



**CHRISTIAN
ENDEAVOUR**
for Christ and the Church



Attributes of God

The Otherness of God

Exodus 3 :1 - 15

Teaching Aim

To show that God is so great in Himself that He does not need us.

Setting the Scene

Moses having killed the cruel Egyptian has run away to the land of Midian and is looking after his Father-in-law Jethro's sheep. God appears to him in the burning bush.

The Burning Bush

Read Exodus 3: 1 – 5

Q. What was special about the bush that Moses saw? - *It was on fire but it did not burn up.*

God's power and holiness is so great that he often appears in the Bible as a fire but the fire only burns up things that God wants to destroy.

Q. Who spoke to Moses from the bush?- *God.*

At this stage God wants to speak to Moses but he has not yet told Moses His name.

Q. What did God say to Moses?

Don't come any nearer, this is holy ground.

God wants Moses to know that He is very great and must be treated with reverence.

The Frightened Man

Read Exodus 3: 6 - 10

Q. How did Moses react to the burning bush? - *He hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.*

Sinful people need to be afraid of God's power because He hates sin and His holiness can destroy sin.

Q. What did God say he wanted Moses to do?
Go to Pharaoh and bring God's people out of Egypt.

God loved His people so much that He was going to rescue them from Egypt. Moses was to be his servant in this.

The Otherness of God

Read Exodus 3: 11- 15

Q. When Moses asked who God was, what name did He give? - *I AM WHO I AM*

This name is Yahweh (Jehovah) and is God's personal name. It points to all God is in himself. It means that He has everything He needs in Himself. He does not need anyone to fill a need in Himself. However this great God wants to save and use people like us. His power would enable Moses to do the job he was called to.

Summing Up

God did not need Moses to set the people free because God does not need anyone either to make Him happy or to do His work. God is other than us. He is different from us. The good news is that God wants people even if He doesn't need them. He wants to save you and to use you. Have you given Him your life? Are you ready to serve Him?

Resources

Memory Verse

"God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you." Ex 3:14

Activities

Under 8s

Activity Sheet "The Otherness of God - 1"

Over 8s

Activity Sheet "The Otherness of God - 2"

Prayer Points

Praise:

- That God is so great.
- That He loves us and wants us even although He does not need us.
- That God is perfect in every way.

True or False

Tick the box below with  if true and with  if false.

- Moses was looking after cows belonging to his father.
- God spoke to him from a burning bush.
- Moses had to put shoes on to listen to God.
- God's personal name is I AM WHO I AM.
- God is very holy and pure.
- God needs us or else He will die.
- God wants us to be His friends.
- We can come to God because we are so good.
- We can come to God in our own strength.
- God wants to save you and use you in His service.
- It is good news that God wants to know you and me.

Memory Verse

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"
Exodus 3 : 14

True or False

Tick the box below with  if true and with  if false.

- Moses was tending cattle belonging to his father.
- God spoke to him from a burning bush.
- Moses showed his fear of God by putting his shoes on.
- God's personal name is I AM WHO I AM.
- God is other than us and is holy.
- God needs us because He cannot live without us.
- God wants us to be His friends.
- We can come to God because we are so good.
- We can come to God in our own strength.
- God wants to save you and use you in His service.
- It is good news that God wants to know you and me.

Memory Verse

God said to Moses,
"I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites:
I AM has sent me to you." Exodus 3 : 14

Write down in your own words what God's personal name (Yahweh / Jehovah) means to you.

Give one reason why you **should come to God** and one reason why you **should serve God**.

I should come to God because _____

I should serve God because _____