



Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

October 4, 2015

Narrative Lectionary

Exodus 1:8-14; 3:1-15:28-30



Moses and the Burning Bush Object: Several different types of shoes (dress, sports, sandals, etc.)

Shoes...they come in all types and sizes. There are dress shoes like the ones we wear to church, there are sports shoes like the ones we wear when we are playing, and there are sandals or flip-flops that we wear in the summer.

In our Bible lesson today, God told Moses to take off his shoes! As our story begins, Moses is out in the field taking care of the sheep and goats of his father-in-law, Jethro. He led the sheep out into the wilderness near the mountain called Sinai. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to him as a flame from the middle of a bush. The most amazing thing was that the bush was on fire, but it wasn't burned up!

"That's strange," Moses thought. "Why isn't the bush burning up? I'll go closer and see."

As he came closer, God called out to him, "Moses! Moses!"

"Here I am," Moses answered.

"Don't come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your father -- the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

When Moses heard those words, he hid his face because he was afraid to look at God. God continued speaking to Moses. "I have heard the cries of my people in Egypt. I know all about their pain and suffering at the hands of the Egyptians. I have come to help them to be freed from Egypt and enter into a good land that flows with milk and honey. It's time for you to go back: I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the People of Israel, out of Egypt."

"Why me? What makes you think I could go to Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?" asked Moses.

"I will be with you," God said. "And this will be the proof that I am the one who sent you: When you have brought my people out of Egypt, you will worship God right here at this very mountain."

But Moses continued to offer excuses. "But, suppose I go to the People of Israel and I tell them, 'The God of your fathers sent me to you'; and they ask me, 'What is his name?' What do I tell them?"

God answered, "I-AM-WHO-I-AM. Tell the People of Israel, 'I-AM sent me to you.'" What a story! Now, do you remember why God told Moses to take off his sandals?

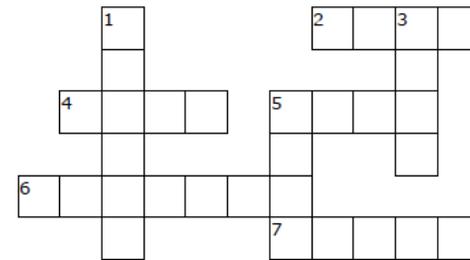
Gospel Acclamation Alleluia. Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Alleluia (John 14:23)

Because, God said, "You are standing on holy ground." It was holy ground because God was there and wherever God is surely "holy ground."

Is God here today? Jesus said, "Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." We are gathered here today in his name, so he is here with us. Surely we are standing on holy ground.

Father, we are gathered in your name. Just as you spoke to Moses long ago, speak to our hearts today. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen. - Used by permission, Sermons4kids

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. A white liquid produced by cows, goats, and sheep
4. Belonging to God; sacred
5. To cause something to be destroyed by fire
6. Shoes with a bottom part held onto the foot by straps
7. A sweet, sticky substance made by bees

DOWN

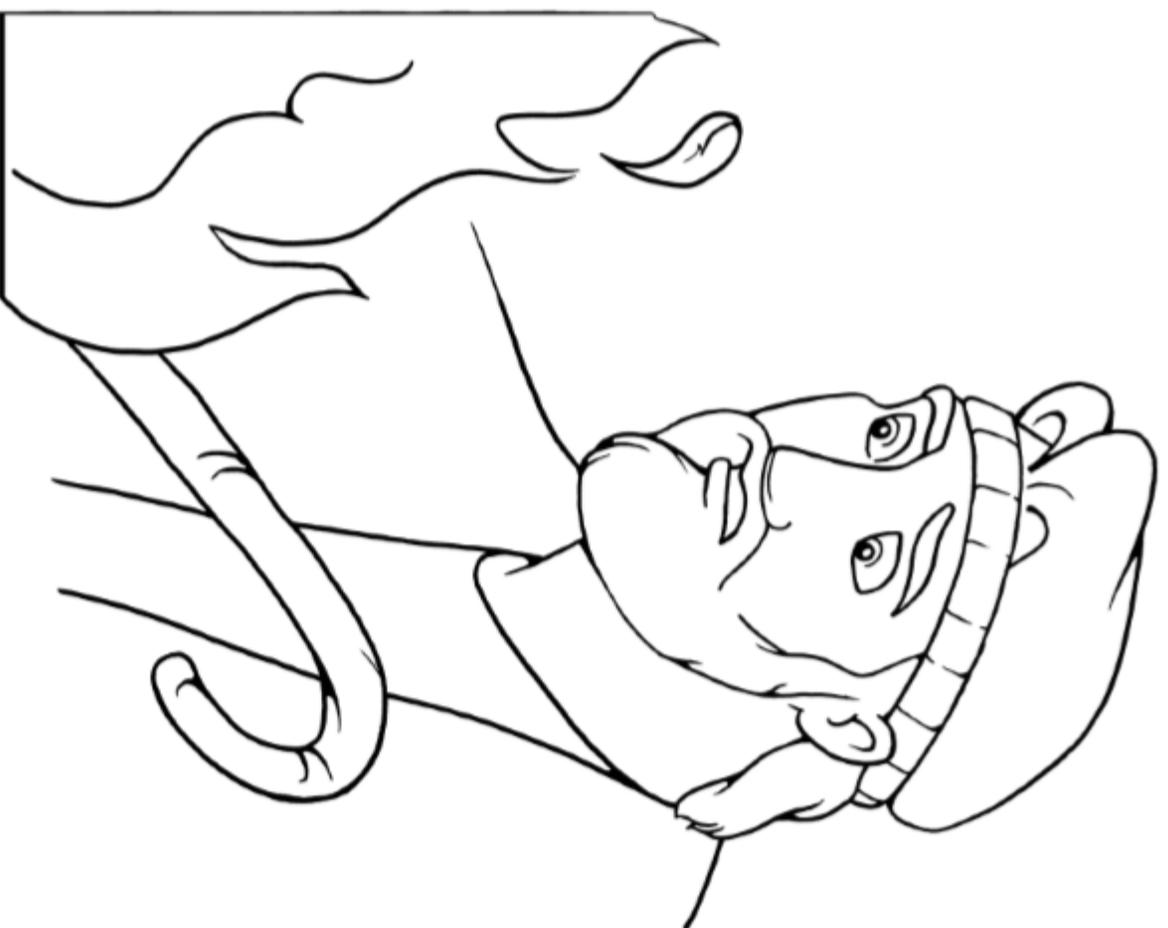
1. The surface of the Earth; soil
3. A country or region, especially someone's home
5. A plant that is smaller than a tree with many small branches

MILK	BURN	GROUND	SANDALS
BUSH	HONEY	HOLY	LAND

SHIFTING SHOES: The teacher can have many cut outs of shoes around the room. Each shoe will have a word from today's Bible verse. The children will find the shoes and place in order of the Bible verse words under a drawn burning bush on a large poster board on the classroom wall. Use tape on the back of the shoes to stick to the burning bush poster board. Then the teacher can have the class turn around or close their eyes while the teacher shifts the shoes and the children will then shift the shoes so that the Bible verse is in order once again. Continue to shift shoes as time allows.

SHOE BIBLE VERSE: Let each child trace their own shoe and cut out of construction paper. Write today's Bible verse on the shoe and add laces and decoration to the shoe. Stick a magnet to the back of the shoe to be place on a refrigerator.

THE BURNING BUSH



“And the angels of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of the fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and beheld the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.”

Exodus 3:2