

Chasing Glory

Exodus 33:12-20

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¹² Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favor with me.’¹³ If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people.”

¹⁴ The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

¹⁵ Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.¹⁶ How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

¹⁷ And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

¹⁸ Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

¹⁹ And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.²⁰ But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

sermon notes

MAIN IDEA:

The _____ is the most important item on our packing list.

PROBLEMS OF THE _____ JOURNEY

1. We don't know _____ without God.

2. We have nothing to _____ without God.

my next step is to

- Bring God on my journey by accepting Jesus Christ as Savior for the first time.
- Acknowledge my inability to live without God.
- Leverage the opportunities I will have this week to say "I know a Man" to those who are seeking guidance.
- Pray for a deeper appetite for God's presence in my life.

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BUILD

- In Sunday's sermon, Pastor Larry described Moses' conversation with God as a "DTR." ("Define The Relationship" talk). Have you ever been part of a "DTR?" Were you the initiator or the responder? Share your best story with your Grow Group.
- Describe a time in your life when you were particularly aware of God's presence. Why do you think you were more aware of His presence at that particular time? Were there external things (happening around you) or internal things (happening inside you) that helped you sense God with you?
- Most of us probably wouldn't say, "I don't need God's presence in my life" — at least not out loud! But, for many of us, we sometimes live as if we don't need His presence. In what practical ways do you live as if you don't need God? What do you think leads to this kind of living?

DIG

- Read Exodus 33:15-16, Psalm 42:1-2a and John 6:66-69. What is the common thread between Moses, David, and Peter in these passages? How do these three men feel about God's presence? In what ways is this similar to how you felt about God's presence this week? In what ways is it different? What practical steps might you take to feed your "hunger" for God's presence?
- Read Exodus 33:12-14. What does Moses ask God to do in verse 13? In seeking God's presence, is his approach more active or more passive? How does God respond in verse 14? What principles can we learn in this passage about the process of seeking God and the outcome of seeking Him?
- Read Exodus 15-16 again. Who is Moses asking God to be with? What lessons about our prayer life can we learn from Moses' prayer? If you were praying this prayer, who would be part of the "us" in verse 15? How might God be calling you to pray for these people?

- Read Exodus 33:16. In Pastor Larry’s sermon, he summarized this section by saying “We have nothing to offer the world without God.” How might this apply to our relationships (think about family, work, friends, neighbors, etc.)? If you believed this more fully, how might it change the way you interact with others?

TRAIN

- What are some practical ways this week you can increasingly welcome the presence of God into your life? How can your Grow Group hold you accountable to this? How can we pray for you?
- In Pastor Larry’s sermon, he told a story about a guy from America who had the opportunity to visit Centre Court at Wimbledon. The main phrase he highlighted was “I know a man.” (In this case, the guy that could get him into Wimbledon) Think through your various relationships — is there someone you might be able to say “I know a man” to? (In our case, Jesus . . . the Man who can give them what they need most). Is there someone specific God is bringing to mind right now?
- How can we as a Grow Group empower each other to rely on God’s presence more fully and share it with others more regularly?
- How else is God speaking to you through this week’s sermon and today’s conversation?

DIGGING DEEPER:

- Read Genesis 12:1-3, 1 Corinthians 15:3, and 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. What do these passages teach us about the nature and purpose of God’s blessing?
- Read Luke 5:17-26. Reflect on the way the paralyzed man’s friends carried him to Jesus? Pray that God would show you someone you can carry to Him in prayer and in action.