

Southwest Life Groups

A Place to Belong...A Place to Transform

January 20, 2008

Focus: To explore our servant relationship with God and assess our partnership with Him.

Adonay (a-do-NAI)

Lord, Master

Introduction: Have you ever noticed that there are some people in our lives that bring out the very best in us while there are others that seem to bring out the very worst. Some of those people seem to be those that are put over us such as bosses, coordinators, etc. Begin tonight with a conversation about this dynamic.

- Evaluate how you respond for a boss who you respect. What about one you don't?
- Discuss our longing to be valued by people who have authority over us.
- Think through whether or not you give value in the way you wish to receive it.

Text: Adonay is a personal name for God...yes, He is master and lord, but He is my master and my Lord. There is a kinship and a love here, not just reverence and awe. Yes...I am a servant but a loved servant!

Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The LORD (Yahweh) did not appear to you?'" Then the LORD (Yahweh) said to him, "What is that in your hand?" "A staff," he replied; The LORD (Yahweh) said, "Throw it on the ground." Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. Then the LORD (Yahweh) said to him, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail." So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. "This," said the LORD (Yahweh), "is so that they may believe that the LORD (Yahweh), the God of their fathers-the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob-has appeared to you."...

Moses said to the LORD (Yahweh), "O Lord (Adonay), I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue."

The LORD (Yahweh) said to him, "Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the LORD(Yahweh)? Now go, I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.

But Moses said, "O Lord (Adonay), please send someone else to do it."

Then the LORD's (Yahweh) anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and his heart will be glad when he sees you. You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both you speak and will teach you what to do."

(Exodus 4:1-5, 10-15)

- Describe the difference you hear in this text between Yahweh and Adonay.
- Evaluate the relationship Moses had with God.
- Assess God's relationship with Moses versus the one God wants to have.

Application:

- Describe the potential problems of seeing God as a harsh master and not loving.
- Share your struggle with having a Master and Lord over you.
- Examine how viewing God as Adonay frees you from worry.
- Describe the partnership between Adonay and a loving, dedicated servant.
- How can you partner with your master this week?