

LifeGroup Discussion | Fervent Pursuit of God's Presence | Week 09/21

Main Passage: *Exodus 33:12–23*

Supporting Passages: *Matthew 6:33, Philippians 3:10, 2 Corinthians 4:6, Hebrews 13:5*

Main Idea/Question:

How can we pursue God Himself, not just His promises, in our everyday lives?

Before LifeGroup

- Review your LifeGroup Values.
- Ask yourself: *Which on-ramp (PORCH TALK, LIVING ROOM, AFTER GLOW) best fits our group this week?*
- Start your discussion there, adjusting as needed.

PORCH TALK (*casual conversation over food or interactions*)

- What stood out to you from Sunday's message?
- Was there anything new you learned about Moses' prayer in Exodus 33?
- Can you think of a time you've chased God's promises more than His presence?
- How can we make God's presence more central in our daily routines this week?
- How can I pray for you in living this out?

Reflective Passages: *Exodus 33:12–23, Exodus 32:1–14, John 15:5, 2 Corinthians 3:17–18, Hebrews 10:19–22*

LIVING ROOM (*deeper discussion for those who heard the sermon*)

Read: Exodus 33:12–16

- **Context:** After Israel worshiped the golden calf (Ex. 32), God told them they could have the land, but He would not go with them. Moses interceded: *“If Your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.”*
Say: Moses knew the gifts of God were worthless without the presence of God. The land meant nothing if God wasn't there.
Ask: What promises or goals are you tempted to chase without asking for God's presence? What does it look like for you to say, *“Lord, if You're not in it, I don't want it”*?

Read: Exodus 33:17–18

- **Context:** God reassured Moses, “I know you by name.” But Moses wanted more: *“Now show me Your glory.”*
Say: Moses didn't just want God's hand—he wanted His heart. He longed to know God Himself, not just what God could do.
Ask: How can we move from seeking God's blessings to seeking God's heart? What practices or habits help you pursue intimacy with Him?

Read: Exodus 33:19–23 & 2 Corinthians 3:17–18

- **Context:** God revealed His glory as His goodness, mercy, and compassion. Moses only glimpsed God's back, but in Christ we see His glory fully (2 Cor. 4:6).
Say: What Moses longed for, we now live in—because of the cross and the Spirit dwelling in us. We don't just pursue His presence—we carry it.
Ask: How does the Holy Spirit's presence in us change how we approach daily life? What would it look like for you to walk more aware of His nearness this week?
Theologian Quote: *“The gifts of God are worthless without the God of the gifts.”* — adapted from Augustine
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Reflective Passages: Exodus 33:12–23, Exodus 32:1–14, John 15:5, 2 Corinthians 3:17–18, Hebrews 10:19–22

AFTER GLOW (*reflection or follow-up conversations*)

Read: John 15:5 & Hebrews 13:5

- **Say:** Jesus reminds us, *"Apart from Me, you can do nothing."* He promises, *"I will never leave you nor forsake you."* His presence is not optional—it's essential.
- **Ask:** Where in your life do you feel tempted to "go it alone"? How can we remind each other to remain connected to Him?

Read: Matthew 6:33 & Philippians 3:10

- **Say:** Jesus calls us to *seek first His kingdom*. Paul's prayer is *to know Christ*. Both echo Moses' cry: "Show me Your glory."
- **Ask:** What practical steps can you take this week to prioritize seeking His presence above everything else?

Theologian Quote:

"When we come to the end of ourselves, we find the beginning of God." — Oswald Chambers

Follow-Up for the Week

- Share one area where you are tempted to chase the promise without the Presence.
- Pray together that each of you would walk more aware of His nearness.
- **Challenge:** Each morning this week, before leaving the house, pause and pray: *"Lord, if You don't go with me, I'm not going."*

Reflection Verse:

"If Your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here." — Exodus 33:15

Reflective Passages: *Exodus 33:12–23, Exodus 32:1–14, John 15:5, 2 Corinthians 3:17–18, Hebrews 10:19–22*