



FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

Week of October 3, 2021: Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

Memory Verse

Exodus 3:14

"God said, I AM WHO I AM."

Family Prayers

Morning Prayer: Good morning God. Thank you that you are with me always, even in my sleep. Help me to see you today, and share your love with my friends and family. Amen.

Meal Time Prayer:

God, our provider, thank you for this meal. God, our protector, thank you for keeping us safe. God, our leader, thank you for guiding our steps. Amen.

Bedtime Blessing:

[Lord,] Save us from trouble*
restless sleep,
From all ill dreams your
children keep;
So calm our minds that fears
may cease
And rested bodies wake in
peace.

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship #567
(verse 2)

The Story: A Reluctant Volunteer

When the teacher asked for a volunteer to cut shapes out for a maths lesson, Martin was always first to put his hand up and volunteer. He liked cutting things out. When the coach at Lisa's gymnastic club asked for a



volunteer to demonstrate a forward roll, she would jump up and down excitedly, because she was the best in the club at doing forward rolls and cartwheels. When Billy's team got a penalty in a football match, he always volunteered to take it because he had never missed a penalty kick. When the head teacher asked for someone to recite a Robert Burns poem in the School's District Burns Competition, Heather volunteered every time, because she loved poetry and knew many of Robert Burns' poems off by heart.

What about you? *What things would you volunteer to do? Would you volunteer to be a buddy at school? Would you volunteer to represent your class in a school spelling bee? Would you volunteer for something only if you got a reward at the end of it? Or are you the one*

Craft Corner:

Names (all ages)

You will need: paper or card-stock (any size), metallic pens, colored pencils, crayons, etc.

Give each child a piece of paper. For younger children, write their name in a fun, decorative way (i.e. bubble letters) for them to decorate; for those able to write their name, have them do so and then decorate.

Discussion: For younger children emphasize that God knows their name and that God loves everyone even when we make mistakes. For older children, talk about the story emphasizing that Moses thought that God wouldn't know who Moses was and that Moses thought he would not be able to do a good job as God's messenger, but God knew him and called him by name.

Discuss with the children the ways we all sometimes think we disappoint God but God loves us and calls us by name.

who hides behind someone else whenever a volunteer is asked for?

Moses didn't volunteer to do anything. God picked him out because he thought he would be the best person to do this job. It was not going to be an easy job. The people of Israel had been slaves in Egypt for a long time and God needed someone to ask Pharaoh, the leader of all Egypt, to let the Israelites go. However, Moses was a reluctant volunteer. He pleaded with God, he begged God, he tried to persuade God that he was not the man for this job. He told God, he was too shy. He told God, he did not have a strong voice. He told God, that no one would listen to him. He told God, that his brother Aaron would do a better job. He told God, that anyone would do a better job than he would.

Yet God knew Moses better than anyone. He knew that Moses knew the Egyptian language because he had grown up in the Egyptian Palace. He knew that Moses knew the Pharaoh and many of the other important people in Egypt. He knew that Moses had a real heart for the Israelites, as he was born to an Israelite Mother and Father, and had heard all the stories about the suffering they had endured for a long, long number of years. God promises Moses that he would be with him. He would help him to find the right words. He would help him do the right things. He would give him the courage and the strength he needed, and he would even allow Moses's brother Aaron to speak the words God would give Moses.

So reluctantly Moses agreed to do the job God asked him to do, and, believe it or not, at the end of all the talking and all the discussions and all the to-ing and fro-ing, Pharaoh let the Israelites go, and Moses took them on a Journey toward the promised land. However, that is a story for another day.

Movie Night!

—Plan a movie night for the family this week and watch the movie *Prince of Egypt*. It's a great retelling of this story.