

That The World May Know: Fire on the Mountain – Session 6: The Whisper of God: Moses and Elijah on the Mountain

Commissioned to Be God's Servant

For eighty years, God had been preparing Moses for the daunting task of confronting Pharaoh in order to free the Hebrew slaves to worship their God in the desert. At last the promise God gave to Abraham centuries earlier would be fulfilled! But like many of us, Moses doubted his ability to carry out his mission in God's redemptive plan. Focused on his own human qualifications, Moses was not shy about giving God excuses.

1. There are numerous examples of God revealing himself to people and calling them to obey.
Genesis 22:11 – 18
Genesis 46:1 – 4
1 Samuel 3:10 – 11
Luke 22:31 – 32
Acts 9:3 – 6

What do the above verses say about how God called Moses and assigned a mission to this desert shepherd?
Exodus 3:4 – 10
2. What insight do you think God's people today can gain from Moses' struggle with inadequacy to accomplish God's calling.
3. What are the similarities between the responses to God by Moses, Isaiah, and Jeremiah?
Exodus 4:10,
Isaiah 6:1 – 7
Jeremiah 1:4 – 7

Why would an assignment to speak God's words bring a response of unworthiness?

In the Footsteps of God

Moses was a great prophet and leader of God's people, but more than that he had a remarkable face-to-face and heart-to-heart relationship with God. There are some insights that come from comparing how Moses and Elijah and Jesus walked with God.

1. Every godly prophet was in a sense similar to Moses. The ancient Jewish people believed the coming prophet God promised to send would be the Messiah
Deuteronomy 18:17 – 19

In what ways did Moses picture what the Messiah would be like? How did Jesus present himself in relationship to Moses?
John 3:14 – 15
John 5:46

For what reasons did some people believe that Jesus was THE prophet?
John 6:14
John 7:37 – 40

Although Jesus was like Moses, how did the writer of Hebrews describe their differences?
Hebrews 3:1 – 6

2. Moses, Elijah, and Jesus shared common experiences that were rooted in the intimate relationship with and obedience to God.
Exodus 34:1 – 2
Exodus 34:27 – 28

How long was Moses with God on the mountain?

What did Moses do during that time?

The Commitment of Elijah

Elijah, like Moses, demonstrated great passion for God. Like Moses, Elijah climbed mountains, confronted kings, and crossed deserts. We can cultivate a deeper passion for obeying and experiencing God in our lives.

1. One of the qualities that demonstrated Elijah's fire for God was his bold obedience to do whatever God commanded. When God gave Elijah a message to tell the king, what was taking place in Israel?
1 Kings 16:29 – 33
1 Kings 17:1 – 3

What was God's message? How well do you think it was received?

2. When the allotted time was up, God gave Elijah another message to deliver. What risks did Elijah face by obeying God's command?
1 Kings 18:1 – 24

In what ways did Elijah demonstrate a fearless trust in God as he carried out God's command?

What was Elijah spiritual concern for the people?

3. Elijah was exhausted after Mount Carmel and Jezebel's threat on his life. Even so, he walked 200 miles before reaching Mount Horeb to meet God. How satisfying do you think Elijah's meeting with God was?
1 Kings 19:9 – 18

Meeting God on His Mountain

It is a difficult thing to know God and to love him with all your heart, soul, and strength. But God also rewards us for our faithfulness when he allows us to meet with him personally and get to know him.

1. On his last day on earth, God asked Moses to climb Mount Nebo near the Dead Sea. The climb would have been at least 12 miles with an elevation gain of 3,500 feet. How old was Moses? What resistance did he have toward another all-out climb to meet with God?
Deuteronomy 34:1 – 12
2. After the golden calf incident, Moses told the Hebrews, "Perhaps I can make atonement for your sin." Moses went back up the mountain as mediator between Israel and God. How hard did Moses work to persuade God to forgive the Israelites?
Exodus 32:7-14
Exodus 32:30 - 35

How are Moses and Jesus alike, and different, in their work as mediators?
Hebrews 3:1 – 6
Hebrews 4:15
3. When God revealed himself to Elijah on the mountain many years after he appeared to Moses, why did God not appear in the wind, earthquake, or fire?
1 Kings 18:22 – 39

Meeting with God on a Mountain

Many parallels can be found between the lives of Moses and Jesus. One significant similarity seldom discussed is that Moses and Jesus each climbed a mountain to meet with God. Take a closer look at what happened when Moses went up to Mount Sinai and When Jesus was transfigured on the mountain.

1. Moses was God's prophet for the people of the exodus. Who did God send to fulfill the promise to send another prophet like Moses?
Deuteronomy 18:14 – 22
John 6:1 - 15
John 7:37 - 43
Acts 3:17 – 23

According to God's promise, what were God's people to do when he sent another prophet like Moses?
2. The Transfiguration links together Mathew 17:1 – 13 and Deuteronomy 18:14 – 19. What did God promise to Israel?

Why did Israel need a prophet?

What command did God give his people regarding the prophet that would come?

What command did the voice give during the Transfiguration?

What did that command mean in light of the promise in Deuteronomy?

Scripture References

Genesis 22	Psalm 95
Genesis 46	Psalm 121
Exodus 1	Proverbs 23
Exodus 2	Isaiah 6
Exodus 3	Isaiah 40
Exodus 4	Jeremiah 1
Exodus 19	Malachi 4
Exodus 20	Matthew 4
Exodus 24	Matthew 17
Exodus 32	Mark 1
Exodus 33	Mark 9
Exodus 34	Luke 4
Numbers 12	Luke 22
Numbers 20	John 3
Deuteronomy 1	John 5
Deuteronomy 18	John 6
Deuteronomy 34	John 7
Joshua 22	John 17
1 Samuel 3	Acts 3
1 Kings 16	Acts 7
1 Kings 17	Acts 9
1 Kings 18	1 Corinthians 1
1 Kings 19	Hebrews 3
2 Kings 2	Hebrews 4
Psalm 9	James 5
Psalm 23	2 Peter 1
Psalm 78	1 John 2
Psalm 80	

Elijah and Elisha

