

God of The Insecure (Exodus 2:23-3:15)

All of us battle anxiety and fear. All of us struggle with insecurity and doubt. Especially when we face a crisis like the one we're facing now. Are you ever tempted to think God has forgotten you? Or wonder if he's going to intervene and actually do something about the brokenness?

1. God's concern and choice (Exodus 2:23-3:9)

The Israelites had been under the oppressive arm of Egypt for hundreds of years. They were suffering a great injustice. The pain was real and the condition felt hopeless.

Exodus 2:23-25 = God heard, remembered, saw (looked upon) and was concerned (he knew).

3:5 God doesn't push Moses away but he does direct him how to come near. God is compassionate, personal and active, YES but He's holy and there's a particular way to approach him.

3:7 Do you feel like there's no way out, like no one understands, no one really knows your pain, anxiety and fear? Psalm 139:1-4

2. Moses' insecurities and fears (Exodus 3:10-12)

3:11 *"Who am I that I should go?"*

He answers Moses' insecurities with the promise of his presence. Philippians 4:4-7; 1 Peter 5:6-7

Moses lays out his questions:

- Who am I? (3:11)
- What will I tell them? (3:13)
- What if they don't believe me? (4:1)
- I've never been eloquent. (4:10)
- Then eventually in 4:13 he just says, *"Please use someone else!"*

When Moses says, *"I'm not adequate!"* The Lord essentially replies with *"No you're not, but I am!"*
Ephesians 2:8-10

3. God's answer (Exodus 3:13-15)

3:14 YHWH = *"I am the actively present One; when and how I choose to be! I am He Who Is"*

"The ever-present, all-powerful personal God who's with you in the mundane everyday decisions of life and who's with you on the front lines of your greatest battle!"

AW Tozer: *"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."*

If God is small and uninspiring, if he doesn't cause us to stand in awe, something or someone else will.

Matthew 28:19-20 *"go and make disciples...I am with you always."*

God's answer to Israel's suffering, God's answer to Moses' insecurities, God's answer to our fears IS his very presence. Hebrews 13:5-6

QUESTIONS

1. What stands out to you in this story? Does anything seem unusual?
2. God calls out to Moses from a burning bush but then in verse 5 he tells him *"Do not come any closer."* Why does he do that? What does God tell him next?
3. When you read in VV 7-8 that God SEES, HEARS, is CONCERNED and has COME DOWN what does that tell you about God? How would those words have felt to a slave? How do they feel to you as you face the uncertainty of things in your own life?
4. Describe Moses' anxieties and fears. How does God answer Moses?
5. Describe the meaning of the divine name YHWH. What is it about God's presence that brings such assurance?
6. How might the meaning of the divine name impact us when we're afraid? What does that name invite us to do - whether we are sick, scared, depressed or anxious? (pick one!)
7. *If God is small and uninspiring, if he doesn't cause us to stand in awe, something or someone else will.* What do you find awe-inspiring about the revelation of God in Exodus 2-3?
8. How did Jesus demonstrate God's concern and rescue? How does the Holy Spirit demonstrate God's active presence?

Pray for each other asking for peace and strength rooted in the reality of God's active presence.