The purpose of this study: To teach students how they can be a participant in missions in the Mott Haven neighborhood of the South Bronx through prayer and giving.

Focal verse: "God replied to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you." –Exodus 3:14 HCSB

Early arrivers

Materials needed: glue, construction paper, markers or crayons

Instructions: Invite early arrivers to draw, label, and color a "Me Tree." On this tree, each branch should represent the someone or something that make them who they are. Be prepared to give suggestions:

- Your family
- Your friends
- Your hobbies
- Your favorite _

Instruct students to hold on to their tree, they will use them in the whole group opening activity.

Whole Group Opening Activity: Speed Sharing

Materials Needed: Me Tree (from early arrival activity), pencils, one timer **Preparation:** Set chairs up in two rows, facing each other or have students sit on the floor in two rows, facing each other. Large groups may be split into small groups to complete activity.

Instructions: "Today we are going to get to know a little more about each other! Everyone in this row will stay in place, (choose a row to remain seated). The other row will stand up and move one space to the right when the timer goes off! You will have 2 minutes <u>each</u> to share about your "Me Tree" and answer two questions:"

Write the following questions for students to see:

- 1. What do we have in common?
- 2. What makes us unique?

Set your timer for four minutes and go!

Teach:

Isn't it amazing to see how so many things come together to make us who we are? We have some things in common. Can someone tell me one thing we have in common? (call on a few students) Those are great answers! What about things that make us unique? (allow students to share) That is so wonderful! God makes us each special! Today we are going to learn about someone who had the opportunity to speak to God and ask who HE was!

Mission Study

Materials Needed: Bibles

Teach:

Invite students to open their Bibles to Exodus 3:14 and read aloud. In your own words, retell what Moses is going through and his interaction with God. (Exodus 3: 1-15)

Guiding Questions:

What was Moses doing when he encountered the burning bush? He was tending his father-in-law's sheep. Being responsible and doing his job!

Whose voice did Moses hear? God's voice.

What did God first instruct Moses to do? Why? Take off his sandals, he was standing on holy ground. Who did God choose to lead his people out of Egypt? Moses.

What was Moses afraid the people would ask him? Who sent you?

What did God reply to Moses about who was sending him? "I AM WHO I AM." He did not need any other explanation! We have a lot of characteristics that we use to describe ourselves, but God said he was "I AM." If this story were set in 2017, he might have said "#IAM!" Because He created man and knows how we think, God went on to share that He is the God of their ancestors, of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob. These men were very important leaders in the history of the Israelites. God made it clear, that he was the one and only God, the #IAM.



Teach: It was important to the Israelites to know who they were following. They had one God. That is the same God we worship today! We have brothers and sisters in other churches and ministries who have been sent to tell people about our God. The missionaries at Graffiti 2 Community Ministries follow Jesus' example and show love to the people of the Mott Haven neighborhood in the South Bronx by serving them. We can pray for these ministries. Let's learn a little about how we can pray for them!

Prayer Activity

Instructions: Make prayer cards using the Spirit Week info below. Write one card for each of the programs listed. Place each card in a paper bag with the following items.

- For G2Kids--Box of crayons
- For G.S.A.L.T.--Salt shaker
- For G2 Works--Spool of thread
- For G2 Interns--Flashlight
- For G2 Baptist Church--Small plant

Split into groups and invite a leader to read the prayer card while the group passes the paper bag with the object around.

Instruct the group to look in the bag, reach in and touch the item, then pass it to the next person.

Ask: Why do you think we chose this object to represent this ministry of G2? Allow the group to share.

