



LINK247

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Big Idea — *This series will focus on the various mountain experiences that shaped Moses' walk with God and his development as a Christian and a leader.*

- **Week 1 — Mount Horeb: The Burning Bush**
We all must have a personal burning-bush experience and learn the fundamentals to being used by God.
- **Week 2 — Mount Sinai: Moses' Experience with God**
People who choose to meet God and spend time in His presence will be changed by those experiences and become agents of change among God's people.
- **Week 3 — Mount Sinai: Covenant and Relationship**
What sustains us as believers is our willingness to walk with God, study His Word, and obey, despite what the rest of the world is doing.
- **Week 4 — Mount Pisgah: A View of the Promise**
Even though sin prevented Moses from possessing the promise of God in his life, we can learn from his mistakes and make certain we will take possession of all the wonderful things God wants for us.

LESSON MAP



Each LINK247 lesson follows the same lesson map. This map is designed to help you connect students with biblical truth. Each lesson has options to help you tailor the lesson to best fit the group you are teaching. Listed below are the elements in each LINK247 lesson.

1

LAUNCH

Begin by choosing a Launch option that will connect with the group of students you are teaching.



2

UNLOCK

Next, using the outline provided, walk through the Bible with the students.



3

INTERSECT

Then provide practical applications for students to apply the truth in their daily lives.



4

ARRIVE

To end, conclude the message by choosing one or more of the Arrive options.





ASCEND

THE MOUNTAINS THAT MADE ME

WEEK 2 — MOUNT SINAI: MOSES' EXPERIENCE WITH GOD



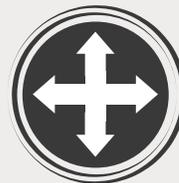
SERIES BIG IDEA

This series will focus on the various mountain experiences that shaped Moses' walk with God and his development as a Christian and a leader.



BIBLICAL PASSAGE

Exodus 3:12; 19:1-5, 16-18



BOTTOM LINE

People who choose to meet God and spend time in His presence will be changed by those experiences and become agents of change among God's people.

LESSON OUTLINE



1. LAUNCH

Option 1 — Friend Challenge

Option 2 — Discussion

Option 3 — Spelling Bee

2. UNLOCK

A. Back to the Beginning

B. Getting Personal

3. INTERSECT

A. How Do You Measure Up?

B. If Moses Were Your Pastor

4. ARRIVE

Option 1 — Prayer

Option 2 — Jim Rohn Challenge (A Nice Comparison to Launch Option One)

Option 3 — Discussion

1

LAUNCH

Begin by choosing a Launch option that will connect with the group of students you are teaching.



Option 1 — Friend Challenge

- A. Speaker Jim Rohm is famous for his assertion: “You are the average of the five people you spend the most time with.”
- B. Consider the truth of that statement. Then take a moment to think about the five people with whom you spend the most time.
 1. Don’t just think of the people you want to spend time with, but who are you actually around—even those people you might not want to be around, but you have to be around.
 2. What are those five people like?
 3. What qualities in them do you see in you?
 4. What changes should you consider making in the identities of those five people who influence you the most?
- C. Now consider a very personal question: was one of those five names Jesus Christ?
 1. Now, yes, you were thinking about people you are physically around, but shouldn’t your time spent with the Lord in prayer, in studying His Word, and in worship be enough to break into your top five?
 2. Does He have a place in your top ten?

Option 2 — Discussion

- A. If your life could be described by using a shape, what shape would it be? Why?
- B. If Moses’ life was described in the same manner, what shape would you choose? Why?
- C. *NOTE: Consider explaining how the life of Moses could be considered an equilateral triangle (triangle with three sides of equal length) because he spent forty years in Egypt, forty years as a shepherd, and forty years as the leader of God’s people.*

Option 3 — Spelling Bee

- A. Have student volunteers participate in a spelling bee to determine a winner. Be sure to have a prize and a plan for a tiebreaker, if needed. Teams may be a good idea for a larger group.
- B. Spelling words:

• Mount Sinai	• Hur	• Hivite	• Amorites
• Mount Horeb	• Sanctify	• Canaanite	• Jebusites
• Aaron	• Pharaoh	• Perizzites	

2

UNLOCK

Next, using the outline provided, walk through the Bible with the students.



A. Back to the Beginning

1. The last lesson dealt specifically with the experiences Moses had on Mount Horeb.
 - a. There he received his calling.
 - b. There God disarmed his excuses and called Moses to a life of spiritual growth.
 - c. That was the start of his ministry, but it was not the only mountain experience that would be required.
2. Today we will look at a second mountain experience that dramatically impacted the life of Moses, the nation of Israel, and our nation today.
3. Much transpired in the life of Moses between his experiences on these two mountains.
 - a. He returned to Egypt, announced the will of God to the people of Israel, and confronted Pharaoh.
 - b. God worked signs and wonders to reveal Himself both to the Egyptians and to the Israelites, and Pharaoh finally allowed the Israelite slaves to be set free.
 - c. God parted the Red Sea and destroyed the Egyptian army that had come to reclaim the children of Israel.
4. Then Moses managed to lead his murmuring congregation to the mountain where it all started.
5. *Read Exodus 3:12.*
 - a. Notice that God told Moses the plan was to leave Egypt and return to the mountain upon which he stood.
 - b. What was the name of the mountain? (Mount Horeb)
6. *Read Exodus 19:1-5, 16-18.*
 - a. Did everyone notice what just happened?
 - b. Moses led the children of Israel to a mountain, but this time it was not called Mount Horeb, but Mount Sinai.
 - c. Was Moses confused?
 - d. Did God lose His GPS?
7. The simple explanation is: Mount Horeb and Mount Sinai are the same place with two different names.
 - a. Some scholars theorize that one side of the mountain is called Horeb and the other side is called Sinai.
 - b. Sinai is also used as the name for the desert in which the mountain is located, so perhaps it was used to refer to the most significant geographical feature in that desert as well.



8. The point for us to remember here is twofold. First, the Word of God is true as recorded in its original language—every statement, every fact.
 - a. Never allow people who claim to have found a “contradiction” in the Bible to chip away at your faith.
 - b. Remember this truth found in II Timothy 3:16. (*Read II Timothy 3:16.*)
 - c. Also make sure to understand the connection between believing the words of the Old Testament and the words of Jesus. (*Read John 5:46–47.*)
9. Second, God speaks to each of us in familiar ways.
 - a. If you received a word from God at a particular place and time of prayer, you might want to try and go back there often.
 - b. If a type of fast was particularly helpful, find time to do it again.
 - c. Don’t make a false idol out of a process, but understand that God does speak to people in patterns that are unique for each person. Embrace that fact and do what is necessary to hear from God.

B. Getting Personal

1. All people are equally important to God; He is not a respecter of persons.
 - a. Yet God calls some people as leaders.
 - b. And those people encounter expectations from God and have experiences with Him that are not always the same as they are for others.
2. In the passage we are discussing in Exodus 19, God appeared before the entire nation of Israel. It was a tremendous display—more than your family’s typical New Year fireworks outing.
 - a. There was thunder and lightning.
 - b. A thick cloud descended upon the top of the mountain.
 - c. The voice of a trumpet was exceedingly loud.
 - d. And all the people trembled.
3. Then God descended upon the mountain in fire, causing a great smoke to rise up, like out of a furnace, and the mountain began to shake.
 - a. How would you have reacted?
 - b. What do you think the people who were already quaking did?
 - c. How do you think Moses responded?
 - d. The Bible tells us the trumpet sounded again and became louder and louder, and Moses spoke to God.
4. One defining characteristic of a leader is the ability to overcome fear during crucial moments.
5. Moses was likely scared, just like everyone else, but perhaps not as much because he already had personal experiences with God.
 - a. He had seen the burning bush.
 - b. He had removed his shoes.



- c. He had engaged in a conversation with the Great I AM.
6. And when Moses spoke to God, God answered. God called him to come up to the top of the mountain—alone.
 - a. We cannot ride to Heaven on our pastor's coattails.
 - b. As blessed as we may be to have an Apostolic pedigree, it will not automatically transfer an anointing onto us.
 - c. We must develop a personal relationship with God through prayer, studying His Word, and dedicating ourselves to a life of holiness.
7. As God began to speak to Moses, delivering to him the Ten Commandments, the people became even more nervous.
8. *Read Exodus 20:18–21.*
 - a. At times God speaks to individuals and gives direction for a group of His children.
 - b. While each of us can have a direct, personal relationship with God, God's plan also includes leaders who talk with God about His people.
 - c. Moses was that type of leader.
9. *Read Exodus 20:22–23.*
10. God gave Moses specific instructions to relate to the children of Israel. Justification for the nation of Israel believing God was derived from the fact that they saw God reveal Himself on Mount Sinai.
 - a. They heard the thunder and saw the lightning.
 - b. They witnessed the fire and smelled the smoke.
 - c. They saw Moses enter into the presence of the Lord.

3

INTERSECT

Then provide practical applications for students to apply the truth in their daily lives.



A. How Do You Measure Up?

1. When we read biblical accounts, it is very common to imagine ourselves in the role of one of the characters.
 - a. Did anyone do that so far during this lesson?
 - b. Did you see yourself as Moses or as a member of the congregation standing at the foot of the mountain?
2. Take a few moments now and assess which of those roles most resembles your walk with God.
 - a. Are you the one who is putting in the hard work of trudging up the mountain, stumping your foot on stones and balancing to prevent yourself from falling along the way?
 - b. Or are you one of those trembling in fear at the foot of the mountain, depending on someone else to hear from God?
3. We all find ourselves in the position of depending on someone else to hear from God many times during our walk with God.
 - a. I sit at the bottom of the mountain during church services as I hear what the Lord is saying to our church from the lips of our pastor.
 - b. I know our pastor also submits to the leadership of our organization and receives ministry from others at conferences and through various methods.
4. But there should be times when we are in the role of Moses.
 - a. That does not mean we will always receive a word for the entire church or for our whole family.
 - b. While that can happen, there are certainly times when we must receive a personal word for ourselves.
5. When was the last time you heard God call you to the top of the mountain of His presence?
 - a. Do you desire that type of experience?
 - b. Do you ask Him to speak to you?
 - c. Do you believe He loves you enough to give you a word that speaks directly to your situation?
6. I challenge you to see yourself in the role of Moses, meeting with God to receive a word for yourself and a word that will help others.



B. If Moses Were Your Pastor

1. I also challenge you to see those who deliver the Word of God to you in the same way you expect the nation of Israel to have viewed Moses.
 - a. Often people who are studying the Bible for the first time have a very logical question: why didn't the nation of Israel believe Moses?
 - b. That is a good question. Likewise, it is appropriate to ask why we do not always believe the man of God.
 - c. Often, we say we believe, but our actions reveal doubt.
 - d. Sometimes it is because of fear, and sometimes it is because we do not want to submit.
2. Acts chapter two tells us that approximately 120 people were gathered all in one place in the upper room—they were all in one accord.
 - a. Have you ever wondered what would happen if our church reached that position?
 - b. We can look around a room like this one or look around the sanctuary during a service and say we are all in one place, but are we in one accord?
 - c. If the answer is yes, then we would all be in agreement.
 - d. We would all be focused on the same objective.
 - e. We would not be distracted by personal issues we have with another saint.
 - f. We would not be consumed with carnal desires to be doing something else with our time.
3. Listen to the reaction of the people when Moses first descended from Mount Sinai and delivered the message from God. (*Read Exodus 24:3–4.*)
4. Notice that when the people spoke, it was with one voice.
 - a. The goal of a good choir is to sound as if it is one, powerful voice.
 - b. That should be the goal of our church—one powerful voice saying “amen” to the Word of God.
 - c. Remember that *amen* means “so be it.”
 - d. When you say “amen” in church, you are doing more than just saying “right.” You are speaking faith that what was declared as truth will be accomplished in your life.
5. Then notice what that one voice had to say; the people agreed to do all that God had said.
 - a. An old joke goes something like this: “I looked up the word all in the Hebrew and discovered that it means ‘all.’”
 - b. The people agreed to follow all ten of the commandments.
6. They also agreed to all the other stipulations God placed on their behavior.
 - a. Some people believe the only instructions Moses received were the ten laws written on stone tablets, but that is not true.
 - b. Moses received plans for the Tabernacle, assurances that God would fight Israel's battles for them, and many other specific instructions for their daily lives.
 - c. And all the people agreed to live by all the words spoken by God to Moses.
7. What would happen in our city if everyone in our church with one voice not only said but did all the words spoken by God to our pastor for us?

4

ARRIVE

To end, conclude the message by choosing one or more of the Arrive options.



Option 1 — Prayer

- A. I challenge you to pray a specific prayer right now.
- B. Ask God to reveal to you the last time He saw you in the role of Moses—going to Him to receive a word for yourself.
 - 1. If you can identify that word, ask God if you have been obedient to it.
 - 2. If you cannot identify a time when you acted like Moses, commit to seeking God for that type of experience this week.
 - 3. *NOTE: Pause to allow sufficient time for prayer.*
- C. Now pray a different type of prayer.
 - 1. Ask God to reveal to you the last time He saw you in the role of the nation of Israel—receiving a word from Him through His servant.
 - 2. What was that word?
 - 3. Have you been obedient?
 - 4. *NOTE: Again, pause to allow sufficient time for prayer.*
- D. Now let's pray for one another—that we would be in one place and in one accord each time we meet together.

Option 2 — Jim Rohn Challenge (A Nice Comparison to Launch Option One)

- A. *Read the following quotes from author and speaker Jim Rohn:*
 - 1. “If you really want to do something, you’ll find a way. If you don’t, you’ll find an excuse.”
 - 2. “Your life does not get better by chance; it gets better by change.”
 - 3. “Don’t wish it were easier; wish you were better.”
 - 4. “Work harder on yourself than you do on your job.”
 - 5. “The only way it gets better for you is when you get better. Better is not something you wish; it’s something you become.”
- B. Which of these concepts do you think applies most directly to the lessons we have learned this far from the life of Moses?
- C. Which of these ideas will help you become what God saved you to be?



Option 3 — Discussion

- A. Let's take a moment and consider the past few messages our pastor has brought to us from the Word of God.
- B. Can anyone remember what was preached last Sunday?
 1. What was the title?
 2. What was the Scripture reference?
 3. What was the most important point our pastor made?
- C. Can anyone remember what we learned in lesson one from this series?
 1. What was the title?
 2. What was the Scripture reference?
 3. What was the most important point that was made?
- D. The difficulty we experienced in answering those simple questions proves it is difficult for us to remember everything we hear. That is why it is important for us to do what we can to get in one accord when we arrive in that one place where we hear the Word of God.
 1. We should be intentional about not being distracted.
 2. One way to help us focus is to take notes.
- E. *Optional: Offer some type of reward for each student who brings personal notes from the next Sunday service message to your next meeting.*

