

Chapter 8: God Reveals His Name

God revealed His name to show His love for us.

Chapter Summary

When the Israelites became enslaved in Egypt, God sent Moses to demand that Pharaoh set them free. God called to Moses from the burning bush and revealed His name: “I AM WHO I AM” (Exodus 3:14). The Hebrew word for this name is Yahweh. God’s name tells us He is living and present to His people. The Church treats God’s name with great respect. Moses was reluctant to follow God’s command and free the Israelites. But eventually he persevered. When God led Moses and the Israelites out of Egypt and through the Red Sea, He brought them to Mount Sinai and established a new covenant with them. To keep the covenant, the Israelites needed to keep the Ten Commandments. If the Israelites kept God’s commandments, He would make them His people, a holy nation. Though many of the commandments could be known by reason, God revealed them to His people out of love to help them grow close to Him.



When Your Children Express Doubt

Moments of doubt are unavoidable for both adults and children. Here are four strategies you can use when your children express doubts about God, His Church, and His teachings.

1. *Encourage them to ask more questions, not fewer.* Seeking the truth is a noble pursuit, even if it begins from doubt. All truth comes from God, so seeking out the answers to common objections to the faith is a process by which one grows closer to God, not further away from Him. Search for the truth together. Seek out sure and faithful resources on the parent portal to help you answer their questions.
2. *Witness a life of grace to them.* God often uses others to communicate His grace to us. Regular attendance at Mass; celebrating the sacraments, especially Reconciliation; and observing God’s commandments disposes you to become an open channel of grace to your children.
3. *Pray and fast.* Moments of doubt may be results of spiritual warfare. As parents, you can combat the spiritual opposition your children are facing through prayer and fasting (see Mark 9:29). Offer these moments of sacrifice for your children’s openness to God’s love and grace.
4. *Read about Saint Monica and her son Saint Augustine for inspiration.*

For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.