

Moses, reluctant leader - Exodus 2 & 3

- #1 Moses had been a prince in Egypt but had run away when he killed a man.
- #2 Who did he kill?
- #1 He killed an Egyptian who was beating up a Hebrew.
After he left Egypt he was a sheep farmer in the desert for 40 years.
- #2 The great prince of Egypt was a no-name shepherd?
- #1 One day Moses took his sheep near a mountain called Mt. Sinai.
He saw a bush on fire but it wasn't being burnt up!
Moses went towards the bush and heard: "Moses! Moses!"
- #2 Who called him?
- #1 The voice said: " Don't come close! This is holy ground so off with your shoes! I am the God of your father and your ancestors."
- #2 I bet he was scared.
- #1 Yes he was so afraid he covered his face up. God told Moses that He'd seen his people suffering and that He was going to rescue them.
- #2 Rescue the slaves? Free them?
- #1 Yes, God told Moses He wanted him to go to the king.
- #2 What did Moses answer?
- #1 "Who am I to go fronting up to the king, then lead the people out of Egypt?"
Then God told Moses he would actually bring the people to worship Him at this mountain.
Moses said: "When I go to the people of Israel and they ask what is the name of this God who sent you, what will I say?"

God said to tell them: "I AM THAT I AM. Tell them I AM sent you."

#2 What else did God say?

#1 He said: "The king is not going to let you go until I have struck Egypt with my wonders.

When you finally leave, the Egyptians will give you silver, gold and clothing."

Then Moses asked what about if the people wouldn't believe him.

#2 So did God show Moses anything to prove himself to the people of Israel?

#1 Yes. He told Moses to throw his walking stick on the ground
- it became a snake!

#2 What happened to the snake?

#1 God told Moses to pick up the snake by the tail. The snake turned back into a walking stick! God told Moses to put his hand inside his coat. His hand came out leprous, like snow!

#2 And did his hand stay like that?

#1 No. God told him to do it again. His hand came out healed. God said if that didn't convince them, to pour river water on the ground and watch it turn into blood. Moses
still wasn't happy about all this so he reminded God he was not a good speaker - he even stuttered.

#2 I suppose God said he would help him speak?

#1 Yes, but that wasn't good enough for Moses - he told God to use someone else. God got angry with Moses and told him to use his brother Aaron as a spokesman.

Moses obeyed and went back to Egypt.