

CALLED by NAME

Isaiah 43:1

FOCUS VERSE

Consider reading Exodus 3

The LORD saw that Moses had gone over to look. So God spoke to him from inside the bush. He called out, "Moses! Moses!" "Here I am," Moses said. —Exodus 3:4 NIV

Devotion: Moses - Called to Lead



Our Bible verse happens when Moses is out in the desert taking care of sheep. Suddenly, Moses sees a bush with a flame in it, but the bush is not burning up. He wonders how this could be happening and goes over to look at the burning bush. God knew Moses' name and called to him, "Moses! Moses!"

- What do people who care about you call you?
- How would they say your name if they were thanking you for your kindness?
- How would they say your name if you were going toward danger?
- How would they say your name if they wanted your attention?

God needed Moses' attention and called out his name. God told Moses to lead God's people, the Israelites, away from slavery in Egypt to freedom in a promised land. God told Moses to go to the ruler of the Egyptians and tell him to let God's people go free. But Moses didn't think he could do it; he was not sure he could serve God. Moses told God he did not think he could lead the people, and that God should find someone else to do the job. But God told Moses he wanted him to serve and lead. God promised to be with Moses and help him.

- Have you ever been asked to do something you felt was too hard for you to do?
- Did you try to help anyway, or did you say you could not help?
- Have you ever tried to do something you felt was hard and actually succeeded?
- Have you ever talked to God about doing something you felt was hard to do?
- Did you know that, like Moses, God calls us by name?

God calls each of us by name when we are baptized. In our baptism, God tells us we belong to him as his children.

Have you been baptized into God's family? If not, would you like to be?

When God calls us by name in our baptism, he also asks each of us to serve him by telling others about Jesus. We all need Jesus because we are slaves to sin. Sin controls our lives and keeps us away from God. But Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. Sin no longer has control over our lives. God wants everyone to

believe Jesus freed them from their sins so everyone can belong to God. God wants us to help others know about Jesus. Like Moses, we may wonder if we can serve and lead others. But God promises to be with us and help us.

Prayer:

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for calling us by name in our baptism. You know us, you have forgiven us and you have promised to always be with us. Help us tell others about your love and how you saved us from our sins. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Additional Activity: Think about who you can tell about God's love. Tell them what Jesus has done for you. Tell them about what Jesus has done for them.)