

ST NINIAN'S UNITING CHURCH OCTOBER 22nd 2023 MOSES THINKS ABOUT GOD Based on Exodus 33:12-23



It was the middle of the afternoon. Moses was sitting outside the tent. He wanted to be away from the people for a while to be alone with God. Moses found a rock that felt comfortable to sit on. He curled up on that rock and thought about God. "I wonder what God looks like? I want to see God," Moses said to himself.

Moses looked around. He could hear the quiet babbling sounds of a river. And standing in the river were two women helping each other wash clothes.

Moses looked in the other direction and saw and heard a colourful bird chirping in the tree. And under the tree, a man and his son were helping each other gather branches and twigs for a fire.

Then Moses looked into the distance. Some sheep were still nibbling grass while other sheep were dozing. Nearby two young people were helping each other care for these sheep.

Moses thought about everything he had seen and heard. And then Moses thought about all his friends who loved and cared for each other.

Moses knew and felt God's love and goodness deep within and all around. Moses knew that God was here even though he couldn't see God.

And Moses could feel God's love when

he was sitting by the creek, sitting on a rock outside his tent, experiencing the sights and sounds around him, or feeling the love from his friends. Now Moses began to understand.

| God is not a human being like us. | God is not a man or a | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | woman. | | | | |
| God is not old or young. | God is different from | | | | |
| | anything we know. | | | | |

"I can feel God all around me," Moses said. It was such a wonderful, wonderful feeling!

In the empty box below, draw how you see God in the world and the people around you.

How is God different from anything you know?

Exploring your faith – CREATE YOUR STRING OF GLORY MATERIALS



| Multiple strands of string cut to 30cm | Paint | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Small bowl | Paper | | | | |
| Bible | Spoons | | | | |
| Towels | hand sanitiser/wipes | | | | |

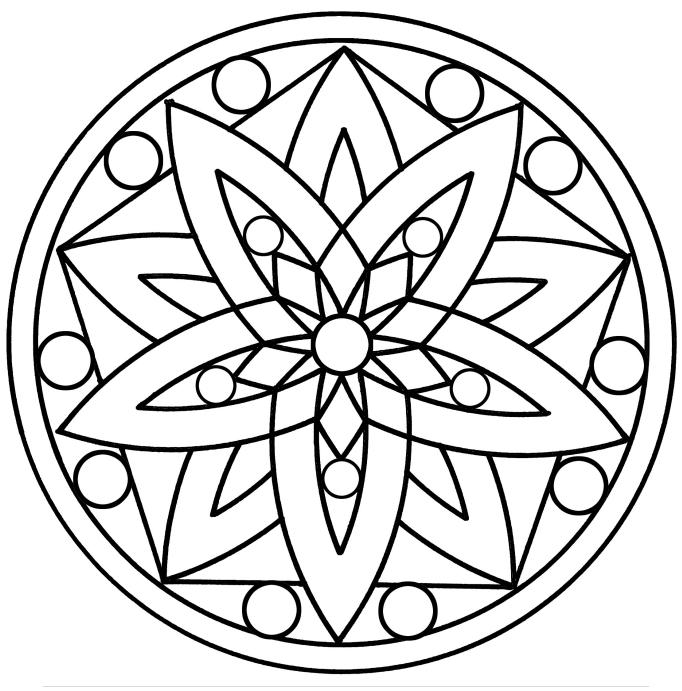
DIRECTIONS

- 1 Moses wanted to see God's glory, God's grandeur, God's magnificence so that he mioght know God more fully and become closer friends. Glory is as hard to describe as it is to see.
- 2 See what glory you might find by placing a piece of paper in front of you and then choosing a piece of string from a bowl of paint. Using a spoon, carefully pull the string out of the paint and then squeeze the excess paint of the strand with your thumb and forefinger over the bowl.
- Arrange the string over your paper, letting one end to extend off the page.
 When you are satisfied with your design, place a second piece of paper directly on top of your paper. Weight it down with a Bible.
- 4 Use a towel to wash your hands and think about Moses in the wedge of the rock, waiting to see God's glory. What do you imagine he was thinking? What surprises might be awaiting you in this artmaking?
- 5 When your hands are clean, slowly pull the exposed strand of string out from between the two pages.
- 6 Lift the Bible off your paper and reveal the glory of your creation.
- 7 If you want to make it more colourful, use a range of different strings and paint colours.

EXPERIENCING GOD DEEP DOWN AND ALL AROUND

Moses curled up on a rock and thought about God. "I can feel God all around me," said Moses. Colouring can calm our minds and spirits and help us feel what is deep down and all around.

Find a quiet space and spend time relaxing and colouring. Pay attention to what you feel deep down and all around. God is deep down and all around.



Dear God,

I know that when I'm afraid, lonely, uncertain, happy, sad, singing, at school, at church, at home, visiting my friends, shopping, playing you are always with me. You will never leave me. Thank you God for loving me in a way that no one else does.

In Jesus name I pray, amen.

The Glory of the Lord - Exodus 33:12-2

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mC8zEDxFEA

a lovely chirpy song that's easy to learn



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gi21dJy9xG4

a song for Mum and Dad