

LEADERSHIP #5-
EXODUS 3:1-4
LEADERS LISTEN

If you spend enough time with God listening to Him, then you'll be able to hear him when a lot of other noises and voices are audible.

For Moses, the first of many shouts to his heart from God was a burning bush. The story is worth a close look:

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." (Exodus 3:1-4)

#1- We see Moses doing life the way he had been doing it for years. It was a day like any other; a good reminder that we can seldom anticipate God's communications.

#2- God appeared to him through a burning bush, but it wasn't the bush that was significant. The point is that God brought something into Moses' life that demanded his attention. Anything that invades your life and demands your attention can be a conversation starter from God.

QUESTION SET #1-

1- What does it look like to have an attitude of expectation when you're spending time with God? Are you spending time with God to hear from Him, or simply to check the "prayer" or "bible study" box off of your list?

2- What posture have you taken in the past that proved to be fertile ground for hearing from God?

3- What positive things have happened or are happening that God could be trying to use as a conversation starter?

4- What negative/difficult things have happened in the past season that God could be trying to use as a conversation starter?

#3- Moses decided to pay attention to the event. He went over to it and determined to explore what it might hold for his life.

-If you don't know all the right answers, at least you can start asking all the right questions.

-Many events in our life are experienced, but few are explored for what they might mean on the deepest levels of who we are and what God might want to say to us.

QUESTION SET #2-

- 1- What areas of your relationship with God need to be explored more deeply?
- 2- Have you ever missed something that God was trying to do or speak to you, only realizing it later when hindsight was 20/20?
- 3- In a hectic, busy world, how do you stay disciplined not to rush past things and overlook ways that God may be trying to get your attention?

#4- "When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look...?" God did not speak, nor does it appear that He was going to speak, unless and until Moses approached the bush.

-After Moses went to look, then God spoke. If you want to hear a word from God, a good step is to demonstrate your willingness and desire to hear it.

Norton Sterrett in 1948 to a group of college students called into the ministry: "How many of you who are so interested in finding out the will of God for your life, spend even five minutes a day praying for Him to show it to you?"

-That five minutes a day that equates to going over to look at the bush.

-A life led by God is a life that hungers for a word from God. It is a life that will be relentless in pursuit of that word.

QUESTION SET #3-

- 1- How fervently have you prayed?
- 2- How passionately have you searched the Scriptures?
- 3- How intently have you sought counsel?
- 4- How purposefully have you launched out in ways that afford God the opportunity to direct your steps?

-Remember, hearing from God is not a passive exercise. So what are you willing to do to lean in and listen to hear what the Creator of the world is trying to say to you?