

The Burning Bush

△ Exodus 3:1-12, focus 11 -12

Holy Ground

Have you experienced Holy Ground before?

A place or a situation where you felt the presence of God so clearly

That we want to take off our shoes and bow down for him

Dunamis experience

Often have times where I take my shoes off

Or that I bow down on the floor

Anyone else?

Moses and the burning bush

Tending his flock, going about his business

And he came to Mount Horeb

This is also called the Mountain of the Lord

The place where the God gave the Ten Commandments

So it is somewhere on the Sinai Peninsula

Where the people of God wandered after the Exodus

He sees burning bush that is not burning up

It stays the same

So he is curious

Sometimes God grabs our attention by showing us somethin unusual

God speaks out of the bush

He knows Moses by name

Forbids him to come closer and to remove his shoes

Holy Ground...

Because God is tangibly present

God's identification

I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

Moses knows God

by his forefathers

And he hid his face as he was afraid

Holy Ground can be overwhelming and scary

God is beyond anything we have ever experienced

The awesomeness of God

All our complaints, all our worries, desires, motivations fall into nothing

Because God is more, he is almighty

He is God

Have you experienced God in that way?

Would you like to?

Or are you scared

I would be! I have been!

God's Message to Moses

Commissioning

Moses, I want you to deliver my people out of Egypt and from underneath Pharaoh

I will send you!

Moses response

Who am I???

Why are you asking me?!

I am not able to do that

Or perhaps, I do not **want** to do that!

God's promise

"I will be with you"

"And you will come back here, with the people of Israel, and you will worship me here: on Horeb"

God's message to St Andrews

For us?

"What's got that to do with us?", you may say

"God has not commissioned us!"

Great Commission

But Jesus commissioned us, alright

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

^ Matt 28:16-17

There is another mountain

The disciples worshipped Jesus, like Moses worshipped God

Although some were not quite sure - and that's OK too

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

^ Matt 28:18-20

Circular statement

The disciples are to make new disciples

These new disciples are to do everything Jesus commanded the first disciples

Which includes making new disciples

And many, many disciples have made new disciples over the centuries

And obeyed Jesus commandments

Now it is our turn

God/Jesus is with us

Do you hear Jesus promise?

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

^ Matthew 28:20b

Echoing God's promise to Moses

I will be with you

^ Exod 3:12a

To the very end of the age

That is now - we are at this moment - at the very end of the age

As the times moves on

Jesus is with us always

We do not need to be afraid

Moses was afraid

And it took the Lord the rest of Chapter 3 and the beginning of Chapter 4 to convince Moses

The disciples were afraid

But they received the fire of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

We may well be afraid

But Jesus is with us

And he has given us his Holy Spirit

What are we waiting for?

Questions

Do you think you are a disciple of Jesus?

Do you want to?

Or rather not?

Do you believe that The Great Commission is for us today?

Or is it only for the 'special people'

The 'someone' else?

Or is it you?

What else would you need to take

What else would you need to take the step of becoming a disciple?

Pray for each other

Pray for each other to accept the calling of disciple of Jesus Christ

Pray for each other that God provides you with all that need to be a disciple

Pray for each other that God will gives us the courage to do everything that he commanded us to

Including making new believers and new disciples

Questions

- Do you think we are all disciples of Jesus?
 - Do we want to?
 - Or rather not?
- Do you believe that The Great Commission is for us today?
 - Or is it only for the 'special people'
 - The 'someone' else?
 - Or is it us?
- What else would we need to take the step of becoming a disciple?

Prayer

- Pray for each other to accept the calling of disciple of Jesus Christ
- Pray for each other that God provides us with all that need to be a disciple
- Pray for each other that God will gives us the courage to do everything that he commanded us to
 - Including making new believers and new disciples