### **Discussion Questions**

Share a 3-minute testimony of how you came to faith, or how you encountered God.

Can you tell a story about a time when God changed your perspective about something that needed to be done?

Is there a characteristic of who God is that has inspired you to live your life differently? Or that has informed your relationship with Him and with others?

Share about someone you know in whom you see a real integration of faith and life.

## Series 2 Upcoming Dates

Monday, Jan. 22nd, 7 PM, Brownstein Hall Monday, Jan. 29th, 7 PM, Brownstein Hall Saturday Retreat, Feb. 3rd, 9am-3:30pm, Brownstein Hall Monday, Feb. 12th, 7 PM, Brownstein Hall

# God Is Here Series 2, Part 1



## For Further Reading

Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter Lumen Fidei (The Light of Faith)

Christ the Prophet Invites Us to KNOW God with Him

#### The Word of God

#### God reveals Himself: Exodus 3:1-15

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian; and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and lo, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, "I will turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt." When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here am I." Then he said, "Do not come near; put off your shoes from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters; I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring forth my people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?" He said, "But I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought forth the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God upon this mountain."

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': this is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."

### Series 1 Prayer

O God, who sent your Son into the world as the true light, pour out, we pray, the Spirit he promised to sow seeds of truth constantly in people's hearts and to awaken in them obedience to the faith, so that, being born to new life through Baptism, all may become part of your one people. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

-Collect For the Evangelization of Peoples A2

### Voices of the Church

"[When]...we are living at peace, the truth will shine upon us and its radiance will illuminate the eyes of our soul. Now this truth is God. Once in an ineffable and mysterious vision it manifested itself to Moses, and it is not without significance for us that the flame from which the soul of the Prophet was illuminated was kindled from a thorn-bush.... It is not from some luminary set among the stars that it sheds its radiance... but from a bush on the earth, although it outshines the stars of heaven. This also symbolizes the mystery of the Virgin, from whom came the divine light that shone upon the world without damaging the bush from which it emanated or allowing the virgin shoot to wither."(Gregory of Nyssa, The Life of Moses, 4th century)

"The light of faith is unique, since it is capable of illuminating every aspect of human existence. A light this powerful cannot come from ourselves.... Faith is born of an encounter with the living God who calls us and reveals his love.... Transformed by this love, we gain fresh vision, new eyes to see.... Faith, received from God as a supernatural gift, becomes a light for our way, guiding our journey through time." (Pope Francis, Lumen Fidei 4)