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# GOD COMES DOWN TO LIFT YOU UP

EXODUS 3:1-12



Have you ever felt down and out? So down and out that you've thought you'll never be up and in again? You had great hopes and dreams, but now you feel like a nobody, doing a nothing job, with a nothing future. Life is hard, worship is cold, and loneliness is your only friend. You're down and out. No one was more down and out than Moses. Let's see how God encourages him in similar circumstances in Exodus 3:1-12:

- **GOD SAVES BY COMING DOWN IN UNEXPECTED WAYS (1-6)**
- **GOD SAVES BY SENDING A GO-BETWEEN (7-10)**
- **GOD SAVES THE PUT-DOWN FOR LIFT-OFF (11-12)**

## LEARNING

### **GOD SAVES BY COMING DOWN IN UNEXPECTED WAYS (1-6)**

It's forty years since Moses fled from Egypt in Exodus 2. He was a prince in Egypt, but now he's a poor shepherd in the desert (1). Then God comes down at the most unexpected time and the most unexpected way. **And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed (2).**

Moses thought this was great sight but didn't realize it was a God-sight. As he turned to inspect this strange bush, God spoke to him out of the bush: **"Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."** And he said, **"I am the God of your 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 at God (5-6).

WHEN WE CAN'T GET UP,  
GOD COMES DOWN.

How is God going to do this saving? By sending a go-between.

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## **GOD SAVES BY SENDING A GO-BETWEEN (7-10)**

Moses had asked many times, “Does God know his people are suffering?” God answers his question: **I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings** (7). He’s coming down to lift his people up out of Egypt and into the Promised Land (8-9).

At this point Moses is sitting back, saying, “Great, I can’t wait to see this,” when God says, **Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt** (10). These were the last words Moses expected to hear. Instead of, “Come, watch me deliver Israel,” it was “Come, I will send you to deliver Israel.” God saves through a go-between.

WHEN EVERYTHING’S BROKEN,  
GOD SENDS A BROKER.

What's God's aim in sending this broker or mediator? His purpose in saving people is a serving people.

## **GOD SAVES THE PUT-DOWN FOR LIFT-OFF (11-12)**

God assures Moses **that when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain** (12). When God lifts off Israel's burdens, Israel will lift off in worship.

GOD TAKES THE DOWN-AND-OUTS  
AND MAKES THEM UP AND IN.

LOVING

Where do these truths lead us? They lead us to Christ, don't they, the greater Moses. He saved by coming down in unexpected ways. He saved by becoming the go-between. And he saves the put-down for lift-off. We love Moses for what he did, but we love the greater Moses greater because of what he did and still does.

LIVING

Ask Jesus to come down by his Spirit to save the down and out and lift them up and in.

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