

9. WEAVING

AFTER A LONG TIME THE KING OF EGYPT DIED. THE ISRAELITES GROANED UNDER THEIR SLAVERY, AND CRIED OUT. OUT OF THE SLAVERY THEIR CRY FOR HELP ROSE UP TO GOD. GOD HEARD THEIR GROANING, AND GOD REMEMBERED HIS COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB. GOD LOOKED UPON THE ISRAELITES, AND GOD TOOK NOTICE OF THEM.

EXODUS 2:23-25

Calling is the Weaving Together of My Life Story

Today, we reflect on God's startling appearance to Moses in a burning bush—the event that begins the journey of the Hebrews from slavery to freedom. In this encounter we're aware of what God is experiencing and thinking, interwoven with the experiences of Moses and his people in slavery. We see that God's call to Moses begins with God's own heartache over the plight of the Hebrew people.

Our lives are also interwoven with God's presence in our time and place. This story invites us to ask God: "What breaks your heart about the world right now?" As you discover what breaks the heart of God, you'll also find your own calling "hiding in the bush." You'll discover you can hear and understand the unmistakable voice of God. You'll see how the disparate threads of your life story weave together to become your calling. You'll uncover your spiritual gifts and natural talents, and tap into a well of gratefulness for those who've affirmed these gifts and talents in you.

Consider what you can talk about/write about /think about/do for long periods of time and never get bored. Consider what others have commended you for. Then consider the intersections of your passion and the world's needs.

Exploration Questions

- What is a "theme" of God's calling in your life, and how have you experienced that theme?
- What's one life story that has fed directly into a calling in your life, and why?
- How have your callings changed throughout your life?
- What's an example of a calling that has led you to something you never dream was possible?