.

Before Moses had his encounter with God at the burning bush, it's important to recall how he left Egypt. Egypt had been kind to Moses, saving him when all other males his age were put to death. He was raised in Pharaoh's household. As he grew older, he became distressed by the mistreatment of the Israelites and ultimately killed an Egyptian who was beating an Israelite



Lesson 1

Should Moses have gotten involved?

Moses fled Egypt, fearing for his life. As summer break approaches, it's crucial to finish strong in classes, exams, or work.

Could Moses have led the Israelites without first fleeing after killing an Egyptian? Only God knows, but fear drove him away. We must strive to be Christians, especially during tough times when we are vulnerable.

The end of the school year can be exhausting with study, late nights, church, and work. Despite knowing the importance of time with God, life's busyness can lead us to neglect it, causing stress elsewhere.

God provides strength and understanding through prayer and devotion. Moses could have benefited from this during his frustration before God appeared to him in the burning bush.

Point 2: Remember who we are.

Moses was reminded at the burning bush of who God is. God said, "I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

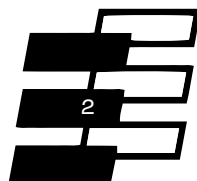
This had meaning to Moses. He knew the stories shared about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. This was the Mount Rushmore for someone like Moses. Several times through Scripture God would remind the Israelites that He was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Why did God refer to Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Jacob?

This event held considerable meaning and significance. God provided for those three individuals and assuredly would provide for Moses as well. During that moment, Moses concealed his face, fearing to look upon God. Moses recognized the power and blessings that this God possessed.

Perhaps it was due to the remorse for his past actions. It might have been because he fled, but in those initial moments at the burning bush, Moses experienced uncertainty about his identity.

Why do you think God chose Moses?



Lesson 1

God was speaking to him. How could it be? Sometimes we think we need perfection to be who God is calling us to be. Our expectation is to be perfect and then we can be used by God. But God picked Moses after he had murdered the Egyptian and fled to Midian.

Our shortcomings and mistakes can lead us to believe that we are not good enough for God, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Sometimes, our weakest moments propel us to a place where we start relying on God instead of our own abilities.

Point 3: Accepting the promise of a future.

As Moses was at the burning bush, God told Moses what he wanted to do for the Israelites. God said, "I have heard their [Israelites'] cry and I will deliver them. I will bring them to a land flowing with milk and honey."

God gave them a vision for their future. He promised them that the affliction would end, but also that they would be blessed in the Promise Land.

What has God given you a promise for?

This is not an attempt to compare school with the taskmasters of Egypt. However, summer is approaching and soon grades and exams will be a distant memory, bringing the promise of an enjoyable season.

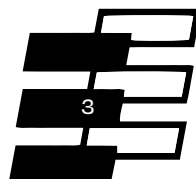
Be aware that all the hard work you have put in during this school year grants you access to the joys of a fun-filled summer.

Furthermore, as the school year concludes, remember that every aspect of life, including any challenges at home or elsewhere, has its own season.

When you cry out to God, He will respond to your plea. Just as He heard the cry of the Israelites and sent Moses, there will be a fulfillment in your future of your situation

Closing

As you look through Moses' life, you can see the hand of God leading Him. Sure, he made mistakes. At times, God was angry with him, but God still chose him and used him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.



Lesson 1

God seeks vessels. This summer promises hope for tomorrow. Stay sensitive to God's voice and direction and hold on to His promises; they will come to pass.

ENGAGE

Let's pray that God will help us close out our school year strong. God will give us strength through the summer to hold on to the promises he has for us.

