

BLESSINGS ALWAYS

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Association Minister Message

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BLAZING BUSH. “Moses looked, and the *BUSH* was *BLAZING*, yet it was not consumed.” (Exodus 3:2). So often we are running through life and miss God’s amazing blessings. As the saying goes, we do not take time to smell the roses. Our schedules are so busy that we miss the beauty of life. So much of life is filled with appointments, deadlines, and commitments that anxieties prevent us from relaxing and enjoy being in the company with each other or finding wonders in God’s world.

Moses’ encounter with an angel and the *BLAZING BUSH* is a story of God calling Moses to lead God’s people out of Egypt into the promised land. We forget about where Moses was when God called him. Moses had “*escaped*” from the Egyptian royal household and was comfortable taking care of family business as a shepherd. Here he is in the wilderness, a barren place with no grass to nourish his flock. One surprise of the story is that there is even a *BUSH* in that land, and yet not only is there a *BUSH* but it is on fire. The key to the story is that Moses saw the *BUSH*, stopped, and took the time to see it. Not only was his life changed, but the Israelites were led to freedom. It was more than a *BLAZING BUSH*, for it was encountering God and being changed.

It is also a story of God talking to Moses and asking for Moses’ help to solve the problems of God’s people in captivity. Moses was being called to lead the people to have a place as a nation in the world with God promising to be with them. How many times has God encountered us and called us to tasks that can and will make a difference in people’s lives? Are we afraid of moving out of our wilderness situations and journey to God’s promised land? Too often we are just racing through life and not noticing the holy ground upon which we stand. Not only are we not smelling the roses, but even *BLAZING BUSHES* do not get our attention. What in God’s creation calls us to be open to God’s intentions for us so that we live as God’s beloved to and with one another? “*Here I am.*” *BLESSINGS ALWAYS.*