

# Moses Part 10 – The Presence of God



Exodus 25 to 31; 40:34–38; Numbers 20:1–13;  
Deuteronomy 34:1–12



We come to the final part of Moses' story and the end of this Bassline series. From his birth in a basket to leading God's people through the wilderness, Moses' life was marked by God's presence, seen in the burning bush, the pillar of fire and cloud, and the glory filling the tabernacle. Even though Moses never set foot in the Promised Land, Scripture honours him as a prophet who knew God face to face. Today, we'll reflect on what Moses' story teaches us about God's holiness, his faithfulness, and his promise to be with his people wherever they go.

## You will need:

- Paper
- Coloured pencils, felt-tips or pastels
- Black art paper (optional)



## Beat

### Say:

We've spent the last nine Bassline sessions discovering more about the life of Moses. Now it's time to see how much you can remember. Don't worry if you've missed some of the sessions; you can always dive into the book of Exodus to find out more.

### Leader's notes:

You can use these questions however you would like, either playing in teams or individually. The correct answer is in bold.

## Moses Quiz

1. Who gave Moses his name? a) Pharaoh, b) Elizabeth, c) his father, **d) Pharaoh's daughter**



2. Moses was hidden in the reeds of what river? a) Euphrates, b) Jordan, **c) Nile**, d) Tigris
3. What were the names of Moses' father and mother? a) Joseph and Mary, b) Abraham and Sarah, **c) Amram and Jochebed**, d) Elimelech and Naomi
4. Moses came from the tribe of: a) Judah, **b) Levi**, c) Benjamin, d) Dan
5. What did Moses do to the Egyptian who was killing a Hebrew? **a) killed him**, b) reported him, c) shouted at him, d) ignored him
6. When Moses fled from Egypt, where did he flee to? a) Moab, **b) Midian**, c) Edom, d) Canaan
7. What was the name of Moses' wife? a) Abigail, b) Ahinoam, **c) Zipporah**, d) Jezebel
8. Which was the second plague? a) locusts, **b) darkness**, c) frogs, d) hail
9. Once Moses was finally leading the people out, what was the first problem they encountered? a) lack of water, b) lack of food, **c) insubordination**, d) a pursuing army
10. What happened to the first set of tablets? a) they were incomplete, b) they were lost, **c) Moses broke them**, d) they were stolen
11. Which of the following phrases is Moses most known for? a) 'To be or not to be', b) 'Seek and ye shall find', c) 'Forgive and forget', **d) 'Let my people go'**
12. What did Moses do when he saw the Israelites worshipping the golden calf? a) hid in the mountains, b) sang a song of lament, **c) broke the stone tablets**, d) built a new altar

### **Bridge**

**Ask:**

Looking back at everything you have discovered about the life of Moses, which event would you like to learn more about? Explain your choice.

### **Amplify**

**Leader's notes:**

This is the final opportunity for the young people to sum up the story of Moses in one minute.

**Ask:**

If you had to sum up Moses' story in one sentence, what would it be?

**Say:**

We've followed Moses' journey all the way from a baby in a basket to God's dramatic rescue of his people from Egypt. Last week we saw God renew his covenant even though the Israelites



had turned away from him to worship a golden calf. Today we're looking at the final chapters of Exodus and seeing what happens when the people finally obey God and finish building the tabernacle. This is a significant moment for God's people because his presence comes to live among them. We're going to watch a clip that takes us through the final part of Moses' journey.

**Watch:**

The Book of Exodus – Part 2 – Bible Project (Stop at 4:38)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOGhR-2kPKI>

**Ask:**

- How is God's presence shown in the Garden of Eden, at Mount Sinai, and in the tabernacle?
- Why do you think God's presence was so frightening for the Israelites?
- Why did God give such detailed instructions for the way the tabernacle should be built?

**Say:**

Accessing the presence of God was not to be taken lightly. Exodus chapters 25 to 31 gives detailed instructions for building the tabernacle, ordaining its priests and ensuring God's holiness is honoured. The tent of meeting was the place where God's presence would meet with his people. When the construction work was finished, Moses stepped forward to enter it.

**Read:**

<sup>34</sup> Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. <sup>35</sup> Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

<sup>36</sup> In all the travels of the Israelites, whenever the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle, they would set out; <sup>37</sup> but if the cloud did not lift, they did not set out – until the day it lifted. <sup>38</sup> So the cloud of the Lord was over the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the Israelites during all their travels.

– (Exodus 40:34-38)

**Ask:**

- How do you think the Israelites felt seeing God's glory fill the tabernacle in such a powerful way?
- Why do you think Moses couldn't enter the tent of meeting, even though he was God's chosen leader?

**Say:**

God's glory was so overwhelming that even Moses, who had spoken with God face to face, couldn't enter. This reminds us that God's holiness is perfect and must be approached with care. Moses' life continued to be marked by God's presence, but there was another key moment that shaped his journey. In Numbers 20, when God told Moses to speak to a rock to bring water, Moses struck it twice instead and claimed credit for the miracle. As a result of this disobedience, God said Moses would not enter the Promised Land, though he continued to walk with him and use him powerfully.



**Read:**

<sup>1</sup> Then Moses climbed Mount Nebo from the plains of Moab to the top of Pisgah, opposite Jericho. There the Lord showed him the whole land – from Gilead to Dan, <sup>2</sup> all of Naphtali, the territory of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Mediterranean Sea, <sup>3</sup> the Negev and the whole region from the Valley of Jericho, the City of Palms, as far as Zoar. <sup>4</sup> Then the Lord said to him, ‘This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, “I will give it to your descendants.” I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it.’ <sup>5</sup> And Moses the servant of the Lord died there in Moab, as the Lord had said.

– (Deuteronomy 34:1-5)

**Ask:**

How do you feel about the fact that, after all those years in the wilderness, Moses never set foot in the Promised Land?

**Read:**

<sup>10</sup> Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face, <sup>11</sup> who did all those signs and wonders the Lord sent him to do in Egypt – to Pharaoh and to all his officials and to his whole land. <sup>12</sup> For no one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

– (Deuteronomy 34:10-12)

**Ask:**

What do these verses show us about Moses’ relationship with God, even though he didn’t enter the Promised Land?

**Say:**

Even though Moses didn’t enter the land, Scripture honours him as a prophet who knew God face to face. His story shows us that God’s presence doesn’t depend on a perfect record but on God’s faithfulness and grace.



**Leader’s notes:**

If the group would like to learn more about Moses’ disobedience that led to his banishment from the Promised Land, then watch and discuss the following clip together.

**Watch:**

Numbers 20-21 – The Bronze Serpent – Bible Study (3:13)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwgXtpLcPWI>





## Sound Check

### **Say:**

The Israelites could see God's presence as a cloud by day and fire by night. We're going to take some time to imagine what God's presence looks like to you. If God's presence had a colour, shape or picture, what would it be? How would you represent the way you feel when you sense his presence with you?

### **Leader's notes:**

Provide simple art materials (paper, felt-tips, coloured pencils etc.) If your budget allows, try black art paper and pastels. Encourage creativity and reassure them that this isn't about artistic skill.

### **Suggestions for inspiration:**

- A shape or pattern
- A single colour filling the page
- A symbol or image (eg flame, heart, road, tree)
- A word or phrase written in a creative style

Give the group 5-10 minutes to create their picture. When everyone's finished, invite them to share their creation (optional) and explain their artistic choices.

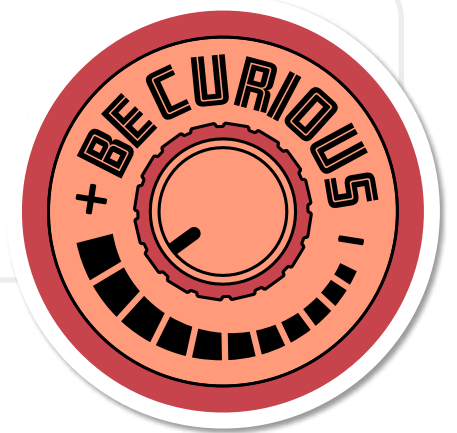
### **Say:**

God's presence was shown in a very clear way for Israel, but these pictures remind us that God is with each of us personally. We all experience him in unique ways, and these drawings are a reminder of his promise to be with us wherever we go.

### Bridge

#### **Ask:**

Looking at the picture you created, what does it tell you about how you see God's presence in your life right now?



## Selah

### **Leader's notes:**

Keep the pictures from Sound Check visible during this time of reflection. An optional song is provided below to use as part of the Selah activity.



**Watch:**

CeCe Winans – ‘Holy Forever’ (Official Music Video) (5:09)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xcFM9CBiOE>

**Say:**

God’s presence marked Moses’ whole life, from the burning bush to the Red Sea, from Mount Sinai to the edge of the Promised Land. Even when Moses made mistakes, God never left him. The same is true for us today. God’s presence is with us in every season of life, guiding us, comforting us, and reminding us of his faithfulness.

Take a moment to look again at your picture from Sound Check. What does it say to you about God’s presence in your life right now? Where do you need to be reminded that he is holy, faithful, and near?

**Leader’s notes:**

Invite the group to spend a few minutes reflecting, praying, or simply sitting in God’s presence as the music plays.

Optional reflection prompts:

- God, where have I seen your presence this week?
- What do I need to trust you with today?
- How can I remember your presence with me this week?

Close this time with a simple prayer, thanking God for his holiness and his promise to be with his people for ever.

**Say:**

In a piece of music, the coda brings the different aspects of the melody, harmonies and bassline to a conclusion. It pulls together the different themes and often, but not always, brings resolution to a piece of music.

**Ask:**

As you reflect on everything you have learned today, what is your coda?

What is the one thing you will take away from the events in today’s story?

**Leader’s notes:**

Give the young people a moment to think about your question and briefly share their coda with the group before the session comes to an end.



## Optional Final Prayer

### Leader's notes:

To bring the series to a close, you may wish to pray the blessing that God gave to Aaron in Numbers 6:24-26. There are two translations given below, or you can paraphrase your own blessing if you would prefer.

**The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace.**

*(NIV)*

**God bless you and keep you,  
God smile on you and gift you,  
God look you full in the face and make you prosper.**

*(MSG)*

