

Devotion #4

The Burning Bush

GATHER THE PLAYERS AND HAVE THEM SETTLE

READ THE SCRIPTURE

Meanwhile Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There an angel of the Lord appeared to him in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned." ...God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." –Exodus 3:1-3,5

USE QUESTIONS BELOW TO DISCUSS THE SCRIPTURE

1. What two things were happening to the bush?

- #1: it was burning, #2: but it was not being consumed

-N.B. this is a beautiful metaphor for God's love (and all authentic love). It burns but does not consume the beloved. They remain free and unique

2. What does God say to Moses?

-come no nearer and remove your sandals

3. Why do you think that God would say that Moses needs to remove his sandals?

- Moses had to prepare himself to approach God.

-we too have to prepare ourselves to approach God. We too have to remove the sinful parts of ourselves and leave it behind as we approach God

-as Catholics, one great way to do that is in Confession

4. Think of some of the things that you may need to get rid of to get even closer to God?

-I need to be more patient with my wife and children. What are some of the things you need to work on?

- allow them to give concrete examples such as, "I need to stop fighting with my brother", etc.

5. Is there anything that you have to "get rid of" when you're playing ball?

- allow them to give concrete examples such as, "I need to play fair", pass the ball, etc.

-don't forget, we don't have to do this on our own. God wants to help us; all we need to do is ask.

PRAY IN THESE OR SIMILAR WORDS, OR INVITE A PLAYER TO LEAD PRAYER

Father we thank and bless you for your goodness and love towards us. Help us by the power of the Holy Spirit to return your love with all of our hearts. Help us to leave behind anything that would hinder us from loving you completely. We ask this, as we ask all things, in the name of Jesus Christ your son, who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.