**Exodus 3:1-10 – Meeting God at shepherd’s bush**

**Opening question:**

* What’s the most unusual thing you have ever seen?

**Worship**

* You may want to listen to “Holy is the Lord/Hosanna”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKhneWK0VNo> and let it lead you into prayers of praise… OR
* Read Revelation 4 as a stimulus for prayers of praise.

**Meeting God at shepherd’s bush:**

**vv1-3: Meeting where?** – Moses encounters God in a burning bush, while out at work, tending his father-in-law’s flock, on the far side of the wilderness i.e. in an unexpected way, in an unexpected place and generally at a low point in his life. Moses is curious… he stops, he looks and he listens and he hears God calling his name.

* Are there times and places when we particularly expect / don’t often expect to encounter God? Is this helpful?
* Share a brief testimony of your awareness of God’s presence during a tough time in your life.
* What does God’s Kingdom look like in our COVID affected land? Share anything that you feel God might be saying, either to you or to the church/Church at this time…

**vv4-9: Meeting who?** – God calls Moses by name but tells him not to come any closer because he is standing on holy ground. God is holy, yet personal, present now and sovereign over all of history. He is compassionate towards his people and will come down to rescue them from oppression and lead them to the land he has promised.

* How can we demonstrate our respect and reverence towards God as we come into his presence?
* Do you think that some places are more “holy” than others? What are the implications of this?
* How does God demonstrate his care and concern for us, his people today?

**v10: So, now what?** – God instructs Moses, “So now, go”, and commissions him to bring the Israelites out of Egypt.

* What do we learn about God from this instruction?
* Is this a commission for Moses only, or does it apply to us today?
* What do you find most challenging/most encouraging about Jesus’ Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20?

**Prayer:**

* Pray for each other and for us as a church as we seek to listen to God’s voice in this challenging time and to serve as his witnesses to those around us.
* Pray for those you know who are going through a particularly difficult time at present.
* Pray for all those involved in leadership and decision making.
* Pray for times of mutual encouragement around God’s Word as the midweek reflections start in the church building this Wednesday.