



LINK247

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EDITOR IN CHIEF

Robin Johnston

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

P. Daniel Buford

Lee Ann Alexander

FIELD EDITOR

Evan Zenobia

WRITER

Jonathan Copeland

DESIGNER

Derek Borders

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 4 — MOUNT PISGAH: A VIEW OF THE PROMISE



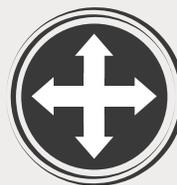
SERIES BIG IDEA

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

Deuteronomy 34:1-12



BOTTOM LINE

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 OUTLINE



1. LAUNCH

Option 1 — The North American Dream

Option 2 — Discussion

Option 3 — Vacation Analogy

2. UNLOCK

A. The Great Mistake

B. A Great View from Up Here

3. INTERSECT

A. What About Your Mountains?

B. Seeing My Burning Bush

C. Up to Mount Sinai

D. Call Me Back to Mount Sinai

E. Show Me the Future

4. ARRIVE

Option 1 — Testimony Time

Option 2 — Mountain Challenge

Option 3 — Music for Inspiration

1

LAUNCH

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



Option 1 — The North American Dream

- A. Many people still desire to come to North America from other nations. In part that desire is because it is seen as a land of opportunity.
- B. Too often those of us who were born in North America fail to appreciate all it has to offer.
- C. Consider these questions.
 - 1. Have you ever heard of someone coming to North America to pursue their dream and then becoming successful?
 - 2. Why do parents want prosperity for their children?
- D. Much of what we think about related to this subject is tied to the idea that the next generation will have the potential to enjoy an even better life than we have.
- E. Moses may have felt the same way about the next generation of Hebrews, and God allowed him to see a glimpse of what that reality would look like.

Option 2 — Discussion

- A. Have there been times in your walk with God when you have been forgiven, yet you still had to live with the consequences of your mistake?
- B. Why would God allow that to be the case?
- C. Are there any stories in the Bible where you remember that principle to be true?

Option 3 — Vacation Analogy

- A. If you were able to spend an entire month in any vacation spot in the world, where would it be? Why would you select that location?
- B. How would you feel if I told you that you could not go there, but all of your friends could go?
- C. Would it make you feel better to know you would be allowed to look at it from a distance?

2

UNLOCK

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



A. The Great Mistake

1. There is no doubt Moses made a mistake—a big mistake.
2. The man who was described in the Bible as the meekest man who had ever lived became frustrated. It is difficult for us to blame him for being upset since he was constantly dealing with the murmuring Hebrews.
 - a. “We want meat.”
 - b. “We want water.”
 - c. Moses had had it up to here.
3. That is when God told Moses to speak to a rock and water would flow from it.
 - a. God was right. Water did flow, and the people rejoiced, but Moses had disobeyed.
 - b. Instead of rebuking Moses on the spot in front of the people, God took Moses aside and explained that this act of disobedience meant Moses would never set foot in the Promised Land.
4. Why was that such a big deal to God? While the Bible does not say, and many people have rightly argued that any disobedience to the Lord is significant, there must be significance to the “speak equals water” plan.
5. Perhaps God originally intended for there to be yet another Old Testament type that people could relate to salvation.
 - a. Old Testament: Moses speaks and literal water flows from a rock.
 - b. New Testament: Those who have repented speak words of praise and the living water of the Holy Ghost flows from the sacrifice of Jesus Christ into the lives of believers, signified by a heavenly language.
 - c. God has always intended for a connection to be made between speech and living water, but Moses in his anger caused the biblical type to be disconnected.

B. A Great View from Up Here

1. The Book of Deuteronomy consists of a series of speeches Moses gave the nation of Israel before his death.
 - a. It includes promises, both conditional and unconditional.
 - b. It includes warnings for disobedience and blessings for obedience.
 - c. It includes instructions for the passing of leadership to Joshua, and it tells the story of the last encounter Moses had with his God.
2. *Read Deuteronomy 34:1–4.*



3. The word *bittersweet* is defined quite literally as being bitter and sweet at the same time. This word further implies an experience that is pleasant, yet marked by elements of suffering or regret.
4. I can think of no better way to accurately describe this moment. On one hand, it must have been tremendously satisfying for Moses to gaze with his own eyes upon the Promised Land.
 - a. After all the murmuring, all the trials, and all of the personal struggle, the people had finally arrived at what God, through Moses, had offered so many years prior.
 - b. Yet Moses knew because of his own personal disobedience this mountaintop view would be as close as he would get.
5. Moses had no reason to be angry at God; Moses had eliminated himself from eligibility to obtain the promise.
 - a. God is righteous.
 - b. More than just an attribute that displays itself on the best days, God's righteousness is absolute. It is full. Every decision, every word—all are absolutely right one hundred percent of the time.
6. Imagine Moses taking the time to allow his imagination to roam.
 - a. He may have thought of all the times before when he had dreamed of the land that flowed with milk and honey.
 - b. All of the scenarios of God's people enjoying the blessings of God may have flashed before his eyes.
 - c. But this time he was not in those visions. Moses could only be happy for what God was providing to others.
7. In that moment it seems Moses was able to place the needs of others before his own personal desire and truly experience joy for what God had done for the Hebrew people.
8. *Read Deuteronomy 34:5-7.*
 - a. Moses' life was significant.
 - b. He spent forty years in the palace of Egypt.
 - c. For forty years he was on the side of a mountain in the desert.
 - d. And he spent forty years as the leader of God's people.
 - e. At the ripe old age of 120, Moses' sight was still perfect, and his physical strength was all it ever had been. God had sustained Moses all the days of his life to enable him to fully complete the will God had for his life.
9. *Read Deuteronomy 34:8-9.*
 - a. The nation of Israel mourned for the man of God.
 - b. They had doubted this man.
 - c. They had ridiculed this man.
 - d. But they had come to respect this man as the greatest prophet of their time.
 - e. May we learn to respect the prophets among us while they serve us and not only after they have gone to be with the Lord.



10. *Read Deuteronomy 34:10-12.*
 - a. The Word of God had the final say about the life of this great man.
 - b. Moses had talked with God face-to-face.
11. God accomplished mighty signs and wonders through Moses.
 - a. The power of God was revealed to the enemies of God in Egypt.
 - b. The might of the Lord was also shown unto the people of Israel.
12. We must not mistake the decision made by God not to allow Moses to enter into the Promised Land as the final word upon Moses' ministry.
 - a. One mistake can change the plan God had for our lives, but it does not erase everything else He has accomplished through us.
 - b. If we repent after the mistake, God may still enforce a consequence, but our relationship with Him can be fully restored.

3

INTERSECT

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



A. What About Your Mountains?

1. In this series we have examined four mountaintop experiences in the life of Moses:
 - a. Moses' calling when he turned aside to investigate the burning bush
 - b. His personal experience in the presence of God that resulted in being given the Ten Commandments
 - c. Forty days of fasting in the presence of God that caused Moses' face to shine
 - d. And the final mountaintop experience that occurred just prior to his death
2. Each of these mountaintop experiences mirrors a moment that is possible in each of our lives.
 - a. Considering what these mountain moments meant to Moses, do two things:
 - (1) Search through your personal history to see things you have experienced in your walk with God that are similar to these mountains that made Moses the man he was.
 - (2) Notice a hunger develop inside of you to experience more of God.
 - b. Taste for yourself of the goodness of God.
3. Anything God has done anywhere for anyone, He can do the same again; He can do it in our day, and He can do it for you.

B. Seeing My Burning Bush

1. We all must seek our own burning-bush moment.
2. That only happens when we are intentional about both looking for and responding to the presence of God at work around us.
 - a. Have you ever been in a church service where the presence of God was so thick that you believed anything could happen?
 - b. Have you ever paused during those moments to look around to see if everyone else is feeling the same way?
 - c. How is it possible that some people are looking at their phones to see what time it is?
 - d. Why would people sit down, feeling bored, when the Lord is healing and delivering people right in front of their eyes?
3. We must not allow ourselves to become so accustomed to a work of God's Spirit that we fail to respond.
 - a. Will you turn aside when you see the Lord beginning to work in your life?
 - b. Are you willing to remove your shoes by responding to His holy presence and making changes in your life to be used by Him?



- c. Do you recognize the giftings and opportunities He has made available to you to accomplish what He desires to do through you?

C. Up to Mount Sinai

1. We should all desire to be changed by God's presence in a way that will allow others to receive a word from God.
2. Remember that the Ten Commandments were for all of Israel, but it took Moses going up into the presence of God to receive a word for the people. If you were there that day, would you have appreciated Moses' courage?
3. Would you have been thankful for his willingness to risk his life by walking toward the fire and smoke to enter into the presence of God?
 - a. I hope your answer is yes.
 - b. Just because we don't see the fire and smoke does not mean it doesn't take courage for our pastor to approach the throne of grace to receive a word for our church.
 - c. We should honor and pray for our pastor, just like we would have done for Moses if we had physically seen the fire and smoke, which still happens in the spiritual realm today.
4. We also need to understand that we don't have to stand behind the pulpit to hear from God; we can receive a word for a family member or a friend if we invest time in the presence of the Lord.
 - a. Don't exclude yourself from serving God in a ministry role one day, but also realize you do not have to wait until you have a title to hear from God.
 - b. If you have repented of your sins, been baptized in Jesus' name, and have received the Holy Ghost, then you already have a title: you are a child of God. Seek the Lord for a word that will help someone.

D. Call Me Back to Mount Sinai

1. For Moses, one trip to the top of Mount Sinai was not enough.
2. The same is true for us. We must hunger and thirst for the presence of God to be manifested in our lives in such a way that others know we have been with Jesus.
 - a. For Moses, his face shown as a reflection of the glory of God.
 - b. For the apostles, the Book of Acts tells us their boldness caused people to recognize they had been with Jesus.
 - c. What about you? What can God do for others through you as a testimony of the time you have spent in His presence?

E. Show Me the Future

1. Finally, we should all desire for a Mount Pisgah type of experience.
 - a. Get past the fact that Moses had made a mistake for a moment.
 - b. Focus on the fact that God decided to allow Moses to see the future of the people he had led through the desert.
 - c. God could have allowed Moses to die the moment he struck the rock.



- d. The Lord did not “owe” Moses a glimpse into the future of God’s people, but He desired for Moses to see the fruit of his labor.
2. There are many stories of people who pray for family members for years, only to die before those family members turn their lives over to God.
 - a. How were those prayer warriors faithful all those years?
 - b. What allowed them to continue to store up those prayers in Heaven when they saw no evidence of a result?
 - c. Perhaps they had a vision similar to Moses.
 - d. Maybe God took them to a Mount Pisgah in prayer and said, in effect, “One day after you are gone, they will serve Me. Keep praying. Keep believing. Hold fast to your faith.”
 - e. God can do the same for you.
 - f. Keep praying; keep believing.
 - g. Hold fast to your faith.
3. You will possess every promise God has made to you or will make to you in the future if you are faithful.

4

ARRIVE

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

**Option 1 — Testimony Time**

- A. Prepare to share a personal experience from your life or from a family member that relates to one of the types of mountaintop experiences.
- B. Ask students to share additional stories from their lives or families.

Option 2 — Mountain Challenge

- A. Designate four places in the room as the four different mountaintop experiences.
- B. Select one or more of the following activities:
 1. Have students select which mountaintop experience they most desire to have (for the first time or again) and have them physically move there for a time of prayer.
 2. Have students select one mountaintop experience they would like to discuss with their peers. Have them meet there and share testimonies, prayer requests, and so on.
 3. Form four groups. Have each group spend some time at each mountaintop in prayer, seeking God for that type of experience.

Option 3 — Music for Inspiration

- A. Consider having a musician join you to play or simply playing this song from a device: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLcG_bXluh4.
- B. Singing a cappella would also work if students are familiar with the song.
- C. Have fun encouraging students to sing this song and worship.
- D. Follow up with a time of prayer that we are living in the light and have the promise of a glorious day. Pray that God's Word would be realized in each student's life.