

AUGUST 1st FOX CREEK EVERGREEN CLASSES/HOME CONVERSATION
THE GIFT OF A CLEAR CONSCIENCE: Do not empty God's value

Prep posts for this conversation:

Fourthstream.com/Moses: Builder's Heart

Fourthstream.com/Our Solemn Charge #1, #2, #3 (the teachings of demons)

Fourthstream.com/Conscience posts 1 and 2 and 3 (living with a clear conscience)

What an encounter! God is Holy.

"Now Moses was pasturing the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. The angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed. Moses said, "I must turn aside now and see this marvelous sight, why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said also, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God." - Exodus 3:1-6

Why was Moses intrigued by what he saw?

Describe as a family or class what do you think this looked like and what you think Moses felt.

Some people think that "**taking God's name in vain**" means to swear disrespectfully, using God's Name. This is only the tip of a very large iceberg (what does that mean?).

We **disrespect** God when we do not place Him at the forefront of the things we think and go after.

How have you seen God disrespected?

We **diminish** God when we live as though what is important to Him is not important to us.

We **devalue** God when we scoff at Him by our actions, words, or selfish choices.

What are ways we can scoff at God? (not taking Him seriously)

Some ideas for youngers:

Search for fire artwork - you will find a wide variety of web choices (some creepy). Print 4 or 5 and put them on the board/table as you converse about what your kids see in their minds when they think about the burning bush. Was it hot? How big was it? Do you think it was dark outside? Was the fire easy to see?

Read Acts 2:3 in both the NASB and the Message - what kind of fire was this? The same as the bush? Different? What do you think this fire looked like?

Some ideas for olders/teens:

There is only One God of the Bible. The Father and Son and Spirit are seamless - while at the same time being distinct. The idea that the "old testament" God is harsh and Jesus is something else entirely is entirely false. Read **Hebrews 12:18-29** together. What does this teach us about God's holiness? This is the same God Who appeared in the burning bush.

Why do humans work so hard to be off the hook for our heart actions?

How can my conscience help me sort out my life in light of God's pure and holy power?