

Note from the Author

I don't think there has ever been a more perfect time for the release of this Bible study. Given all that's happening in our world now, it is important for God's children to understand that He still loves us and pursues our hearts, no matter the situation.

My prayer is that, by the end of this study, you'll see God at work in your life drawing you closer to Him even in the most unlikely situations.

The parables of the lost sheep, lost coin, and prodigal son are excellent examples of how God would have sent Jesus to die on the cross even if it were only you who needed salvation — that's how precious you are to Him!

Much love & many blessings,

Natasha

Dedicated to you

Acknowledgements

Honestly, I feel like a broken record when it comes to thanking those who have supported my work over the years. However, as repetitive as it may be, I must give thanks to my Father in Heaven who has given me the courage, ability, and ideas to write.

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Pursuit

*Exploring God's endless quest for my
heart*

NATASHA D. FRAZIER

Pursuit



Moses

Read: Exodus 2 and 3

Meditational thought: What can I learn about
God's pursuit of me through Moses' story?



Moses was set apart at birth. When Pharaoh put out an order to throw all the Israelite baby boys in the Nile River, Moses was saved by Pharaoh's daughter and his sister (Exodus 2:5). Years later, he fled to Midian after killing an Egyptian who was beating up an Israelite. While in Midian, he married Zipporah and started a family. Now here is Moses out living his life, tending his father-in-law's flock, when he has a God encounter: the burning bush (Exodus 3:2).

God appeared to Moses in the form of a bush that was engulfed in blazing fire, yet it wasn't burning up. Of course, Moses, like most of us would probably have been, was curious. He had to get closer to see what was happening. *Why isn't the bush burning?* When Moses walked closer to the bush, God began speaking to him, calling him by name.

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One thing that amazes me is the confirmation that God knows each of us by name, just as He did Moses. He called Moses out to give him an assignment. In the midst of Moses living an ordinary life, forty years after he fled from Egypt, God pursued him (Acts 7:30). This lets us know that Moses, from birth, was set apart for God's purpose, as each of us is. We may not be called to lead a nation of people out of Egypt, but there are people within our sphere of influence who need to know God in a more intimate way.

Who in your life needs to know Christ?

Moses was alone when he encountered the burning bush. So many of us are afraid to be alone, yet alone time with God is what we need for greater intimacy. Technology has become such a huge distraction: TVs, cellphones, computers, video games, etc. We become so immersed in those things that we don't leave room for time alone with God. By the time we're powering down the electronics, we're heading to bed.

I'm not sure Moses was alone so that he could experience God, but we need to take time to be alone. God pursued Moses in his solitude.

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Solitude helps us to focus on God's voice so that we may hear Him clearly. Times are much different than they were back then, and life is not as simple, so we must be even more intentional about our time with God.

When God called to Moses, his response was, "Here I am." Then the Lord introduced Himself. For God to introduce Himself suggests that Moses didn't know who He was. When we encounter God's presence, we are introduced to His salvation, His goodness, His mercy, His sovereignty, His power at work in our lives, and more than anything, His love for us.

After God introduced Himself, He gave Moses an assignment. It isn't until we get into God's intimate presence and get to know who He is through Scripture that we can learn what He is asking of us. How else would we know He is leading us to do anything if we don't know Him or His voice? There is no way around it. Intimacy with God is a must.

→ Read Exodus 3:1–10

As a natural human response, Moses replies to God's assignment with his disqualifications. My friend, as with Moses, God knows you. After all, He is pursuing you and has been doing so your entire life. You are His child and He knows what you are capable of accomplishing. He knows what's inside of you, all of the talents and spiritual gifts, and even all the limitations, because He gave them to you for His purposes.

One thing I simply adore about God's call and pursuit of Moses is that God had a response to combat every reason that Moses thought he wasn't qualified to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt. When Moses asked God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh or to lead Your people

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out of Egypt,” God said, “I will be with you.” Let’s think about this for a moment. God was asking him to appear before the highest official in Egypt to tell him to let God’s people go. This could have gone badly for Moses because he could have been captured and made a slave or even put to death. Remember Pharaoh had the highest authority; he could have given the word to have Moses killed and that could have been the end of that story. Recall that Pharaoh previously wanted him dead for killing an Egyptian before he fled Egypt. God’s response shifted the focus from Moses to Himself. This is something we should take note of, because without Him, we can do nothing (John 15:5). Sometimes we simply have to remove ourselves from the situation, as hard as that may seem.

Moses protested again. “Who should I say sent me?” Of course, God had an answer for this: I AM WHO I AM.

Moses protested yet again, asking what if they didn’t believe that God sent him. This is a natural response. I’d probably be concerned as well. God is asking him to leave his comfort zone to go to a place where the people knew him and his sin to do something he has never done. However, God already had that part figured out as well.

When we think of things we learn about God in the Old Testament, we tend to separate them from the present, but the Bible tells us that God doesn’t change. He is the same today as He was yesterday, last year, and back in the times of the Old Testament. These words are given to us so that we may have a greater understanding of who God is. In knowing this, if God had His plan for Moses figured out and the answer to all his questions and concerns, surely, He does for you and me as well.

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Moses went to Pharaoh and delivered God's message and of course Pharaoh didn't listen. In fact, Moses received the opposite response from him. Pharaoh got upset and made life worse for the Israelites. Now everyone is upset with Moses, both Pharaoh and the Israelites. Moses gets discouraged like any of us would be when the plan doesn't work out as we perceived it would. "God, I listened to Your voice and followed through with Your plan, but this didn't turn out like I expected."

Can you recall a situation when this happened to you? What was your response? What encouraged you to keep going?

We know the story. God sent Moses back to Pharaoh multiple times, allowing the Egyptians to endure ten plagues, until Pharaoh finally decided to let God's people go.