



Cuyahoga  
Valley Church

# SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Week of 9.24.23  
Exodus 3 // Pastor Rick Duncan

Please note that this guide does not need to be used as-is. Please view the items below as a toolbox as opposed to a road map. You don't have to follow these steps exactly in order or for the allotted amount of time to have a successful LifeGroup study. You may not even have time to get through all of the questions. However, we do think this is pretty good stuff and we hope it's helpful.

## CONNECT (10 MIN)

- What's something you've had to wait for that was worth the wait?

## EXPLORE (45 MIN)

### Create Context (10 min):

1. Read Exodus chapter 3 out loud together.
2. Watch the weekly sermon recap video [HERE](#) (4:07)

### Study & Discussion (40 min)

- In Exodus chapter 3, God speaks to Moses from a burning bush. What other passages or stories in Scripture depict God speaking through, or being within, the element of fire?
  - Why do you think God appears as the element of fire at all? As what other elements or in what other ways does God appear to His people throughout the Old Testament?
  - Read Hebrews 1:1-4. How does God speak to His people (Christians) today, and in what specific ways is this different from the manner in which He spoke to Moses?
- In his sermon, Pastor Rick said that God is holy, and therefore we should not approach Him casually. Pastor Rick also said that God desired to be close with Moses and to partner with Moses in friendship. Read Hebrews 10:19-23. Based on the sermon and the passage you just read in Hebrews, consider the following: in our relationship with God, how can we balance an intimate and knowing relationship with fear and reverence before His holiness?
- Moses lived as a prince in Egypt for 40 years. Then he was in Midian as a shepherd for another 40 years before God spoke to Him in the burning bush. Pastor Rick mentioned in his sermon that when we study the life of Moses, we find a God who is not always in a hurry. Based on Pastor Rick's sermon, why do you think that God waited until Moses was in his 80s to bring him back to Egypt to call God's people out of slavery?
  - How should we respond when we face suffering in our own lives and it feels like God is not in a hurry? What does it really look like to wait faithfully and patiently upon the Lord?
- Read Exodus 34:6-7. Where do you see these same attributes of God displayed in Exodus 3 (hint: see verses 7-8, and remember what Pastor Rick mentioned about God seeing, hearing, and knowing the afflictions of His people)?
- Are you ever tempted to think that the God who saw, heard, knew, and cared about the afflictions and sufferings of the Israelites is blind or uncaring to the afflictions and sufferings in your life? Why or why not?



## Heavy Lifting

- NOTE TO LEADERS: If you don't have time to study this in your LifeGroup, encourage LifeGroup members to take some time to read the article below and study this topic on their own during the week.

In Exodus chapter 3, we see the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob revealing Himself by name to His people in a unique way. God revealed Himself in person (first to Moses in the burning bush, and later to the Israelite people through Moses) in what Rick Duncan referred to as an example of Christophany (please read the article linked below). God also revealed Himself in name - telling Moses, "I am who I am," and telling Moses to let the Israelites know that "I am has sent me to you."

- Why is it important or significant that God revealed Himself both in name and in person to Moses and to the Israelite people?
- Have you ever heard the phrase "Christophany" before? Why is it significant that the angel of the Lord in Exodus 3 is a revelation of the Son of God that comes before the life and ministry of Jesus in the New Testament?
- Refer to Hebrews 1:1-4. How are the person and work of Jesus Christ unique as a revelation of God to mankind?
- Article: <https://cuyahogavalleychurchblog.wordpress.com/2023/09/24/the-angel-of-the-lord/>

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/40-vs-80-moses/> // Brasher
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/10-things-yahweh-means> // Piper
- <https://www.logos.com/grow/hall-what-does-yahweh-mean/> // Surls
- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/divine-transcendence-immanence/> // Frame
- <https://bibleproject.com/articles/who-is-the-angel-of-the-lord/> // Quinn

## APPLY (20 MIN)

We want to ensure that LifeGroups are always a place where obedience to truth can be practiced and where people can be lovingly held accountable to their decisions.

### "I Will" Statements

As a result of what I've learned this week and what the Holy Spirit is impressing upon my heart, I will respond in obedience by \_\_\_\_\_.

### Accountability

Depending on the time, rhythm, and makeup of the group, this can be done together or by separating into smaller groups (if the group is large) or by gender (if the group is mixed).

We suggest using 2-3 of the accountability questions found at [cvconline.org/relate](http://cvconline.org/relate) each week.

## PRAY (15 MIN)

During your time of study and application, there may be prayers that rise to the surface for individuals or the group. Take those things collectively to the Lord in prayer. We would also encourage your group to make a list of people that you are praying for to trust Jesus as the leader and forgiver of their life. Pray for the list often and hold one another accountable to share the good news as the Holy Spirit provides and prompts. This week, make sure to take some time to pray specifically for the places of suffering and affliction in the lives of group members.



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# EQUIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 9.24.23

Please take a moment to share these announcements with your group.

More information on each item can be found by scanning the QR codes.

## CVC YOUTH

### Collide Fall Fest

It's quickly becoming that time of year - time for pumpkins and latte's and, of course, Fall festivals. Our middle school students will be headed to Luther Farms on October 7th for a day filled with Fall fun. Register by scanning the QR code or visit [cvcyouth.org/events](http://cvcyouth.org/events)



## CVC YOUTH

### Basecamp

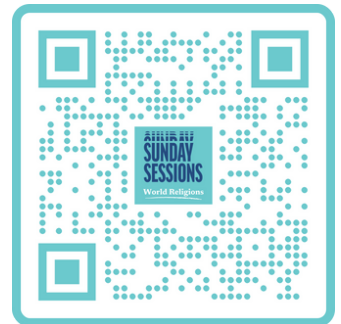
Are you ready to embark on an extraordinary journey? Join us every Tuesday and Thursday for Basecamp, the ultimate video devotional designed exclusively for high school and middle school students. Immerse yourself in short, impactful sessions that empower you with biblical truth and challenges. Basecamp → the best way to start your day!



## EQUIP

### Sunday Sessions

Join us for Sunday Sessions: World Religions and embark on a enlightening journey exploring diverse faiths through a Christian lens. When you can't join us in person in Sunday mornings at 9:30am, you can hear all of the previous episodes by scanning this QR code, but visiting [cvconline.org/sundaysessions](http://cvconline.org/sundaysessions), or by searching "sunday sessions cuyahoga valley" where you normally get your podcasts.



## SAVE - THE - DATES

CVC Young Adults Eat, Sip, and Drive // October 21st

CVCKids Trunk or Treat // October 29th

CVC Worship Night // November 1st