

The Junior Observer

Vol. 33, No. 7 Published by The Observer, Official Catholic Newspaper of the Diocese of Rockford JuniorObserver@RockfordDiocese.org

Q&A

What did Moses notice was on fire?

What did God want Moses to do?

Read more about it in Exodus 3

A Bible Story

God Talks to Moses from a Bush

Catholic News Service

Moses was married to a daughter of Jethro, the priest of Midian. One day, Moses was tending his father-in-law's flock near Horeb, the mountain of God.

As Moses walked along, something strange caught his eye. A nearby bush was on fire, but the flames were not destroying it.

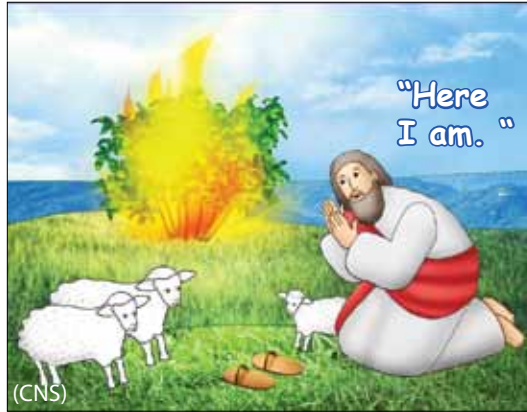
"I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned," Moses said.

God saw that the burning bush had caught Moses' attention.

"Moses! Moses!" God called out from the bush.

"Here I am," Moses replied as he started to walk closer to the bush.

"Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground," God said. "I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob."



Bible Trivia

Who was Moses' wife?
(Hint: Exodus 2:21)

Answer: Zipporah

Moses was afraid to look at God, so he hid his face.

God explained that He had heard the suffering cries of the Israelites, who were slaves in Egypt. And He wanted Moses to play a part in God's plan to save His people.

"Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into

a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey," God said. "Now, go! I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

Moses was surprised by God's command.

"Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" Moses asked.

"I will be with you," God reassured Moses.

God went on to tell Moses exactly what he needed to do and say to the Israelite elders to prove that God had sent Moses to rescue them. In turn, God said, Moses and the elders would go to Pharaoh and ask that the Israelites be allowed to go on a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer a sacrifice to God.

"Yet I know that the king of Egypt will not allow you to go unless his hand is forced," God explained. "So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all the wondrous deeds I will do in its midst. After that he will let you go."

Learn more about Moses' childhood

Did you know that Moses, who was a Hebrew, was raised as an Egyptian?

In Exodus 1, we read that Pharaoh did not like the fact that there were more Israelites in Egypt than there were Egyptians. So, he enslaved the Israelites and ordered that all male Israelite babies be killed.

In Exodus 2, we read that a Levite woman gave birth to a baby boy and hid him until he was 3 months old. She decided to place the baby in a watertight papyrus basket and set it among the reeds on the bank of the Nile River.

Just then, Pharaoh's daughter came to the river and saw the basket in the reeds. She told her handmaid to bring it to her and saw the crying baby boy.

Her heart was moved with pity for the baby and, unknowingly, hired his mother to nurse the baby.

"I will pay your wages," Pharaoh's daughter told the woman.

Pharaoh's daughter named the boy Moses, because she drew him out of the water.

You Can Still Help Children in Peru

It's not too late for you to make your Lent an almsgiving one.

You can join other children in the Rockford Diocese and decorate the

hearts on this page, then send them with your donation to buy school supplies for children in the Diocese of Chulucanas in Peru.

(Don't paste the hearts on craft or any other paper

because it adds to the mailing costs.)

Send your decorated hearts and a \$2 donation to **The Junior Observer, Heart to Heart, PO Box 7044, Rockford, IL 61125.**

The deadline to send your decorated hearts and donations is Good Friday, April 19.

Print more hearts at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org/junior-observer>

