



Recognizing the Genres

Exodus 3:1-10 (HCSB)

Meanwhile, Moses was shepherding the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.² Then the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire within a bush. As Moses looked, he saw that the bush was on fire but was not consumed.³ So Moses thought: I must go over and look at this remarkable sight. Why isn't the bush burning up?⁴ When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses, Moses!" "Here I am," he answered.⁵ "Do not come closer," He said. "Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."⁶ Then He continued, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.⁷ Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of My people in Egypt, and have heard them crying out because of their oppressors, and I know about their sufferings.⁸ I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and to bring them from that land to a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the territory of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.⁹ The Israelites' cry for help has come to Me, and I have also seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them.¹⁰ Therefore, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh so that you may lead My people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

1. Relational (Exodus 3:4)

- God's first call is always a call to relationship with Him.

1 Samuel 3:4-5 (HCSB)

Then the Lord called Samuel, and he answered, "Here I am."⁵ He ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "I didn't call," Eli replied. "Go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

Relational calls can be evidenced by:

- Heightened awareness of personal sin.
- Increased desire to understand the ways of God!
- Eternity on the brain.

2. Refining (Exodus 3:5)

Hebrews 12:1-2 (HCSB)

Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us,² keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that lay before Him endured a cross and despised the shame and has sat down at the right hand of God's throne.

1 Peter 1:6-7 (HCSB)

You rejoice in this, though now for a short time you have had to struggle in various trials⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—more valuable than gold, which perishes though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

- Refining calls won't always make sense.
- Refining calls usually breed humility.
- Refining calls challenge us to come clean.
- Refining calls can challenge us to reduce our pace.

3. Missional (Exodus 3:10)

- God has a work for you to do that will bring Him glory and bring others freedom. (Luke 4:14-20)